

Salvage.

AL/438  
of Park Road  
Usbridge.

Oct. 10 1908.

Dear Miss Strachey.

Can you tell  
me, if there are any women  
of our Society willing to refuse  
to pay King's Taxes & 2.) if  
it is possible to be im-  
-prisoned for so doing?

I am considering the matter  
for myself & think that  
if any number of us wish  
to do this, now is the time,  
as it coincides with the



Much greater sacrifice  
made by our splendid  
sisters of the N. W. S. P. U.

Personally I must not  
have my furniture sold,  
as, though it belongs to me  
legally, it is all family  
stock & I wish it to be  
handed on. I feel I

might possibly gain enough  
to make this sacrifice  
if it would be of use &  
others would do it at the  
same time.

Professor James Ward



~~is~~ speaking for our  
Society at Cambridge,  
recommended this course  
as logical + (I think he  
said) constitutional.

I should be glad of information  
+ your views.

Yours very truly,

R. Raleigh.

I am sending a donation  
of £10 part of a legacy  
from a person who would  
have been a supporter.  
Please put it in as anon.



*Talbot*

AL/439

October 12th, 1908.

Dear Miss Raleigh,

(1) The question of refusing to pay the King's taxes was very thoroughly gone into by all the Societies in the National Union about a year ago. It was decided that very little would be gained unless there were a large body of women prepared to do so simultaneously, and forms were sent out all over England with the object of finding out what support the proposal would receive. In the case of the London Society, out of all our members only 468 clear replies were received and of these 220 were theoretically opposed and 240 were theoretically in favour. Of those in favour 140 were non-tax payers and 108 were tax payers. Of the 108 tax payers 94 were for various reasons unable to refuse payment and 14 were willing to refuse. Of these 14, three agreed to do so on condition that a large number, one to three thousand would do the same. There remained therefore 11 who declared themselves willing to refuse unconditionally. From the rest of England I believe there were only about five more. Our Committees thought that the refusal



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of this small number would be ineffective.

(2) I believe that <sup>we not be able to get arrested for non-payment</sup> ~~imprisonment for debt no longer exists,~~ and that <sup>bailiffs and</sup> ~~people~~ come in and forceably carry away anything they liked out of your house to sell. It would probably be put up to public auction, but ~~that~~ <sup>would</sup> nothing prevents your buying it yourself.

The reason that so few of our members are able to refuse to pay taxes is that the large majority of women have their money invested in stock, from the dividends of which the Income Tax is deducted before they receive them. There remains the Inhabited House Duty, but many women live in flats, the landlords of which pay the tax. It seems therefore that there is very little chance of women making themselves really felt in this way and the value of the action would be that of a protest.

Very many thanks for your generous donation. It is most welcome, and I am seeing that it is entered in our books as from an "Anonymous Giver". I am sending a telegram about the place of the Ealing meeting. I am sorry it was not known in time to alter the statement in the Franchise but we were obliged to change it as no doubt you heard.

11/11/1911