

Private

TELEPHONE,
107 REDHILL.

AL/1095

HETHERSETT,
REIGATE.

9. 11. 14

Dearest Mrs Lawcett.

It looks to me as if some of the dearest
people in our Union - such as
Miss Courtney, Miss Roper, Miss Marshall
Miss Ashton - are bent upon a
campaign of political education with
regard to the attitude of the N. U. towards
the war. They appear moreover to
have strong leanings towards what
the Union of Democratic Control "
calls its "policy".

This kind of propaganda² - whether
wise or not - is certain to have
a most exasperating effect on
a good many persons & it
would be nothing short of disastrous
to the U. K. if it becomes a centre
or a medium of propaganda
in any policy of any kind
in connection with the war.

I have heard Miss Royden make
the unfortunate remark: "If
Relief work to be the only contribution
which the women's movement
can make to the war?" or
words to that effect.

Such a line is most discouraging
 to women who are doing all that
 is possible & all that is needed -
 & who are doing work which
 the term Relief-work only
 inadequately describes. As a
 matter of fact we have no expression
 which adequately sums up the whole
 of women's contribution at the
 present time.

We are now being told that the
 N. U. is to educate public opinion
 with a view to ensuring that
 when peace comes it will be
 "on the right-lines" - i.e. on those

lines to which, presumably, the
 Union of Democratic Control gives
 its approval. I cannot tell

you the feelings of exasperation
 which this kind of thing has upon
 me & I am sure upon many

others, especially when attempts
 are made by means of resolutions
 to get the N. U. to express views
 on any policy, theory or principle
 concerning the European situation.

It would no doubt be highly
 desirable that the public ^{opinion} of this
 country should ~~have~~ be ~~better~~
 more educated & better informed

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HETHERSETT,
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but I do hope that the N.U.W.S.S.
will not consider that it is their
mission to undertake this task.

The public of this country knows
more of its own politics than
the people of ^{most} other countries know
of theirs. on the other hand, owing
to our insular position the British
public knows next to nothing of
the politics of other European
countries - except those of

France & Germany about which
something is pretty generally known,
though not very much. Surely we
should make ourselves ridiculous
if we were to "take a line"
with regard to the conditions of
Peace that can have no
practical application to any
of the ^{other} countries concerned.
I have no doubt that we
could string together miles of
platitudes upon which there
would be no possibility

of disagreement in the Union
but as we soon as we come to
the practical application of
any ~~thing~~ one of them I am
certain we shall find ourselves
in the arena of heated party
controversy, & this can only
be disastrous to the one cause
which we exist to promote.

Don't trouble to reply; }
an inquiry because I felt

I must write to let you know
what was running in my
mind = > I fear that my own
feeling of disquiet may be
reflected in other parts of
the Union before long.

I hope the Prov. Council will
help to ~~alleviate~~ ^{alleviate} my alarm &
perhaps after all my anxiety
is groundless.

Ever yours
Klerna Amerbach

Personal.

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Mrs Henry Fawcett. Ltd.

2. Gower Street

London W.C.

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was
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