

367.396

THE  
UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S CLUB

EXTRACTS

FROM

FIFTY YEARS OF MINUTE BOOKS

1886—1936

378  
155  
060  
41  
UNI

Pamphlet

WOMEN'S SERVICE LIBRARY  
FAWCETT HOUSE,  
27, WILFRED STREET,  
WESTMINSTER, S.W.1.



THE CONVERSATION PIECE (*page 61*)

A. Carthew (1904)   H. F. Cohen (1905)   W. Dakyns (1913)   B. A. Clough (1887)

THE  
UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S CLUB

EXTRACTS  
FROM  
FIFTY YEARS OF MINUTE BOOKS

1886 — 1936

Privately printed at  
THE FAVIL PRESS

1937

378.15506041 UNI

*The University Women's Club  
2 Audley Square, W.1*

PRELIMINARIES .. .. .	1
AT BOND STREET, 1887 .. .. .	5
AT MADDOX STREET, 1894 .. .. .	19
AT GEORGE STREET (1), 1899 .. .. .	30
AT GEORGE STREET (2), 1904 .. .. .	37
AT AUDLEY SQUARE, 1921 .. .. .	52
NOTE I .. .. .	62
NOTE II .. .. .	63

Made and Printed in Great Britain by  
The Faval Press Ltd. (T.U.)  
152 Church Street, London, W.8

3800188650

# *The University Women's Club*

*2 Audley Square, W.1*

THE IDEA of forming a Club for University Women was probably first seriously put forward by Miss G. E. M. Jackson of Girton College at a Meeting called by her at her home, 32 Portman Square, W., on Saturday, May 5th, 1883. A preliminary proposal to establish such a Club seems to have been issued by her to persons likely to be interested in the scheme, and in response about sixty people were present at the meeting, but their names are not recorded. Miss Lumsden (later Dame Louisa) of Girton College, was voted to the Chair and it was resolved, that it was desirable to establish in London such a Club as would offer facilities of intercourse for women educated at the Universities. Further it was decided that any woman should be eligible who came under any of the following five heads :—

1. A Graduate of any University.
2. A Registered Medical Practitioner.
3. A Student who had been in residence for at least three terms at Girton, or Newnham College or at the Oxford Halls.
4. An Undergraduate of any University who had passed the examination next after matriculation in any faculty.
5. A Student of the London School of Medicine for Women who had passed the first professional examination of any Medical Corporation.

Further, that members were to be allowed to introduce friends to the club, as visitors, subject to certain limitations.

The entrance fee was to be one guinea and the annual subscription the same. The Club was to be centrally situated and to provide convenient rooms where members might obtain such of the privileges of a club as could be afforded by the funds at the disposal of the Committee. The suggested expenses were, Rent £100, Coals £15, Caretaker £30, Gas £5, Newspapers and Subscription to a Library £20, and depreciation of furniture £10, making a total of £180. It was thought inadvisable to start the Club until 200 members had joined, also that it would be inadvisable to provide sleeping accommodation. The name was not to be decided upon until such time as the Club was established, but in the meanwhile it should be known as "The Proposed University Club for Ladies".

A provisional Committee was suggested, to consist of :

MRS. LUBBOCK and MISS ARMSTEAD, of Girton College,  
MISS WINKWORTH and MISS MACMILLAN, of Newn-  
ham College,

MRS. BRYANT and MISS GARRETT SMITH, of London  
University,

MRS. DOWSON and MISS L. C. BERNARD, of the London  
School of Medicine ; and

MISS G. E. M. JACKSON, of Girton College, as Hon.  
Secretary, ex-Officio.

Probably the earliest existent printed document concern-  
ing the Club is one headed "The proposed Club for  
Women". This document seems to have been issued as  
the result of this meeting and it embodies the decisions then  
approved ; like most of the Club papers it bears no date,  
but May 5th, 1883 is probable.

The next meeting was held at 18 Baker Street at 4 o'clock  
on Tuesday, March 25th, 1884 (ten months later) and only  
11 persons attended. These were : Mrs. Bryant, Miss  
Clemes, Miss Maynard, Miss Gardner, Miss Armstead,  
Miss Drew, Miss Erichson, Miss Winkworth, Miss  
Macmillan, Miss Bernard, Mrs. Dowson and the Secretary.  
Mrs. Bryant was in the Chair. This meeting arranged for

the formation of an Association which was to consist of all  
those who had sent in their names as intending to become  
members of the proposed Club, and into this Association in  
the future every candidate for admission to the Club was to  
be elected.

It was also agreed that the admission of further members  
was to be by ballot, and a Proposer and Seconder were  
required. Members of the Association were to be asked to  
pay 2/6 each to meet current expenses, and two representative  
members were to be added to the Committee : one from  
Somerville and one from Lady Margaret Hall.

Several meetings of the Association were held and can-  
didates elected at each. The last meeting was on July  
17th, 1886, at 32 Portman Square. Its purpose is des-  
cribed as : to draw up the Constitution and the Rules of  
the Club and to elect a permanent Committee and Officers.  
As 212 members had now joined the Association they were  
requested to pay the entrance fee of £1 1s. 0d. so that the  
Committee could take rooms and furnish them. The 30  
Rules which had been suggested were gone through *seriatim*.  
Rule 1 : that the club be called "The University Club for  
Ladies" had two amendments : (a) that the word  
"Ladies" be changed to "Women" ; (b) that some shorter  
descriptive title such as "The Hypatia" be adopted.  
Both these amendments were lost : (a) by one vote only ;  
and the Rule in its original form was adopted. Rule 16  
was amended "that there be a President of the Club" and  
was carried by 10 votes to 3. Rule 21 : "that the Club  
be opened from 8.30 a.m. to 11 p.m., including Sundays"  
was accepted. Rules 28 and 30 provoked some discussion.  
Rule 28 : "That all expulsions shall be the act of the  
General Meeting at which not less than 50 members shall  
be present, and not less than two thirds of that number shall  
concur therein," produced two amendments, (a) "That  
30 members only need be at the Meeting" ; (b) "that  
the power of expulsion be left to the Committee." Both  
these amendments were lost and the Rule in its original form  
was carried by a majority of 8. Rule 30 : "Special  
Members to be ladies who have taken a prominent part in  
the education of women" was carried by 9 votes.

After this meeting a letter (undated) which dealt with the formation of the club committee was issued from 32 Portman Square by Miss Jackson. The Committee was to consist of the two Hon. Officers (Secretary and Treasurer) and of twelve members; six nominated by members belonging to the London University, Girton College, Newnham College, Lady Margaret Hall, Somerville Hall, and the School of Medicine respectively, and six by the Club. All twelve members to be elected by the whole Club. Their names were :

MRS. GARRETT-ANDERSON, M.D., London  
MRS. BRYANT, London  
MISS J. E. CASE, Girton  
MRS. DOWSON, London School of Medicine  
MISS MACDONALD, London School of Medicine  
MRS. MACLEHOSE, Newnham  
MISS ARMSTEAD, Girton  
MISS BENSON, L. M. H.  
MRS. VERRALL, Newnham  
MISS WELSH, Girton  
MISS F. C. COBBE, Somerville  
MRS. NEVILLE LUBBOCK, Girton  
*Hon. Secretary* : MISS G. E. M. JACKSON, Girton  
*Hon. Treasurer* : MISS WINKWORTH, Newnham

We now come to the first minute-book of the Club's House Committee and its first record is of a meeting held on November 1st, 1886. Minutes of a meeting on October 18th, 1886 were confirmed and signed, but these appear no longer to exist, and there are no details of the actual formation of the House Committee nor is there a list of members. Those attending on November 1st were : Miss Armstead, Miss Case, Mrs. Dowson and Miss Winkworth.

At a meeting on November 10th, 1886 Miss Winkworth, Miss Cobbe and Miss Case only were present so the minutes of November 1st could not be signed, but a draft lease for rooms at 11 Princes' Street, Hanover Square was then actually approved.

A meeting was called for November 13th but a quorum was not present so no meeting was held, and at the next

meeting on December 6th it was reported that the Princes' Street rooms had been let to other tenants. At this meeting the minutes of the meeting of November 1st were read "but being inaccurate they could not be confirmed. It was resolved that they should be corrected and again read by the Committee at its next meeting." A Furnishing Committee was then elected which consisted of Miss Armstead, Miss Case, Miss Jackson and Miss Winkworth. The resignation of Miss Cobbe, of Lady Margaret Hall, from the Club Committee was accepted by this House Committee.

On December 8th the minutes of the meeting of November 1st were at last confirmed as well as those of December 6th. Several other possible rooms were considered and in view of the desirability of opening on January 1st 1887, £150 per annum was definitely offered for the 2nd and 3rd floors at 64 New Bond Street. A short notice was also ordered to be printed on a card, setting forth the objects of the Club, and these cards were to "be sent to all students who should from time to time become eligible as members of the Club."

On December 16th the House Committee reported that they had actually taken rooms at 31 New Bond Street for 3 years at £100 per annum, further, that a housekeeper, Mrs. Sharpe, had been found and her salary was to be £35 per annum with lodging, coal and light. The suggestion that Miss Agnes Garrett be consulted as to the furnishing and decoration of the Club was negatived by the meeting. A document, to which no date is affixed but which was probably issued in December, 1886, gives the names of the Committee and tells us : "that the University Club for Ladies will be opened on Wednesday, January 12th, 1887, at 31 New Bond Street. The Entrance to the Club is by a door at the left-hand side of Messrs. Arthur Lucas, Fine Art Publishers (opposite the Grosvenor Gallery). The Committee trust that the rooms they have taken on the 2nd and 3rd floors will form a convenient and comfortable Club. The rooms, Drawing room, Dining room, Library and Dressing room are small, but the situation is excellent and the committee have been encouraged to take these rooms by

the success of the Alexandra Club for Ladies not many doors distant on the opposite side of Bond Street. The rent is moderate and the 3 years' lease may be broken at the end of the 1st or 2nd year, so that there will be little difficulty in moving into larger premises. It is considered an advantage that the entire services of a house-keeper, Mrs. Sharpe, have been secured and she will provide, according to tariff, a simple lunch and afternoon tea, and, on receiving a few hours notice, 'high tea' or supper."

Members were to send their annual subscription (£1 1s. 0d.) before the 1st January to the Secretary, 1 Devonshire Terrace, Portland Place, W.

The third page of the document announced that an Extraordinary General Meeting of members was to be held at 32 Portman Square, at 3.30 on Thursday January 6th, 1887. Alterations in five of the rules were the object of this meeting. The first four were merely variations of dates and of the quorum, the last suggests the opening of the Club at 10.30 a.m. instead of 8.30 and that it should close on Sundays at 6 p.m. instead of, as on other days, at 11 p.m. "so long as the Club can only afford one servant."

The minutes of this General Committee Meeting of January 6th, 1887 at 2.30 p.m. form the first entry in our first General Committee meeting book. This meeting took place at 32 Portman Square. Progress to date was reported and further that a Secretary, Miss S. E. Clark, had been appointed for one year at a salary of £25 per annum.

The report of the sub-committee with regard to the furnishing of the Club was accepted and a vote of thanks to the members was passed "for the trouble they have taken." The Club's money was to be lodged in the London and Westminster Bank, Stratford Place, and cheques only to be acceptable when signed with any two of the following names: Miss Winkworth, Hon. Treasurer; Miss G. E. M. Jackson, Hon. Secretary and Miss S. E. Clark, Secretary. It was suggested that Rule 21, which was to come before the ensuing General Meeting of members, should be further modified with regard to the hours of opening and closing of the Club. 10 p.m. was proposed as the closing hour on

week-days, and on Sundays the hours suggested were from 1 p.m. to 6.30 p.m.

It was also proposed that members should give notice in writing on Saturday should they desire to lunch at the Club on Sunday.

A report was made with regard to the voting on the 20 ladies who were to be invited to become Special Members under Rule 30. As there was a tie of three names for the 20 members it was resolved to invite the 22 ladies who had obtained any number of votes above 4, to accept membership of the Club. The usual remark at the end of the minutes of all meetings here follows: "The Meeting was then dissolved."

Of the Extraordinary General Meeting of members which was to take place at 3.30 after this General Committee meeting, we have no record, and the Committee Meeting seems to have done the work. Probably the one meeting drifted into the other.

A House Committee meeting was held at the Club on January 17th, 1887, Miss Jackson was in the Chair, and Miss Armstead and Miss Case were present. The question of newspapers was discussed. It was decided to take, of dailies: the *Times*, the *Standard* and the 3rd edition of the *Globe*; and of Weeklies: the *Saturday Review*, the *Atheneum*, the *Spectator*, the *Educational Journal* and *Punch*. The *Girton Review* was also approved. Five guineas annually was to be paid to Smith's Library for 10 books, to be changed weekly; and Stott, 470 Oxford Street, was to supply 4 magazines.

At the next meeting of the General Committee, on January 27th, 5 members were present. Some difficulties were reported with regard to opening the Club banking account, and bills for furnishing were examined and "passed subject to further auditing by the Hon. Treasurer." Eight of the special members expressed their pleasure in accepting the invitation of the Committee. These were: Dowager Lady Stanley of Alderley, Louisa, Lady Goldsmid, Madame Bodichon, Mrs. H. Sidgwick, Miss A. Clough, Miss Emily Davies, Miss Wordsworth and Miss A. Swanwick. These ladies were unanimously elected members of the Club.



Mrs. Fawcett expressed her regret at being obliged to decline. It was further decided that an accountant be appointed to audit the Club accounts.

On February 10th the total expenses for the Club during January were £14 5s. 7d. The £5 5s. 0d. subscription to Smith's Library was then changed to a £10 10s. 0d. subscription to Cawthorne and Hutt's as being more advantageous. A member of the Club had asked for an increase in the supply of daily papers, but this was refused. A list of members whose subscriptions for the current year had not been paid was reported. The secretary was instructed to send post-cards to all defaulters requesting immediate payment of the amount due. At this meeting it was resolved that a meeting of the House Committee should be called on the first Thursday in each month to begin with Thursday, March 3rd; also the housekeeper's wages were increased from £35 per annum to 15/- a week.

The next trouble was the chimneys of the drawing room and dining room smoked; the housekeeper was instructed "to light the fires carefully and should they continue to smoke that the chimneys be swept, and the landlord be asked if he would put a cowl on them."

On May 19th, 1887, complaints were reported with regard to the tariff charges and it was decided that the members of the Committee would each prepare a scale of charges to be considered at the next meeting. It was decided that each representative member of the Committee should affix a copy of the club rules to the notice board of her College, and that a book containing details of apartments, recommended by members, should be kept by the secretary for the use of members seeking lodgings in town. An effort was to be made to obtain the use of a larger room than the drawing room for the Annual General Meeting on June 11th, and the general committee was to meet at 2.30 before the Annual General Meeting.

This General Meeting of the committee was not held as only two members, Miss Benson and Miss Case, were present.

In spite of difficulties *The First Annual General Meeting* was held on this date. 20 members were present and Mrs. MacLehose (Newnham) was in the Chair. The minutes

of the last general meeting (the fourth and last of the members of "the Association" of July 17th, 1886) were read and confirmed. The Chairman reported on the progress of the past year. A motion with regard to certain variations of Club rules of which due notice had been given resulted in a change in Rule 30. The phrase "ladies who have taken a prominent part in the promotion of Education," was, in future, to read: "ladies who have distinguished themselves in Art, Science, Literature or Philanthropy, or who have taken a prominent part in the promotion of Education," were eligible for special membership.

It was further decided that the year of service of the present members of the Committee should terminate in June 1888, and that the Rule 6 "that 4 of these members shall retire annually" should be set aside for the year 1887, the Club having only opened in January, 1887. The first Report and abstract of accounts audited by a chartered accountant was for the same reason to be printed and laid on the Club table in June, 1888. A special vote of thanks was unanimously accorded to the Committee and Officers of the Club, and especially to the Furnishing Committee for their efforts in opening the Club.

On July 5th, 1887 a meeting of the General Committee was held; 9 members were present and Miss Winkworth took the Chair. At this meeting a report was made that Mr. Shanks of 30 New Bond Street proposed to pull down and re-build the party wall between his premises and the premises of the Club, and that such work would begin early in August. The Club's solicitors (Messrs. Sheen, Roscoe and Massey) had been called in and had got a promise from Mr. Shanks guaranteeing the complete redecoration of the Club-rooms. It was resolved that during the process of rebuilding, the housekeeper should be given a holiday of a week or more while her rooms were uninhabitable, and that if it were necessary to close the Club, the Alexandra Club should be asked to receive our members as guests.

At the request of several members it was decided to drop the *Saturday Review* and its place to be taken by *The Queen*; further that *Cassell's Art Journal* was to be taken monthly.

Under the amended Rule 30 the following ladies were invited to become Hon. Members\* :—Miss Beale, Miss Bishop, Mrs. Oliphant, Mrs. H. Ward, Miss Garratt, Miss Mason and Miss Martin ; and should any three refusals be received the following names were to be substituted : Miss D. Hill, Miss Pipe and Mrs. Westlake. Miss Seward, the representative member for Somerville Hall, was elected a member of the House Committee in place of Miss Cobbe (resigned) and 7 ordinary candidates were elected to membership. Again the business of the Club seems to have been carried on by the energetic House Committee and regrets were expressed in a notice dated October 6th, 1887 to the members, as to the present state of discomfort due to the rebuilding of the adjoining house.

A distinguished candidate for election, Dr. Edith Pechey was given the privilege of being a guest of the Club pending her election, as she was leaving England for India at the end of the month. The Secretary was now directed to order the *Fortnightly Review* in place of the *National* from the library.

At a meeting of the House Committee on December 8th 1887 there was further re-consideration of the list of papers to be taken. 4 dailies and 7 weeklies were decided on and also the *Girton Review*. The subscription to Cawthorne and Hutt was to be given up and the Secretary was allowed £25 to pay a library subscription of £2 2s. 0d. to the Grosvenor Gallery Library for 4 books, and to purchase the papers, and as many magazines as possible, but of necessity the *19th Century*, the *Fortnightly*, *Magazine of Art*, *English Illustrated* and *Scribner*. The House Committee seems to have had continuous trouble with the newspapers. An effort was made to get the *Revue des Deux Mondes* and the *Historical Review* at half price at the end of the month and a new paper *The Reflector* edited by J. K. Stephen, was to be purchased (one copy) on trial, for 8d.

---

\*Hon. Members is probably written in error for Special Members to which Rule 30 refers. There appears to be no provision for honorary members, but on January 8th, 1909 an old member did apply for Hon. membership on the plea of age, infirmity and absence from London and was granted a "modified form of honorary membership."

An auditor for the accounts was suggested, and Mr. J. Napper Smith of 52 Queen Victoria Street was appointed for the current year if he would accept the fee of 1½ guineas. This sum was however afterwards raised to 2 guineas "in consideration of the work to be done."

A refrigerator at a cost not to exceed 3 guineas was advised for the housekeeper's use. Inconvenience was felt by members owing to the closing of the Club in August, so it was decided that there should be no closing in this year (1888), the housekeeper was to be allowed 10-days holiday and a temporary manageress was to be obtained to take her place, August 1st to 10th inclusive, at 3/6 a day. At the request of some members an effort had been made to obtain a daily supply of pastry from Callard and Callard, New Bond Street, to be returned if not disposed of, but it had not been found possible to effect such an arrangement.

The minutes of the first Annual Meeting of June 11th, 1887 were signed by Margaret S. Ker on June 9th, 1888, but no minutes are preserved of this meeting (the 2nd Annual).

On November 22nd, 1888 the House Committee received a letter of resignation from the first secretary of the Club, Miss Clark. A letter of appreciation of her valuable services (2 years) was written to her and regret was expressed at her resignation. Two candidates for the post were considered and it was decided to engage Miss Brierely who was recommended by Miss Benson. The *Musical Times* was now added to the list of newspapers.

On December 6th, 1888 a quorum for the General Committee was at last obtained, more than a year since the last meeting. Four intervening abortive efforts were reported. The business brought forward was the consideration for election as Special members of 3 persons : Miss Grove, Miss Morrison and Miss Wilson (Owen's College) but no decision is reported. It was agreed that the same papers and magazines should be purchased in 1889, and that the Club should be closed on Christmas Day.

On January 4th, 1889 the House Committee decided that *Punch* should be bound.

At the next Meeting it was reported that the expenses of the Club for the past year had been £232 10s 4d. and the subscriptions really due £235 15s. 0d.; but of this, £14 3s. 6d. was owing, so that there was an actual loss of £10 18s. 10d. It was decided that no special subscription for country members was possible.

An offer of *The Bazaar* free of cost for the Reading Room was accepted and it was agreed that some account of the Club might be sent to the *Women's Gazette* after enquiries had been made by Miss Jackson. In March a rug for the left-hand window was considered necessary; and Miss Winkworth offered to provide a map of London. Miss Warren offered to find out if St. Hugh's College, Oxford, was in connection with Lady Margaret Hall and if its students were eligible for election to the Club.

In May it was decided unanimously "that the students of St. Hugh's College be henceforth eligible equally with those of the other colleges of Oxford and Cambridge for election to the Club." The attention of the House Committee had already been called to the Club tariff with complaints that it should be revised.

A General Committee meeting was held on June 28th, 1889 before the annual meeting. Seven members were present and it was decided that *The Women's Penny Paper* be taken for one month on trial. An offer by Mrs. Stopes to represent the Club at the Women's Congress in Paris was declined with regret and thanks. Five names were suggested for consideration as special members: Lady Aberdeen, Miss Dundas, Miss McLaren, and Miss Houldsworth, and Miss Grove of Byng Place who was unanimously elected a special member. Miss Jackson offered to enquire if Mason Hall were affiliated to Victoria University.

The meeting then dissolved, to hold the 3rd Annual General Meeting. Twenty-eight members were present. Variations were made in certain rules. It was decided that a ballot should take place every month on the 1st Friday, and that members, when elected, should pay only the balance of the subscription for the current year, due the quarter-day before this election; also that the Annual General Meeting should be held in June and a fortnight's clear

notice thereof be posted in the Club. Four retiring members of the committee were unanimously re-elected: Mrs. Verrall, Mrs. Dowson, Mrs. MacLehose, and Miss Welsh. The Hon. Secretary Miss G. E. M. Jackson and the Hon. Treasurer, Miss Winkworth were also unanimously re-elected. It was reported that the number of members was now 240, of which 24 had been elected since January, 1888.

On July 19th, 1889 it was decided to allow the house-keeper the help of a charwoman for 3 days during the Autumn cleaning, and Mrs. Sharpe was allowed a holiday from August 1st to August 12th.

In December, 1889 it was decided that members should have the privilege of buying certain papers and magazines at half-price and postage, as soon as the next publication was received. This year it was further decided that the Club should be closed on Christmas Day.

A proposal to hold a House Dinner on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of each month from 6 to 8 p.m. was agreed to provided that not less than 3 members undertook to come. The first dinner was to take place on January 1st, 1890 and the tickets were to be 2/- each. Besides sherry and claret it was decided that port should be kept in the Club and also a small supply of mineral waters.

In January, 1890 the previous year's working showed receipts of £266 6s. 0d. and expenditure of £217 16s. 7d., a profit of £48 9s. 5d.; with this the balance at the bank was £121 15s. 8d.

It was decided that it was now possible to pay a bill of 3 guineas, the cost of drawing up the constitution of the Club, and also a bill of £4 10s. 0d. for expenses incurred by "The Association for promoting the Club," which had worked for 4 years prior to the actual establishment of the Club in January, 1887. It was also decided with regard to the newspapers to exchange *Truth* for the *World* and to add *The Lady* in future, and 100 copies of the new list of members were ordered to be printed.

In February, 1890 Miss Edith Argles became a member of the Committee in place of Mrs. Garrett-Anderson, resigned. Owing to the purchase of the monthly magazines by the members it was possible to make a considerable

addition to the number taken. The new magazines included the *Portfolio*, the *Universal Review*, the *Historical Review*, the *New Review*, the *Art Journal*, *Macmillan*, *Longman*, *Temple Bar*, *Harper*, *Mind*, and *Nature*; *Scribner* was to be discontinued.

An application for membership was made by a candidate (Mrs. Fitz Simon) who was described as having distinguished herself very much at a time when degrees were not open to women. A considerable discussion seems to have taken place as to her eligibility, but the decision was finally against her, as ineligible for ordinary membership, and not well-known enough to be a special member.

Miss Margaret Benson now took the place of Miss Eleanor Benson on the House and General Committees as the representative of Lady Margaret Hall. The matter of unpaid subscriptions was again discussed.

In March, 1890 the question of the eligibility of Newnham out-students for membership was considered. It was stated that Norwich House had formed a part of Newnham College and it was finally agreed that 3 terms residence there, constituted eligibility, but not as an out-student.

Mr. A. W. Smith, the auditor, was to be again employed "as he had audited the books well and cheaply last year."

In May, 1890 at the request of Dr. Clarinda Body, it was allowed that a petition should be placed in the Club for signatures in support of the "Women's Disabilities Removal Bill," but this permission was not to be considered as a precedent. At this meeting a letter was read from a member asking if she might put up a note on the notice-board that her rooms were to let. After some discussion, and the information that the rooms were her own, this was agreed to.

Members had objected to the bell at the outer door of the Club, in fact one member had threatened to leave the Club as it annoyed her so much. Another, a member of the committee, thought it was useful as it would frighten a thief the minute he opened the door (there had been an attempted burglary a few months before) and yet another member thought that as Mrs. Sharpe, the housekeeper looked over the stairs at each ring, an electric bell (in her room) would

be equally good. Finally, the Secretary was asked to enquire the cost of fixing an electric bell and to report again to the committee.

On June 27th the question of closing the Club entirely during the annual cleaning was considered. It was resolved that at least one room should be kept open for the use of members, and the housekeeper was to be allowed the services of a charwoman for 2 days, as in the previous year.

This was the first time that the General Committee had been able to meet this year, as a quorum was never available. The business of the Club had been therefore carried on by the House Committee.

In November, 1890 troubles seem to have arisen with the Grosvenor Restaurant which now refused to continue to supply food to the Club members' requirements. It appears that there was no other Club or restaurant near enough to which application could be made. After some discussion Miss G. E. M. Jackson suggested that the Committee should not take any formal notice of the refusal, but the housekeeper should explain the matter to such members as asked for "a Grosvenor lunch." This was agreed to.

A discussion now took place as to the possibility of getting a new Club house. Miss G. E. M. Jackson felt that they should now have bedrooms. She thought they could have any number of yearly tenants; also that they would need a parlourmaid. No recommendation was however made.

At a meeting in February, 1891 permission was asked by a member to post a notice of a course of lectures, on the notice-board. After some discussion it was finally decided that this should be permitted, but all such notices were to be referred to the Committee before they were posted on the board. A question as to the price charged for tea was brought up, as members had said that it was too dear. Mrs. MacLehose said she got excellent tea at 1/9 a pound, while the housekeeper was paying 2/4. Finally it was decided that a pot of tea for less than 3 persons should in future be charged for at the rate of 3d. each, instead of 4d. as hitherto.

In April the suggestion was made that the number of special members should be increased above 25. Mrs. Struthers of Edinburgh was proposed as a lady who had done all in her power to promote the education of women, and Miss Maitland, her proposer, considered that they ought also to invite the present Head of Somerville. Miss G. E. M. Jackson at this time proposed with regret a resolution, that dogs should not be admitted to the Club. The housekeeper had been ordered up till now to ask any member bringing a dog to take it into the dining room, or, if that were occupied, into the kitchen. Miss Armstead suggested that a notice to this effect should be put up in the Club, but Miss Jackson said "if they had a rule the putting up of a notice would be a further winking at dogs," and therefore Miss Jackson's resolution was agreed to.

Miss Jackson reported that some members were in the habit of bringing food into the Club and eating it there; this habit was disapproved of, as opposed to all the principles of a Club. A notice forbidding the introduction of food into the Club by members was approved.

At this time it was decided that the Club rooms wanted doing-up, "Miss Armstead thought they wanted a new paper in the Reading room; Miss Anderson agreed; she thought a nice clean paper would be an immense improvement." It was finally agreed to spend "not more than £10 on having the reading room and Library repapered; with a new carpet for the former, and the work to be begun at once. Also that new muslin curtains should be bought for the dining room".

At the Annual General Meeting (the 5th) on June 26th, 1891, Mrs. MacLehose was in the Chair and only 3 other members were present. The business done was to re-elect the officers, and the members of the committee who retired by rotation: Miss Argles and Mrs. Bryant, B.Sc.

In October complaints were made of the inconvenience caused to visitors by the rule that they might wait in the dining room only. A member of the Committee thought that "so long as the visitors were not noisy and the Club was not overcrowded they should be allowed to wait in the library but any rudeness or roughness could not be permitted."

A suggestion was made that a dozen dessert spoons should be provided, as table-spoons and tea-spoons only were not adequate.

At a general meeting of the Committee in December 1891 5 more special members were elected. It was suggested that special members should not have to pay any subscription, and that all Head Mistresses of High Schools should be eligible for ordinary membership. The question of the Head Mistresses was put to the General Meeting in June, 1892 but neither the proposer nor the seconder was present and the meeting expressed its disapproval of the suggestion with force. The other suggestion seems to have been ignored.

In 1892 the House Committee, which appears to have been the really active body, was seriously perturbed about the position of the Club; the number of members appeared to have been dwindling and the receipts also; while the expenditure, though reduced to the lowest level possible, was maintained.

In the previous year, ending December, 1891, the total income of the Club was £234 15s. 9d., and the expenditure was £240 1s. 0d., while £9 18s. 0d. had been drawn from capital for re-decoration of the Club house. The new special member, Miss Bell (a financier) was to be consulted as to investing the £100 deposit at the bank, which had only yielded £1 9s. 6d. there. At a later meeting she recommended the purchase of India Stock at 95¼ as a safe investment which would yield 3 per cent. This was agreed to and thanks were recorded to her for her kind offer to waive the commission. It was resolved that the cost of the dessert-spoons could be charged to capital.

Twelve resignations were reported, including those of Miss E. C. C. Jones (afterwards Mistress of Girton) and Mrs. Postgate.

The *Historical Review* was now dropped, also *Nature* and the *New Review*; and *Knowledge* was taken instead. In this year, 1892, the library subscription was reduced from 4 to 2 guineas, and *Vanity Fair* was taken instead of the *World*.

During 1893 much energy was expended in efforts to move the Club to more convenient premises, and rooms at 391 Oxford Street were very nearly accepted, but a large number of members seem to have protested against this situation so the plan was finally not proceeded with. Rooms at 3 Princes Street were next considered, and Miss Jackson was anxious that the Club should make a bold effort to enlarge itself and try to obtain guarantees from some of its members. The Committee was not in favour of such a move and Miss Winkworth doubted if any member would guarantee even £5.

The system of drainage at the Club house was now found to be defective and much discomfort was felt by the members, while efforts were being made to correct this trouble. Owing to this, the Committee seems to have considered hiring a room in which to hold the Annual Meeting in June, 1893 but it was finally decided to hold it in the Club. Ten members of the Committee were present and 10 Club members, and Mrs. Stanley Boyd took the Chair. The Report presented for the year 1892 was read by the Treasurer, Miss Winkworth, and showed a loss of 15s. 7d. on the year's working, as compared with the loss of £3 5s. 7d. for 1891. At this meeting it was proposed by Miss Gadesden and seconded by Miss Hutton: "That a report be sent round yearly to the members of the Club, which shall contain:

1. The names of the Committee.
2. A statement of the financial position of the Club.
3. The date of the coming Annual Meeting."

It was further moved by Miss Grüner "That members shall send in any nominations for the Committee at least 7 days before the Annual Meeting." The above 4 points were carried unanimously.

On December 11th it was resolved to place a box as usual in the Club for any member who might wish to give a gratuity to the Club servants at Christmas. After this meeting the House Committee did not meet again until March 3rd, 1894.

Most of November and December, 1893 seem to have been spent in efforts to arrange for the rooms at 3 Princes

Street. Thirty-four pages of minutes of the General Committee were written on this subject. Miss Jackson was generally absent and owing to her absence nobody seemed to have had courage to go ahead. On December 11th she was again present and insuperable objection was found to the rooms in question. After consultation with their solicitors it was unanimously decided to break off all negotiations with the prospective landlords, and the Committee moved off to inspect premises at 47 Maddox Street.

The General Committee now seems to have decided that a quorum of 3 should be able to act, owing to the difficulty of getting either a competent House or General Committee to meet, and the urgency of the question of the new Club house. A member who had resigned asked to be allowed to rejoin the Club and desired to know whether a proposer and seconder were necessary. The Committee decided that this was necessary, as also another entrance fee. It was further agreed that this should be reported to the ex-member, but if she asked exemption her case might be specially reconsidered. The Committee felt "that unless they were strict they might have any number of resignations."

On January 8th, 1894 it was finally agreed to take the premises at 47 Maddox Street at £160 a year on a 7-year lease, if the sanitary state of the house were approved. This was found satisfactory, and it was decided to close the Club from February 7th to February 15th inclusive for the purpose of removal. This period was later reduced to 3 days.

At the following meeting a letter was read suggesting that country members should pay only half a guinea annual subscription instead of a guinea. The suggestion was turned down without discussion, which confirmed the decision of 1889. The tariff was also discussed and the charge for lunch was considered excessive; one member said, she could get an excellent dinner for 2/3 at the Albemarle; and another said that for a plate of soup 1/- was too much. It was resolved that single cups of black coffee should be added to the lunch tariff list at 2d. a cup. The question of the non-payment of her subscription by a special member was considered, and it was decided "that a courteous letter be written to the special member drawing her

attention to the fact, but stating that the committee would not press it, if she desired exemption”.

At the new Club house one bedroom was now available, and it was decided that a member might occupy it for three consecutive nights ; should it not be required she could keep it until it was wanted, but in no case for more than seven consecutive nights. The price was to be 3/- for one night, 8/- for 3 and 18/6 for 7 including lights, baths, and service. The room was not to be engaged more than a month before it was wanted.

Mrs. Malleson was now proposed as a special member by Mrs. MacLehose, her qualification was that she had founded the College for Working Men and Women in Queen's Square and also the Association for nursing the poor in their own homes. She was unanimously elected.

It was now decided that an “At Home” should be given by the committee for the opening of their new premises, and Mrs. Lamb (previously Miss Winkworth) offered to give all the cakes required for the occasion, which was accepted. Miss Rivington offered to present to the Club a photograph of Miss Wordsworth from Shannon's portrait of her, and this also was gratefully accepted. The question of allowing children to enter the Club was considered at the suggestion of Mrs. MacLehose, who desired to bring in a child of 5. It was decided that “if this privilege were not abused there would be no inconvenience to a child being occasionally brought in.”

The question whether the subscription of a member, who was abroad for seven months in the year, could be reduced was negatived, and at the same meeting of the House Committee (May 25th, 1894) Miss Jackson proposed that the number of the members of the committee should be increased from 12 to 14 ; 8 of these to be elected by the whole Club. This was approved and ordered to be referred to the Annual Meeting.

The General Committee meeting, which preceded the Annual Meeting on June 22nd, was chiefly occupied with a discussion as to the carpet on the first staircase, to the cost of which the landlord desired that the Club should contribute. It was finally decided to offer 5/- per annum for it

as rent. The other question was whether a petition on behalf of Mrs. Maybrick should lie for signature in the Club, as had been allowed in the Pioneer Club. The request was refused with some vigour.

The 8th Annual Meeting was attended by 7 members of the Committee and 3 Club members. The financial report for the year ending December 31st, 1893 showed a balance to the good of £8 12s 5d. ; 27 new members had joined in the half-year, and the bedroom had been much appreciated. The question of the increase of the membership of the Committee as recommended by the House Committee was considered. The votes were 4 in favour and 4 against and the Chairman, Mrs. MacLehose, did not vote so no action resulted. At this meeting Miss B. A. Clough and Miss Rivington were elected to the Committee. At the present time Miss Clough who has been a member of the Club since its foundation, is again a member of the Committee. Miss Rivington was elected as the representative for Lady Margaret Hall, in place of Miss Benson.

From June 22nd, 1894 until November 2nd the General Committee was unable to make a quorum, and from May 25th until February 1st, 1895 the House Committee was in a similar position. At the meeting on November 2nd, 1894 a statement of accounts was presented which showed a sum of £36 2s. 9d. in the bank. “The Committee therefore sanctioned the transfer of the £100 of India Stock to the bank as a guarantee for any overdrawing of the account to the extent of £20 or £30.”

Miss Anderson (now the late Dame Adelaide) offered to present to the Club a crayon drawing of the late Miss Emily Davies. This was accepted with much pleasure. A framed photograph of Miss Clough, the foundress of Newnham, from Shannon's painting of her was presented by the Newnham College Club and accepted with many thanks. Mrs. Rayleigh Vicars offered to present a novel. After a short discussion it was resolved to accept it with thanks ; Miss Jackson added that it might be desirable if one of the Committee would read the book, before it was placed in the Club. It was proposed that an experiment be “tried during the Christmas vacation of having a joint, hot or cold,

with potatoes and stewed fruit, kept ready on the sideboard and that 8d. be charged for a plate of meat from the joint, the Club to bear the loss, if any, resulting from this arrangement, and the secretary to superintend its being carried out." This was resolved unanimously. The Club was closed for Christmas Day.

The refusal of the 5/- offered for rent of the carpet was reported on February 1st, 1895, as also was the resignation of a member because there was no reduction in the subscription for country members. The application was considered of a student (Miss Rowles) who stated that she had been attached to Somerville College for more than three terms but spent part of the time in lodgings. It was reported that she (Miss Rowles) had been especially elected to the Somerville Students' Association and was "considered in no way undesirable as a member." After some discussion "it was resolved unanimously that she was eligible as a Somerville College student."

In 1895 the housekeeper was changed; there were two applicants for the post. One was turned down as not a good enough cook, the objection to the other was that she had a husband. It was asserted that this applicant must take a situation as she was too poor to live at home and had almost starved. It was decided to engage her for 3 months, after very strict enquiries had been made as to her character &c. 15/- a week was considered too high owing to the extras which the housekeeper received, and it was decided that 14/- and a daily dinner should be given.

Mrs. Scharlieb, M.D. took the chair at the 1895 Annual Meeting (the 9th). The total income of the Club was then reported as £296 4s. 3d. and the expenditure as £288 8s. 8d. The resignation of Miss G. E. M. Jackson from the hon. secretaryship was heard with much regret. She was the originator of the Club and had helped it through its early precarious years. Finally Miss Elder proposed and Miss Major seconded the motion "that as Miss Jackson feels unable to continue as hon. secretary the office be abolished." This was carried by 8 votes to 2. There were 5 members of committee and 6 Club members present.

At this time the *Academy* was dropped and the *Illustrated Sporting and Dramatic News* was taken in its place. A member enquired what subscription she should pay as she was leaving England in October till October 1896, and she wished to remain a member. It was decided that she should be excused her 1896 subscription. To demand a balance of 5/2 was considered "a rather undignified proceeding."

A member complained of the smallness of the dining room. She said that she had luncheon at the Club recently and "the room was intolerably overcrowded though there were but 7 persons in it." After a long discussion it was agreed "to make the silence room into the dining room."

The housekeeper who was engaged in April sent in her resignation in the following October. A discussion took place as to the allowance for meat for the servants during the vacation. It was decided that, at the pleasure of the Committee and during certain months the wages of the housekeeper were to be augmented by 5/- a week in place of meat being provided for herself and the girl. The question of whether the girl or the housekeeper should be allowed to go to public-houses was negatived and it was suggested that bottled beer with screw tops should, instead, be obtained from certain brewers.

At this meeting it was decided that "the secretary was allowed to add 1d. slices of bread and butter to the tariff if a member desired one."

In order to get an idea of the newspapers and magazines desired by the members, the secretary was directed to draw up a list of as many papers and periodicals as possible and to place it in the Club so that members might vote for those they desired.

The question of Oxford students was considered in December, 1895, especially in connection with a special member who had been elected. The position of the Association of Home Students and that of the Halls was investigated. It appeared that anyone by payment of a small fee could become an Hon. Member of the Association. The Association originally took up the question of the education of women, and then the Halls were built for their residence.



It was further stated that its "examinations in Modern Languages and all the Pass Schools were still the only ones women could take in those subjects at Oxford, as the University had not opened its examinations in those schools to women yet." It was agreed that a resolution with regard to Oxford Home Students should be brought before the next Annual Meeting in June, 1896. Mrs. Stopes had reported that she considered that Scottish women were not fully represented in the membership, or on the Committee of the Club. It was therefore decided that copies of the rules of the Club &c. should be sent to the Secretaries of the Women's University classes in Glasgow, Edinburgh, St. Andrews and Aberdeen.

A letter of complaint was at this time received that the serving girl was being underpaid. Miss Paul said she had a very large experience of the rates of wages and 2/6 a week was a very common wage indeed, and by no means the lowest. Miss Sparrow said in her own house a girl under the upper servants would not receive more and Mrs. Lamb agreed. It was decided that the complainant should be written to.

Some trouble seems to have arisen owing to a member having brought four children to lunch at the Club. It was decided to put up a notice in the Club to the effect that the Committee hoped that the privilege of introducing friends would not be abused, particularly with regard to children.

At this time there was a discussion as to moving the Club to larger premises as the present house had been occupied for 2 years and, if a break were not made at the end of the 3rd year, it would be impossible to take any action before the expiration of another four years. One member considered that the financial position of the Club did not at present warrant a move to larger premises—entrance fees ought never to be counted as income, as was done by the Club. Miss G. E. M. Jackson urged that at their present rate of increase, their rooms would be too small for their members at the end of 5 years. It was decided to enquire of the Club's lawyers as to the latest date at which notice could be given by the Committee.

In May the draft Balance Sheet was considered for the year ending 1895, which shewed that expenditure exceeded receipts by £5 12s. 0d., and the auditor then advised the sale of the India Stock 3 per cent owned by the Club. The attention of the Committee was drawn to the fact that the year was not unsatisfactory as they had to "recover from having spent over £60 from the current account when they removed in 1894." "The large amount charged for the overdraft at the bank" was also noted.

Two members (Mrs. Lamb and Miss Rivington) offered to guarantee the club's overdraft so as to save the bank's charges. The sale of the India Stock was also considered at a possible profit of £13 or £14. It was finally agreed to find out before the next meeting "whether the present was a good time to sell, and whether it would be better to sell the whole, realizing the profit, and re-invest half of it in some other security, and if so what security; or sell half, keeping the remaining half undisturbed." Carried unanimously.

At the General Meeting on June 4th, 1896 a letter was read from the London and County Bank (whose manager, Mr. Rivington had kindly seen, on behalf of the Club) offering to keep the Club's account free of charge if the balance did not fall below £100. It was agreed "that the bank manager should be written to and asked to be as considerate as possible as the committee hoped now to keep a larger balance and avoid an overdraft." It was decided that the whole of the £100 India 3 per cent should be sold. At this meeting Miss Elder's resignation from the Committee was finally accepted and Miss Anstruther was elected in her place; and in place of Miss Welsh, Miss Maitland was now elected. It was decided at the House Committee on June 26th that as no one "could be had" to take the Chair at the Annual Meeting on that date, Miss Sparrow should be asked to do so.

At this 10th Annual General Meeting 5 members of the Committee were present with Miss Sparrow in the Chair, and 3 Club members attended. The report for 1895 was read; it stated that the number of members was now 270, the highest number known. The profits or otherwise of the

year's working were not given out, but it was reported that £3 9s. 9½d. had been made on the daily lunch and that the Secretary's salary had been raised by £5.

The following resolution was passed with regard to the Oxford Home Students: "That student members qualified according to the Registration Rules of the Association for Promoting the Education of Women in Oxford, be eligible for election to this Club, and also students at St. Hugh's Hall." The mover of the above (Miss Warren) further said that "there was a body of Women in Oxford regularly recognised but non-resident in any College or Hall. They took just the same studies and it seemed hardly fair not to admit them." The seconder (Miss Paul) added that "they were not asking the Club to make any new departure. The London University members had no residence qualification. A member of the Association, who had taken an Honours School and was in every way a most distinguished woman, was yet not eligible for the Club, and had been elected as a special member to meet the difficulty, but this could not be done in all cases." After a short discussion the resolution was carried unanimously.

In October, 1896 it was decided that the Club bedroom might be occupied for 14 nights, instead of only 7, by a member, should no other member require it. It was further decided by the Committee (3 members) not to sell the India Stock and to accept Mrs. Lamb's kind offer of a cheque of £30 to the bank to avoid overdraft.

Miss Jackson proposed to the Committee that they should ask certain of their friends to pay their subscriptions in advance towards the end of the year so as to carry them over the month or two in which there was no money in the bank. There are very frequent reports of members who resign from the Club and then desire to be re-admitted without entrance fee. The Committee seems to feel strongly against the practice but generally weakly relents with the remark "that no precedent shall be created by so doing." The crowded condition of the Club was again reported on; one member said it was hence impossible to write letters in the Club. A member (Miss Paul) offered to draw up some circulars putting forth some practical scheme

for the future of the Club, "but she would only do so on the understanding that it was to be thoroughly criticised at the next meeting."

The servants' Christmas box was opened (January 1897) and contained £1 13s. 1d. It was decided to give £1 to the housekeeper and the rest to the girl. Complaints were now made that the Club was insufficiently lighted. One member asked if electric light would be more expensive, and another replied that it certainly was, and she was afraid she could not approve of any idea of it at present. She proposed a hanging-lamp, which was agreed to. The question of the girl's wages of 2/6 a week was again considered with a view to an increase, as she had now been at the Club a year and had "greatly improved." It was unanimously resolved to raise her wages to 3/- a week.

The question of improving the Club premises was discussed in view of the presentation of the draft circular drawn up by Miss Paul. Finally Miss Jackson and Mrs. Lamb were nominated to form a sub-committee to see the landlord and discuss the question of increased accommodation. The discussion had no result, mainly owing to the increase of the rent. For the accommodation needed, £350 per annum was asked and this the Club felt it could not in present circumstances afford.

With regard to newspapers the Committee had suggested, that the Club members should set out on an appended sheet the names of the papers and magazines which they wished to find in the Club. These had been obtained, with the result that complaints were now made of the dullness of the magazines and periodicals. Among these it was noted that the *Economic Journal* had not had one page cut.

It had been suggested that, unless previously ordered, nothing hot to eat should be obtainable after 7.30 p.m. except boiled eggs and coffee. After a discussion it was decided that on one night a week cold meat only should be ready, in order that the housekeeper might get out. Half-a-dozen forks and 2½ dozen knives were to be purchased at the Civil Service or the Army and Navy Stores, whichever had the lowest price. Miss Jackson drew the attention of the committee to an advertisement in the Press, with the

Club's address, given by a member. Miss Jackson said that she believed that there was an unwritten law of Club etiquette which prevented this being done in men's clubs. Mrs. MacLehose agreed and said that she had made enquiries which confirmed this view. It was decided that a letter be written to the offending member and a notice be put up in the Club forbidding this practice. Another notice was to be put up, that members could not be admitted to the Club before 10.30 a.m. as many were now in the habit of transgressing this rule. The rule that "all expenses incurred by members shall be discharged before leaving the Club house" was also broken by some members, specially in the matter of teas. Again letters were ordered to be written. It was reported that there was a slight loss on the wine because 48 "nips" held rather more than a dozen bottles. Miss Anstruther suggested that the wine-merchant should be directed not to fill the "nips" quite so full in decanting the wine into them.

At the 11th Annual Meeting on June 29th 1897, 2 members of the committee were present and 2 Club members. The income of the Club showed an excess of £9 14s. 6d. over expenditure. The selection of newspapers and magazines was now relegated to the committee though a notice inviting suggestions from members was to be put on the board. A Suggestion Book was now instituted. This suggestion-book lasted until January 1924 and still exists.

The accounts for 1897 were reported on January 7th, 1898 and an overdraft of £1 1s. 7d. was shown on January 1st, 1898. A letter was read at this meeting from a member (Miss A. J. Ward) suggesting the possibility of members asking men friends to the Club. The Committee replied that they "hoped at some future time, when their premises allowed of it, that a new rule could be made by the members on this subject, but at the present the premises were, in their opinion, not suitable." This was resolved unanimously. Tea-parties of more than four were to be entertained only in the dining room. As a result of the new Suggestion Book three suggestions were found. (1) The pictures to be neatly marked. (2) The members address book copied.

(3) The magazines cut before being placed in the Club. Complaints were received of annoyance caused by members publicly reprimanding the Club servants, and attention was drawn to the rule prohibiting this. A member, Miss Tuke (now Dame Margaret) wrote to ask whether it were possible to become a life member. The reply was that the subject would be considered when the Club next moved. The friends of the maid (Emily Whyllie) now asked that her wages should be raised or they would feel it their duty to remove her. It was decided to raise her wages to £10 per annum. A subscription to the District Messenger service £1 1s. 0d. a year was approved, and a letter-box, to be cleared every evening in time for the country post, was to be placed in the Club. It was also decided that stamps should be on sale. As Club furniture always suffered more deterioration than ordinary private furniture the auditor was directed to allow 10 per cent instead of 5 per cent as hitherto. Miss Major, afterwards Mistress of Girton, now became a member of the Committee.

A member wrote to ask if, during her absence abroad, her sister might have the use of the Club. It was unanimously resolved that permission could not be given. The Suggestion Book asked for a new Post Office directory. The Committee decided that this was an expense they could not incur at present "as it could be seen at any Post Office."

At the 12th Annual Meeting on June 30th, 1898 the excess of income over expenditure was stated to be £21 0s. 5d. and the loan of £30 generously lent without interest by the Hon. Treasurer (Mrs. Lamb) had been entirely repaid. For this year it was decided to close the Club for the last week of August and the first of September. It was further decided that for this year they should not ask another Club to receive their members as they could not return the hospitality; if they received many complaints they could consider the question for next year. At the request of the servants the Club was closed on December 26th as well as Sunday December 25th this year. From June to November it had been found impossible to obtain a quorum for a committee meeting though efforts were made to do so.

A special meeting of the General Committee was called on January 27th, 1899 to consider negotiations for a house in Grosvenor Street, but this was not approved and the Committee went off to view premises at 44 Conduit Street which were, however, found to be let. "All the Club agreed that the Club was getting very overcrowded."

32 George Street now came under consideration. Between February 4th and March 9th, 1899, 12 committee or sub-committee meetings were held. Miss Jackson was present at all of these and Mrs. Hill at eleven. Finally, arrangements were concluded and new premises were taken. One of the difficulties was that the Committee had to get rid of the remainder of the lease of the Maddox Street premises, if possible before the new George Street house was taken on, and the Maddox Street landlords were not obliging. Miss Jackson proposed to provide for the necessary expenses by a scheme for raising a guarantee fund which was to consist of a double subscription for a period not exceeding 2 years. This scheme was seconded by Mrs. Hill and carried unanimously. It was pointed out by the Hon. Treasurer, Mrs. Lamb, that £150 of extra income would be needed for the proposed premises, exclusive of having to pay a double rent. She also desired that a sinking fund should be formed in the future. In spite of possible difficulties ahead, the Committee "unanimously resolved" to hold their opening party at the new premises on April 21st, 1899 from 3 to 6 o'clock. Cards were to be sent out marked R.S.V.P., with a request that members should mention the number of friends they proposed to bring, and the removal notices were to be enclosed. Miss Jackson promised portière curtains, Mrs. Lamb 2 pairs of window curtains and possibly some furniture. The Hon. Secretary of the Y.W.C.A. Club offered the hospitality of their Club to the University Club members if they should have to close for removal. The signatories of the George Street lease were Miss Clough, Miss Neville and Miss Jackson. The party of April 21st was however postponed till May 12th and Miss Anstruther, Miss Neville and Miss Warren undertook to make all arrangements. On an enquiry from Mrs. Pollard as to whether gentlemen might come to

the party it was unanimously resolved that they could. At this time the Committee was asked for instructions with regard to two unpaid subscriptions. In one case it was decided to remove the member's name from the roll and that a notice was to be posted in the Club to that effect with the reason stated. The other subscription was considered good.

At the 13th Annual Meeting on June 21st, 1899 the Oxford Home Students, who had passed the examination next after the preliminary, were included among those eligible for membership of the Club, as well as members of St. Hilda's Hall, Oxford and the Royal Holloway College. The admission of 30 Associate members was now also approved. They were to be women not technically qualified for election as members, or special members, but engaged in the promotion of education, or in the higher branches of the public service, or in the pursuit of arts, science, or literature. They were to pay an entrance fee of 25/- and an annual subscription of 25/- and they were not on any occasion to have a vote. (Miss H. Jex-Blake was nominated for election under this head on July 7th, the next general meeting of the committee). At this meeting there were 8 committee members present and 11 members. One member (Miss Carthew) proposed that the name of the Club be changed to "The Women's University Club". The motion was lost, only the proposer voting for it (the seconder was Miss Sparrow). Miss Jackson raised the objection that the proposed name was impossible as there was in England no "Women's University." It was further decided at this meeting to increase the number of special members to 50.

In October, 1899 seven members each signed a guarantee of £6 as security to Mrs. Lamb against her guarantee of £72 to the Bank for overdraft by the Club. A married member suggested that it would be to the advantage of the Club to admit the daughters of members, as members without qualification, the suggestion was not approved. At this time it was decided that smoking could only be allowed in the dining room and then only after 8 p.m. In the following January a member resigned because smoking was permitted in the Club. The contents of the servants' Christmas box

amounted, in 1899, to £4 16s. 10d. In February it was reported that £357 1s. 6d. had been paid into the bank during January, 1900, of which 120 guineas was from guarantors under Miss Jackson's scheme.

The question of the St. Andrew's University degrees had come up for consideration previously and it was now again broached. Miss Jackson undertook to make enquiries in this matter. Owing to trouble with the housekeeper the household management was now delegated to the Secretary, Miss Brierley, and her salary was raised to £40. It was decided that when the number of members reached 450 this matter should be re-discussed. In this year the members were received at the Pioneer Club between September 3rd and October 1st and the Pioneers were received at the University Club during August when the members of the Writers' Club were also received.

In the report for the Annual Meeting (1900) the sentence occurs "the Committee feel there is no need for anxiety as to the financial position of the Club." Mrs. Lamb, Hon. Treasurer, said she could not endorse that view and moved that the sentence be deleted. On division 3 supported Mrs. Lamb and 5 opposed; the sentence therefore stood.

Trouble now arose with regard to members' bicycles, no less than 3 had been found standing on the staircase and it was almost impossible to pass them and enter the Club. It was decided that they should not be allowed to be brought in except in the case of members staying in the Club, and that then they were to be placed in the bedrooms. The secretary's salary was now raised from £40 to £55 and the 2 house-maids from £12 to £14. The Club was to be closed on Christmas Day but not on the following Bank Holiday.

At the January meeting, 1901 it was decided that the guarantors should not be called upon as the Club had done better than had been expected, and had a substantial balance. The prices for lunch and dinner were again considered. 8d. seems to have been the price charged for lunch or dinner; one course with one vegetable was now to be 1/-. Two courses with one vegetable, 1/6. Owing to "the bare appearance" of the Club and the fact that there was a balance

at the bank it was decided to spend £20 on furniture; a settee, 2 chairs, 2 tables, 4 dining room chairs, a screen and 2 cushions were purchased, which "greatly improved the Club." It was further decided that members' boots should now be cleaned at 1d. a pair, and that visitors might be entertained up to 11 p.m. instead of 10 o'clock.

In January, 1902 it was reported that income exceeded expenditure by £36, and the profit on food was £51. The auditor was therefore to be consulted as to whether the entrance fees should now be included in the capital account which had always been the desire of the Treasurers. The Club now had 2 bedrooms; for Coronation Week 1902 these were balloted for and there were 4 candidates.

The disappearance of papers and magazines caused the committee trouble, and they decided to get a rubber stamp with which to mark them, and also to put up a notice prohibiting the removal of the property of the Club.

The letter-box was now to be cleared at 1, 3, 5.50 and 10 p.m. instead of only for the country post.

A member, in February, raised an objection to the way the Secretary was housed, and specially drew attention to the way the room was lighted, which was by a small window on the floor level only. After inspection of the secretary's office by the committee, a member of the committee proposed that the small bedroom should be converted into the secretary's office. The Secretary, who was keenly interested in the welfare of the Club, protested that this would entail a considerable loss of income. It was, however, unanimously decided that the small bedroom must be made into the office; it was also to be used as a smoking room between 2 and 3.30 and after dinner. The Secretary in the end thanked the Committee for "their kindness and consideration." As the Club would now only have one bedroom an instruction was given that before anyone was refused, enquiry was to be made both at the hotel opposite and at 26 George Street, as to rooms. A copy of the notice calling the Annual Meeting on June 16th, 1902 still exists. This meeting was largely occupied by discussion as to whether men should be admitted as guests; and whether the subscription of one guinea should be increased to 25/-. Both

questions were negated, the first by 13 to 7 in the room, and the second by 22 to 2. Postal votes had however been asked for, and by these the men got 30 to 26 votes, and the increased subscription was lost by 57 to 22. It was then pointed out that on the question of men, postal votes had not been invited and therefore it was agreed that a ballot should be taken (by post) of the whole Club. As a result of this 130 voted for men and 69 against. It was then decided "that men be only admitted to the drawing-room" and further that (1) members must be in the Club to receive their guests; (2) gentlemen may be admitted, as guests from 4 to 6 on Wednesdays and Saturdays; and (3) members may make strictly business appointments with gentlemen before 12.30 p.m. but must give notice of their intention to the Secretary previously."

A portress was now added to the staff of the Club at a wage of from 8/- to 10/- a week. This action was taken owing to complaints of petty thefts from the Club and also the presence of non-members therein. At the next committee meeting it was reported that one member had resigned owing to the variation of the rule with regard to men, and at the following meeting another resignation was reported for the same reason. The servants' Christmas boxes were opened on January 9th, 1903, but, as they only contained £2 16s. 2½d., the Committee directed that they should be closed again until February.

Mrs. Lamb, who had been Hon. Treasurer since 1886, now asked to be relieved of the office, especially owing to pressure of other duties and the prospect of the Club's further move. A sub-committee of 3 was called, consisting of Mrs. Lamb, Miss Jackson and Miss Lea Smith, to discuss the duties of the Hon. Treasurer. Miss Welsh (Mistress of Girton) at this time sent in her resignation of membership; Miss Jackson said that she believed Miss Welsh had never once been inside the Club, but had subscribed to it since its foundation. A letter of regret for her resignation was accordingly ordered to be written to her. The servants' boxes were now again opened, and found to contain £3 16s. 0d.

In April of this year Mrs. Hill suggested that the minutes of House and General Committee be kept in one book and they would then be read at each meeting and not be many months old, as now happened; Miss Warren seconded and it was agreed to unanimously. Up to this time the meetings seem to have been called General, if a sufficient number of members were present, and if not, House Committee meetings. A further resignation was reported in May, 1903 owing to the presence of men, and because smoking was now permitted in the Club.

The 17th Annual Meeting was held on June 24th, 1903, "10 members of the Committee and Club" were present, and Miss Rivington was in the Chair. Mrs. Lamb's resignation as Hon. Treasurer was reported, but that she would, at the request of the Committee, continue to act if a 2nd Hon. Treasurer could be appointed to serve with her, and share the responsibility. This was agreed to, and Rule 14 was ordered to be altered accordingly.

The admission of men guests was again discussed. It had been proposed, but neither the proposer nor seconder were present, that the words "strictly business appointments" should be omitted in the clause admitting gentlemen before 12.30; and that notice need not be given for the appointments. None of the 10 members present were prepared to propose these changes, so finally it was decided that the matter should be referred to the Committee. This was proposed by Mrs. Scott (now Mrs. Ogilvy) who is still a member of the Club, as is also the seconder, Mrs. M. M. Banks, who is now serving on the Committee.

In July, 1903 the General Committee elected Miss G. E. M. Jackson as their second Hon. Treasurer. The unsatisfactory way in which members paid their subscriptions was continually commented on. No less than 40 members (out of a roll of between 200 and 300) were reported in arrears. It was suggested that next year those members, "who had not paid by March 1st, should be turned away by the portress."

A discussion took place with regard to the old monogram which had been on the Club envelopes. Its use had been discontinued because it was considered old-fashioned and

also on the ground of expense. If discoverable might it not re-appear?

Miss Shore-Nightingale was now elected as the Girton representative on the Committee to the vacancy caused by the resignation of Miss Jackson in order to become Hon. Treasurer. She is still, as Lady Stephen, a member of the Club.

In 1904 the Committee urged that the Club required larger quarters and, especially, more bedrooms. No. 94 Bond Street was all but taken and then finally fell through. The Committee in view of this prospective enlargement now took steps to issue a series of Debentures, and Miss Anstruther got into touch with Sir William Makins, the Chairman of the Albemarle Club, which had already done this. After much discussion and enquiry the Committee was empowered to raise a sum not exceeding £1,000 by Debentures at £5 5s. 0d. (£5.25) per cent per annum. These were to be issued only to members of the Club and to be secured solely on the assets of the Club. The assets were to be legally vested in 3 Trustees to be selected by the Committee from among the Debenture Holders, and one of such Trustees (to be chosen among themselves) to be entitled to attend all the meetings of the committees and to vote on all subjects under discussion and not to come up for election by the Club. Miss Carthew was the suggested Trustee.

Bedford and Westfield Colleges were now given "the three terms' residence" qualification.

At the 1904 Annual Meeting it was decided that, in view of the proposed issue of Debentures, the additional member of the Committee should be accepted for the Debenture Holders; also Rule 22 was to be varied and to read "that the Club shall be open daily from 9 a.m. to 10.30 p.m."

November 25th, 1904 was to be the date from which the Debentures should be issued and bear interest. "Miss Clough most kindly arranged to transfer £350 to the Club's Bankers until the Debenture money was received, so that the £550 consideration money might be sent when the leases were exchanged." A week later Miss Clough paid in another £25 to allow of the £550 being paid immediately.

At the end of this year (1904) the Club concluded its arrangements for moving to 4 George Street (its 4th home) with a rent of £600 per annum, and the ground floor let off to a tailor for £300.

The opening of the Club in its new quarters was fixed for January 1st, 1905, and in the meantime hospitality was offered to the members by the Victoria, the Pioneer and the New County Clubs.

On December 2nd, 1904 the General Committee held its first meeting in the new Club House, and its first action seems to have been to repay Miss Clough £225, which was the balance of £425 which she had advanced, and to express to her their cordial thanks for her generous help.

It appears that "The Portman Club had a bedroom in the new Club House." No other mention is made of this Club but it seems that "its members, who used this bedroom could have breakfast in the University Club dining room and they were not to be refused other meals if they desired them, but the University Club Committee were to be informed from time to time how much and how often the Portman Club members availed themselves of this privilege." A telephone was to be installed in the Club at the March quarter (1905). The salary of the Secretary was now increased to £70 from January 1st and the Committee thanked her for the trouble she had taken in the last 6 months and hoped she would take a holiday later on. A most cordial vote of thanks was unanimously given to Miss Clough for her generous gift of £25 to furnish the smoking room. The Club's servants were strictly prohibited from accepting gratuities from members, but contributions, limited to 2/6, might be placed in the box for holiday or Christmas funds. It was unanimously agreed that in future the maids of members could not be allowed to occupy a bedroom in the Club, but must sleep out.

Mrs. Lamb, who, as Miss Winkworth, was on "the Provisional Committee for the proposed University Club for ladies" in May, 1883, and later was for many years the Club's first Hon. Treasurer, now sent in her resignation; this was accepted with much regret.

Miss Clough proposed that smoking should be allowed in the members' tea room when the smoking room was required by the Committee. This was agreed to. The Committee, in March, 1905, pointed out to the housekeeper that the profit on 2 months was only £4. It was also desired that the glasses and silver should be kept cleaner. At the following meeting the cook, kitchen-maid and housemaid gave notice in consequence of disagreement with the housekeeper, who had given in her resignation. At the next meeting the notices of the domestics were allowed to be withdrawn and a new housekeeper (Miss Matthews) was engaged at £35 per annum. It was reported that all the coffee cups but 4 were broken, so that 2 dozen were ordered and also a servant's mattress, as one was so dilapidated that it could not be used and 2 servants were therefore sleeping together. It was further decided to buy a feather bed for the sum of £1 for the housekeeper's bed.

In June, 1905 it was reported that the assessment of the Club house had been raised from £367 to £542 and Miss Jackson undertook to write a letter of protest.

At the 19th Annual Meeting (June 21st, 1905) it was reported that 74 new members had been elected during the year. The members present were re-assured as to the financial position of the Club by the statement of Miss Clough, that the Committee had taken Counsel's opinion which was that members were not liable for anything beyond their Club subscription. The three Trustees for the Debenture Holders would, should the Club be closed, take over the lease and furniture and manage the property so as to repay the Debenture Holders. At this time it was decided that the Club dinner, at a cost of 2/-, was to consist of soup, meat and 2 vegetables and sweet or savoury; if both of these last were taken, the price was to be 2/6. The cost of salad was increased from 1½d. to 2d. It was also agreed to engage a between-maid at £10 or £11 a year and to increase the wages of the 3rd housemaid by £1 a year "as she would not stay on with a less wage than that of the between-maid." In October the cook, who had been in the service of the Club for 5 years at £24 per annum, said she should be obliged to leave if her wages were not raised,

as her work now had greatly increased. The House Committee therefore resolved to recommend the General Committee to increase her wages to £28 per annum. "Owing to the difficulty of getting a quorum for the House Committee it was agreed to ask Miss Cohen if she would join it."

The question of the L.L.A. degree of St. Andrew's was again brought up and Miss Anstruther definitely reported, that the holder of it was not qualified under Rule 2 (1) of the Club. She was a Fife woman, and spoke with authority. The question of engaging a working housekeeper was now considered and an advertisement was inserted in the *Morning Post* and the *Guardian*. The salary was to be £30, to £35, and 57 replies were received. Miss Trimble was engaged at £30 per annum and washing, and she was to be given further expert advice as to menus on three mornings a week, from Miss Matthews.

£111 was found in the servants' boxes, which sum was distributed; and this year (1905) the Club was not closed on Christmas Day.

In February, 1906 the Committee considered the question of whiskey and it was decided "to get a better quality than Gilbey's." "The Secretary was directed to measure the bottle and mark inches on it, divide its price by the number of inches and charge 3d. for half-an-inch".

At the meeting on February 16th the Committee decided that the Club could no longer be carried on without a resident Secretary-housekeeper. This involved the loss of Miss Brierley, who had, as secretary, served the Club with ability and devotion for the previous 17 years. This change would put the entire management of the Club, under the Committee, in the hands of the new officer. She was further to receive all payments; to keep the accounts as instructed by the Hon. Treasurer; and to send out notices under the direction of the Hon. Secretary. The salary was not to exceed £70 per annum. In May, 1906 the first parlour-maid's wages were raised to £18.

At the Annual Meeting, June, 1906 (the 20th) it was reported, that to date, the membership had increased since last year by 157. The balance-sheet showed a deficit of



£224 15s. 0d. and it was agreed that the annual subscription should be increased from 21/- to 35/-. This was also to be the subscription for Associate members, whose number was now increased from 50 to 100. Definite philanthropic work was to be included among the qualifications for Associate membership and the Committee was empowered to enlarge, at their discretion, the qualification of the next 50 Associate members.

On September 7th Miss Anstruther and Miss Carthew were appointed to act as a Wine Committee.

In July, 1906 Miss Clough's offer to lend the club £250 for present requirements was accepted with many thanks to the extent of £200; repayment to be guaranteed by individual members. This offer seems to have been increased to £300 in September.

As a result of the increase in the subscription from 21/- to 35/-, 13 members resigned, and 22 refused to pay the extra 14/-. On November 2nd the Treasurers reported that the financial position of the Club had somewhat improved but that the subscription list should come up to £750 to make the balance-sheet satisfactory. At the December Meeting £16 14s. 0d. was reported from the gratuity boxes and divided among the staff of seven.

Complaints were made to the Committee from various members that the Club was cold, dark, and draughty, and that the tables in the dining room were inadequately served. All these matters were considered. The kitchen-maid asked that her wages should be raised, as she had had a year's work; an increase of £1, from £12 to £13, was recommended.

The Club's first paid resident secretary-housekeeper (Miss Bishop) resigned in 1907 after about a year's service and a new secretary-manager was engaged.

The auditors did not seek re-election, and the Treasurers were to make enquiries as to one or two firms. It was further decided to have a quarterly, instead of a yearly balance-sheet.

At the 21st Annual Meeting, June 26th, 1907 it was reported that 114 new members had joined the Club during the year, that membership was now 559, and that both

Westfield and Bedford Colleges were to have representative members on the Club Committee. This privilege was however withdrawn in the following December owing to the small number of members from these two Colleges. Shortly after this the newly-appointed secretary departed hurriedly and unexpectedly. Miss Clough came into residence for a week and, with some other members of the committee, managed to keep things going, and they were authorised to find and appoint a temporary secretary. As usual the members of the Pioneer Club were to be received during August, and Miss Brimmell came in as this temporary secretary during July. In October she was asked to continue her services till Christmas, and the Committee expressed the hope that they might be able to offer her the post permanently.

In January, 1908 she was appointed secretary-housekeeper at a salary of £60, and she was thanked for the way in which she had carried on the work in trying and difficult circumstances. Smoking was now allowed in the members' tea room between 2 and 3.30, but it was prohibited in the bedrooms.

In 1907 a Social sub-Committee came into existence, but no details with regard to it or its members appear in the minutes. The main matter that it seems to have dealt with was the Club dinners. The cost of this dinner was, in February, 1908, raised to 2/6, exclusive of wine, and only women guests were to be admitted. Previously 9d. a head was to be charged for wine, and members of the Club were asked to lend the necessary cutlery. A portress at £12 per annum was now to be taken on, "and a house-boy for two hours daily, when fires were on, and for one hour otherwise"; and in 1908 the kitchen-maid's wages were raised to £14.

A complaint was now made as to the size of the baths in the bedrooms. It was replied to by the statement that there was a large bath downstairs.

It was decided, in March, 1908, to have a Club tea in the dining room, on the last Friday in the month but the Social sub-Committee reported that this would not be expedient.

An "At Home" might however be held in May and if successful another might be held in June.

Finances were now at a low ebb owing to the increased subscriptions being balanced by increased expenditure for maintenance, and it was agreed that unless the members of the Committee could each enrol eight new members by June 1st, the Club would in all probability have to dissolve. Miss Jackson said that for the next few months she would be unable to transact the business of Treasurer; Miss Reinherz was therefore asked to act temporarily, and to join the Committee. The Hon. Secretary, Miss Cohen, asked that she should be given more help, and Miss Ruth Anderson was invited to join her in that office.

Miss Cohen offered to lend the Club £200 to be spent in decoration &c. and to improve the service of the Club so that the Committee could recommend it with more confidence. She also offered to visit Newnham, Girton, Somerville and Lady Margaret Hall, and to address the students about the Club, and this offer was accepted with many thanks. In May of this year Miss Gradwell undertook the audit of the quarterly accounts.

In July the staff gratuity boxes were opened and they contained £17 9s. 7d., which was divided in sums varying from £4 to £1 among the staff of eight. Five-hundred copies of the list of members were now to be printed and sold to members for 3d. each, and the date of joining was to precede each name. This order does not appear ever to have been carried out. Breakages of china &c. by the staff seem to have exercised the Committee and it was decided that there should be a monthly allowance of 8/- for this, and then any surplus was to be added to the gratuity box.

A member (Mrs. Malleson) wrote asking whether, as she was prevented by increasing years, from coming to the Club, she might remain as an "honorary member" at a subscription of 10/6. After some discussion it was decided to ask her to pay £1 1s. 0d. as usual for the year, and to allow her to remain on the list as an honorary member without further payment.

In February, 1909 a member asked to be allowed to bring her husband to the Club dinner but the request was refused,

and the question of men guests was referred to the Social sub-Committee.

At the 23rd Annual Meeting the balance-sheet showed a deficit of £126 1s. 4d. and owing to this the Committee had proposed that the number of Associate Members should be increased by 50. This was however withdrawn, and instead Mrs. Montefiore proposed that "as certain members of the Club, in order to preserve its academic character, had volunteered to increase their subscriptions for from 3 to 5 years, the rule with regard to associate members should remain unaltered, provided the increase in the income of the Club be about 100." This was seconded by Miss Carthew, and it was reported that about £70 had already been promised. The amendment was carried unanimously. This was the main business of the meeting.

At the July opening of the gratuity boxes £4 16s 1d. was found which made a total of £21 1s. 7d. between January and July.

In October £95 was reported as the value of the promises of increased subscriptions for 3 to 5 years; also a profit of £62 7s. 11½d. on the working of the first six months of the year was reported.

An offer was made of a portrait of a lady not a head of a College, but it was then decided to restrict the acceptance of portraits to those of Heads of colleges, so this offer had to be refused.

A balance of £123 17s. 9d. was shown for the year 1909. At this time there appears to have been an ever-increasing list of candidates for Associate membership. The number of these had been limited to 100, in June, 1906, and a long waiting-list had come into existence. In April, 1910 a lunch for 1/6 was instituted, to consist of joint and 2 vegetables, sweet or cheese, biscuits and butter and coffee.

The Sesame and Pioneer Clubs were this year again approached for hospitality during August.

In May, 1910 a cook who had been for 2 years at the New Era Club was engaged, her wages were to be £30 with £6 guaranteed from the gratuity box.

At the Annual Meeting, June 24th, 1910, the revenue account showed a balance on the right side of £117 1s. 9d.,

and the deficiency account on the balance sheet was reduced to £8 19s. 7d.

In September, a house-boy was engaged at 5/- a week.

In October, Miss G. E. M. Jackson resigned her post of Hon. Treasurer and Miss Cohen (who had apparently been acting Treasurer for some time) was elected in her place, after resignation of the post of Hon. Secretary, where she was succeeded by Miss Ruth Anderson. For the coming Coronation week the price of bedrooms was to be doubled.

In December, 1910 the formation of two new clubs for women was reported, the "Halcyon" and the "Ladies' College Club", but it was decided to take no steps with regard to them.

In 1911 a request was made that the Associate members should have a representative on the Committee, but it was decided "that it was undesirable to make any provision for it." In April, 1911 a member was reported to have taken a bedroom for April 2nd in order to evade the census. A written undertaking was required of her that she would accept liability for any fine imposed.

The Social sub-Committee reported, through Miss Boyd, that the members did not attend. She suggested that this Committee should be dissolved and the work delegated to the House Committee. The Committee had sent in reports from time to time but no record is now discoverable of its date of inauguration, duties, or members. The suggestion of Miss Boyd was adopted by the House Committee.

Roller-towels seem always to have been used by the Club in the dressing-rooms as well as by the staff in the house; the purchase of 24 was now sanctioned. A medical member complained of not being allowed to have a poached egg served in the drawing room; Miss Anderson, Hon. Secretary, undertook to write and explain.

In April, 1911 Miss Cohen proposed "that in view of the financial position of the Club 40 out of the 100 debentures should be redeemed, and that the holders of the remainder be asked to sanction a reduction in rate of interest of from  $5\frac{1}{4}$  to 4 per cent." This was carried unanimously. It was reported at the next meeting that with one exception the debenture holders had agreed to the reduction, and that

several holders who had been paid off were anxious to renew their holding.

In November, 1911 the salary of the secretary Miss Brimmell, was increased from £60 to £65 with 5 per cent bonus on Coffee-room profits. A letter of appreciation of her services was also sent to her.

In March, 1912 a special subscription for country members was asked for, but the Committee did not see their way to this. The ordinary subscription was now £1 10s. 0d. and for associate members £1 15s. 0d. This had been agreed to in 1906.

At the Annual General Meeting in June, 1912, the Hon. Treasurers were able to give a good report of the financial position of the Club in spite of a small decrease in the number of members. There were 687 members at the end of 1911 as compared with 704 at the end of 1910. Miss Clough and Miss Cohen were re-elected as Hon. Treasurers, and Miss Ruth Anderson as Hon. Secretary. In October, 1912 Miss Anderson resigned from the hon. secretaryship owing to ill health, but hoped this would be only a temporary measure. Miss Carthew consented to act for the time being and Mrs. Adler was to be asked to act as assistant hon. secretary. On January 17th, 1913 Miss L. D. Henderson was co-opted to act as hon. secretary. Later Miss Anderson reported that she must definitely resign as she was leaving London permanently. Her resignation was received with great regret. Mrs. Adler was asked to take on the work, but she was unable to do this, and Miss Willis was asked and declined. Mrs. Henry Dakyns was then asked, and accepted, as reported by Miss Cohen, and she was admitted (April 25th, 1913) as a July member of the Club. How well she has served and is serving us we all know.

The 27th Annual Meeting took place on June 27th, 1913. The Hon. Treasurer drew attention to the fact that the bedrooms had brought in £20 more, and the Coffee room £177 more than in any previous year. The total number of members was now 797. At this meeting it was agreed that efforts should be made to form a permanent library in the Club, and Miss Carthew undertook to act as Librarian.

In October, 1913 it was decided that the members list should be printed every January. Again the dates of election were not inserted though an order had been made for this in 1909. A suggestion had been made to sell the chandeliers if they belonged to the Club, but later, as it was found they were the property of the Club, it was decided to get them repaired and they still ornament our rooms.

In March, 1914 there was a balance of £700 at the Bank, the Committee therefore decided to repay £100 lent by Miss Clough and to pay off £100 of the debentures. The auditor, Miss Gradwell, now sent in her resignation as she was retiring from public practice and, on her suggestion, Miss Stewart was appointed in her place. An annual grant of £1 was voted for the Library on the report of the Librarian. On the proposition of Miss Clough and Miss Atkinson, face-powder, curling-tongs and lamp were supplied in the dressing-room. The by-law "that no dogs or other animals shall be admitted to the Club premises" was confirmed and the Secretary's action approved when she had declined to take charge of two goats in her office, at the request of a member.

At the Annual Meeting (28th) in June, 1914 the Hon. Treasurer drew attention to the fact that this was the first year that we were able to show not only a surplus on the year's working but an actual balance in the Balance-sheet. A letter was now received from Miss G. E. M. Jackson tendering her resignation from the committee, but the Committee declined to accept it, and asked her to continue her membership, even though, owing to absence from London, she could not attend meetings, as her help and advice were very highly valued.

In November, 1914 a representative was interviewed from the Alliance Assurance Office with regard to special War insurance, but it was decided to take no action in this matter except through the *Daily News* which promised £250 for the property in the event of damage due to war, in return for three months advance payment.

It was decided that no Annual Meeting should be held in 1915 in consequence of the War "as most members of the Club have a good deal of work to do in addition to their

ordinary occupations." A notice to this effect was issued, with a further note that the two hon. treasurers, Miss Clough and Miss Cohen, would be glad to answer questions from members with regard to the enclosed Balance-sheet for 1914. Later, Mrs. Dakyns, the hon. secretary, reported that during the war, in consequence of pressure of Red Cross work, she must resign. It was decided to ask Miss Ruth Anderson if she would resume the post and, failing her, that Miss Teale should be asked. At Mrs. Dakyns' request Red Cross workers were allowed to come in for lunch during the war at a fixed price of 1/6. Miss Teale accepted the post of hon. secretary for the period of the war. In July £100 from the Club's bank balance was invested in War Loan. In October the resignation of Miss Emily Davies was reported. The Committee expressed their great regret and invited her to allow them to make her an honorary special member. Later her acceptance of this with pleasure was reported. Miss Lumsden (later Dame Louisa) also resigned at this time. It was now considered advisable to take advantage of the Government scheme of insurance against damage from air-craft without delay. This was done in conjunction with the firm on the ground floor. In January, 1916 it was decided that 25 temporary members should be received from the nursing profession, if they were of some distinction in that profession, or if they were proposed by at least one member of the club. The auditor, Miss Stewart now resigned, and in her place recommended her successor, Miss Gibson. After some enquiry Miss Gibson was appointed. There were some increases in the tariff made at this time owing to war prices. At the Annual (29th) Meeting (1916) a resolution was brought forward that no alcoholic beverages should be supplied by the Club during the War, and for at least six months after the declaration of peace. There seems to have been a general discussion on the subject, both the example of the King, and the need for economy were urged; Dr. Jevons at length moved "that the previous question be now put," which was seconded by Miss Clough and carried *nem. con.*

A considerable number of members who had resigned now asked for re-admission to the Club. Formal re-election

was required, but members of the committee were frequently able to act when the names came up. Some difficulties seem to have been found during these years about supplying food, and in March, 1917 it was decided that Thursday should be a meatless day and on one day in the week potatoes were not to be served. It was possible for the Club at this time to invest £200 in the 5 per cent War Loan.

The Annual General Meeting in 1917 was again dropped. In July a letter was received from the City of Westminster Local Savings Committee asking the Club to organise a meeting on the Food Control Campaign. The Hon. Secretary was directed to reply that as full attention was being given to this matter, in the opinion of the Committee such a meeting was unnecessary. The wages of the staff were now considerably increased; the cook by £6, two waitresses by £5 each and another maid by £4. In order to save service it was decided that only cold food would be served and only between 1 and 2, on Sundays; and for tea only biscuits and cake between 4 and 5.30. The usual fare of hot soup and a vegetarian dish for supper on Sunday would be provided.

In January, 1918, her brother, H. E. Anstruther, reported that Miss Anstruther would not, owing to illness, continue her Club membership. The Committee heard this with much regret and it was unanimously agreed that Miss Anstruther should be invited to become an honorary member.

The Committee further decided that, after January 18th, no member should introduce more than one guest at a time to meals or tea; and on Sundays no guests were to be introduced for meals or tea. This order was made owing to the limited accommodation in the Club and the discomfort from over-crowding caused to members. Later, it was decided that only residents could be served with breakfast. From cuttings brought to the committee, from the *Times* and the *Observer*, it appeared that these decisions were general in London clubs. By December it was possible to modify these regulations, both as regards meals and guests. It was noted that early in this month the telephone receipts were £5 or £6 more than in previous years. A new bye-

law was now added that no member should occupy a bedroom for more than 3 weeks in any given 3 months and for not more than 2 weeks consecutively.

In February, 1919 the enlargement of the Club premises was considered, and, failing this, another move. Miss Clough reported "that the young persons of Newnham were trying to get a room and start a Club for themselves," which encouraged the idea of the necessity to move. Miss G. E. M. Jackson was again in London and she exerted herself in the interests of the Club, especially in the matter of enlargement or removal. From December 15th, 1919 to June 9th, 1921 the House Committee did not meet, and instead a sub-committee was formed to consider the question of club premises. Its members were Miss Jackson, Mrs. Salter, Miss Greig, the Hon. Secretary and the two Hon. Treasurers. No premises were to be considered outside the square formed by Oxford Street and Piccadilly, Regent Street and Bond Street. After a month's search no progress was reported. It was then decided that no increase of membership beyond 950 should be considered in the present house, though already the members numbered over 900. The price of bedrooms was to be raised to 5/- a night, but the weekly charge was to remain at 28/-.

At this time the Club auditor, Miss G. T. Gilson, died and Miss Gradwell our old friend, was again consulted. She herself seems to have assisted most kindly with the 1918 Balance-sheet, in spite of her resignation. In May, Miss Norden undertook the work till the end of the current year and Miss Clugston was then to be asked to take it on. The premium for insurance against fire was now increased.

On June 27th, 1919 the 31st Annual Meeting was held, and the financial position of the Club was considered to be satisfactory by the Hon. Treasurer. At this meeting Dr. Jevons proposed that "now that women have the Parliamentary vote and are eligible for Parliament that the Club should subscribe to Hansard, and that this should be filed in the Library for the use of members." After discussion the matter was referred for decision to the Committee, and it is not again referred to. Miss Kempson proposed that subscriptions should be payable in January only. Those

members who joined in July, or after, were, on joining, to pay a six months' subscription with the entrance fee. This was agreed to, if the auditor approved. The future policy of the Club was discussed as to premises; whether to stay where they were and increase subscription and house, or move to a cheaper district with bigger house and no increase of subscription. It was decided to send round a circular to members asking their views. Dr. Winifred Cullis was in the Chair.

A lady housekeeper (Miss L. Callaghan) was now engaged at a salary of £50 with laundry, board and residence. Miss Brimmell in these circumstances was to live out, and her salary was increased to £150 and such meals as she might desire.

A house, 5 Cavendish Square, was very seriously considered for the Club. The price suggested was £14,000 freehold and a probable cost for alteration of £3,000 or £4,000. Members were consulted by circular but in the meanwhile the house was bought for the Spanish Club. It was then agreed that the wages of the head housemaid (Louie) and the parlourmaid (Ada) should be raised to £40 as they had been in the service of the Club for 11 and 9 years respectively, and they did not receive wages in proportion to those asked by underservants newly engaged.

Premises in Lower Seymour Street were next offered to the Club but promises for debentures were only received up to £4,950. 13 Great Stanhope Street was also considered and up to £12,000 for the freehold was suggested. The gratuity boxes were at this time opened and £65 15s. *od.* was divided among the staff.

At the 32nd Annual Meeting on June 24th, 1920 Mrs. Sidgwick took the Chair and there were 46 members present. Miss Clough, as Hon. Treasurer, presented the balance-sheet and Miss Carthew, as acting Hon. Secretary, gave the committee's report. The membership to date was 945, and the appointment of the new auditor, Miss Clugston, was reported. Miss Teale, Hon. Secretary, had resigned last year, and the interval, before Mrs. Dakyns could resume the work, was filled in by Miss Carthew. Mrs. Dakyns now, however, found that owing to her health and frequent

absences from England she would be unable to resume for the present. In the circumstances Miss Carthew was asked to continue the work until the return of Mrs. Dakyns, or until another Hon. Secretary could be found. The Committee asked for changes in certain rules of the Club. The chief of these were: the increase in the number of the Associate Members from 100 to 150, and of their subscription from 35/- to £4 4s. *od.*, also the increase of the subscription of regular members from 25/- to £3 3s. *od.* Both of these motions were carried. A motion proposed by Mrs. Gaselee seconded by Mrs. Banks "that Bye-law 6 (Playing any game for money is prohibited in the Club) shall be cancelled" was lost, only 3 persons voted for it. A very hearty vote of thanks was passed to Mrs. Sidgwick for her management of the meeting; this was proposed by Miss MacArthur.

In September, 1920 the death of Miss G. E. M. Jackson was reported and the Committee expressed their sorrow and very keen appreciation of all the Club owed to her as one of its founders and most energetic supporters, both during its earliest and most difficult years, and also up to the present time, in spite of her failing health and absences from London. The hunt for houses continued until the end of the year 1920, in Portland Place, Cavendish Square, Stratford Place, Upper Berkeley Street, Grosvenor Place, Manchester Square and finally Audley Square. The house here was apparently seen previously but not proceeded with, and it was now for sale freehold at "a low price for speedy disposal." The actual price agreed to was £22,500 and £15,000 was to be left on mortgage at 6 per cent.

An Extraordinary General Meeting, at which about forty members were present, was called by the Committee on April 21st, 1921, in order that the purchase of 2 Audley Square should be approved, and ratified in the names of B. A. Clough, H. F. Cohen and A. G. E. Carthew. Before this was done, however, a motion was proposed by Miss E. S. Hooper, seconded by Miss Cobbe, "that the Club should involve itself in no legal or financial responsibilities." This motion was lost, as it received but 2 votes. The original motion was then put and passed with 2 contrary

votes. The issue of debentures was then approved and it was agreed further that any Associate member who took up debentures amounting to £50 or more should be entitled to vote on all the affairs of the Club. By June, over £14,000 had been subscribed by 187 members. The membership of the Club was now really on the increase and the architect hoped that at least 16 bedrooms for members would be available in this new house. No limit was at first laid down as to the length of time for which a bedroom could be engaged, but it was to be clearly understood that the Club was not to be considered residential. A staff of 13 was considered as probably suitable.

There is no report of the opening of the new premises but apparently Miss Phillpotts (later Dame Bertha) performed this ceremony.

Before the Annual Meeting of July 21st, 1921 of the "University Club for Ladies" a postal ballot (on the principle of the transferable vote) had been taken as to the future name of the Club, and "University Women's Club" was chosen. At the subsequent Annual Meeting, the 33rd (35th year), held on July 21st, 1921 with Miss Tuke in the Chair, this decision was confirmed by 18 votes to 12. It was reported that the membership had now risen to 1,022 and that there were the names of a further 35 qualified candidates on the board for election. The Club's annual balance sheet showed a deficit of £107. At this meeting it was decided that no smoking should be allowed in the lounge, but only in the library and slip room. The fire-place of this red, or slip room, after investigation by the sweep, was found to have no chimney and to be purely ornamental.

In November it was reported that Debentures to the value of £14,125 had been taken up. Expenses had been £2,000 more than had been budgeted for, which meant an extra annual cost of £120 but on the other hand membership had increased more than was expected and now stood at 1,148. Still the Hon. Treasurer urged that the utmost care should be exercised in management.

At this time it was decided that no more direct photographs of Heads of Colleges should be hung in the Silence Room, but that they would be accepted for safe-keeping,

preferably signed with the name of the College and the term of Headship added. No baths were to be allowed after 10.30 p.m.

For the marriage of Princess Mary the Club bedrooms were to be balloted for and the price was to be 12/6 a night for the two nights, February 27th and 28th.

In March the Secretary reported that some 500 members had not paid their subscriptions and action was ordered to be taken.

The main business of the Annual General Meeting of 1922 (34th) was to report progress in the new house and to institute a life subscription of £50. This was agreed to with one dissentient. Considerable difficulty was found in dealing with the Club's old premises in George Street. The remainder of the lease was purchased by a Conduit Street dressmaker with a premium of £600 to be paid in 3 instalments, 2 of these were met, but her business failed before the 3rd was paid. A considerable number of resignations from membership were again reported in November, 1922, also letters of complaint as to the meals, and the Committee made very strong efforts to improve the cooking in general. At Christmas, 1922 the cottage and garage in Red Lion Square Yard were to be vacant, but a new tenant for 6 months was found on the same terms as before, from January 1st, 1923. After this date the Hon. Treasurer proposed that all debentures should be issued at 5 per cent instead of 6 per cent, and this was unanimously agreed to. The heating of the Red Room again came under consideration and gas was agreed to at a cost of from £10 to £15, electricity was reported on as "very expensive and not satisfactory," and a chimney would cost from £80 to £100. Owing to the frequent complaints of members it was decided to change the housekeeper in the coming February, after a year's service, and there were 120 applications for the post. The kitchen range was now reported as in very bad condition, and it was decided to have it repaired at a cost of £5 or £6, and so lessen the use of gas. £20 to £25 was at this time ordered to be expended on the garden.

There was a bank balance of £981 1s. 10d. at the close of 1922, and the debentures taken up amounted to £18,380.

The report of the Hon. Treasurers in March on the working of the Club was very cautious ; structural repairs had been heavier than was anticipated, and the failure over the George Street premises had upset calculations. On June 26th, 1923 at the 35th Annual General Meeting (37th of the Club) a deficit of £202 was reported on the year's working. The Hon. Treasurer however reported hopefully on the finances of the Club. The question of town and country members' subscription was now again brought up. A long discussion followed, but finally it was decided by a large majority " that the subscription remain as at present." Two colonial candidates for temporary membership were reported and accepted (2 guineas for 3 months) and it was then stated that our members were being given hospitality in Montreal. At this time our present drawing-room carpet was purchased for £135, as approved by Mrs. (now Lady) Gaselee and Miss Sykes. In December, 1923 our Secretary, Miss Brimmell, resigned after 16½ years with us, and life membership of the Club was conferred on her in recognition of the excellence of her services. Later on, members who had known her during her years of service sent subscriptions so that a sum of £241 was handed to her. In February, 1924 the particular interests of the house committee were divided up between the members : Miss Kempson took linen and blankets ; Miss Cohen and Miss Burne, coal, wine and cigarettes ; Mrs. Dakyns, fuel and lighting, and Mrs. Gaselee, china and glass. Up to this time Red Lion Cottage had been tenanted by Major Crankshaw ; the committee now decided that it should be adapted for the accommodation of the staff.

At the Annual General Meeting, June, 1924, after consideration of the financial position of the Club, it was agreed to obtain a loan of £10,000 from the Alliance Assurance Co. and pay off the balance of the original mortgage to the Misses Russell. The library books were reported on by the Librarian (Miss Swainson) who stated that 75 books were now missing, and she asked members to scrutinize their own shelves for strays. It was at this time decided that the Committee had discretion to let the " silence room on the ground floor for private parties."

In July, 1924 the decoration of the library was dealt with by Mrs. Mann at a cost of £140 ; the white paint was removed from the woodwork which was then waxed, and the ceiling was painted with buff paint. At this time Miss Barrett was appointed resident secretary at a salary of £150 per annum, in place of Miss Dalzell, resigned. At the Christmas distribution from the gratuity boxes there was £89 10s. 6d. for division.

The 37th Annual Meeting (39th of the Club) took place in June, 1925 and was generally peaceful and satisfied. One member desired, as the Balance-sheet was at last satisfactory, that the price of meals should be reduced ; but the sense of the meeting seemed to have been against this, " as, on the whole, meals were obtainable at moderate cost and the general advantages of the Club were considerable, apart from cheap meals." The Librarian reported that about 50 books had disappeared in 1925, and after this meeting the Committee decided that suitable labels should be printed and affixed to the books.

At the General Committee in December, 1925 it was reported that 143 members had joined during the year, 45 had resigned, and 5 had died ; leaving a net gain of 93. In 1926 the auditor found an error in her balance sheet for 1924, so that instead of a credit balance of £97, there was really a deficit of £3. She also asked for an increase in her fee from 16 to 20 guineas, and this was agreed to. The 2 boys in the hall were now put into livery. An ice-box and a refrigerator were purchased for £11 10s. 0d., and in this year, hospitality when the Club was closed, was offered to our members by the Garden, as well as by the usual Pioneer and New Century Clubs.

At the 38th Annual General Meeting (the 40th in the life of the Club) on July 1st, 1936 the business was mainly formal and Miss K. Jex-Blake took the Chair. The Hon. Treasurers reported solid improvement in the club's financial position during the 5 years in the new premises. In this month it was reported that invitations had been issued to the Colleges to a tea party ; nearly 100 replied and 8 came to tea. The result was considered sufficiently satisfactory to be repeated next year as an advertisement for the Club.



At the 39th Annual Meeting, in June, 1927, it was reported that there was in the past year a net increase of 33 members and the total number was now 1,193. The business of the meeting was purely formal. In November Miss Clough resigned the treasurership which she had held, first in conjunction with Miss G. E. M. Jackson since 1906, and since 1911 with Miss Cohen. In her place Miss M. I. Greig was elected Hon. Treasurer.

In February, 1928 it was decided that Miss Barrett, who had been Secretary since 1925, should now become Manageress at an inclusive salary of £250 with no share in the gratuity box. In March a housekeeper, Miss Collins (fully qualified from King's College), was, in consultation with Miss Barrett, appointed at a salary of £160 per annum. In April, grape-fruit glasses were first purchased.

At the 40th Annual General Meeting, on the 28th June, 1923, some criticism was made of the internal management of the Club, but no resolution was drawn up. The resignation of Miss Melhuish from the position of Hon. Secretary was received with much regret; she had held this post since 1922 when she took it over from Miss Carthew, who had been acting hon. secretary during an interlude. There was now a discussion with regard to the college portraits and it was decided at this meeting that they should be left in the smoking room as they were. At this time the plane tree in the garden was "lopped and stopped" by order of the L. C. C. whose expert reported that the tree had grown too tall for its roots; the wall between the Club and the neighbour's house at 3 Audley Square also had to be repaired. Students were now being received in the kitchen from the Battersea polytechnic "for instruction in house-keeping and cooking on a large scale." The weekly reports both as regards the number of meals served and the letting of rooms showed a decrease, for which it was not possible to account, but the same reports continue month by month. Both the Halcyon and the Ladies' Empire Clubs gave the same account of their houses.

The 41st Annual General Meeting took place on July 4th, 1929; over 100 members were present, and Mrs. H. A. L. Fisher took the Chair. A certain number of

members had criticised the action of the Committee in discharging an old waitress, and had circularised the Club in this matter. In view of the implied censure of their action, the Committee offered its resignation, as the signatories of the circular had neither withdrawn it, nor made any apology. A resolution was moved by Miss Jex-Blake and seconded by Miss F. M. Wilkinson "that this meeting does not accept the Committee's resignation, but has complete confidence in their management of the Club." The Chairman stated that she had had 49 letters of confidence in the committee. After a frank and general discussion the above resolution was carried *nem. con.* Various matters were discussed after this, such as the size of the portions of pudding, the tea-china, table napkins, and the forwarding of letters during holidays, and finally a warm vote of thanks was passed to the Chairman for her able conduct of the meeting.

In this year, 1929, it was reported that "we had repaid £1,000 of capital, a larger amount than in any other year." A total membership on December 12th, of 1,200 was also reported; 11 less than that of last year at this time. In February, 1930, Miss Allison, our present secretary, came to us when Miss Barrett retired after some 5 years of office. A cheque for £100 guineas was handed to her from members as a sign of recognition of her past work at the Club.

It was now decided to bind both *Punch* and the *Burlington Magazine*, (the house committee of January 1889 had already ordered this for *Punch*), and the Club now possesses, besides *Punch* from its own foundation, volumes starting from 1841 which have been presented to it by Miss E. R. Pearson. At this time plain round oak tea-trays were first introduced. The treasurer pointed out to the Committee that by the end of 1929 the whole of the 6 per cent issue of debentures had been repaid and they recommended therefore, that the mortgage to the Alliance Assurance Co. should now be taken in hand. For this they submitted a draft circular which invited members to take up fresh debentures at 5 per cent. This was accepted, and by June, 1930 £2,500 had been received for the scheme. It was

hoped by it to pay off two-thirds or three-quarters of the mortgage.

The 42nd Annual General Meeting took place on June 30th, 1930, and the business was merely formal. Miss Swainson asked for donations of books, and suggestions for the Mudie books.

At the 43rd Annual Meeting on June 10th, 1931, it was decided to reduce the subscription of country members (resident at least 30 miles from London) from 3 to 2 guineas, provided 100 new members joined next year. This, the Treasurer explained, was with the hope that greater use might then be made of the Club, which was essential to its welfare and good service. The resolution was carried *nem. con.* On the following day the general committee decided that the silence room should be available for Bridge parties at a charge of 10/6 for 3 hours. By September it was reported that 103 applications for country membership had been received under the scheme suggested at the last Annual Meeting which therefore now came into force. By December 200 were reported, and this was an increase of 124 members over that of December, 1930. Miss F. C. Cobbe now resigned her club membership; she had been on the committee in 1884 as the representative of Somerville Hall, Oxford. Miss H. M. Sheldon, Mathematical Lecturer at Girton, probably also an original member, had resigned, and she now rejoined the Club.

The 44th Annual General Meeting was held on June 16th, 1932. The Treasurer then reported that the whole of the mortgage, £10,000 to the Alliance Assurance Co., had been paid off, and the Club House was now an unencumbered freehold, held in trust, for use by the Club, on behalf of the 142 debenture holders. A new auditor, Miss E. Watts, was proposed at this meeting and accepted. A discussion followed as to the possibility of inaugurating a pension scheme for the employees of the Club, but no motion was proposed. In July Miss E. L. Cummins was elected as our second Treasurer, in place of Miss Grieg, who had resigned in February. The Librarian submitted a list of dictionaries as desirable for the Club. This was

approved and it was decided that the books should be kept locked behind glass doors. In December, 4 per cent debentures were issued to replace the 5 per cent.

On January 1st, 1933, the total membership of the Club was 1,229, and in this year a sliding scale for life membership according to age, was introduced. Up to this time payment had been £50 regardless of age; by the present arrangement it was agreed that a life membership on payment of £35 should be offered to members over 50. In June it was decided that a gift and loan book should be instituted, and that an old member of the committee should try to draw up a short account of the Club's history up to its Jubilee. The Annual General Meeting for 1933, the 45th, was short and formal. The Hon. Treasurer reported that the conversion of the 5 per cent debentures into a 4 per cent issue would be completed by the end of this financial year, and should result in a saving to the Club of from £150 to £200 per annum. In December, 1922, £20,630 debentures at 5 per cent were held against the Club; in December, 1933 the holding was £19,150 at 4 per cent. At this time Dame Adelaide Anderson's resignation was received but she was offered special membership by the Committee in order that we might still have the honour of keeping her name on our books. She accepted this with much pleasure. In April it was decided to deal with the matter of means of exit from the Club house in case of fire; an outside iron stairway was made, the inside staircase was enclosed in fireproof material and the lift was constructed, the whole at a cost of £1,460 18s. 0d.

At the 46th Annual General Meeting (48th of Club life) held on June 21st, 1934, Miss Clough was in the Chair. The report on the Balance-sheet showed that a further £1,000 of 4 per cent debentures had been issued to pay for the lift. These had been taken up by members who had applied last year at the time of the conversion, and who had been refused owing to the small amount of new money wanted. For the last year or two there had been sporadic suggestions made that the Club should be closed another month than August, and this subject was now again on the Agenda. When the Chairman asked for proposals, no

suggestions were however put forward, and only one letter had been received in which the writer hoped "that the Club would not be closed, at any rate, in September." In February, 1935 it was again agreed to continue to have *Punch* bound, as had been decided in 1889 and 1930. In May the new library committee met. It asked to be authorised to spend a definite sum on books annually. £10 was agreed to, and a yearly report was to be made to the general committee.

The 47th Annual General Meeting took place on June 13th, 1935, Miss Mann was in the Chair. A report on the result of the institution of a reduced subscription for country members was made. It was shown that the Club's income from subscriptions had been considerably reduced as there was no permanent increase in membership. The Club's financial position was however still satisfactory. The Treasurer now reminded members that the Club's premises were held in the names of Clough, Carthew and Cohen, 3 members who were all no longer young. She further reported that counsel's opinion had been sought as to whether the officers *pro tem.* could become trustees, but this was said not to be possible. The Committee had after much consideration decided to continue the present plan but, as advised by the Club's solicitor, it was intended at each annual meeting to report the names of the three trustees, so that the terms on which our Club house is held might not be forgotten.

There was a discussion as to the installation of a wireless-set. This was finally agreed to, but it was not to be placed in the silence room, as had been suggested. Its location, and whether with head-phones or loud-speaker or both was left to the Committee to decide.

The resignation of Miss Swainson from the post of Librarian was received with much regret, and a warm vote of thanks was passed to her for all the work she had done in connection with the library. She was succeeded by Miss L. C. Lowe, of O. H.-S. Plans for rebuilding the Cottage (in Red Lion Yard) are now under consideration. Owing to the rebuilding of Chesterfield House the assessment of the Club house has been reduced by £100 which has made a

saving of about £25 per annum in rates. In view of the approaching 50th anniversary of the existence of the Club Miss Cohen offered to present it with a small picture, a "Conversation Piece", of some of the members of the committee of the longest standing, by Mr. Chas. Spence-layh. This offer has been gratefully accepted.

On December 16th, 1886 it was first reported to the Committee that rooms for the Club had actually been taken at 31 New Bond Street, and on June 11th 1887 the first Annual Meeting of the Club was held there.

We hope to hold our Jubilee Meeting in June, 1937.

NOTE I

THE CLUB actually opened its doors on January 12th, 1887, and the first annual meeting took place on June 11th, 1887.

The Alexandra is the only older club for ladies in London. It opened in 1884 as a social club.

Other ladies' clubs which started in the 19th century are :

The Writers'	1891
The Pioneer	1892
The Victorian	1896
The Empress	1897
The New Century	1899

The Albemarle Club opened in 1874 and the Sesame in 1895, but these have always been for ladies and gentlemen.

NOTE II

OUR present house was built by Lord Arthur Russell on the site of that which had belonged to his mother, Lady William Russell. She died in August 1874.

The old house overlooked the gardens of Chesterfield House. It was pulled down in 1875 and the architect employed for the present house was J. H. Wyatt. He died before it was finished and the work was then taken on by Matthew Wyatt.

The library was built in imitation, on a smaller scale, of that in the Travellers' Club.

The front door in the old house was in the Square (as it is at present) but this was thought inconvenient for horse carriages to draw up, and in the new house it faced Tilney Street. This was its position when the Club took the house, but for interior convenience and without knowledge of past history, the Club changed it to its original place. The iron extinguishers at the entry are the original ones which were in use on the gate of the old house. The coat-of-arms on the north wall represents the Russell Coat impaling that of the Peyronnets. Lord Arthur Russell had married in 1865, Laura, eldest daughter of the Vicomte de Peyronnet and his wife Frances Whitfield. Arthur was the second son of Lord William Russell, second son of the 6th Duke of Bedford. Lord William died in 1846, and about 1850 his widow bought the Audley Square house. This was at one time the residence of Lord Nelson's Admiral Hardy. The Arthur Russells came into residence in their new house at the end of 1877. Lord Arthur died in April 1892 and Lady Arthur in 1910. Their family sold the freehold of 2 Audley Square to the Women's University Club in 1920.

From *Notes on No. 2 Audley Square*  
by THE HON. FLORA RUSSELL

