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FAWCETT COLLECTION

London Society for Women's Service

(Formerly London Society for Women's Suffrage.)

President—Miss PHILIPPA FAWCETT.



ANNUAL REPORT 1918.

Presented at the Annual General Meeting
held at the Caxton Hall, Westminster,
February 24th, 1919. - - - -

58, VICTORIA STREET, S.W. 1.

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PAMPHLET

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LONDON SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SERVICE

(Formerly London Society for Women's Suffrage, dating from 1866).

Office: 58, VICTORIA STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.

President:

MISS PHILIPPA FAWCETT.

Vice-Presidents:

MISS CLEMENTINA BLACK. MRS. HENRY FAWCETT, LL.D.

LADY STRACHEY.

Treasurer:

THE HON. MRS. SPENCER GRAVES.

Secretary:

MISS PHILIPPA STRACHEY.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Chairman: MRS. KINNELL.

MRS. BERTRAM.

THE DOWAGER COUNTESS

BRASSEY.

MISS B. A. CLOUGH.

MISS H. D. COCKLE.

MRS. R. DAVISON.

THE LADY EMMOTT.

MRS. ARNOLD GLOVER.

MISS T. GOSSE.

MISS KEMPSON.

MISS M. LOWNDES.

MISS M. MCLAREN.

MISS I. B. O'MALLEY.

THE HON. MRS. HOME PEEL.

MRS. SQUIRE SPRIGGE.

MRS. OLIVER STRACHEY.

MISS HELEN WARD.

MRS. S. B. WILSON.

Auditor:

MISS CLUGSTON.

Bankers:

LONDON COUNTY AND WESTMINSTER BANK (Victoria Branch).

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TELEPEN



RULES.

I. **Title.**—The title of the Society shall be "The London Society for Women's Service."

II. **Object.**—The object of the Society shall be to obtain equal liberties and opportunities for men and women.

III. **Methods.**—To concentrate on obtaining economic equality for women with men by:

- (1) The enrolment of members.
- (2) Propaganda.
- (3) Political work.
- (4) Collection and distribution of information with regard to employment.
- (5) Promotion of trainings.
- (6) Opening up of occupations, and
- (7) Such other practical steps as may from time to time seem advisable.

IV. **Constitution.**—The governing body of the Society shall be the general meeting of members which will elect annually, by ballot, an Executive Committee to conduct the current business of the Society.

V. **Membership.**—The Society shall consist of all persons who have signified, in writing, their approval of its objects and who have paid a subscription of not less than 1/-, in each year, before the date of the Annual Meeting.

VI. **Officers.**—The Officers of the Society shall be a President, Treasurer, Chairman of Committee, and the Secretary.

VII. **Executive Committee.**—(1) The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, the Treasurer, and eighteen other members.

(2) At its first meeting after election the Executive Committee shall elect the Chairman for the year.

(3) It shall from time to time make its own By-laws, and shall have power to fill by co-option any vacancies which may occur during its term of office.

(4) It shall appoint the paid officers of the Society.

(5) It shall have power to appoint Special Committees to help in carrying out special parts of the work.

(6) Its ordinary meetings shall be held monthly on a fixed date to be determined at its first meeting which shall be called by the Secretary as soon as convenient after the Annual Meeting of the Society. Special Meetings shall be called at the request of not less than four members. Five shall form a quorum at all meetings.

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VIII. **Nominations.**—(1) Any member may be proposed for election or re-election as Honorary Officer or Member of the Committee on the nomination of two members of the Society to whom the candidate is personally known.

(2) Nominations with the consent, in writing, of the candidate nominated shall reach the Secretary at least twenty-one days before the Annual Meeting.

IX. **General Meeting.**—(1) An Annual General Meeting of the Society of which not less than twenty-eight days' preliminary notice shall be given to each member shall be held as soon as convenient after September 30th in each year.

- (a) To receive the Report and Financial Statement which shall be duly audited.
- (b) To elect the President and Treasurer of the Society and the Executive Committee.
- (c) To appoint the Returning Officer and Tellers for the ballot vote.
- (d) To consider resolutions which, with the names of proposers and seconders, shall reach the Secretary, in writing, at least twenty-one days before the Annual Meeting and shall have been circulated by the Secretary to the members at least fourteen clear days before that date.

No resolution passed at an Annual Meeting shall be rescinded before the next Annual Meeting except by a two-thirds majority of a General Meeting.

(2) Special General Meetings of the Society may be called at any time by the Executive Committee, and shall be called by the Secretary within twenty-eight days on the requisition of the London Council. A Special General Meeting shall discuss only such matters as are mentioned in the notice calling such a meeting, and not less than fourteen days' notice shall be given of General Meetings to all members.

X. **London Council.**—(1) The London Council shall meet monthly on a fixed date to discuss the general work of the Society.

(2) Every member of the Society shall be entitled to attend the London Council.

(3) The Council shall be empowered to postpone or omit a monthly meeting.

XI. **Alteration of Rules.**—The Rules shall not be altered except at a General Meeting of Members of the Society. The nature of proposed alterations must be stated in the notice calling the meeting, and not less than fourteen days' notice given to all members.

ANNUAL REPORT 1917-18.

Presented February 24th, 1919.

Since the last Annual Meeting of the London Society for Women's Suffrage in December, 1917, events of joyful import have changed the face of the Suffrage Movement. On February 6th, 1918, the Royal Assent was given to the Representation of the People Act, and in the last month of the year *nearly 7 million women of Great Britain and Ireland had the opportunity of recording their votes in a General Election.

In the course of the last four years the bewildering changes which have passed before our eyes in our native land may have led Suffragists to believe that no further astonishment was possible for them; they had yet before them the strangest experience of all—they were to see the triumph of their cause cast into the shade in their own hearts by a more momentous event, for the year of Grace 1918 must live first in the memories of all of us as the year of the signing of the great Armistice in which the victory of justice and liberty was recorded in universal characters. The season of harvesting, however, is to the weary labourer too soon followed by the season of ploughing. In Paris the nations are assembled at their mighty task of shaping a new world for the coming generations, and in the Caxton Hall the London Society has met together to dedicate its newly acquired powers to the service of the same ideals and to take up with renewed spirit the burden of a fresh endeavour.

The change in the position of women due to their enfranchisement was immediate. In the months before the Election took place, when no one quite knew who would vote, nor what would interest the new voters, several unexpected things were done, among which the rapid passing of the Eligibility to Parliament Act was the most important. The L.S.W.S. holding steadily to the belief that men and women have common interests, refrained from every action which might encourage the formation of a political party that would claim to give expression to the views of women

* 6,778,530 (of whom in London 806,533).

as women. It endeavoured, as far as possible, to represent the views and wishes of those men and women of all parties who care for equality of opportunity for both sexes, and refrained from taking action in support of other objects.

The decision of the N.U.W.S.S. taken in March, 1918, to enlarge the objects of the Union so as to include the full political, social, and economic equality of women, was endorsed by a special General Meeting of the London Society on May 27th; the further decision to co-operate with other societies in the formation of Women's Citizen's Associations was vigorously carried out in London by the appointment of a special organiser for that purpose and the starting on the initiative of the Society of W.C.A.'s in Fulham, Golder's Green, Hampstead, South Kensington, Marylebone, Stockwell, Teddington and Westminster. The London Society in doing this work gave the most sincere support to the fundamental principle of the Women's Christian Associations movement—i.e., that they should contain every shade of political opinion and that their object should be mutual education in political matters. In order to assure this the greatest care was taken to secure from the start representation in the Associations for every local society of Women; as many as 47 were found in one locality to co-operate in appointing the first Committee. Formed on these lines, the Associations have become autonomous, and in some places have already established ward groupings. They have done much to rouse interest in local affairs, and at the time of the General Election held many successful meetings at which the candidates of all parties explained their views. In one constituency, for example, all five candidates attended the same meeting and were subjected to volleys of questions on subjects of which they knew lamentably little, but on which they rapidly became better informed. The L.S.W.S. has reason to feel proud of the part it has played in the organisation of these Associations, although they have in some cases overlapped with and discouraged the activities of its own branches.

Early in the autumn the London Society took steps to approach Party Agents and others with a view to ascertaining the extent to which women were being taken into the counsels of the local party organisations. No accurate report could be furnished, but there appeared a general disposition in all parties to encourage the full co-operation of women, and in 38 cases it was found that women were serving on the party committees for the selection of candidates.

Among the questions debated by Suffragists in connection with the General Election was that of the eligibility of women to become members of Parliament. For several

months the matter was uncertain, and then a legal opinion was given by the Law Officers of the Crown to the effect that they were not eligible. This was followed by a discussion in the House of Commons on the subject, in which so much support was shown for the proposal that the Government introduced a Bill which passed without difficulty. This position, however, was not secured until 23 days before the date of the poll, and it was apparent that such women candidates as came forward would have but a small chance of success. The Society, however, endorsing the view of the National Union, that a beginning should be made, decided to support special candidates in the London area. Among these was Mrs. Oliver Strachey, Chairman of the Executive Committee, who stood for Brentford and Chiswick as an Independent Coalition candidate at the invitation of a local Coalition Committee. With the support of the Chiswick Branch and the help of many members of the Society from other parts of London, Mrs. Strachey fought a most interesting campaign, and though she was not successful, much was done to remove prejudices and to prepare the way for future victory. Other women candidates in the London area were Mrs. How Martyn, who was supported by the Hendon Independent Branch, Miss Phipps, Chelsea; Mrs. Despard, Battersea; Mrs. McEwan, Enfield; Mrs. Dacre Fox, Richmond; and Mrs. Lucas, Kennington.

The Redistribution of Seats effected by the Representation of the People Act has resulted in an increase of the members of Parliament in the area of the Society from 72 to 93. All Parliamentary candidates in the Society's area were approached before the General Election with a view to ascertaining their views on the National Union's Equality Programme, and a series of seven questions was asked which concerned the Equal Moral Standard for Men and Women, the further Extension of the Franchise to Women, the Admission of Women to the Legal Profession, the Separate Taxation of Married Women, the Equal Guardianship of Children, the full Professional and Industrial Freedom of Opportunity, and Equal Pay for Equal Work. Thirty-six candidates declared their support without reservation, eight of whom are now in Parliament; the remaining replies showed varying degrees of dissent.

Other political work carried out in the course of the year included the bringing of pressure to bear on members of Parliament in support of the Solicitors (Qualification of Women) Bill, of the Admission of Women to Parliament; of the Nationality and Status of Aliens Bill; of the withdrawal of D.O.R.A. 40D; the Society co-operated with the Associa-

tion for Moral and Social Hygiene, the Women's Industrial Council, and other women's organisations, and was represented in many conferences on Social questions, in which questions of equality between the sexes were involved.

Turning from the political work to the Society's special war efforts, there are important developments to be recorded.

At the conclusion of the war with Bulgaria the Committee of the London Units of the Scottish Women's Hospitals decided to place their resignation in the hands of the London Society's Executive, of which they were a sub-committee. The decision was hastened by the fact that the Edinburgh Headquarters Committee of the Scottish Women's Hospitals had been for some time past by degrees extending their activities in London. The London Society's Executive, agreeing that the establishment of two offices in Victoria Street for the Scottish Women's Hospitals could only result in confusion and unnecessary expenditure of public funds, regretfully accepted the resignation of the London Units Committee on the understanding that they would continue to carry on that portion of their work which was concerned with the Elsie Inglis Unit until its close. The Executive on this occasion congratulated the Sub-Committee and Staff on their fine record of work for our Allies; they recalled the raising of the £10,000 for the London Welsh Unit in Serbia, the maintenance of the London Ward at Royaumont, the sending out of the X-Ray Motor Outfit to France, the introduction of Miss Burke, through whose activities so very large a sum had been raised for the hospitals; they recalled the Unit from Russia in the company of the Serbian Divisions in Russia and the generous ardour of the Sub-Committee's response—how they took up that work under a personal guarantee that no shadow of financial responsibility should fall on other shoulders than their own, and how magnificently that promise was fulfilled. They recalled the happy relations of the Sub-Committee with its Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Inglis, never clouded from the moment that they started work together; they recalled the glorious return of their Unit from Russia in the company of the Serbian Divisions for whom their Chief laid down her life, and the taking up of the legacy she laid upon the Sub-Committee—the equipment and maintenance of the Elsie Inglis Unit in Macedonia. In placing on record their appreciation of the devotion and public spirit shown by the London Units Committee in their three years of work for the Scottish Women's Hospitals, the Executive Committee added an expression of their opinion that in no way had these qualities been more clearly shown than in the decision to withdraw from a situation which

threatened to call in question the efficiency of the management of the hospitals.

At home the Society has taken its full share of that steady and continued practical effort which women have made to serve their country, and has thus helped to force open the doors of freedom and opportunity, although the continuance of the war made political propaganda and public agitation difficult and, in some ways, undesirable.

The interest and sympathy of her Majesty the Queen in the work of the Women's Service Bureau has been of inestimable help. She graciously consented to make a special visit of inspection to a workshop of aircraft repair, and to allow a cinematograph photograph to be taken on the occasion, to be inserted in a film play dealing with the training of women for work which is to be produced for the benefit of the funds of the Bureau. The play is called "Women Who Win," and it is hoped that it will make its public appearance before long.

During the year over 15,000 women have been interviewed at the Bureau. The work available for them and the questions connected with their employment have varied considerably during the year. In the spring and early summer the demand for women workers of all sorts was increasing, and an encouraging number of good posts at salaries of £250 to £400 a year were filled by women. In all directions the wages of women showed a tendency to increase, though not without strenuous efforts on the part of the women concerned. The London teachers, for example, made a magnificent and sustained fight for the principle of equal pay, and the London Society was able to give them substantial help in approaching members of the L.C.C. as well as in their Albert Hall and Queen's Hall meetings. The victory they obtained was the signal for efforts on the part of other women workers, and the successful strike of the London bus conductresses gave evidence of the growing strength of women workers. The Women's Service Bureau was the centre of many interesting conferences at this time, and its influence extended in many directions. A continued agitation was kept up in support of the appointment of women to the numerous Government Committees which were called into existence to deal with every variety of question affecting their interests; the Bureau gave evidence to the Cabinet Committee on Equal Pay, and was represented on many interesting Committees; members served also, though in no representative capacity, on the Committee of Investigation into the Staff of the Ministry of Munitions.

In August, Mrs. Oliver Strachey, Chairman of the Committee, was sent to Paris to a conference of Women War Workers of Allied Countries, and this resulted in an interesting inter-change of information with two French organisations doing similar work to that of our own Bureau.

Here a very considerable development of the Training Department has taken place; a printed pamphlet giving brief particulars of trainings for all sorts of occupations with costs and prospects was issued and proved so successful that several subsequent editions have followed; the investigations of this department led to a careful enquiry being made into the conduct of a certain School of Motoring, and questions in the House of Commons and an article in "Truth" on the matter led to the withdrawal of immense numbers of misleading advertisements.

It is sad to record the closing of the Women's Service Welding School, which under the guidance of Miss Woodward brought so much credit upon the Society during the three years of its existence; 399 trained pupils had been placed at work before it was brought to an end by the decision of the Ministry of Munitions to close its Training Schools for Women after the signing of the Armistice.

Steady propaganda has been done amongst women workers, including the organisation of a series of "After the War" meetings, held specially for Admiralty Clerks; but by far the most important effort in this direction was the inauguration in September of the Women's Service Guild, which proved immediately popular, and which now counts many centres in shops, factories, and offices.

The signing of the Armistice at once changed the position of women workers, and a period of great difficulty and anxiety began which is not yet ended. The Government Unemployment Donation which is available for munition and other demobilised war workers has done much to ease the situation, and up to the present the difficulty seems to be not so much that of immediate financial want as of serious uncertainty as to the future. On all sides there seems to be a tendency to close to women the occupations they had carried on through the war, and the depressing effect of this upon the whole labour situation for women cannot be over-estimated. Women who have learned a new and a good trade during the war look with dismay upon the prospect of a return to sweated labour, and their consternation is shared by the unskilled woman, who foresees the return of innumerable competitors. In the present uncertainty, training for any but the pre-war women's work seems almost too

great a risk, and the period of re-settlement of men in civil life, which should be the time for the removal of as many women as possible from competition for the purpose of training them has become a period almost of panic and dismay.

The London Society has in these circumstances an opportunity for vigorous and constructive work in defence of women's right to work, and in this direction seems to lie the next great step towards equality between men and women. Women workers in every occupation are turning to Suffragists for help. They rightly believe that those who have cared for the political freedom of women will stand by them now in their time of need, and that the guidance and help they seek in organisation, in political effort, and in the moulding of public opinion, will be freely offered to them. Thousands of women have for the first time realised the meaning of the Suffrage Movement from their personal experience of work during the war. Thousands have begun to understand that it is necessary to organise and to co-operate, and they look to the London Society and to its Women's Service Bureau as to their natural protectors.

SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING.

Caxton Hall, May 27th, 1918.

Called, in accordance with a resolution passed at the Annual Meeting of Members, December 14th, 1917, to consider changes in the constitution of the London Society for Women's Suffrage consequent on the passing of the Representation of the People Act.

Chairman The Lady EMMOTT.

PROCEEDINGS.

I.—Urgency Resolution, moved from the Chair and carried unanimously:

“That this General Meeting of the London Society for Women's Suffrage record their deep sense of loss to the Women's Movement on the death of Lord Courtney of Penwith, so constant and so distinguished a supporter of the cause of Women's Suffrage and of the London Society in particular, from the earliest days of the movement to the final victory in the House of Lords at the beginning of this year; they offer their sincere sympathy to Lady Courtney in her bereavement.”

II.—Urgency Resolution: moved, Mrs. Fawcett; seconded, Mrs. Oliver Strachey, and carried:

“That the London Society for Women's Suffrage accepts with enthusiasm the extension of the objects of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies and determines to take immediate steps to bring the work of the Society into line with the enlarged scope of its activities; it hereby resolves to redouble its efforts to improve the position of women, and to this end determines to carry on with renewed vigour the work of the Women's Service Bureau, to strengthen the general organisation of the Society and to set its finances upon a sound foundation to enable it to make the fullest use of its new opportunities and powers.”

III.—Collection of contributions and promises for the Society's Development Fund.

IV.—Moved, Miss Rosamond Smith, on behalf of the Executive Committee; seconded, and carried:

“That the Rules of the Society be revised to read as follows:—

I. TITLE.—The title of the Society shall be “The London Society for Women's Suffrage.”

II. OBJECTS.—The objects of the Society shall be to obtain the Parliamentary Franchise for women on the same terms as it is or may be granted to men and all other such reforms, economic, legislative, and social, as are necessary to secure a real equality of liberties, status, and opportunities between men and women; it shall work only for these objects.

III. METHODS.—To promote the objects of the Society throughout its area by:

- (1) Constitutional agitation.
- (2) United action with regard to legislative and administrative measures, especially by bringing pressure to bear on members of Parliament and on local administrative bodies.
- (3) Practical work, carrying on the Women's Service Bureau, collecting and distributing information on subjects of special interest to women voters, watching in every locality the economic conditions as they affect women, the practical working of the laws and administration of justice, and by help and advice assisting individual women to secure the full enjoyment of their rights, opportunities, and liberties.
- (4) Co-operation with existing women's societies and Women Citizens' Associations.
- (5) Enrolment of members and organisation of branches in each constituency.

IV. CONSTITUTION.—The governing body of the Society shall be the general meeting of members which will elect annually by ballot an Executive Committee to conduct the current business of the Society.

V. MEMBERSHIP.—The Society shall consist of all persons who have signified in writing their approval of its objects, who shall be either:

- (a) Members—i.e., Annual Subscribers of not less than 1s., and entitled to vote at General Meetings of the Society.
- (b) Associates—i.e., non-subscribers or subscribers of less than 1s.

The Executive Committee shall be empowered to refuse subscriptions from any member or members who in the opinion of the Committee have acted in a manner at variance with or prejudicial to the objects or methods of the Society, provided always that such action be not taken except at a meeting of the Executive Committee, with not less than eight days' notice, such notice to specify the business to be taken.

VI. OFFICERS.—The Officers of the Society shall be a President, a Treasurer, a Chairman of Committee, and a Secretary.

VII. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.—(1) The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, Treasurer, and 18 other members.

(2) At its first meeting after election the Executive Committee shall elect the Vice-President and a Chairman for the year.

(3) It shall from time to time make its own by-laws, and shall have power to fill by co-option any vacancies which may occur during its term of office.

(4) It shall appoint the paid officers of the Society.

(5) Its ordinary meetings shall be held monthly on a fixed date, to be determined at its first meeting, which shall be called by the Secretary as soon as convenient after the Annual Meeting of the Society. Special Meetings shall be called at the request of not less than four members. Five shall form a quorum at all meetings.

VIII. NOMINATIONS.—(1) Any member may be proposed for election or re-election as Honorary Officer or member of Committee on the nomination of two members of the Society to whom the candidate is personally known; such candidates being pledged to put the objects of the Society before party considerations.

(2) Candidates shall be required to supply to the Secretary of the Society for circulation to the members on the nomination paper the following particulars:

- (a) Occupation or special social work.
- (b) Membership, or official position in a party organisation, if any.

(3) Nominations, with the consent in writing of the candidate nominated, shall reach the Secretary at least 21 days before the Annual Meeting.

(4) Nomination papers giving the attendances of members standing for re-election, together with the names of all candidates, with their proposers and seconders, shall be sent to each member of the Society at least 14 days before the Annual Meeting.

IX. GENERAL MEETING.—(1) An Annual General Meeting of the Society of which not less than 28 days' preliminary notice shall be given to each member, shall be held as soon as convenient after September 30th in each year:

- (a) To receive the report, and the financial statement, which shall be duly audited.
 - (b) To elect the President and Treasurer of the Society and the Executive Committee.
 - (c) To appoint the returning officer and tellers for the ballot voting.
 - (d) To consider resolutions which with the names of proposers and seconders shall have reached the Secretary in writing at least 21 days before the Annual Meeting, and shall have been circulated by her to the members at least 14 clear days before that date.
- No resolution passed at the Annual Meeting shall be rescinded before the next Annual Meeting except by a two-thirds majority of a General Meeting.

(2) Special General Meetings of the Society may be called at any time by the Executive Committee or London Council, and shall be called by the Secretary within forty-two days on the requisition of not less than one-fifth of the number of members appearing in the last Annual Report. A special General Meeting shall discuss only such matters as are mentioned in the notice calling such meeting. Fourteen days' notice shall be given of general meetings to all members.

X. BRANCHES.—(1) Membership of the London Society shall entitle to membership of a Local Branch. No member of the Society may belong to more than one Branch. An Annual Subscription from members shall be paid to the Central Office.

(2) The Executive Committee shall make such arrangements in regard to Branches, other than Independent Branches, as in each case may be found convenient.

(3) Branches shall initiate and carry out work in their own area in support of the objects of the Society, notice having been previously given to the Executive Committee.

(4) No Branches shall take independent action except in support of the objects of the Society in accordance with the policy laid down by the General Meetings. The interpretation of the objects and policy shall rest with the Executive Committee which shall have power to postpone any action until it has been referred to a General Meeting.

(5) All Branches may:—

- 1.—Earmark for local purposes all funds, other than the annual subscriptions of members, raised by themselves locally.
- 2.—Apply for grants from the London Society for special purposes.

(6) Branches may become Independent provided that:—

- 1.—They consist of not less than 50 members.
- 2.—They annually elect their Committee and Officers at an Annual Meeting to which a report and financial statement shall be submitted, the financial statement and list of members having been previously sent for comparison with the books of the London Society.
- 3.—They have had at the last Annual Meeting a quorum (exclusive of candidates for election to the Committee) of 10 for 50 members, and after the first 50 members in a proportion of 5 per cent. of their membership, and at that meeting, or at a subsequent one, with the same quorum, they have declared their desire to become independent.
- 4.—An Independent Branch ceases to be independent if Clauses 1 and 2 cease to be complied with.

(7) Independent Branches may:—

- 1.—Apply direct for affiliation to the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.
- 2.—Control 50 per cent. of their members' annual subscriptions, which shall be returned to them at fixed times by the Treasurer of the London Society.

(8) The annual levy of 3d. per member due from the London Society as their affiliation fee to the National Union shall be paid:—

- 1.—By the Local Committee of each Independent Branch for the members of that Branch.
- 2.—By the Executive Committee of the London Society for all members not included in the Independent Branches.

XI. LONDON COUNCIL.—(1) A London Council shall meet monthly, on a fixed date, to discuss the general work of the Society and agree upon combined action.

(2) It shall consist of the Executive Committee and of Representatives from all the Branches. Every branch is entitled to one representative, and to an additional representative for every completed 20 members after the first 20.

(3) At this Council decisions of the Executive Committee may be referred back to them for consideration, and a General Meeting may be called by a two-thirds majority of those present and voting.

(4) Emergency Councils may be summoned at not less than five days' notice, either by the Executive Committee, or by not less than five Branches.

(5) The Council shall be empowered to postpone or omit a Monthly Meeting.

(6) All members of the London Society shall be entitled to attend the Council as visitors without the right of voting.

XII. ALTERATION OF RULES.—The Rules shall not be altered except at a General Meeting of the members of the Society. The nature of the proposed alterations must be stated in the notice calling the meeting.

The following Amendments were proposed:—

(a) Moved Miss MACMILLAN, seconded Miss CHICK:

“In Rule II. Object, after the words ‘men and women’ to add the words ‘and to assist women to realise their responsibilities as voters.’”

The Amendment was lost by 31 to 40 and the Rule passed as above.

(b) Moved Miss CHICK, seconded Miss BLOXAM:

“In Rule IV. Constitution, to omit the words ‘the general meeting of members’ and substitute ‘a general meeting of delegates appointed from local Branches.’”

The amendment was lost by 15 to 52, and the Rule was passed as above.

(c) Moved Mrs. ROSS, seconded Mrs. FVFFE:

“In Rule X Branches, paragraph 3, to omit the words ‘notice having been previously given to the Executive Committee.’”

The amendment was lost and the Rule was passed as above.

ANNUAL MEETING.

Caxton Hall, February 24th, 1919.

CHAIRMAN - THE LADY EMMOTT.

PROCEEDINGS.

- I. ADDRESS from the Lady Frances Balfour.
- II. RESOLUTION moved by Mrs. Fawcett, seconded by Lady Strachey, and carried unanimously :

"That this meeting expresses its deep regret at the resignation as President after over 17 years of office of the Lady Frances Balfour, to whose staunch and loyal support the women's cause owed so much of its advancement during the strenuous years of labour for political recognition. It recalls with sincere gratitude Lady Frances Balfour's share in the education of public opinion, her eloquent advocacy of the cause both in the Press and on the public platform, and her readiness whenever the question came before Parliament to give to the Society the invaluable benefit of her special political knowledge."

III. ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

Annual Report read by the Secretary.

Financial Statement and speech by the Treasurer:
Moved by Miss HOC, seconded by Miss COCKLE, and carried :

"That the Report and Revenue Account be adopted and circulated."

IV. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR.

Moved Miss WILLIS, seconded by Miss HUTCHESON, and carried :

"That Miss Clugston be re-appointed Auditor for the ensuing year."

V. URGENCY RESOLUTIONS, proposed by the Executive Committee.

- (a) Moved Miss LOWNDES, seconded Miss O'MALLEY, and carried :

"That in view of the importance of the decisions as to the future of the National Union to be taken at their Annual Council Meeting on March 5th, this meeting instructs the Executive Committee of the London Society to invite all members of the Society to the meeting at which the Final Agenda of the N.U.W.S.S. Council is to be discussed with the Society's representatives."

- (b) Moved Miss LOWNDES, seconded by Miss O'MALLEY, and carried :

"That when the business on the Agenda is concluded this meeting adjourn till Monday, March 3rd, at 3 o'clock, to consider the Final Agenda of the N.U.W.S.S. Council Meeting to be held on March 5th, 6th and 7th."

Amendment moved Miss MACMILLAN, seconded Lady ANDERSON.

"To add as a rider the words 'and that all members of the Society be notified of the meeting.'"

The rider was lost.

VI. RESOLUTIONS proposed by the Executive Committee.

Moved Mrs. OLIVER STRACHEY, seconded Miss DIMOCK :

"That the Society continue to stand for equal suffrage and equal opportunities for women, but resolve to concentrate its efforts for the present on obtaining economic equality for women."

(a) Amendment moved Mrs. CORBETT, seconded Miss FULFORD :

"To omit all words after 'That' and to substitute the words 'No change be made in the objects or methods of the London Society until after the Annual Meeting of the N.U.W.S.S., and that the Executive Committee be instructed to call later a Special Meeting of the Society to consider these questions.'"

The amendment was lost.

(b) Moved Miss MACMILLAN, seconded Mrs. FYFFE :

"To omit the words 'but resolves to concentrate its efforts for the present on' and to substitute the words 'and to pay special attention for the present to.'"

The amendment was lost, and the Resolution was then passed.

2. Moved Mrs. OLIVER STRACHEY, seconded Miss MILTON.

"That the Society resolve to promote this object by means of propaganda, political work, the collection and distribution of information with regard to employment, the promotion of trainings, opening up of occupations, and such other practical steps as may from time to time seem advisable."

Amendment moved Miss MACMILLAN, seconded Mrs. FYFFE :

"To omit the words 'this object' and substitute the words 'these objects' and after the word 'information' to insert the words 'including information.'"

The amendment was lost and the Resolution was then passed.

3. Moved Mrs. OLIVER STRACHEY, seconded Miss DIMOCK :

"That in view of the altered character of the work to be carried out and the necessity of adapting the organisation of the Society to meet its future requirements, the present rules and constitution be rescinded and the following adopted in their stead :

I. TITLE.—The title of the Society shall be "The London Society for Women's Service."

II. OBJECT.—The object of the Society shall be to obtain equal liberties and opportunities for men and women.

III. METHODS.—To concentrate on obtaining economic equality for women with men by :—

- 1.—The enrolment of members.
- 2.—Propaganda.
- 3.—Political Work.
- 4.—Collection and distribution of information with regard to employment.
- 5.—Promotion of trainings.
- 6.—Openings up of occupations, and
- 7.—Such other practical steps as may from time to time seem advisable.

IV.—CONSTITUTION.—The governing body of the Society shall be the general meeting of members which will elect annually, by ballot an Executive Committee to conduct the current business of the Society.

V. MEMBERSHIP.—The Society shall consist of all persons who have signified, in writing, their approval of its objects and who have paid a subscription of not less than 1/-, in each year, before the date of the Annual Meeting.

VI. OFFICERS.—The Officers of the Society shall be a President, Treasurer, Chairman of Committee and the Secretary.

VII.—EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.—1. The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, the Treasurer and eighteen other members.

2. At its first meeting after election the Executive Committee shall elect the Chairman for the year.

3.—It shall from time to time make its own Bye-laws, and shall have power to fill by co-option any vacancies which may occur during its term of office.

4. It shall appoint the paid officers of the Society.

5. It shall have power to appoint special Committees to help in carrying out special parts of the work.

6. Its ordinary meetings shall be held monthly on a fixed date to be determined at its first meeting which shall be called by the Secretary as soon as convenient after the Annual Meeting of the Society. Special Meetings shall be called at the request of not less than four members. Five shall form a quorum at all meetings.

VIII. NOMINATIONS.—1. Any member may be proposed for election or re-election as Honorary Officer or Member of the Committee on the nomination of two members of the Society to whom the candidate is personally known.

2. Nominations with the consent, in writing, of the candidate nominated shall reach the Secretary at least twenty-one days before the Annual Meeting.

IX. GENERAL MEETING.—1. An Annual General Meeting of the Society of which not less than twenty-eight days' preliminary notice shall be given to each member shall be held as soon as convenient after September 30th in each year.

(a) To receive the Report and Financial Statement which shall be duly audited.

(b) To elect the President and Treasurer of the Society and the Executive Committee.

(c) To appoint the Returning Officer and Tellers for the ballot vote.

(d) To consider resolutions which, with the names of proposers and seconders, shall reach the Secretary, in writing, at least twenty-one days before the Annual Meeting and shall have been circulated by her to the members at least fourteen clear days before that date.

No resolution passed at an Annual Meeting shall be rescinded before the next Annual Meeting except by a two-thirds majority of a General Meeting.

2.—Special General Meetings of the Society may be called at any time by the Executive Committee, and shall be called by the Secretary within twenty-eight days on the requisition of the London Council. A Special General Meeting shall discuss only such matters as are mentioned in the notice calling such a meeting, and not less than fourteen day's notice shall be given of General Meetings to all members.

X. LONDON COUNCIL.—1. The London Council shall meet monthly on a fixed date to discuss general work of the Society.

2.—Every member of the Society shall be entitled to attend the London Council.

3. The Council shall be empowered to postpone or omit a monthly meeting.

XI. ALTERATION OF RULES.—The Rules shall not be altered except at a General Meeting of Members of the Society. The nature of the proposed alterations must be stated in the notice calling the meeting, and not less than fourteen days' notice given to all members."

The following Amendments were proposed :

(a) Moved Mrs. FYFFE, seconded Miss WALLACE :

"Rule I.—Title. That any change in the title be postponed till after the N.U. Council."

The amendment was lost.

(b) Moved Mrs. FYFFE and seconded :

"In Rule II. Object, after the word 'obtain' to insert the words 'equal suffrage.'"

The amendment was lost.

(c) Moved Miss MACMILLAN, seconded Miss CHICK :

"In Rule III. Methods, to omit the words 'concentrate on obtaining economic equality for women with men by' and substitute the words 'promote these objects by.'"

The amendment was lost.

(d) Moved Miss MACMILLAN, seconded Mrs. FYFFE :

"After Rule IX. General Meeting, to reinstate the Society's former Rule X. Branches."

The amendment was lost.

The Resolution was then passed.

VII. The meeting then adjourned till March 3rd, at 3 o'clock.

N.B.—Eighteen nominations were received for the Executive Committee in addition to one nomination for President and one for Treasurer, and no ballot therefore was necessary.

ADJOURNED ANNUAL MEETING.

Caxton Hall, March 3rd, 1919, at 3 p.m.

To consider the Agenda for the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies' Annual Council Meeting on March 5th, 6th, and 7th.

CHAIRMAN - - - MISS DIMOCK.

I.—OPENING STATEMENT by the Secretary.

II. RESOLUTION moved Miss McLAREN, seconded Mrs. RENDEL, and carried.

"That the first part of this meeting be conducted as a Deliberative Conference and that resolutions as to the Society's action be not taken until 4.30 p.m."

III. STATEMENT on proposed schemes for the future of the N.U.W.S.S. Miss MARGARET JONES, Honorary Secretary, N.U.W.S.S.

IV. STATEMENTS by Mr. OLIVER STRACHEY, Miss WARD and Mrs. OLIVER STRACHEY, followed by questions.

V. RESOLUTIONS.

1. Moved Mrs. OLIVER STRACHEY, seconded Mrs. LUFF, and carried :

"That the whole remaining time of this meeting be devoted to the question of the future constitution of the N.U.W.S.S."

2. Moved Mr. OLIVER STRACHEY, seconded Miss McLAREN :

"That the Society's representatives be free to act in accordance with their own judgment at the Council Meeting."

Amendment moved by Miss O'MALLEY, seconded Miss MILTON :

"To omit all after the word 'representatives' and substitute the words 'be recommended to act on general principles in accordance with the opinion of the majority of this meeting.'"

The amendment was carried, 14 voting for and 11 against.

3. Moved Mrs. OLIVER STRACHEY, seconded the Hon. Mrs. SPENCER GRAVES, and carried with one dissentient :

"That in the opinion of this meeting it is not desirable for the N.U. to become a National Union of individuals, but that this should not be held to preclude the appointment of Local Correspondents."

4. Moved Mrs. OLIVER STRACHEY, seconded Miss O'MALLEY and carried, 15 voting in favour and 12 against :

"That in the opinion of this meeting it is not desirable for the National Union to seek to affiliate to itself Societies having other objects than its own."

Moved Miss MILTON, seconded Mrs. FYFFE and lost, 10 voting in favour and 11 against :

"To add as a rider 'but that the National Union continue as a Union of Societies and do not go into commission.'"

5. Moved Mrs. OLIVER STRACHEY, seconded the Hon. Mrs. SPENCER GRAVES and lost, 10 voting in favour and 11 against :

"That in the opinion of this meeting it is desirable to support Mrs. Strachey's scheme."

6. Moved Mrs. OLIVER STRACHEY, seconded Miss McLAREN and carried :

"That the Society's representatives be informed of the resolutions and amendments brought forward at this meeting which bear on the constitution of the National Union, together with the numbers voting in favour and against."

LONDON SOCIETY FOR

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To Balance, 1st October, 1917			468 4 4½
„ GENERAL RECEIPTS:			
„ Members' Subscriptions		787 9 6	
„ Donations, General	510 2 6		
„ „ Queen's Hall	211 17 10		
„ „ Development Fund	496 4 6		
„ Sale of Literature	16 5 10		
		1,234 10 8	
„ Rent of Room		3 0 0	
„ Interest on Deposits			
„ Exchequer Bonds		11 2 9	
			2,036 2 11

£2,504 7 3½

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

FOR YEAR ENDING 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1918.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
BY GENERAL EXPENDITURE:			
Rent	130 0 0		
Office Salaries	777 15 3		
Insurance, National Health	2 8 3		
„ Employers' Liability	3 13 6		
Office Expenses (Light, Insurance Renewals)	114 0 6½		
Travelling Expenses (Office)	2 3 5		
Printing and Stationery	93 12 2		
Postage, Telegrams, and Telephone	55 10 3		
Bank Charges	3 6		
Audit Fee	8 8 0		
		1,187 14 10½	
„ Annual Meeting, Printing, and Postage of Report	74 0 5		
„ Monthly Council Meetings	6 18 7		
„ Members' Reception, 1917	2 0 0		
„ Members' Special Meeting, 1918	23 10 11½		
„ Capitation Fee to N.U.W.S.S.	30 19 9		
„ Affiliation Fee to N.U.W.W.	2 6		
„ Delegates' Fees to Council Meeting	2 10 0		
		140 2 2½	
„ Purchase of Literature	19 5 4		
„ Advertising	3 9 6		
„ Newspapers and Press Cuttings	5 17 2		
		28 12 0	
„ Development Fund Expenses	6 0 9		
„ Autumn Sale, 1918, Part expenses	8 4 9		
		14 5 6	
„ WORK IN CONSTITUENCIES:			
Salaries of Organisers	257 4 8		
Travelling Expenses	10 9 7½		
Postage and Stationery	12 11 3½		
Organisers' Meals	10 9		
Grants to Local Branches	2 10 0		
Expenses of Meetings	10 4 6½		
		293 10 10½	
„ SUBSCRIPTIONS RETURNED TO INDEPENDENT BRANCHES:			
South Kensington	45 7 6		
Barnes	2 6 9		
Ealing	3 6 6		
North Hackney	4 3 6		
Golder's Green	8 9 0		
		63 13 3	
„ To Women's Service		631 1 0	
		2,358 19 8½	
„ BALANCE:			
Cash at Bank and in Hand	142 5 7		
Less Reserve for Sundry Creditors	21 18 0		
		120 7 7	
Exchequer Bonds		25 0 0	
		145 7 7	
			£2,504 7 3½

I have examined the above Statement with the Books and Vouchers of the Society, and find the same to be correct in accordance therewith.

M. S. CLUGSTON, *Certified Accountant,*
Auditor.

9, REGENT STREET, S.W.1.

23rd October, 1918.

WOMEN'S SERVICE FUND.

Receipts and Expenditure Account for the Year ending 30th September, 1918.

RECEIPTS.		EXPENDITURE.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
To Balance, October 1st, 1917	568 18 3½	By Rent	130 0 0
„ Donations, Bureau	824 10 7	„ Salaries	1,762 2 0
„ „ Development Fund	151 18 1	„ National Health & Employer's Liability Insurance	9 0 6
„ Proceeds of Jumble Sale, 1917	339 6 11	„ Office Expenses (Light, Fire, etc.)	51 16 4
„ Sale of Photographs	17 0	„ Travelling Expenses	2 4 7½
„ Loans repaid	243 1 0	„ Stationery and Printing	187 1 5½
„ Rent received for Workshop	20 0 0	„ Postage, Telegrams and Telephone	93 3 2
	1,579 13 7	„ Bank Charges	10 7
„ Interest on Deposit	3 6 4	„ Audit Fee	5 5 0
„ Balance being Deficit	520 18 7½	„ Advertising	6 19 1
		„ Newspapers and Periodicals	6 15 0
			2,254 17 9
	£2,672 16 10	„ Jumble Sale Expenses	77 7 7
		„ Expenses of Special Appeal	134 5 11
			211 13 6
		„ Grants to Students	49 18 11
		„ Loans	89 19 0
		„ Tools for Students	6 9 0
			146 6 11
		„ Elm Park Workshop Expenses	59 18 8
			£2,672 16 10
		„ Balance carried down	520 18 7½
		„ Cash at Bank and in hand	110 2 4½
			£631 1 0

RECEIPTS.		EXPENDITURE.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
<i>Sums advanced by London Society for Women's Suffrage—</i>			
Cash Loan	400 0 0		
Rent	97 10 0		
Office Expenses	30 0 0		
Telephone	15 0 0		
Salaries	77 6 0		
Stationery	11 5 0		
	631 1 0		
	£631 1 0		£631 1 0

I have examined the above Statement with the Books and Vouchers relating thereto, and find the same to be correct in accordance therewith.

9, REGENT STREET, S.W., 1.
23rd October, 1918.

M. S. CLUGSTON, *Certified Accountant,*
Auditor.

LONDON UNITS OF THE SCOTTISH WOMEN'S HOSPITALS FOR FOREIGN SERVICE.

Statement of Receipts and Expenditure for the Year ending September 30th, 1918.

RECEIPTS.		EXPENDITURE.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
To Balance, October 1st, 1917	15,325 14 6½	By GENERAL EXPENDITURE:	
„ DONATIONS:		" Elsie Inglis " Unit	21,998 4 9½
General Fund	3,578 3 0½	Salaries at Salonica	301 13 8
American and Canadian Collections	32,042 19 6½	Hostel Expenses	375 16 9
British Women's Hospitals	2,818 2 1	Equipment	94 8 9
British School of Archaeology	569 2 7	" London Ward " Royaumont	1,650 0 0
Beds and Ambulances	904 11 0		24,420 3 11½
„ Sale of Postcards and Thistles	11 0 8½	„ ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES:	
„ Interest on Deposit and National War Bonds	500 1 5	Rent of Offices	100 0 0
„ Russo-Serbe Unit—Unexpended Balances of Letters of Credit	162 6 3	Office Expenses (Light, Fire, etc.)... ..	84 17 6½
	40,586 6 7½	Salaries	1,086 9 2
		National Health Insurance	4 8 0
		Uniforms for Office Staff	12 19 5
		Travelling Expenses	11 10 2
		Postage, Telephone and Telegrams	126 1 2½
		Stationery and Printing	98 0 3½
		Bank Charges	3 12 7
		Press Newspapers and Photographs	17 10 2
		Audit Fee	10 10 0
			1,555 18 6¼
		„ Advertising	176 12 0
		„ Expenses of Meetings	74 11 11
		„ Part of American Organizer's Expenses	100 0 0
		„ Paris Mission Expenses	18 17 11
			370 1 10
		„ Dr. Elsie Inglis Funeral and Memorial Expenses	71 14 6½
		„ BALANCE:	
		Cash at Bank and in Hand	13,504 12 3¾
		„ „ on Deposit	15,000 0 0
		5 per cent. National War Bonds	1,000 0 0
			29,504 12 3¾
		Less Reserve for Sundry Creditors	10 10 0
	£55,912 1 2		29,494 2 3¾
			£55,912 1 2

I have examined the above Statement with the Books and Vouchers relating thereto and find the same to be correct in accordance therewith.

9, REGENT STREET, S.W., 1.
6th November, 1918.

M. S. CLUGSTON, *Certified Accountant,*
Auditor.

WELDING SCHOOL, MINISTRY OF MUNITIONS.

Receipts and Payments Account for the Year ending 30th September, 1918.

RECEIPTS.				PAYMENTS.			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To Balance, October 1st, 1917			218 8 1½	By Rents of Workshops			
„ Imprest from Ministry of Munitions	40	0	0	„ Salaries		82	0 0
„ Refund by Ministry of Munitions on Grants and Salaries				„ Grants		493	1 3
„ Ditto on Workshop Expenses	1,555	11	0	„ Workshop Expenses		1,074	13 4
„ „ Travelling				„ Travelling Expenses		69	10 9½
„ Advertising refunded by Women's Service				„ Bank Charges		27	7 4
„ Work done at Training School			19 16 11	„ Loan repaid to Women's Service		200	0 0
			1,788 4 8	„ BALANCE:			1,946 16 10½
			£2,006 12 9½	Cash at Bank and in Hand			59 15 11
							£2,006 12 9½

I have examined the above Account with the Books and Vouchers relating thereto and find the same to be correct in accordance therewith.

9, REGENT STREET, S.W. 1
6th November, 1918.

M. S. CLUGSTON, *Certified Accountant,*
Auditor.

TEMPLAR PRINTING WORKS,
EDMUND STREET,
— BIRMINGHAM. —

PAMPHLET