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NATIONAL UNION
OF
WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES.
WEST RIDING FEDERATION.

ANNUAL REPORT
AND
BALANCE-SHEET.

Presented at the Annual Meeting
held April 7th, 1913.

WEST RIDING FEDERATION.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

President : MISS SIDDON, Honley House, Huddersfield.

Chairman : Miss I. O. FORD, Adel Grange, Leeds.

Vice-Chairman : Mrs. BERNHEIM, 9, Carlton Drive, Heaton, Bradford.

Hon. Treasurer : Miss BEAUMONT, Hatfield Hall, Wakefield.

Hon. Press Secretary : Miss A. M. FOSTER, Oakwood Nook, Roundhay, Leeds.

Common Cause Secretary : Mrs. HALL, Oaklands, Collegiate Crescent, Sheffield.

ACKWORTH—Miss ANDREWS.	KEIGHLEY—Miss ROBINSON.
BARNESLEY—Miss WRAY.	LEEDS { Mrs. THORNTON.
BINGLEY—Miss SCOTT.	{ Mrs. HESS.
BRADFORD { Mrs. RILEY.	NORMANTON—Mrs. JOHNSON.
{ Mrs. ROBINSON.	ROTHERHAM—Mrs. OLDHAM.
DEWSBURY—Mrs. KERSLAKE.	SHEFFIELD { Mrs. GILL.
DONCASTER—Mrs. AUSTEN.	{ Mrs. HALL.
GOOLE—Mrs. PARKER.	SHIPLEY—Miss BALDREY.
HOLMFIRTH—Miss PRESTON.	SOWERBY BRIDGE—Mrs. JOHNSON.
HUDDERSFIELD { Mrs. HOYLE.	WAKEFIELD { Mrs. HINDMARSH.
{ Mrs. STUDDARD.	{ Miss ROGERS.
ILKLEY—Mrs. GEO. FOSTER.	

Organising Secretary : Mrs. RENTON, Women's Suffrage Office, 9, Park Lane, Leeds.

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AFFILIATED SOCIETIES.

SOCIETY.	HON. SECRETARY.
ACKWORTH	Miss ANDREWS, Ackworth School, nr. Pontefract.
BARNSELY	Miss WRAY, Fairfield House, Barnsley.
BINGLEY	Miss MOULDEN, 100, Main Street, Bingley.
BRADFORD	Mrs. RILEY, 2, Hollings Mount, Bradford.
DEWSBURY	Misses LAW and PICKERSGILL, Wheelwright Grammar School, Dewsbury.
DONCASTER	Miss HUTCHINSON, Alverley, Doncaster.
GOOLE	Mrs. PARKER, Fountayne Street, Goole.
HOLMFIRTH	Miss M. PRESTON, Oaklands, Thongsbridge, nr. Huddersfield.
HUDDERSFIELD	Mrs. STUDDARD, 44, Springwood Street, Huddersfield.
ILKLEY	Mrs. GEORGE FOSTER, Greenbank, Mydellton, Ilkley.
KEIGHLEY	Miss ROBINSON, Cote House, Cross Hills, Keighley.
LEEDS	Mrs. THORNTON, Bramdean, Headingley, Leeds.
NORMANTON	Miss M. PEARSON, Yorke Villas, Normanton.
ROTHERHAM	Mrs. OLDHAM, 21, Boston Castle Grove, Rotherham.
SHEFFIELD	Mrs. GILL, 19, Southgrove Road, Sheffield.
SHIPLEY	Miss BALDREY, 19, Norwood Road, Shipley.
WAKEFIELD	Miss BEAUMONT, Hatfeild Hall, Wakefield.

NON-AFFILIATED SOCIETY.

SOWERBY BRIDGE	Mrs. JOHNSON, School House, Sowerby, Sowerby Bridge.
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RULES.

1 The name of the Federation shall be the "WEST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES."

2 The area of the Federation shall consist of the constituencies of—

Barnsley,	Hallamshire,	Pudsey,
Barkston Ash,	Keighley,	Rotherham,
Bradford,	Leeds,	Sheffield,
Doncaster,	Morley,	Skipton,
Dewsbury,	Normanton,	Shipley,
Elland,	Otley,	Sowerby Bridge,
Holmfirth,	Osgoldcross,	Wakefield.
Halifax,	Pontefract,	

3 Federation is open to all Women's Suffrage Societies in this area which are affiliated to the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies. Federated Societies shall pay 10% of the amount of their Annual Subscriptions, except in such cases as where the income is less than £10, when a Society shall pay a minimum Federation Fee of 10s.

4 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 area, and affiliated to the National Union.

5 The Representative Members shall be appointed annually by the Societies on the following basis:—For the first fifty members there shall be one Representative, and one more for every additional one hundred members.

6 The Federation Committee shall meet once a quarter, and more often if required, the Meetings to be in the Suffrage Office in Leeds.

7 The Accounts shall be audited annually by an Auditor or Auditors appointed by the Committee.

8 The Financial Year shall begin in April.

9 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.

GENERAL REPORT.

(a) POLITICAL.

SINCE the last Annual Report was issued, the political situation has undergone a radical alteration. We were then hopefully looking forward to the introduction of the Franchise Reform Bill, which, according to the Prime Minister's promise to the Suffrage Deputation introduced by Mrs. Fawcett, on November 17th, 1911, should be open to amendment to include women; the Prime Minister promised further that the Government, as a Government, would not oppose such an amendment, and that if it were once passed by the House of Commons, it should thenceforward form an integral part of the Bill, and be defended by the Government in all its subsequent stages. Responsible members of the Cabinet assured us that this was the best chance ever afforded to our cause, and in consequence neither time, money, nor energy were spared in our endeavour to secure the passing of some measure of enfranchisement for women. Fully to understand the present position, we must turn back to May, 1912, when the National Union Council resolved, because party interests are so often placed before personal pledges, to consider the attitude of the party to which a candidate belonged as well as his personal views.

The only party in the House which makes Women's Suffrage a plank in its platform is the Labour Party; a special fund, therefore, was started, with the object of supporting the Labour candidate in all three-cornered contests, provided that he is personally satisfactory, and that he is not opposing a Liberal who has proved himself a really valuable friend of the Suffrage Cause.

The West Riding Federation had in its area the first bye-election in which the new policy and the special Election Fighting Fund were brought into operation. The Holmfirth constituency fell vacant on the resignation of Mr. Henry Wilson; three candidates were quickly in the field, and the National Union decided at once to support Mr. Lunn, the Labour Candidate, who was a convinced suffragist.

Miss Clarkson, who was at that time the West Riding Organiser, undertook the control of the campaign, committee rooms were taken, a number of meetings were held, and owing to the generosity of Miss Siddon and others, work was much facilitated by the hire of taxis. We can look back on this important bye-election with great satisfaction, for our speakers and workers undoubtedly made a great impression on the constituency. Voluntary support was liberally supplied. It is impossible here to mention individual names, but we must record our gratitude not only to members

of our own Federation, but also to other workers, and particularly to those of the Manchester and District Federation. Other bye-elections have been fought on these lines at Crewe, Hanley, Midlothian, and recently at Houghton-le-Spring, and the result of our labour has fully justified this policy.

Meantime, we had been working strenuously in this Federation to secure the support of the Members of Parliament in our area for the Women's Suffrage amendment to the Reform Bill. Many deputations were arranged, a Memorial organised by the newly-formed Shipley Society, and innumerable voters' cards were sent from practically every constituency. Our dismay, therefore, was great when the totally unexpected ruling of the Speaker in January, 1913, led to the withdrawal of the Bill.

In answering a question in the House of Commons on the day before the Franchise Bill was to go into Committee, the Speaker announced that if a Women's Suffrage amendment were carried the character of the Bill would be so altered that it might have to be withdrawn, and re-introduced in another form.

It was, of course, impossible to take a vote on the amendments in this state of uncertainty as to what the results of such a vote would be. The Speaker was therefore asked by the Prime Minister to give a definite ruling on the position beforehand, and on Monday, January 27th, he stated that in his opinion the Bill as it stood was not open to amendment to include women; that though the moving of such amendment was technically "in order," its passage would necessitate the withdrawal of the Bill.

It was felt on all sides that the Government could not, under the circumstances, honourably proceed with the Bill, and owing to the fact that they had postponed the Committee stage of the Bill till within ten days of the end of the Session, there was no time for the introduction of a new Bill which would have been accepted by the Speaker. The Prime Minister, finding that he was unable to fulfil the promise he had made to the Suffragists, was under an obligation to offer the nearest equivalent possible under the circumstances. The National Union had asked him to receive a deputation before any public announcement of the Government's intentions were made, but this request was refused, and on Monday, January 27th, immediately after the Speaker's ruling had been obtained, the Prime Minister announced that the Government would withdraw the Franchise Bill, and would give opportunity for the House of Commons to pass a measure of Women's Suffrage next Session in the form of a Private Member's Bill, which, if it passed its second reading, should be guaranteed the necessary time for all its subsequent stages. This cannot be regarded as an adequate redemption of the pledges given by him in November, 1911, as an amendment to the Franchise Bill, if carried, would have

become an integral part of a Government measure, while a Private Member's Bill is open to all those dangers which arise from lack of organised party support and driving power, and will, as Mr. Asquith explained, be open to opposition from the Anti-Suffrage members of the Government through all its stages.

At the National Union Council held last February, it was decided that while not placing any obstacle in the way of the new Bill, we should not spend time and money in working for a measure which, we believe, is fore-doomed to failure, but should rather devote our energies to securing a Government measure. It was felt that this could best be done by concentrating our attack on the Anti-Suffragist element in the Cabinet, and by strengthening that party in the House which, as a party, is pledged to support us. Every legitimate means will be employed to further these objects, and work is being set on foot throughout the country in selected constituencies in preparation for the next General Election.

(b) ORGANISATION.

The Officers of the Federation feel that there is much cause for gratification—whereas when the last Annual Report was published we only numbered 11 Societies, we now number 18.

* The work undertaken by Miss Clarkson at Shipley and Normanton resulted in the formation of a Society in each of those places. Other new Societies are Holmfirth, Rotherham, Doncaster, Ackworth, and Ilkley.

Following on the work done during the bye-election at Holmfirth, with which the National Union Executive was much pleased (and in consequence granted us £25 for expenses), Miss St. John spent some time in the constituency during August. She did not find it possible to form a Society then, but Miss Meikle, who went there later in the year, launched one in the town of Holmfirth. It is hoped it may be possible to start one later at Penistone, and also at Kirkheaton, where Miss I. O. Ford will address two meetings this month.

In the Skipton division meetings were held at Buckden, Kettlewell, Grassington, Burnsall, and Arncliffe. Our thanks must be accorded to Miss Gough, Mrs. and Miss Green, Miss Stack, and Mrs. Robinson, of Shipley, for their able propaganda work which contributed so largely to the success of these meetings. Miss I. O. Ford and Mrs. Parrish were the speakers, and at Kettlewell we were fortunate in having the Rector as chairman. From all these meetings resolutions were sent up to the local M.P.

We must here record how much we owe to the late Mrs. Mollineaux, who was the prime mover in this campaign, and whose death we feel is a most serious loss to our cause.

In September Miss Hilston started work in Rotherham, where the nucleus of a Society, which had been got together by the efforts of Mrs. Earp, required building up in view of the attitude of Mr. Pease, M.P. for the division, who is one of the Anti-Suffrage members of the Cabinet. She prepared the ground excellently for Mrs. Townely, E.F.F. Organiser, who followed, and who has in turn been succeeded by Mrs. Oldham, who is now stationed there for some time, and reports good progress in the work. Excellent meetings have been held at Rotherham, especially those at which Mrs. Swanwick, Miss I. O. Ford, and Miss Margaret Robertson were speakers.

During the winter months spadework has been done at Castleford, Pontefract, Halifax, and Doncaster by Miss Meikle and Miss Allan.

At Doncaster, in the face of considerable difficulties, a Society has been started by Miss Meikle. A drawing-room meeting was held at the house of Mrs. Pickering, the speaker being Mrs. Renton, and this was followed by a most successful public meeting addressed by Miss I. O. Ford, which resulted in a number of new members and increased support for our cause. Over thirty members were enrolled, and at the first members' meeting held on March 10th, over which Mrs. Renton presided, a local committee was formed, and the Society decided to affiliate at once with the National Union.

At Halifax, where Miss Meikle spent some weeks in January, it has not been possible to form a branch as yet, largely owing to peculiar local difficulties. A number of supporters have, however, been got together, and it is hoped a public meeting may be held there later on.

A new Society has just been formed at Ackworth; Miss Andrews' energetic work being responsible for this. The first public meeting is shortly to be held, the speaker being Miss I. O. Ford.

In Ilkley also a promising Society has been started. The Women's Unionist Association asked for a speaker for one of their monthly meetings. Mrs. Renton addressed the members, and a considerable amount of support was secured. Mrs. George Foster kindly gave a drawing-room meeting on March 31st, when over one hundred were present. Mrs. Lomax took the chair, and Miss I. O. Ford and Mrs. Renton were the speakers. At the close of the meeting fifty people joined the Society. Mrs. Foster will act as Hon. Sec., and Mrs. Lomax as Hon. Treas.

Miss Meikle is at present working in Castleford and Pontefract, where we are particularly anxious, in view of the attitude of the respective M.P.s on our question, to form Societies.

Owing to the enormous increase of work to be done in this Federation, it was found necessary to ask the National Union to send us an Organising Secretary. We were unable to afford to employ a Local Secretary as well as an Organising Secretary, and, therefore, Mrs. Bauer most kindly withdrew when Mrs. Renton came to undertake the duties. The Federation owes a debt to Mrs. Bauer for her most valuable work since its formation.

BAZAAR.

A Sale of Work took place at 9, Park Lane, Leeds, in June, in aid of the Funds of the Federation. Nearly all the Societies contributed to this, and stalls were furnished by Leeds, Keighley, Huddersfield, Barnsley, Sheffield, Wakefield, and Bradford.

Miss I. O. Ford had a stall of books, which was extremely popular. The entertainments were successfully organised by Mrs. Thornton, the Leeds Hon. Sec., and Miss Emily Ford contributed some of her famous Yorkshire character sketches. This resulted in a net profit of £123 6s. 4d., all of which the Societies most generously presented to the Federation.

(c) PRESS WORK.

Much attention has been paid to the West Riding Press during the past year.

The *Yorkshire Observer* has advocated our cause in excellent leaders from time to time, and has also allowed correspondence.

The Editor of the *Yorkshire Observer* has expressed himself as being quite in sympathy with the cause. He is always ready to insert a paragraph relative to our speakers and meetings, and to any resolutions which are passed there. The Bradford Society is fortunate in having as a member Mrs. Grattan Newbould, who writes "A Woman's Notes" in the *Yorkshire Observer*. In this capacity she renders invaluable service.

The *Yorkshire Post*, which, unfortunately, remains very Anti-suffrage in its views on our question, has not only given fairer and fuller reports of our meetings than hitherto, but has continued to provide ample opportunities for Suffrage correspondence, of which full advantage has been taken by the West Riding Press Secretary and others. It is, however, a matter of regret that so much space should be given to reports of militancy.

The *Leeds Mercury*, which has frequently held up the Suffrage movement to ridicule, and has made no attempt to distinguish between militant and constitutional Suffragists, recently asked

Miss I. O. Ford and Mrs. Arch. Colquhoun to write Suffrage and Anti-Suffrage articles respectively. From subsequent private correspondence with the Editor, it is hoped that a fairer attitude will be adopted by this paper in the future, and that the withdrawal of our support in the way of advertisements may not continue to be necessary.

The *Sheffield Telegraph* has been well watched by the Sheffield Press Secretary (Mrs. Hall), and though of Anti-Suffrage opinion, has shown itself willing to insert correspondence.

Other West Riding papers have been dealt with by members of the respective local Societies, and special mention should be made of the personal contributions to the Huddersfield Press made by the Huddersfield Secretary (Mrs. Studdard).

Bradford reports that the local Labour paper, *The Pioneer*, is very helpful.

The newspaper Editors and the general public would be much more impressed with the widespread demand for the vote if more correspondents sent letters to the papers, and showed thereby the universality of our movement.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

The past year has shown a much larger financial turnover than the year before—with increase of funds has come increase of activity, and it has been a matter of great difficulty to ensure that the latter should not greatly outrun the former. Without most generous grants from the National Union (£85) and the Election Fighting Funds (£25) our work would have been impossible. Our gratitude for this timely help from headquarters is indeed heart-felt, but it must be confessed that in a large, populous, and wealthy district like the West Riding, this state of dependency is not creditable. We appeal to the sturdy and independent Yorkshire spirit that we know animates our Societies to resolve each and all that there shall be no more of this parasitic position, and that in 1913 we will be more self-supporting. With united effort this can be done. We wish gratefully to acknowledge the splendid work done by the Societies in the Federation at the Bazaar last June, and their self-sacrifice in offering the whole of the proceeds to the Federation. The response to our appeal for the Bazaar was prompt and generous, and for 1913 we do entreat every Society again to make some special effort to raise funds for the Federation, and to realise that they are all equally responsible for the Federation and its pioneer work.

WEST RIDING FEDERATION.

Statement of Income and Expenditure, March 25th, 1912, to April 1st, 1913.

RECEIPTS.	£	s.	d.
Balance in Bank	27	11	11
Cash in hand (Secretary, Mrs. Bauer)	3	16	1½
Grants from National Union	110	0	0
Federation Bazaar Receipts	134	11	10
Affiliation Fees	12	16	0
Subscriptions	3	6	0
Donations	10	17	8
Collections	3	16	10½
Bank Interest	0	7	10
Money returned by Organisers	2	3	7
Sale of Voters' Cards and Discount on Literature	0	11	3
Leeds Stock Exchange Tea	3	8	1
Hire of Federation Decorations	0	7	6
Less	313	14	8
Balance in hand	304	6	2
Audited and found correct,	£	9	8
April 17th, 1913,	E. A. BEAUMONT,	A.C.A.	

PAYMENTS.	£	s.	d.
Organisers and Speakers	137	7	11½
Secretary, Salary	43	16	3
Petty Cash	17	7	8½
Council Meetings Expenses	5	16	7
Treasurer, Petty Cash	5	0	0
Printing, Stationery	6	17	0
Grants and Loans to Societies	16	0	0
Bazaar Expenses	11	5	6
Contribution to N.U. for Organising Secretary	30	0	0
Organiser's Salary, Jan. 6th—March 31st	16	8	0
Literature	2	9	2
Postage Account, Chairman	1	10	0
Common Cause Shares	5	0	0
Organising Secretary, Petty Cash	2	10	0
Delegates' Expenses, July Prov. Council	2	10	0
Cheque Books	0	8	0
£	304	6	2
FLORENCE M. BEAUMONT,			
Hon. Treas.			

AFFILIATION FEES OF SOCIETIES.

Bradford	3	11	0
Leeds	2	15	0
Sheffield	2	0	0
Barnsley	0	10	0
Bingley	0	10	0
Dewsbury	1	0	0
1912-13	0	10	0
Goole	0	10	0
Huddersfield	0	10	0
Keighley	0	10	0
Shipley	0	10	0
Wakefield	0	10	0
£	12	16	0

DONATIONS TO GENERAL FUND.

Miss I. O. Ford	9	10	0
Mrs. Isaac Smith	1	0	0
Miss Dunlop	0	5	0
Mrs. Davison	0	2	8
£	10	17	8

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Miss I. O. Ford	2	0	0
Miss Celia Wray	1	1	0
Miss Beaumont	0	5	0
£	3	6	0

DONATIONS TO BAZAAR FUND.

Miss Siddon	11	0	0
Mrs. Alfred Illingworth	10	10	0
Miss Salt	5	0	0
The Misses Clough	4	0	0
Mrs. Walter Foster	2	0	0
Lady Walton	2	0	0
Miss Atkinson	1	15	0
Mrs. Thornton	1	0	0
£	37	5	0

REPORTS FROM AFFILIATED SOCIETIES.

BARNSLEY. *Hon. Sec.:* Miss WRAY, Fairfield House. Membership, 133.

Several meetings have been held, at which the speakers were Miss Margaret Ashton, Mrs. Parrish, Miss Margaret Robertson, Miss Florence Balgarnie, Mrs. Despard, and Miss I. O. Ford.

The Executive of the Men's Liberal Association passed a resolution protesting against a Reform Bill for Men only.

The Trades and Labour Council passed a strong Women's Suffrage resolution.

Many voters and householders sent post cards to Sir Joseph Walton, M.P. for the division.

In December, £10 3s. 3d. was raised by a jumble sale.

BINGLEY. *Hon. Sec.:* Miss MOULDEN, 100, Main Street. Membership, 45.

A satisfactory meeting was held at which Mrs. Aldersley, Miss Clarkson, and Mr. R. Foster were the principle speakers.

In November, Miss I. O. Ford delighted everyone with her speech, which was most helpful. Mrs. Holmes also made an earnest appeal for support for the cause.

Voters' cards were sent to the local M.P.

BRADFORD. *Hon. Sec.:* Mrs. J. RILEY, 2, Hollings Mount. Membership, 300.

This Society has held eight public meetings as well as weekly "At Homes" at the office, 5, Eldon Place, Manningham Lane. The speakers included the Lady Frances Balfour, Miss Margaret Robertson, Miss Maude Royden, and Miss Muriel Matters.

Deputations have waited on Sir George Scott Robinson, M.P., Sir William Priestley, M.P., and Mr. F. W. Jowett, M.P.

The Society has been very successful in getting into touch with other organisations, and has supplied them with speakers for meetings which they have arranged.

The Women's Labour Group at Horton have passed a resolution in favour of Women's Suffrage.

£50 was raised at a bazaar held in December.

The rent of the office, £20 a year, has been promised by Mrs. Illingworth.

£49 has been raised for the Organisation Fund.

DEWSBURY. *Hon. Secs.:* The Misses LAW, FROST, and PICKERSGILL, Wheelwright Grammar School. Membership, 50.

During the past year several meetings have been held, speakers have been Miss M. Robertson, Mrs. Parrish, Miss Clarkson, and Mrs. Renton. A successful garden party and sale of work was held at Leeds House by kind invitation of Miss Waller.

Local press very satisfactory.

GOOLE. *Hon. Sec.:* Mrs. PARKER, Fontague Street. Membership, 71.

Meetings have been held, at which Mrs. Lucan Davies, Miss Beaumont, Mrs. Kempthorne, Mrs. Parrish, Miss Helen Fraser, and Mrs. Renton have spoken.

A deputation to the Member, Sir J. Compton Rickett, was arranged, but he could not be induced to change his opinion.

HUDDERSFIELD. *Hon. Sec.:* Mrs. STUDDARD, 44, Springwood Street. Membership, 200.

Bi-monthly meetings have been held by the Society, at which Miss Robertson, Mrs. Swanwick, Miss Helen Fraser, and Mrs. Renton have spoken.

Mrs. Studdard, Mrs. Donkersley, Mrs. Lockwood, and Mrs. Laycock have addressed meetings held by the Y.M.C.A. Mutual Improvement Society, Co-operative Guild, and Women's Liberal Association.

The Co-operative Guild, I.L.P., Trades Council, W.L.A., and Liberal Association have passed resolutions in favour of Women's Suffrage.

A deputation waited upon our Member, Mr. Sherwell, who promised to vote for any amendment that would enfranchise women. Five hundred voters' cards were sent to him.

Forty new members have joined the Society during the year.

Several Friends of Women's Suffrage Cards have been signed, but no secretary has been found to undertake to organise this scheme.

KEIGHLEY. *Hon. Sec.:* Miss ROBINSON, Cote House, Cross Hills, Keighley. Membership, 88.

A public meeting was held in November, at which Mrs. Swanwick, Mrs. Newbould, and Rev. L. S. Robinson spoke. Mrs. Parrish has also addressed a meeting of members.

The local Women's Liberal Association, Women's Labour League, Women's Co-operative Guild, B.W.T.A., and I.L.P. have passed resolutions in favour of Women's Suffrage.

A jumble sale was held in March, at which £10 was made.

LEEDS. *Hon. Sec.:* Mrs. THORNTON, Bramdean, Buckingham Road, Headingley. Membership, 341.

Public meetings have been held which have been addressed by Miss Abadam, Miss Robertson, Councillor Margaret Ashton, Sister Mackie, and Miss I. O. Ford.

The Secretaries of the following Trades Unions have sent resolutions in favour of Women's Suffrage to the House of Commons:—Boot and Shoe Union, Clothiers' Union, Amalgamated Union of Engineers, Typographical Society, Printers' Assistants, Clerks' Union, Shop Assistants' Union, Co-operative Employees, Dyers and Finishers.

Several deputations to Members of Parliament have been arranged, and during the six weeks that the Society had a literature stall at the Olympia Exhibition, hundreds of voters' cards were sent to the members representing the five Leeds constituencies.

Many Friends of Women's Suffrage have been enrolled.

A special appeal for funds has enabled the Society to rent and furnish an office at 9, Park Lane.

NORMANTON. *Hon. Sec.:* Miss MARGARET PEARSON, York Villas.

During the year a Society has been formed in Normanton.

Two public meetings have been held, both of which were addressed by Miss I. O. Ford. Mrs. Sanderson and Miss Reed also spoke.

A deputation to Mr. F. Hall, M.P., was arranged, in which members of the Society took part.

ROTHERHAM. *Hon. Sec.:* Mrs. OLDHAM, 21, Boston Castle Grove. Membership, 59.

Mrs. Swanwick, Mrs. Annot Robinson, Miss I. O. Ford, and Miss Margaret Robertson have spoken at public meetings, and members' meetings have been held weekly.

Resolutions in favour of Women's Suffrage have been passed by the Stone Grate Workers, Women's Co-operative Guild, and other Societies.

A deputation of five working men, led by Mr. Hutchinson, went to ask Mr. Pease at the House of Commons to vote for the Grey amendment to the Reform Bill, or at least to abstain from voting against it. Mr. Pease would promise nothing, and avowed himself a strong Anti-Suffragist.

SHEFFIELD. *Hon. Sec.:* Mrs. F. B. GILL, 19, South Grove Road. Membership, 183.

Public meetings have been addressed by Miss Helen Fraser, Miss Margaret Robertson, Miss Helen Sturge, Lord Lytton, Councillors Arthur Neal and Samuel Roberts, and Professor A. R. Skemp.

Garden Meetings were given in the summer by Mrs. Hull and Mrs. C. M. Doncaster.

Members' "At Homes" were held in October and November, and during December a series of out-door meetings were arranged outside the big works in the dinner hour, and in various parts of the city in the evenings.

SHIPLEY. *Hon. Sec.:* Miss BALDREY, 19, Norwood Road. Membership, 33.

Two public meetings have been held by this Society, at which Miss Margaret Ashton and Miss Abadam spoke.

A memorial to the Member, which was signed by about 120 local people, was organised in January, and a voters' post card canvass undertaken at the same time.

Mrs. Parrish and Miss I. O. Ford have also addressed meetings. The Friends of Women's Suffrage scheme is being started by this Society.

SOWERBY BRIDGE. *Hon. Sec.:* Mrs. JOHNSON, School House, Sowerby. Membership, 25.

Miss Margaret Ashton was the speaker at a public meeting held by this Society.

The local Trades Unions have passed resolutions in favour of Women's Suffrage, and the local branch of the Women's Co-operative Guild also forwarded a resolution to the Member, at the instigation of the Society.

WAKEFIELD. *Hon. Sec.:* Miss BEAUMONT, Hatfeild Hall. Membership, 185.

Miss Maude Royden, Miss Abadam, Miss Margaret Robertson, Mrs. Despard, Mrs. Parrish, and Mrs. Renton have addressed meetings during the year. Miss I. O. Ford has spoken at meetings of the Women's Co-operative Guild, and at a debate which was held at the Y.M.C.A. by invitation, Mrs. Grattan Newbould spoke for the motion in favour of Women's Suffrage, which was carried.

A post card canvass was undertaken, and Mr. Marshall, M.P., promised both in a letter to the W.S.S. Secretary and also to a deputation from the Women's Liberal Federation to support all the Suffrage amendments.

Strong Suffrage resolutions have been passed by the following Societies and Unions:—Trades and Labour Council, Trades and Labour Club Committee, Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants Branch No. 1 and Branch No. 2, Shop Assistants' Union, Workers' Union, Operative Bricklayers' Union, Corporation Employees' Union, National Asylum Workers' Union, United Kingdom Postal Clerks, Postmen's Federation, Railway Women's Guild, Amalgamated Society of Engineers.

The Friends of Women's Suffrage scheme has just been begun and about 140 friends are now enrolled.

A whist party held in December to raise funds was very successful.