

This is very interesting & of course refers to AL 1106

Telephone: 1960 VICTORIA.
Telegrams: "VOICELESS, LONDON."

the split on the Peace Question "The Common Cause,"
E. P. T. Weekly 1d.

NATIONAL UNION OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES.

Parliament Chambers, 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, S.W.

Hon. Treasurer :
MRS. AUERBACH.

President :
MRS. HENRY FAWCETT, LL.D.

Hon. Secretaries :
MISS K. D. COURTNEY.
MISS C. E. MARSHALL (Parliamentary).

OFFICE HOURS 9.30-5.30.
SATURDAYS - 9.30-1.

2 Gouard
Secretary: Miss CROOKENDEN, M.A.

Feb 19. 1916

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My dear Miss Courtney
Albansan

The invitation which the Soc. received and declined in March 1915 was to send official representatives to "The International Women's Congress" see Jus Suffragii March 1915. What title this Congress or League afterwards took is immaterial. The programme is in Jus Suffragii. It contains 12 resolutions, of which one, the 10th is on Women's Suffrage. All the others are on Peace.

Miss Courtney's letter of resignation to me is dated Feb 25. 1915

It begins by saying that she had made up her mind to resign at the first meeting of the preceding Council, but postponed doing this in order to give the matter further consideration. Her letter then continues: -

"The more I reflect however, the more convinced I am that I can do nothing but resign. I feel strongly that the most important thing at the present moment is to work, if possible on International lines, for the settlement of peace after the war. If I could have done this through the National Union, I need hardly say how infinitely I should have

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preferred it and for the sake of doing so I would gladly have sacrificed a
great deal. But the Council made it quite clear that they did not wish the
Union to work in this way. (The underlining is mine) The underlined passages
emphasizes my contention that the members who resigned in April
did so because the majority of the Ex: Com^{es} gave the same interpretation
of the wishes of the Union which Miss Courtney had done, i.e. that
the Council did not sanction international work for Peace. The
resigning officers and members do not like as to see this in
and in the annual report, we glide lightly over this thin ice,
with a great deal of human charity
but if Miss Marshall or any other after the resigners wish additional
details they must be given in our justification. Miss Atkin
has withdrawn in writing her personal insults to me: therefore
they are done with: but she has never withdrawn her statement
that her late colleagues "wilfully misrepresented the course
of the (1915) Council", although I gave her the opportunity
of doing so. I am afraid I can't get to the office
today as I am trying to get even with my correspondences after
the interruption caused by the last two days of the Council: &
that is why I am putting the above points in writing.

Yours ever sincerely

M. J. Fawcett