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National Union of Women's  
Suffrage Societies.

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West Lancashire, West Cheshire,  
AND  
North Wales Federation.

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SECOND ANNUAL REPORT

*Presented at the Annual Meeting, held  
18th September, 1912.*

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LIVERPOOL:  
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1912.

WEST LANCASHIRE, WEST CHESHIRE,  
and NORTH WALES FEDERATION.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE :

- Chairman :** Miss ELEANOR RATHBONE, M.A., C.C., Greenbank, Liverpool.  
**Hon. Treasurer :** Miss E. F. McPHERSON, 16, Newland Drive, Liscard, Cheshire.  
**Hon. Secretary :** Miss JESSIE BEAVAN, 12, Ullet Road, Liverpool.  
**Hon. Secretary to Welsh Organisation Sub-Committee :** Mrs. PRICE WHITE, Rockleigh Bangor.  
**Hon. Press Secretaries :** for Lancashire and Cheshire : Miss C. LEADLEY BROWN  
Dawstone, Heswall, Cheshire.  
for North Wales : Mrs. PRICE WHITE, Rockleigh, Bangor.  
**"Common Cause" Correspondent :** Miss C. LEADLEY BROWN, Dawstone, Heswall.

Bangor ... ..	Mrs. PRICE WHITE.
Birkenhead ... ..	Mrs. ROLAND NEW and Miss WYSE.
Blackpool ... ..	Mrs. EDWARDS.
Chester ... ..	Miss A. ADAMS.
Chorley ... ..	Mrs. BUTLER.
Colwyn Bay ... ..	Miss SPENCER.
Frodsham and Eddisbury ...	Miss M. BURGESS.
Liverpool ... ..	Miss RATHBONE, Miss C. LEADLEY BROWN, and Miss BEAVAN.
Llandudno ... ..	Miss F. H. WRIGHT.
Llangollen ... ..	Miss B. STEWART.
Newton-le-Willows ... ..	Miss WATKINS.
Preston ... ..	Mrs. TODD.
Rhyl ... ..	Mrs. JOHN WILLIAMS.
Seaforth ... ..	Mrs. BELL and Mrs. NORMAN THOMAS.
Southport ... ..	Miss RIGBY and Mrs. KINNEMOUTH.
St. Helens ... ..	Miss C. PILKINGTON.
Wallasey... ..	Mrs. T. RAFFLES BULLEY and Miss WILLMER.
Warrington ... ..	Mrs. R. D. PEMBERTON and Miss MASSEY.
Widnes ... ..	Miss G. MORRISON.
Wrexham ... ..	Miss PRICE.

**Organisers to Federation :** Miss ESKRIGGE and Miss THOMPSON.

## WEST LANCASHIRE, WEST CHESHIRE, and NORTH WALES FEDERATION.

### AFFILIATED SOCIETIES :

Society.	Hon. Secretary.
Bangor ... ..	Mrs. PRICE WHITE, Rockleigh, Bangor.
Birkenhead ... ..	Miss WYSE, 4, Mather Road, Oxton.
Blackpool ... ..	Mrs. EDWARDS, 125, Hornby Road, Blackpool. Mrs. BAMFORD TOMLINSON, 16, Clevedon Road, Blackpool.
Carnarvon ... ..	Mrs. D. O. EVANS, Bryn Afon, Carnarvon. Miss RYLE DAVIES, Cartrefle, Segontium Road S., Carnarvon.
Chester ... ..	Miss A. ADAMS, Shirley, Liverpool Road, Chester.
Colwyn Bay ... ..	Miss M. SPENCER, Farlands, Penrhyn Bay, nr. Llandudno.
Chorley ... ..	Miss A. GAUGE, 98, Park Road, Chorley.
Criccieth ... ..	Mrs. WALTER JONES, Emu, Criccieth.
Dolgelley... ..	Mrs. Dr. JOHN JONES, Dolgelley. Miss LEWIS, Dr. William's School, Dolgelley.
Frodsham and Eddisbury ...	Miss M. BURGESS, Beaconhurst, Frodsham.
Liverpool ... ..	Miss E. F. RATHBONE, Greenbank, Liverpool. Miss EVELYN DEAKIN, 9, Alexandra Drive, Liverpool.
Llandudno ... ..	Miss F. H. WRIGHT, Preswylfa, Abbey Road, Llandudno.
Llangollen ... ..	Miss B. STEWART, Hafod-y-Coed, Llangollen.
Newton-le-Willows ... ..	Miss WATKINS, Kirkby, Newton-le-Willows.
Penmaenmawr ... ..	Miss A. M. HARKER, Fernbrook Road, Penmaenmawr.
Preston ... ..	Mrs. TODD, Penwortham House, near Preston.
Pwllheli ... ..	Mrs. D. H. WILLIAMS, Arden, Cardiff Road, Pwllheli.
Rhyl ... ..	Mrs. JOHN WILLIAMS, The Studio, High Street, Rhyl.
Seaforth ... ..	Mrs. BELL, Lyndhurst, Norma Road, Waterloo.
Southport ... ..	Miss BICKETT, 98, Forest Road, Southport.
St. Helens ... ..	Miss C. PILKINGTON, The Hazels, Prescott.
Wallasey... ..	Miss J. WARD PLATT, Warrendene, Mount Road, New Brighton.
Warrington ... ..	Mrs. R. D. PEMBERTON Bentley, Ellesmere Road, Warrington.
Widnes ... ..	Miss G. MORRISON, Wellfield, Farnworth, near Widnes.
Wrexham ... ..	Miss L. PRICE, 76, Beechley Road, Wrexham.

### NON-AFFILIATED SOCIETIES.

Society.	Hon. Secretary.
Holyhead ... ..	Miss A. B. JOHNS, Bahama House, Holyhead.
Portmadoc ... ..	Mrs. DODD, 38, Madoc Street, Portmadoc.

### Provisional Committees have been formed at

Fleetwood ... ..	Hon. Sec. : Mrs. COOZE, The Anchorage, Fleetwood.
Blaenau Festiniog ... ..	Hon. Sec. : Mrs. GRIFFITH, 2, Bonar View, Blaenau Festiniog.

## RULES.

1.—The name of the Federation shall be “THE WEST LANCASHIRE, WEST CHESHIRE, AND NORTH WALES FEDERATION.”

2.—The area of the Federation shall consist of the following Constituencies :—

### LANCASHIRE :

Blackpool.	Liverpool.
Bootle.	Ormskirk.
Chorley.	St. Helens.
Newton.	Southport.
Preston.	Warrington.
	Widnes.

### CHESHIRE :

Birkenhead.	Eddisbury.
Chester.	Wirral.

And all the constituencies contained in the six counties of North Wales, viz., Denbighshire, Flintshire, Carnarvonshire, Anglesey, Merionethshire, Montgomeryshire.

3.—There shall be a Committee consisting of one member of the Executive of the National Union, and of representatives of all Women's Suffrage Societies contained within the Federation area and affiliated to the National Union.

4.—The representative members shall be chosen by the Societies within the Federation area, on the following basis :—

Societies with from 25 to 100 members shall be entitled to one representative.

Societies with from 100 to 200 members shall be entitled to two representatives.

Societies with over 300 members shall be entitled to three representatives.

5.—Representative members shall be appointed for one year. If a representative is prevented from attending a meeting by any serious cause, such as illness or prolonged absence from home, the Society she represents may choose a proxy delegate to attend the meeting, the name of the delegate being sent to the Hon. Secretary beforehand.

6.—The Committee shall appoint from their number, a Chairman, Hon. Secretary, and Hon. Treasurer.

7.—The ordinary meetings of the Committee shall be held quarterly in Liverpool, on the second Wednesday of each quarter.

8.—Extraordinary meetings may be summoned at the discretion of the three Officers, or at the request of the representatives of any three Societies.

9.—Each Society shall pay to the funds of the Federation a sum equivalent to 10 per cent. of its Annual Subscriptions.

10.—The Financial Year shall begin on October 1st.

11.—The work of the Federation shall be :—

- (a) To promote the formation of new Societies in its area.
- (b) To perfect existing organisation.
- (c) To arrange joint meetings, and generally to secure co-operation among Societies in its area.

## WEST LANCASHIRE, WEST CHESHIRE, and NORTH WALES FEDERATION.

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### REPORT FROM SEPTEMBER, 1911, TO SEPTEMBER, 1912.

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The work of the Federation during the past year has been heavy and anxious ; much has been achieved, and the year's record shows growth in every direction. Fresh ground has been broken in Lancashire, Cheshire, and Wales ; and while the number of new Societies formed during the second year of the Federation's life is only six, against eleven in the first year, much has been done in strengthening existing Societies, and owing to the rapid changes in the political situation, the energies of the Federation have been centred mainly on the Parliamentary work.

Every possible means of pressure has been brought to bear on Members of Parliament in the area : first, to try and obtain a promise of support for the Conciliation Bill and the various Women's Suffrage Amendments to the Government Reform Bill, and later, when the militant outbreak on the eve of the second reading of the Conciliation Bill so seriously alienated public opinion, to induce Members to abide by pledges already given. Experience has proved the necessity of *personal* communication with Members of Parliament. No Member can afford to disregard entirely the openly expressed wishes of his constituents, conveyed to him directly either at a

deputation, in a memorial, or by private letters. In those constituencies, therefore, where the support of the Member was considered doubtful, or where there was a possibility of winning back a vote, the Federation has organised influential deputations, memorials, and post card canvasses. A post card has been drawn up, begging the M.P. to support the inclusion of women in the Reform Bill, and the object of the canvass is to get very large numbers of these cards signed by voters and by women, and sent to the M.P.

Much work of this kind remains to be done, and it is impossible to over-estimate its importance.

At the second reading of the Conciliation Bill, on March 28th, only one M.P., who paired in favour in 1911, paired against in 1912, the Hon. A. Stanley, M.P. for Ormskirk, and his defection was not unexpected, in view of the changed political situation. Two Members who voted in favour in 1911, abstained in 1912, one because he was unable to find a pair; and eight Members who abstained in 1911 voted against in 1912. Most of these were known Anti-Suffragists, who did not trouble to record their votes the preceding year.

There have been one or two changes in the organisation of the Federation during the past year. In North Wales a standing sub-committee was appointed in January, with Mrs. Price White as Hon. Organising Secretary, for the organisation of purely Welsh work. The formation of this sub-committee was the result of the difficulty experienced by the Federation in keeping in touch with the more remote Welsh Societies. It was also felt that it would be an advantage for the Welsh

Societies to confer together on purely Welsh affairs. The sub-committee meets quarterly in different towns in Wales.

Work in North Wales has been rendered extremely difficult by the reversion to militant tactics of the W.S.P.U., which followed Mr. Asquith's pronouncement in November. It is impossible for anyone who has not worked in North Wales to realize the strength of the antagonism which is aroused by militant outbreaks, and the revulsion of feeling which they cause. In that part of the Federation, if not in the whole of it, the militant Societies have now become by far the greatest obstacle in the way of the success of our movement.

In December, greatly to its regret, the Federation lost the services of Miss Waring, who left to become an N.U. Organiser. The work which she did in the Federation has borne excellent fruit, and she carried with her to her new post the thanks and best wishes of the Federation. Miss Eskrigge is, fortunately for us, now able to give us all her time, and Miss Thompson, whose wonderful skill in Memorial work and canvassing of all kinds is known not only in our own Federation, but beyond its borders, also works the greater part of her time for our Federation. In addition to these two, we have also secured the part-time services as Assistant Organiser of Miss Colquitt, whose energy and enthusiasm have proved invaluable. In so wide an area, it is difficult to apportion thanks to individuals, but we can hardly pass over in silence such services as those of Mrs. Price White of Bangor, and Miss Stewart of Llangollen, who have given such valuable aid in organisation in Wales;

Miss Mason, whose help in organising and speaking will be so greatly missed now that she has left our Federation to become an N.U. Organiser ; Miss Deakin and Miss Leadley Brown, whose excellent speeches are so much appreciated, and who never fail to come to our aid, though often at great personal inconvenience ; and Miss Truda Crosfield, whose kindness in lending her motor-car has made practicable work which would otherwise have been impossible.

Finally, in presenting this record of the year's work, your Committee would like to express its gratitude for the services of Miss Eskrigge, to whose single-minded devotion, tactful overcoming of difficulties, and untiring energy the success of the work is mainly due.

## ORGANISATION WORK.

### (a). In Wales.

In October, 1911, Miss Eskrigge organised a series of meetings in Pwllheli, Portmadoc, Criccieth, and Pen-y-groes, which were addressed by Miss Eleanor Rathbone, the resolution being carried by a very large majority in every case. A new Society was formed as the result of the meeting at PWLLHELI ; and resolutions in favour of Women's Suffrage were obtained from the Pwllheli Town Council, the Board of Guardians, and the Free Church Council. A Society was also formed at PEN-Y-GROES, which was made a branch of the Carnarvon Society. In November the first Woman's Suffrage Meeting was held at TALYSARN, when the

proceedings were entirely in Welsh, and the resolution was almost unanimously carried. In February, 1912, Miss Eskrigge went to Wales to organise meetings, and to obtain resolutions from the Liberal Associations in Merionethshire. She visited BLAENAU FESTINIOG, DOLGELLEY, BARMOUTH, TOWYN, ABERDOVEY, and MACHYNLLETH. Resolutions were passed by the LIBERAL ASSOCIATIONS OF TOWYN and BALA, and in BARMOUTH a resolution was passed by a joint Committee of Liberals, Women Liberals, and the Free Church Council. Miss Eskrigge then went to Carnarvon, accompanied by Miss Colquitt, and much time was spent in visiting members of the Women's Suffrage Society, in order to try and establish it on a stronger basis. Plans were also discussed for a joint demonstration by the Women's Liberal Association and the Women's Suffrage Society in Carnarvon, but the feeling of antagonism aroused by the militant outbreak was so strong that the Women's Liberal Association declined to go on with the matter.

Signatures to a Memorial to Mr. Lloyd George were collected in Nevin, Criccieth, Pwllheli, and Conway. In March a very successful meeting, organised by Miss Stewart of Llangollen, was held at Corwen. A week was spent by Miss Eskrigge at COLWYN BAY helping with the Suffrage Shop, and addressing small meetings. Miss Colquitt organised a meeting held at BARMOUTH ; the audience was sympathetic and the resolution carried. At the end of March Miss Margaret Robertson addressed for the Federation two meetings in Wales, the first at Llanrwst, where there was a rowdy element in the audience, but where her eloquence completely changed the temper of the meeting from ridicule to sympathetic attention. The

resolution was carried by a large majority, and the meeting ended most successfully. The second meeting was at BLAENAU FESTINIOG; 900 people were present, and extraordinary enthusiasm was evinced. As a result of this meeting a provisional Committee was formed in May, when Miss Eskrigge returned to Blaenau Festiniog, and it is hoped that the Society will very soon be properly constituted and affiliated to the N.U.

Miss Stewart organised a very satisfactory meeting at Bala on March 29th, when help in speaking was unexpectedly offered by Mr. Roly Williams, an engine driver, who has since spoken for the Federation on one or two occasions. Miss Mason organised a meeting at DOLGELLEY at the beginning of April, and reconstituted the Society originally formed there a year ago. A large public meeting was held in May—a Committee and Officers were reappointed, and a scheme of work undertaken, and the Society has since affiliated to the N.U.

Miss Eskrigge, accompanied by Miss Mason, went to Merionethshire at the beginning of August. Meetings were held at CARROG, CORWEN, GLYNDYFRWY, BALA, BLAENAU FESTINIOG, LLAN FESTINIOG, BARMOUTH, TOWYN, and PORTMADOC. Time was also spent in canvassing members of the Merioneth Liberal Association. Mr. Haydn Jones was interviewed; he refused to pledge himself, but said that his future action might be judged from his past action, and stated that he was intellectually convinced of the justice of Women's Suffrage.

(b). In Lancashire.

In September, 1911, Miss Eskrigge started work in CHORLEY, a constituency hitherto untouched by the Federation. Two small meetings were held, at which Miss Leadley Brown spoke, and on December 1st the first public meeting was held. Lady Frances Balfour and Mrs. Cooper were the speakers, and much interest was aroused, which resulted in the formation of a Women's Suffrage Society in Chorley, in January. This Society almost immediately affiliated to the National Union, and has since done useful work in the constituency.

In November Miss Frances Sterling consented to speak at a series of meetings in our Federation. She visited LIVERPOOL, WEST KIRBY, WALLASEY, WARRINGTON and BLUNDELLSANDS, and her speeches were enthusiastically received in each place, and greatly stimulated the local Societies.

In December Lady Frances Balfour kindly gave three days to our Federation, speaking at CHESTER, FRODSHAM, BLACKPOOL, ST. HELENS, and CHORLEY, everywhere with most successful results.

In January, 1912, Miss Eskrigge went to FLEETWOOD, where the Society formed during the preceding year had collapsed. A drawing-room meeting was held at POULTON, and on January 30th a large public meeting was held at FLEETWOOD, at which Miss Ashton and Dr. Bunting spoke, and a Society was again started. A good deal of time was also spent in the Blackpool constituency, collecting signatures to a Memorial to Mr. Ashley. In May, Miss Eskrigge again returned to Fleetwood, where attempts to get the new Society to affiliate had proved

fruitless. It was decided therefore to form a provisional Committee, with a Corresponding Hon. Secretary.

At LYTHAM a drawing-room meeting was held in May, and a larger meeting at the County Hotel in June. Both meetings were very successful, and it is expected that a Society will be formed there very shortly. Miss Eskrigge also started an M.P. post card canvass in the Blackpool constituency.

#### **OPEN-AIR DEMONSTRATIONS IN LANCASHIRE.**

A week's campaign of open-air meetings took place at WARRINGTON during the first week in June, 1912. Local arrangements were made by the Hon. Secretary of the Warrington Society, and speakers were provided by the Federation. Mrs. Annot Robinson, Mrs. Cooper, and several speakers from Liverpool addressed the meetings, which were most successful. Great enthusiasm was aroused among the working people, and several new members added to the Society.

A similar demonstration, organised by the Federation, assisted by the Hon. Secretary of the St. Helens Society, was held at ST. HELENS during the following week. Valuable help both in organising and speaking was given by Mrs. Duncan from Ireland, who worked with Miss Eskrigge for a fortnight, in order to gain experience. The meetings were most successful, and large numbers of post cards were addressed and sent to Mr. Rigby Swift. At the end of June Miss Truda Crosfield kindly gave five days' work with her motor-car to the Federation. Miss Eskrigge accompanied her, and they spent the time in the ORMSKIRK constituency, holding meetings at BURSCOUGH

BRIDGE, SKELMERSDALE, and MAGHULL. Many post cards were signed, and the Federation hoped to continue work in the constituency in the Autumn.

#### **(c). In Cheshire.**

In September, Miss Waring broke fresh ground in the constituency of Eddisbury; a series of meetings, at which Miss Truda Crosfield and Miss Leadley Brown rendered valuable assistance, were held at TARPORLEY, KELSALL, TARVIN, NORLEY, and BUNBURY. The difficulty of working in this constituency is very great, owing to the fact that there is very little train connection between the different villages. A public meeting was held at FRODSHAM in December, which was addressed by Lady Frances Balfour, and a Society was started in January, which owes its inception chiefly to the untiring energy of the Hon. Secretary, Miss M. Burgess. A drawing-room meeting was held at her house in May, and the Society had since affiliated to the National Union.

In May, a letter was received from the Manchester and District Federation, asking that the town of RUNCORN should be included in the area of our Federation. The Committee gave its consent, and in view of the possibility of the Northwich constituency proving a suitable one for carrying out the new election policy of the National Union, it was decided that Miss Eskrigge should start work there immediately. A house-to-house canvass and distribution of literature was started, and a campaign of open-air meetings is to be held in September. Progress is very slow and very difficult, as complete ignorance of the subject prevails, and no suffrage speech has ever been made in the town.



### VAN TOUR IN CHESHIRE AND FLINTSHIRE.

The Federation hired the National Union Van for the last fortnight in August. The crew consisted of Miss Collum, Miss Gill, Miss Bury, Miss Eskrigge, Miss Mason, and Miss Colquitt, and the first week was spent in the Eddisbury division of Cheshire. Owing to the kindness of Mrs. Brunner, the first camping place was the smoking-room of her house at Bunbury, where the van contingent were only too thankful to be sheltered from the drenching rain. Meetings were held at BEESTON CASTLE CATTLE MARKET, TARPORLEY, TATTENHALL, and BUNBURY. All these meetings were naturally small, owing to the size of the villages, but a large number of post cards to Mr. Barnston were signed. The camp was then removed to Kelsall, and meetings were held at KELSALL, GREAT BARROW, and TARVIN. From Kelsall the van proceeded to CHRISTLETON, and meetings were held in that village and at HOOLE. None of the meetings were large, but the audiences on most occasions seemed interested, and once or twice stood through very heavy rain. Miss Burgess rendered invaluable help during the week in Eddisbury. She bicycled over every day to the camp, and also secured gifts of food from the Hon. Mrs. Marshall Brooks and other friends.

The Federation also owes a debt of gratitude to Mrs. Brunner for her hospitality to the van crew, and for her handsome contribution to the catering department, and to Miss Adams for the help which she gave on several days.

The second week was spent in FLINTSHIRE, camp being first pitched at Mold. A small but successful meeting was held at NORTHOP, and a splendid meeting with an audience of five or six hundred people at MOLD. Meetings were also held at FLINT and BUCKLEY. Camp was then moved to CAERGWYLE, where a meeting was held at which Miss Leadley Brown spoke, and at HAWARDEN Miss Helen Gladstone took the chair at a very successful meeting.

In spite of extremely bad weather, the van tour was very successful, and the fortnight one of completely harmonious work. Many villages were touched, which it would have been impossible to reach in any other way, and much interest was aroused.

### POLITICAL WORK.

(a). COUNTY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS.—Miss Eskrigge spent a good deal of time in October in canvassing the DENBIGHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL, with a view to obtaining a resolution in favour of Women's Suffrage. The work was shared by the Colwyn Bay, Llangollen, and Wrexham Societies. The majority were in favour, but unfortunately the meeting at which the resolution was brought up was held immediately after Mr. Asquith's pronouncement. There was no time to re-word the resolution, and as it came at the end of a long agenda, only 25 out of 60 members were present, and the resolution was lost by one vote.

In December the Organising Committee decided that an attempt should be made to obtain a resolution

from the Cheshire County Council. As the Manchester Federation was unable to undertake to canvass Councillors in its area (except in those towns where there was a local Society) practically the whole of the work had to be done by our Federation, and the difficulties of canvassing personally members scattered all over the County, the majority inaccessible by rail, appeared to be insurmountable. Mrs. Duckworth, however, kindly lent her car for two days' work in December, and in January Miss Truda Crosfield took her car into Cheshire, and spent three days interviewing Councillors in remote country places. A heavy snowstorm rendered motoring impossible on the fourth day, and the Secretary wrote a personal letter to all those Councillors who had not been interviewed. A promise of support was obtained from the majority, and our hopes were high that the resolution would be carried. When the meeting took place, however, the Chairman ruled the resolution out of order, and it was dropped. It is almost impossible to avoid the feeling of bitterness aroused by such unfair treatment.

(b). LIBERAL ASSOCIATION RESOLUTIONS.—In November the Eifion (*i.e.*, South Carnarvonshire) Liberal Association passed a resolution in favour of Women's Suffrage, with only three dissentients. This was particularly gratifying to the Federation, as Mr. Ellis Davies had made his promise of support to the Married Women's Amendment to the Government Reform Bill conditional on the passing of a resolution by the Eifion Liberal Association. Early in the year a resolution was also passed by the Arfon (*i.e.*, North Carnarvonshire) Liberal Association.

Resolutions have also been passed by the Men's Liberal Associations of Towyn and Bala, and by the Liverpool Liberal Federal Council and the Widnes Liberal Association. In the spring of this year an attempt was made to obtain a resolution from the Lancashire and Cheshire Liberal Federation. The Manchester Federation undertook to canvass delegates from its area, and with their co-operation practically every delegate was personally interviewed. The majority were in favour, but when the meeting took place in May, the resolution was ruled out of order, and dropped.

#### DEPUTATIONS.

In November a deputation of representatives from local Societies in his constituency and from the Federation waited on Mr. ELLIS DAVIES, M.P. for South Carnarvon, to ask for a promise of support to the Amendments to the Government Franchise Bill. Mr. Davies promised that he would support the Grey Amendment, if so instructed by the Eifion Liberal Association, which was to meet in a fortnight's time. As a resolution was subsequently passed by the Eifion Liberal Association, Mr. Davies's support was thereby assured.

Joint Deputations from the Federation, the Conservative and Unionist Women's Franchise Association, and the local Society have been received by the following M.P.'s. :—

Mr. WATSON RUTHERFORD, M.P. for West Derby, Liverpool, stated that in his opinion, whatever qualification enabled a man to vote, should also enable a woman

to vote, and therefore promised to support the wider (and if they failed to pass, the narrower) Amendments to the Franchise Bill.

Mr. HARMOOD BANNER, M.P. for Everton, Liverpool, also promised his support to the Dickinson Amendment, as well as to the Conciliation Bill and the Conciliation Bill Amendment.

Major WHITE, M.P. for Southport, promised to support the Conciliation Bill and Amendment. Colonel KYFFIN-TAYLOR, M.P. for Kirkdale, Liverpool, did not give any definite pledges, but received the Deputation favourably, and subsequently voted for the Second Reading of the Conciliation Bill. Mr. RIGBY SWIFT, M.P. for St. Helens, said he was in favour of the Conciliation Bill and Amendment. Mr. ASHLEY, M.P. for Blackpool, refused to give any pledge, and Lord BALCARRES, M.P. for Chorley, also refused to commit himself. The last two named finally voted against the Conciliation Bill.

### MEMORIALS.

One of the most important pieces of work undertaken by the Federation during the past year has been the organisation of influential Memorials to Members of Parliament. The plan adopted has been on the basis of quality, not quantity. Signatures have been invited only from certain selected classes of representative persons of weight in the constituency, and an analysis has been appended to the Memorial giving the percentage of members of the Executive Committee of the M.P.'s party Association, Town Councillors, Doctors, Clergy,

Justices of the Peace, representative business men, etc., who have signed. Memorials of this kind have been presented to Mr. Bonar Law, M.P. for Bootle; Lord Balcarres, M.P. for Chorley; Mr. Ashley, M.P. for Blackpool; Mr. Lloyd George, M.P. for Carnarvon Boroughs; and Mr. Rigby Swift, M.P. for St. Helens.

The Memorial to Mr. Lloyd George was accompanied by a tabular statement, showing all the recent evidences of support that had been obtained in his own constituency, and also (in less detail) in the rest of the Federation's area, in the shape of resolutions from public bodies, political bodies, public meetings, women's and men's societies, and by meetings, petitions, memorials, and deputations, etc.

The following figures give the number and percentage of signatures obtained in some of these Memorials. In some of the earlier Memorials accurate statistics were not kept.

BOOTLE.—There are 51 members on the Executive Committee of the Conservative Association for Bootle Division. Of these 38 signed, *i.e.*, nearly 75 per cent. (including the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer, and the Chairman of 13 out of 15 Wards. There are 44 members on the Bootle Town Council. Of these 32 signed, *i.e.*, 72½ per cent. The above two bodies are composed mainly of business men. The remaining signatures include those of:—18 Doctors resident in Bootle Borough (out of 21 seen, *i.e.*, 85½ per cent.); 18 Clergymen, Priests and Nonconformist Ministers in Bootle Borough (out of 24 seen, *i.e.*, 75 per cent.); 6 Clergy, etc., outside the Borough, but in Bootle Division; 10 Justices of the Peace for Bootle.

ST. HELENS.—The Memorial was signed by 13 out of the 17 members of the Executive Committee of the Conservative Association for the constituency, and by 30 out of the 36 members of the Town Council.

CHORLEY.—The Memorial was signed by 29 out of the 32 Town Councillors, the Town Clerk, 23 Clergy and Ministers of Religion, 7 Doctors, 6 Lawyers, and 38 Mill-owners, etc., the bulk of the leading professional and business men in the town.

Memorials of this representative character are a form of evidence of support which no M.P. can afford to overlook, and the Federation Committee has been told on good authority that the Lancashire and Cheshire M.P.'s were even more impressed by these Memorials than by the remarkable series of resolutions in favour of Women's Suffrage passed by Local Authorities last year.

## REPORT ON PRESS WORK.

### (a) In West Lancashire and West Cheshire.

The Press work in West Lancashire and West Cheshire has only been established on an organised basis since the new year, but the results have been fairly satisfactory. Four weekly papers, the *St. Helens Reporter*, *The Widnes and Runcorn News*, *The Southport Guardian*, and *The Southport Visiter*, are publishing regular Suffrage columns weekly, the first being supplied by the Federation Press Secretary, the second by Miss Macadam, and the two last by members of the Southport Society. Besides these the St. Helens newspaper has been inserting matter culled from the *Common Cause* from time to time, and

Miss C. Pilkington, Hon. Secretary of the St. Helens Society, is now arranging to supply it directly, so that the notes will in future be more regular. The Liverpool Socialist paper, *The Forward*, intimated at its commencement its readiness to publish Suffrage matter, but owing to want of time and workers, the Press Secretary has only been able to supply it with two short articles. *The Preston Guardian* has been inserting articles from the pen of Miss W. Holiday, who, however, is unable to continue to supply them in the future; it is hoped, however, that satisfactory arrangements will be made, so that similar articles can be supplied. *The Birkenhead News* and the *Wallasey News* still continue to publish Suffrage propaganda in every issue, and the *Birkenhead Advertiser*, which has always treated Suffrage favourably, is in the future to be in the special care of a member of the Birkenhead Society, who will supply it with Suffrage news. Both the Chester papers, though refusing to publish regular columns, have inserted letters written by Miss Taylor, the local Press Secretary, and their reports on Suffrage activities generally and on the caravan tour in particular have been extremely satisfactory. The Warrington papers also gave up a large amount of space to the description of the local Suffrage week.

*The Liverpool Courier* has lost its Editor, Mr. Robert Hield, who gave valuable occasional service by speaking and writing in favour of Women's Suffrage. Since his departure, however, we have had no reason to think that the tone of the paper has changed for the worse. Concerning the attitude of the *Liverpool Daily Post and Mercury*, we can only say that it continues to be as unfair and as misleading as usual.

**(b) In North Wales.**

The following papers have willingly inserted local Suffrage news during the year:—*North Wales Chronicle*, *Welsh Coast Pioneer*, *North Wales Observer and Express*, *Cambrian News*, *The Advertiser*, and the *Journal* (Rhyl), *Llangollen Advertiser*, *Llandudno Advertiser*, *Yr Aelwyd*, *Y Glorian*, and *Y Rhedegydd* (Blaenau Festiniog), *Seren* (Bala), *Golenad and Dydd* (Dolgelley), and the *Udgorn* (Pwllheli). The *North Wales Chronicle*, which has the largest circulation of any paper in Carnarvonshire and Anglesey, has continued to be our best friend, as it was our first. It publishes regularly a "Woman's Column," after the style of the "Woman's Platform" in the *Standard*. Though Anti-Suffrage notes are sometimes inserted, we gratefully acknowledge the fact that Suffrage news and notes are given more frequently and with greater prominence. The Editorial note on the sanity and efficacy of non-militant methods which appeared in the same issue as the report of the Llanystumdwy horrors, was very welcome. The *North Wales Chronicle* never refuses letters on Suffrage topics, and will insert the Annual Reports of local Suffrage societies. A further advance is that local reporters are always sent to our meetings, when the local papers are notified of such meetings.

WELSH PAPERS.—As will be seen by the above list, many Welsh papers also insert Suffrage news, and a scheme is now in progress to get even more closely in touch with these papers.

One great advantage to Suffragists in North Wales is the fact that the *Manchester Guardian*, which gives

the most reliable general Suffrage news, is the paper most widely read by all classes and parties in the area.

**FINANCIAL STATEMENT.**

In many ways the Balance Sheet is an encouraging one. Affiliation fees and donations show a considerable increase, and some of the Societies have shown that they recognise their responsibilities to the Federation, by paying both the fees and expenses of the Organisers, when they have required their services. The expenditure also shows a marked increase, but your Committee feel sure that if the Report and Balance Sheet are read conjointly, every one will agree that much good work has been done very economically. The general result of the year's work, however, shows that there is still much practically unbroken ground within our area, and that the work already done still needs much strengthening and consolidating. To cope with our task adequately a still larger income than we have enjoyed is necessary. The assured income of the Federation is practically the affiliation fees, and that does not pay the postage of the officials. A collection such as the Albert Hall collection does not happen every year, and the chief need of the Federation from a financial point of view is an assured income. Sacrifices have been made in the past, but still greater ones are necessary in the immediate future if women are to be enfranchised in 1913, and your Committee feel confident that Societies and individuals will respond with even greater generosity than before to their urgent appeal.

The best thanks of the Committee are due to Mr. Ward Platt for his kindness in auditing the Federation Accounts.

**NATIONAL UNION OF WOMEN'S  
WEST LANCASHIRE, WEST CHESHIRE,  
STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE,**

INCOME.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To Donations from Members ..		153	18	10			
„ „ Societies ...		41	14	5			
„ „ “Common Cause”		14	0	0			
					209	13	3
„ Affiliation Fees ... ..		19	1	2			
„ Collections ... ..		21	7	5			
„ Receipts from Societies ...		13	2	3			
„ Proceeds sale of Literature..		3	0	9			
„ „ Secretary's Book ..		4	1	0			
					60	12	7
„ “Albert Hall” collection... ..		308	5	6			
„ Bank Interest ... ..					0	10	6
„ Subscription Account, 1912-13					0	10	0

£579 11 10

Audited and found correct,  
NEW BRIGHTON, 3rd October, 1912.

**SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES.  
AND NORTH WALES FEDERATION.  
31st AUGUST, 1911, to 31st AUGUST, 1912.**

EXPENDITURE.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
By Balance from 1910-11 ... ..					5	17	4
„ CENTRAL EXPENSES :—							
Travelling Expenses ... ..		16	10	0			
Printing ... ..		12	13	4			
Postages ... ..		26	7	4			
Sundries ... ..		9	0	0			
					64	10	8
„ MEETINGS :—							
Hire of Halls ... ..		17	15	0			
Speakers' Expenses ... ..		2	14	0			
Grant to Warrington ... ..		2	9	5			
Printing ... ..		18	16	9			
Postages ... ..		1	9	1			
Sundries ... ..		8	4	5			
					51	8	8
„ ORGANISING EXPENSES :—							
Fees to Organisers... ..		100	5	7			
Board of Workers ... ..		57	5	8			
Travelling Expenses ... ..		58	15	9			
Literature ... ..		9	11	8			
Postages ... ..		10	12	1			
Sundries ... ..		5	2	7			
					241	13	4
„ BALANCE TO 1912-13 :—					363	10	0
Cash in Bank ... ..		203	7	6			
Advanced % Van Tour... ..		10	0	0			
„ to Organisers ..		4	1	6			
					217	9	0
Less amount due for Organising Expenses ... ..					1	7	2
					216	1	10
					£579	11	10

ELEANOR F. McPHERSON, *Hon. Treasurer.*

W. WARD PLATT, *Chartered Accountant.*

## DONATIONS FROM MEMBERS.

	£	s.	d.
BANGOR.			
Miss A. M. Davies ... ..	1	1	0
Miss Wood Edwards ... ..	2	0	0
Miss Jones ... ..	3	0	0
Miss Lamport ... ..	10	15	4
Miss M. Rathbone ... ..	5	0	0
BIRKENHEAD.			
Mrs. A. H. Bulley ... ..	0	5	0
Miss Dalby ... ..	2	10	0
COLWYN BAY.			
Miss Crosfield ... ..	20	0	0
Miss Kenyon ... ..	0	8	0
EDDISBURY.			
Miss Burgess ... ..	2	2	0
The Hon. Mrs. Brooks ... ..	1	0	0
A friend ... ..	0	5	0
Miss Naylor ... ..	1	1	0
LIVERPOOL.			
Anonymous ... ..	20	0	0
Mrs. A. Bright ... ..	0	10	0
Miss E. Chubb ... ..	5	0	0
Miss Chubb ... ..	0	1	0
Miss Craine ... ..	0	2	6
Miss E. Deakin ... ..	1	10	0
Mrs. D'Aeth ... ..	2	10	0
Miss E. Augusta Jones ... ..	0	10	6
— Lawrence, Esq. ... ..	1	1	0

	£	s.	d.
Mrs. Lawrence ... ..	1	1	0
Miss D. Mason ... ..	2	2	0
Mrs. Patterson ... ..	0	10	0
Miss E. F. Rathbone ... ..	60	0	0

## PRESTON.

Mrs. Mills... ..	0	2	6
Miss Stephenson ... ..	0	2	6

## SOUTHPORT.

Miss Peet ... ..	5	0	0
Miss Rigby ... ..	1	0	0
Miss Robinson ... ..	0	10	0
Miss Skelton ... ..	0	10	0

## WALLASEY AND WIRRAL.

T. R. Bulley, Esq. ... ..	1	1	0
Mrs. T. R. Bulley ... ..	1	1	0
Mrs. G. A. Stallybrass ... ..	0	1	6
Miss Willmer ... ..	0	5	0

## DONATIONS FROM SOCIETIES.

	£	s.	d.
Bangor ... ..	5	0	0
Blackpool ... ..	2	2	0
Colwyn Bay ... ..	5	5	0
Llandudno ... ..	2	2	0
Llangollen ... ..	5	0	0
Liverpool ... ..	10	0	0
Newton-le-Willows ... ..	5	0	5
St. Helens ... ..	2	0	0
Wallasey and Wirral ... ..	5	5	0

**List of Members of Parliament in the Federation area, and  
action taken by them on the Second Reading of the  
Conciliation Bill, March 28th, 1912.**

**(1). In West Lancashire.**

Blackpool	...	W. W. Ashley	...	Voted against.
Bootle	...	A. Bonar Law	...	Voted for.
Chorley	...	Lord Balcarres	...	Voted against.
LIVERPOOL—	Abercromby	Col. Chaloner	...	Voted against.
	East Toxteth	E. Marshall Hall, K.C.	...	Voted for.
	Everton	J. S. Harwood-Banner	...	Paired for.
	Exchange	Leslie Scott, K.C.	...	Voted against.
	Kirkdale	Col. Kyffin-Taylor	...	Paired for.
	Scotland	T. P. O'Connor	...	Abstained.
	Walton	F. E. Smith, K.C.	...	Voted against.
	West Derby	W. Watson Rutherford	...	Voted for.
	West Toxteth	R. P. Houston	...	*Abstained.
Newton	...	Viscount Wolmer	...	Voted for.
Ormskirk	...	Hon. Arthur Stanley	...	Paired against.
Preston	...	Major Hon. A. Stanley	...	Voted against.
		A. A. Tobin, K.C.	...	Voted against.
Southport	...	Major G. D. White	...	Voted for.
St. Helens	...	R. P. W. Swift, K.C.	...	Voted for.
Warrington	...	Harold Smith	...	Voted against.
Widnes	...	Col. Hall Walker	...	Paired against.

**(2). In West Cheshire.**

Birkenhead	...	A. Bigland	...	Voted against.
Chester	...	R. Yerburch	...	Abstained.
Eddisbury	...	H. Barnston	...	Voted against.
Wirral	...	Gershom Stewart	...	Voted against.

**(3). In North Wales.**

Anglesey	...	Ellis Griffith, K.C.	...	Voted for.
Carnarvonshire	(Arfon)	W. Jones	...	Voted for.
Do.	(Eifion)	Ellis W. Davies	...	Abstained.
Carnarvon Boroughs	...	D. Lloyd George	...	Voted for.
Denbighshire	(West)	Sir J. H. Roberts	...	Voted for.
Do.	(East)	E. T. John	...	Voted for.
Denbigh Boroughs	...	Hon. W. Ormesby-Gore	...	Voted for.
Flintshire	...	J. H. Lewis	...	Voted for.
Flint Boroughs	...	J. W. Summers	...	Abstained.
Merionethshire	...	Haydn Jones	...	Voted for.
Montgomeryshire	...	D. Davies	...	Voted against.
Montgomery Boroughs	...	Col. E. Pryce-Jones	...	Voted for.



