

ask
Sept. 15-15.

N. U. Federations
N. E. Federation
Ann Rep 14-15

National Union
of Women's Suffrage Societies.

NORTH EASTERN
FEDERATION
OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE
SOCIETIES.

FAWCETT COLLECTION

Fifth
Annual Report,
April, 1915.

P

PAMPHLET

Newcastle-upon-Tyne:
T. M. Grierson, Printer, Ellison Buildings, Ellison Place.

324.623060428 NAT

Executive Committee.

1915-1916.

Chairman :

DR. ETHEL WILLIAMS,
3, Osborne Terrace, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Hon. Secretary and Treasurer :

MISS HARDCASTLE, M.A.,
3, Osborne Terrace, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Hon. Press Secretary :

MRS. PRICE,
135, Sandyford Road, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Friends of Women's Suffrage Hon. Secretary :

MRS. ANGUS WILKINSON,
Claremont, Westerhope.

"Common Cause" Correspondent :

DR. MABEL CAMPBELL,
2, Graingerville South, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Representatives of Societies :

ANNFIELD PLAIN.—Mrs. Armstrong.
BIRTLEY.—Mrs. Gilliland, Mrs. Johnson.
BISHOP AUCKLAND.—Mrs. Milner, Mrs. Read.
CONSETT.—Mrs. Jameson.
DARLINGTON.—Miss Lucas, Mrs. Haward, Mrs. Smithson,
Miss Woodhead.
DURHAM.—Mrs. Brown, Mrs. How, Mrs. Potts.
EASINGTON.—Mrs. Lawson.
GATESHEAD.—Miss Ruth Dodds, Miss Stewart, Miss Temperley.
HETTON.—Mrs. Parker.
HEXHAM.—Mrs. Lamb, Mrs. Walton.
HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING.—Mrs. Atkinson.
JARROW.—Mrs. Gunn.

X120667982
324.623060428
3609232066

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE—Continued.

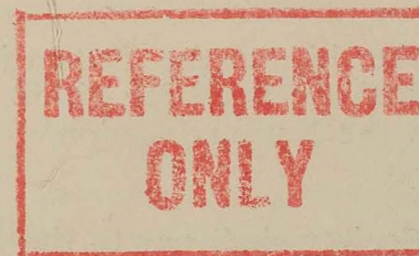
MIDDLETON.—Mrs. Beadle.
MORPETH.—Miss Wood.
NEWCASTLE.—Miss Andrew, Miss Newbigin, Mrs. Stuart,
Mrs. J. C. P. Thompson.
OUSTON.—Mrs. Hare.
SACRISTON.—Mrs. Richardson.
SEAHAM.—Miss Hunter.
SHILDON.—Mrs. Brown, Mrs. Martindale, Miss Wild.
SHOTLEY BRIDGE.—Miss Peile.
SOUTH SHIELDS.—Mrs Lothian.
S. E. WANSBECK.—Mrs. Campbell.
STANLEY.—Miss Milliard.
STOCKTON.—Mrs. Bensted, Miss Roger.
SUNDERLAND.—Mrs. Walford Common, Mrs. Johnson,
Miss Milbanke, Mrs. Rudd.
TYNEMOUTH.—Miss Balleny.
WALKER.—Mrs. Dunn.
WASHINGTON & USWORTH.—Mrs. Scholefield.
WEST HARTLEPOOL.—Miss Durnford.

Emergency Sub-Committee :

MRS. WALFORD COMMON. MISS PEILE.
MRS. DUNN. DR. ETHEL WILLIAMS
MISS HARDCASTLE (*ex officio*). (*ex officio*).

Hon. Auditor :

J. T. DUNN, Esq., D.Sc.



RULES.

- Title.** 1. The title shall be the "North Eastern Federation of Women's Suffrage Societies."
- Area.** 2. The area of the Federation shall be the counties of Northumberland and Durham, comprising the constituencies of:—
 (County Divisions) Berwick, Hexham, Wansbeck, Tyneside, Jarrow, Chester-le-Street, Houghton-le-Spring, North West Durham, Mid-Durham, South East Durham, Bishop Auckland, Barnard Castle.
 (Boroughs) Morpeth, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Tynemouth, Darlington, Durham, Gateshead, Hartlepool, South Shields, Stockton, Sunderland.
- Object.** 3. To obtain the Parliamentary franchise for women on the same terms as it is or may be granted to men.
- Work.** 4. To promote the formation of new Societies in its area.
 To perfect existing organisation.
 To arrange joint meetings, and generally to secure co-operation among Societies in its area.
- Methods.** 5. The methods of the Federation shall be constitutional.
- Membership** 6. Membership of the Federation is open to all Women's Suffrage Societies within its area which are affiliated to the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.
 Each Society shall pay to the Federation 12½% of its nett income. This sum to be paid quarterly, on May 1st, August 1st, November 1st and February 1st.

Federation Committee.

7. The Members of the Federation Committee shall be appointed annually by the Societies. Casual vacancies shall also be filled by the Societies. Each Society shall be entitled to appoint Federation Committee Members as follows:—

From 20 to 50 Members	.	1	Committee Member.
„ 51 to 100	„	2	„ „
„ 101 to 200	„	3	„ „
Above 200	„	4	„ „

as a maximum number.

Press Secretary, "Common Cause" Secretary and "Friends" Secretary, shall be *ex-officio* members of Committee.

Each Society shall also be entitled to send one of its Members as a proxy in the absence of any one of the Federation Committee Members appointed by it.

Financial Year.

8. The Financial Year shall end in April.

Committee Meetings.

9. The Federation Committee shall meet twice a year and more often if required. The travelling expenses of the Committee Members shall be pooled and divided among the Societies in proportion to the number of Committee Members in attendance. Notice of the time and place of meeting shall be sent to the Hon. Secretary of each Society at least three weeks before the meeting. Notice of business to be transacted at a meeting must be sent by the Hon. Secretaries of Societies to the Hon. Secretary of the Federation fourteen days before the meeting; the Hon. Secretary of the Federation shall make the Agenda and send it to the Members of the Committee ten days before the meeting. Business for which urgency is voted may also be considered.

Special Committee Meetings. By-Elections.

10. In the event of a By-Election occurring within the area, a Special Meeting of the Federation Committee may be summoned at twenty-four hours' notice by the Hon. Secretary, such meeting to be held, if possible, in the constituency concerned.

E.F.F. Work.

11. Before E.F.F. work is begun in favour of any political candidate, the situation shall be fully discussed at a Federation Committee Meeting, in order that all the Societies may be in touch with that work, and, where possible, co-operate in it. Further, in cases where such work is undertaken at short notice, an urgency meeting of the Federation Committee shall be called.

**Special
Committee
Meetings.**

12. Any other Special Committee Meeting may be summoned at the request of three members at three days' notice.

**First
Committee
Meeting.**

13. At the first meeting after the beginning of the financial year, the Treasurer shall submit a financial statement, the Committee shall elect its Chairman, Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, an Hon. Financial Secretary, Press Secretary, "Common Cause" Secretary, and "Friends" Secretary, shall co-opt a member of the N.U. Executive Committee, and shall elect three of its members to serve as representatives on the Provincial Conference.

Quorum.

14. Five shall form a quorum for ordinary meetings of the Committee, three for special meetings. If less than a quorum be present only unopposed business may proceed.

**Sub-
Committees.**

15. The Committee shall have power to appoint sub-committees when necessary. The out-of-pocket expenses of their members being chargeable to the Federation Fund.

Organisers.

16. The Federation Committee shall in general be responsible for directing the work and paying the expenses, board and lodging of the Organisers employed by the Federation, but while they are working on behalf of any affiliated Society, that Society shall be solely responsible for their working expenses, board and lodging.

**Alteration
of Rules.**

17. These Rules may be altered when required provided that any amendment be included in the written agenda.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1914-15.

The record of the fifth year's work of the North Eastern Federation consists of two absolutely distinct parts. During the first three months (viz., May, June and July, 1914) the activities and methods of the last four years were in full swing; our Societies, for the first time, made a joint effort to obtain funds for the Federation by an Exhibition and Sale of Women's Work; the Active Service League, under the energetic leadership of Miss Beaver, carried on an active campaign in the country districts, and the reservation of a platform at the Miners' Gala, in Durham, gave evidence of our growing political influence. The only change in our staff of organisers had taken place in June, when the Committee received, with great regret, the resignation of Miss I. S. A. Beaver, who desired more responsibility than it was possible to give her under existing conditions. A new organiser, Miss Lawson, was appointed at once, to begin work in the autumn.

Then came the outbreak of the war, and the immediate response of all Societies to the message from the National Union Executive authorizing us to divert our energies to the "help of those who will be the sufferers from the economic and industrial dislocation caused by the war." The records of the individual Societies tell much of this work in detail: their problem was a comparatively simple one, for their workers, except in the case of Newcastle, were all volunteers, eager to help in the national crisis, and it only needed to point out the advantage to our Cause in undertaking responsibilities in their corporate capacity as Suffrage Societies for this idea to be acted upon. In the case of the Federation, however (and also in the Newcastle Society) the further question presented itself:—Should we continue to employ the band of highly skilled paid workers whom we had collected during the past four years? The answer, as shown by events, is significant, bringing out the fact that the women suffragists of our area regard their organisation, not only as a weapon for forcing their demand for the vote, but also as a means of fulfilling their special responsibilities as women to the nation.

At the first meeting of the Finance Committee, after the declaration of war, Miss Peile turned her loan of £220 to the Federation Fund into a gift, and this generous act relieved us of the immediate necessity of diminishing our staff; an appeal sent out to individuals and Societies, in October, brought in the further amount of £57, together with an anonymous gift of £25.

We were thus enabled to give Miss Lawson's services during the autumn to the Northumberland, Newcastle and Tyneside Belgian Refugee Committee, where a really competent whole time worker was urgently needed to act as Hon. Secretary to the Clothing Sub-Committee, and to the Investigation Sub-Committee, and as Assistant Hon. Secretary to the Newcastle Sub-Committee.

Miss Gordon was specially asked for to act as Hon. Secretary and Treasurer to the Northumberland County Women's Employment Committee, as soon as it was formed, under the presidency of Lady Allendale, and chairmanship of Lady Howick, and with the valuable assistance of Miss Constance Holmes as teacher, she started a workshop in North Shields for girls in the net-making trade who had been thrown out of work. She also initiated and carried out a scheme whereby individual women, who were in need owing to the war, in various parts of the county, were supplied with orders for sewing and knitting.

Miss Sheard, who returned from her belated summer holiday in October, was at once sent to Gateshead, where she is well known, to act as Hon. Secretary of the Gateshead Women Workers' Committee, and organised a Work for Women Office and a Soldiers' Visitors' Welcome.

Miss Dring, whose work has always been in County Durham, began by collecting information about unemployment in that county, and with the proceeds (£14) of a Flower Sale at Consett, set up a workshop at Washington, where the pits had been working very badly, causing distress in the miners' families. This workroom gave employment to a varying number of girls for about five months, both machine and hand knitters; six or seven girls have become proficient. The machines were bought by special donations amounting to £23 10s. 0d.

Miss St. John was recalled from her holiday, in October, to take over the Hon. Secretaryship of the Women's Committee of the Newcastle and District Patriots' League of Honour. This organisation was formed for the purpose of providing occupation and amusement for soldiers and their relations, both men and women, with a view to coping with some of the difficulties necessarily arising from the presence of thousands of soldiers in the city.

Thus, during the first six months of the war, the organisers of the North Eastern Federation were all actively engaged in various forms of national work, whose claim upon us could not be disregarded. But the months passed, and the terrible fact was gradually forced upon us that the war would probably be long continued, while it also became evident that, owing largely to the presence of armament works, the amount of distress in our area was relatively small and likely to remain so, at any rate until after the war. Under these circumstances, the urgent need

for retaining our organisers diminished, and they were encouraged to look for other work, Miss Ella Westwood was much wanted at home, and resigned in August. Miss Edie Westwood, for whom no special opening had offered itself in the autumn, also left us in October, and has since been working under the Association of Infants Consultations and Schools for Mothers. The work of the Newcastle and District Patriots' League of Honour turned out to be rather different from what was originally contemplated, and the Committee withdrew Miss St. John in January. She at once found a post with the Patrol Committee, in Scotland. Miss Lawson received an excellent offer from America, in January, and her resignation from the work of the Northumberland, Newcastle and Tyneside Belgian Refugee Committee was tendered at the beginning of the year; the Committee under whom she had served passed a cordial vote of thanks to the North Eastern Federation for the excellent work she had done. Miss Sheard remained in Gateshead until Easter, when she had an opportunity of returning to her former position in the teaching profession. Miss Gordon's health unfortunately gave way at the close of the year, and she asked and obtained leave of absence for three months without salary. Miss Dring most kindly sprang into the breach, and carried on the work of the Northumberland County Women's Employment Committee, until she was summoned home, in March, by urgent family business. Miss Gordon, who had in the interval found congenial work under the Women's Patriotic Service League, in Edinburgh, resigned the post of Organising Secretary at the end of March, and Miss Dring, taking a long looked for opportunity of fitting herself to stand for the Registration Agent Examination, regretfully declined the offer of the Committee to return in June as sole organiser of the Federation.

The end of our financial year finds us, therefore, dispensing, for the time being, with the services of our whole staff of organisers. To them, one and all, we owe a debt of gratitude, but more especially to Miss Gordon, of whom it is literally true that "the Federation is the work of her hands," and to whom we can only say, in the words of the resolution which accepted her resignation, that "we are keenly cognisant of the very valuable work she has done for the Federation during the last five years, and hope that more peaceful times may see us all working together again at a not very distant future."

At a Special Federation Committee Meeting (held on May 4th, but counting with the present year) called to consider the crisis in the National Union, it was decided to ask the Newcastle Society to allow their Organising Secretary, Miss Andrew, to work half time for the Federation, pending the appointment of a whole time organiser, and this arrangement has been carried out.

Your Committee have to record, with great regret, that

Miss Alice Robson is resigning the post of Hon. Financial Secretary. Since Miss Stevenson resigned, more than a year ago, Miss Robson has kindly undertaken all the duties of Treasurer to the Federation, and attended the Finance and Federation Committees regularly, in spite of the fatiguing journey from Whitby which this has involved. Our most grateful thanks are due to her for continuing her work for our Federation so long after her removal to Yorkshire.

Your Committee wish to record their thanks to those who have lightened our financial responsibility in providing hospitality for speakers and organisers, viz.: Mrs. Dunn (Gateshead), Mrs. Denham (Darlington), Miss Emley (Gateshead), Mrs. Haward (Darlington), Mrs. Moysey (Gateshead), Miss Stevenson (Newcastle), Miss Temperley (Gateshead), Mrs. J. C. P. Thompson (Newcastle), Mrs. Spence Watson (Gateshead), and to Dr. Williams and Miss Hardcastle, who have given continuous hospitality throughout the year, at one time having as many as three organisers together.

Your Committee desire also to record their thanks to the Honorary Auditor, Dr. Dunn, and to Mr. and Mrs. Graham Thompson, who have rendered valuable help in undertaking the entire duplicating of the Federation Minutes.

Exhibition and Sale of Women's Handicrafts.

The objects of this Exhibition and Sale were two-fold; first, to raise money for the Federation Fund and, secondly, to arouse interest in the handicrafts and industries of women. The Exhibition was held in Newcastle, on May 6th, 7th, 8th and 9th, and resulted in the sum of £241 11s. 6d. being handed over to the Federation Fund. Not only was it a financial success but very beautiful exhibits were received from all over the country, showing the high standard of women's work which has been attained.

The Opening Ceremony on the first day was performed by Miss Cecile Barclay, who was playing at one of the local theatres, and very kindly came to the help of the Committee at very short notice. The chair was taken by Sir James Douglas. The opener on the second day was the Viscountess Howick, while Dr. Ethel Williams was in the chair.

The thanks of the Committee are due to all who helped to make the Exhibition a success, and especially to the Misses Ethel and Hetty Page, who undertook the entire arrangements for the excellent concerts which were given on three of the days; to Madam Steenberg who arranged a very successful "Grieg Evening"; to members of the Sunderland Society who gave a performance of "Press Cuttings," and organised a party of children who gave an exhibition of Old English

Country Dances; and to Miss Lily Clay for the admirable manner in which she carried out the whole of the arrangements of the Loan Collection; and to Lady Runciman who lent us the beautiful plants which decorated the platform.

Active Service Campaign.

The Active Service League, under the leadership of Miss I. S. A. Beaver, carried on a vigorous campaign during the months of June and July. The object of the campaign was to ensure that before the General Election every village in the area should have heard a Suffrage speaker at least once. Over 2,000 copies of the "Common Cause" were sold, and more than 1,900 "Friends" Cards signed. Meetings were held in the following places.

BARNARD CASTLE CONSTITUENCY.

Barnard Castle.	Frosterley.	Tow Law.
Butterknowle.	Hamsterley.	West Auckland.
Cockfield.	Howden-le-Wear.	Witton Park.
Copley.	Middleton-in-Teesdale.	Witton-le-Wear.
Crook.	Staindrop.	Wolsingham.
Etherley.	Stanhope.	St. John's Chapel.
Evenwood.	Sunniside.	

BERWICK CONSTITUENCY.

Alnmouth.	Belford.	Norham.
Alnwick.	Chatton.	Seahouses.
Bamburgh.	Embleton.	Wooler.

CHESTER-LE-STREET CONSTITUENCY.

Blaydon.	Greenside.	Ryton.
Chopwell.	Kibblesworth.	Whickham.
Crawcrook.	High Spen.	Winlaton.

HEXHAM CONSTITUENCY.

Acomb.	Corbridge.	Hexham.
Allendale.	Dilston.	Humshaugh.
Bardon Mill.	Fourstones.	Mickley.
Barrasford.	Haltwhistle.	Ovingham.
Bellingham.	Haydon Bridge.	Prudhoe.

SOUTH EAST DURHAM CONSTITUENCY.

Aycliffe.	Croft.	Houghton-le-Skerne.
Blackhall.	Easington Colliery.	Hurworth.
Burradon.	Gainford.	New Seaham.
Calbury.	Hetton (East)	Quarrington Hill.
Castle Eden.	Harrowgate Hill.	Trimdon Grange.
Cockerton.	Heighington.	Wingate.
Coniscliffe (High & Low).		

WANSBECK DIVISION.

Acklington.	Bebside.	Seaton Delaval.
Amble.	Dudley.	Seghill.
Broomhill.	Backworth.	

Speakers' Tours.

Until the outbreak of war put a stop to our usual propaganda, the following tours were conducted in the Federation by National Union Speakers.

At the beginning of May, Miss Margaret Robertson came to us and spoke at Chopwell, Ouston, Stanley, Washington, Silksworth, Hetton, South Shields. She returned in June to take part in a joint campaign with the Bishop Auckland Labour Party and addressed meetings at Bishop Auckland, Eldon Lane, Leeholme, Spennymoor, Witton Park.

Miss Alice Low came to us in June and spoke at Alnmouth, New Washington, Burnopfield, Durham, Newcastle, Walker, Wallsend and Darlington.

FIFTH ANNUAL MEETING,

HELD ON TUESDAY, JUNE 29TH.

The above Report was read and adopted. The Chairman, Dr. Ethel Williams, asked and received permission to send a message of deep sympathy to the relatives of Miss Lily Clay, who lost her life in the sinking of the Lusitania, on May 7th.

In consequence of the findings of the Special Council of the National Union, held on June 17th and 18th, the following recommendations were adopted.

1. That at present no organiser be appointed.
2. That Miss Burnip be given a month's notice.
3. That the Federation Committee does not meet again until further notice.

Further, that as Miss Andrew and Miss Burnip will be working for other organisations in the area, arrangements be made by which their services can be requisitioned by the Emergency Committee if need arises.

REPORTS OF SOCIETIES.

ANNFIELD PLAIN.

Hon. Secretary: Mrs. Arthur Gibbon, 21, Edward Terrace, New Kyo, Annfield Plain.

Hon. Treasurer: Mrs. Murray, Clavering Place, Annfield Plain.

Since the outbreak of war, several Social Evenings have been held, and proceeds given to Local Relief Funds.

BIRTLEY.

Chairman: Mrs. Farndale, The Avenue, Birtley.

Hon. Secretary: Mrs. Johnson, 3, Esk Terrace, Birtley.

Hon. Treasurer: Mrs. Gilliland, Mitchell Street, Birtley.

The three officers of the Society are members of the Working Party Committee in connection with the Emergency Hospital, and many of the members are working for this Committee. The Society is also represented on the Relief Committee, and members are engaged in various forms of relief work.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.

President: Mrs. Chapman, Workhouse, Bishop Auckland.

Hon. Treasurer: Mrs. Milner, Cornforth House, Salisbury Place, Bishop Auckland.

Number of members, 50. Income, £5 3s. 3d.

At the outbreak of war, the Society responded to the call of Headquarters, and called together a meeting of all Women's Organisations, when it was decided that all should work together for the relief of distress caused by the war. At the request of the organised women, a Town's Meeting was held, and Town's Committees formed. Several members of the Society are serving on these Committees, while two members, Mrs. Spoor and Mrs. Milner, are working as "heads" on the Women's Employment (needlework) Committee.

CONSETT & BLACKHILL.

Chairman: Miss Peile, Greenwood, Shotley Bridge

Hon. Secretary: Mrs. Jameson, 32, Roger Street, Blackhill.

Hon. Treasurer: Mrs. Brown, Sidney House, Consett.

Number of members, 33. Income, £2 7s. 6d.

The Society has been extremely active in the work of relieving distress since the outbreak of war. Several members of the Society are on various War Fund Committees, while the

Chairman is also a member of the Durham County Relief Committee. Sewing meetings have been held and the "tea money" spent on giving employment, sewing and knitting, to workers who had been thrown out of employment by the war. A Flower Day was held in Consett, and resulted in a profit of £14, which was given to the Fund for starting a knitting industry at Washington. Several parcels of clothing have been sent to different War Fund Committees. Members of the Society are also helping in Red Cross and Hospital Work. The following meetings have been held:—

^{1914.}
Aug. 24. Greenwood. *Hostess*, Mrs. Peile. Miss Peile read a paper on "The National Relief Fund."

^{1915.}
April 1. Greenwood. *Hostess*, Mrs. Peile. Mrs. Jameson's Report of Meetings in London, "Women and the Religious Aspect of War and Peace."

DARLINGTON.

President: Frank Smithson, Esq., 24, Milton Street, Darlington.

Chairman of Committee: Councillor Clara Lucas, Field-head, Abbey Road, Darlington.

Hon. Secretary: Miss A. B. Woodhead, Southend Avenue, Darlington.

Hon. Treasurers: Mrs. Baynes, B.A., Polam Hall, Darlington.
Mrs. Haward, 52, Swinburn Rd., Darlington.

Number of members, 220. Income, £29 15s. 10d.

Meetings held—

^{1914.}
May 23. Drawing-room Meeting at Thornbeck. *Hostesses*, Misses Reid and Taylor. *Chair*, Miss Reid. *Speaker*, Miss Alice Low.

June 18. Garden Party at Polam Hall. *Hostess*, Mrs. Baynes. *Chair*, Mrs. A. F. Pease. *Speaker*, Mrs. Renton (Leeds).

The Society also co-operated in the meetings of the Active Service Campaign, organised by the Federation, which were held in the neighbourhood, in July, Miss Lucas as speaker, and members in the distribution of literature and the sale of "Common Causes."

At the outbreak of war, the Society devoted its energies to the work of relieving distress. Several members were elected to the different Relief Committees, Coun. Lucas acting as Chairman of one of the Ward Committees. The Society inaugurated and ran a "Belgian Market," where food could be bought at current prices, and where many difficulties were smoothed away. The financial arrangements were in the capable hands of Mrs. Haward.

On Boxing Day, the "Market" entertained all the Belgians at Polam Hall, kindly lent by Mrs. Baynes; there was a Christmas tree, presents for all, supper and dancing. In addition to this, members have co-operated in a Maternity Centre, which has been opened under the Municipal Authorities, and in Red Cross Work.

DURHAM.

President: Mrs. Jevons, Hatfield Hall, Durham.

Hon. Secretary: Mrs. E. Potts, 4 Church Street, Durham.

Hon. Treasurer: Mrs. How, 20, North Bailey, Durham.

Number of members, 101. Income, £23 3s. 3d.

In addition to the income mentioned above, the Society has raised and handed over to various War Funds, viz.: the Prince of Wales Fund, City Needlework Guild, Belgian Relief Fund, Mothers' and Babies' Welcome, the sum of £30 11s. 0d.

Perhaps the most important work of the Durham Society since the outbreak of war is the organisation of a Maternity Centre. So far the scheme has been financed by voluntary subscriptions, but it is hoped to secure a grant from the Local Government Board in the near future. Weekly sewing meetings have been held, when model garments have been made and sent to the Maternity Centre. Individual members are also engaged in assisting at the Girls' Clubs, the Soldiers' Recreation Clubs, and visiting on behalf of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Families Association.

Meetings held—

^{1914.}
May 25. St. Hild's College. *Hostess*, Miss Christopher. *Speaker*, Miss Alice Low.

June 12. Annual Meeting. Burlison Art Gallery. Address by Mr. Nigel O. Parry, B.A.

Nov. — Inaugural Meeting of Girls' Club. *Speaker*, Miss C. M. Gordon.

Dec. 2. Drawing-room Meeting. *Hostess*, Mrs. How. *Speakers*, Dr. Ethel Williams and Miss Wragge, M.A., on "Women's Work in War Time."

EASINGTON.

Chairman: Mrs Elliott, Haswell.

Hon. Secretary: Miss West, The Rectory, Easington.

Hon. Treasurer: Mrs. Gerven, Easington Village.

Meetings held—

^{1914.}
June 4. Members' Meeting at the Rectory, when Rules and Constitution were adopted.

Since the outbreak of war, members have been serving on

the Women's Committee, and working in connection with the Voluntary Aid Detachment.

GATESHEAD.

President: Mrs. Spence Watson, Bensham Grove, Gateshead.
 Chairman of Committee: Miss Temperley, M.A. 4, Carlton Terrace, Low Fell.
 Hon. Secretary: Miss R. Dodds, Home House, Low Fell.
 Hon. Treasurer: Miss Stewart, 13, Oxford Terrace, Gateshead.
 Number of members, 151. Income, £36 19s. 10d.
 Number of "Friends," 350.

1914.

May — A Jumble Sale was held in the Ely Street Schoolroom, of which Mrs. Armstrong very kindly undertook the management, and the sum of £4 16s. 0d. was raised.
 July 4. Garden Party at Bensham Grove. *Hostess*, Mrs. Spence Watson. *Speaker*, Miss C. M. Gordon.

Members also helped with various open-air meetings in connection with the Active Service Campaign, organised by the North Eastern Federation.

On the outbreak of war, the Society, in a letter to the Mayor, offered its services to the War Distress Relief Committee. Special work undertaken by the Society, was the collection and distribution of children's clothes. About 500 children's garments have been made or given, and of these more than 400 have been distributed.

The usual autumn and spring meetings have been held by the Society. The collection at the Annual Meeting, amounting to about £13, was given to the Scottish Hospital Second Hospital Unit for Serbia. Individual members of the Society are taking part in practically every form of relief work.

GOSFORTH.

Hon. Secretary: Mrs. Stuart, "The Hope," North Avenue, Gosforth.
 Hon. Treasurer: Mrs. Angus Wilkinson, "Claremont," Westerhope.
 Income, £4 12s. 7½d.

At a drawing-room meeting of members at "The Hope," by kind invitation of Mrs. Stuart, it was decided to amalgamate with the Newcastle Society.

HETTON.

Hon. Secretary: Mrs. Parker, 8, Richard Street, Hetton.
 Hon. Treasurer: Mrs. Ferguson, 1, Edith Street, Hetton Downs

Meetings held—

April 20. Miners' Hall. Members and Friends. *Speaker*, Miss Sheard.

At the instance of the Suffrage Society, a meeting of Women's Organisations was called after the outbreak of war, when it was decided to form a Women's Committee, the Secretary of the Suffrage Society being appointed Secretary.

HEXHAM.

President: Mrs. Pumphrey.
 Hon. Secretary: Mrs. J. S. T. Walton, Ingleholme, Stocksfield-on-Tyne.
 Hon. Treasurer, Miss Lowe, Ashcroft. Haltwhistle.
 Number of members, 100. Income, £11 5s. 2d.
 Number of "Friends," 143.

The Society co-operated in the meetings of the Active Service League, which were held in the neighbourhood, in July.

Since the outbreak of war, many members are engaged in Red Cross Work, and several are serving on the various War Relief Committees.

HOUGHTON.

Hon. Secretary: Mrs. Atkinson, 68, Sunderland Street, Houghton.
 Hon. Treasurer: Mrs. Mitchell.

Meetings held—

May 27. Meeting for "Members and Friends." *Hostess*, Mrs. Atkinson. *Speaker*, Miss Andrew.

The Society is well represented on a Women's Committee which was formed on the outbreak of war and which has since been co-opted on to the Parish Council Committee.

JARROW.

Hon. Secretary: Mrs. G. M. Gunn, 21, Bede Burn Road, Jarrow-on-Tyne.
 Hon. Treasurer: Miss A. L. Dickinson, Langholm, Jarrow-on-Tyne.
 Number of members, 35. Income, £11 14s. 7d.

A very successful Sale of Work was held at Fairholme (by kind permission of Mrs. Armstrong) on July 16th, resulting in a profit of £10. *Speaker*, Dr. Ethel Williams.

Members are serving on various Relief Committees, including Committee for establishment of a Maternity Centre. A very successful Soldiers' Club, is unofficially organised by the Society, and is much appreciated by the men.

MORPETH.

Chairman: Mrs. Atkinson.

Hon. Treasurer: Miss Ayre, 1, Howard Terrace, Morpeth.

Number of members, 90. Income, £25.

Number of "Friends," 90.

Individual members are engaged in various forms of Relief work.

NEWCASTLE.

Chairman: Dr. Ethel Williams, 3, Osborne Terrace, Newcastle.

Hon. Treasurer: Miss Dorothea Richardson, 3, Summerhill Grove, Newcastle.

Organising Secretary: Miss Andrew, 2, Graingerville South, Newcastle.

Number of members, 321. Income, £255 19s. 8d.

Number of "Friends," 275.

Meetings held—

- ^{1914.}
 May 26. Lovaine Hall. *Chair*, Miss C. M. Gordon. *Speaker*, Miss Alice Low.
 Oct. 22. 12, Windsor Terrace. *Hostess*, Mrs. Thompson. *Chair*, Mr. Ericsson. *Speaker*, Dr. Ethel Williams.
- ^{1915.}
 Jan. 29. 78, Jesmond Road. Members' Meeting. *Chair*, Mr. J. C. P. Thompson.
 Mar. 26. Barras Bridge Assembly Rooms. *Chair*, Dr. Ethel Williams. *Speaker*, Mrs. Henry Fawcett, LL.D.
 April 6. Barras Bridge Assembly Rooms. *Chair*, Dr. Ethel Williams. *Speaker*, Rev. Wm. Temple.
 April 15. Bible House. *Chair*, Miss E. F. Stevenson. *Speaker*, Dr. Ethel Williams.
 April 29. Bible House. *Chair*, Miss Newbigin. *Speaker*, Miss Phyllis Wragge.
 May 6. Bible House. *Chair*, Miss Newbigin. *Speaker*, Miss E. F. Stevenson.
 May 20. Bible House. *Chair*, Dr. Ethel Williams. *Speaker*, A. H. Dainton, Esq., M.A.

An active open-air campaign was held during June and July, speakers being, Dr. Williams, Miss Gordon, Mrs. Mitchell, Mrs. J. C. P. Thompson, Miss Aitken, Miss Sheard, Dr. Clara Macirone, Miss Andrew, Mr. Price and Mr. Mitchell.

The Society helped with the Exhibition, held on May 6th, 7th, 8th and 9th, 1914, in the Barras Bridge Assembly Rooms. It also held a Jumble Sale, on June 7th, and a Garden Meeting,

addressed by Miss Muriel Matters, was held in "The Willows," by kind permission of Mrs. G. B. Hunter.

At the outbreak of war, the services of the Suffrage organisation were accepted by the Lord Mayor. The Committee initiated the Newcastle Women Workers' Committee, which was composed of representatives of all Women's Organisations. This suspended its work only when an official Women's Employment Sub-Committee of the Lord Mayor's Relief Committee was formed, and all the members of the Women Workers' Committee were co-opted on to the new committee. The Society lent the services of its organiser to act as Hon. Secretary of this Committee, and to organise its employment schemes. These schemes include:

1. A Toy Factory, which has been engaged principally in the making of teddy bears. A large order for a wholesale firm has been obtained for these, and the scheme is now almost self-supporting. Much expense has been saved, as Miss Merz lent "Hope House" as a factory for an indefinite period to the Committee.

2. A Domestic Training Scheme has been successfully worked by the Committee. Twenty young girls were taken from the "live register" of the Juvenile Labour Exchange, and given a three months' training for domestic work. During the period of training, the Lady Mayoress' Fund provided a maintenance wage, part of which the girls returned each week towards the cost of an outfit. The girls were taught by teachers provided by the Education Committee, to make their own outfit, and worked at this from 9—12 a.m. for five days a week for three months. During the same time they attended the Northern Counties School of Cookery, from 2 till 5 p.m. for instruction in cookery, laundry and housewifery. These girls have now been satisfactorily placed by the Juvenile Labour Exchange.

3. An Order Agency has been organised at 51, Blackett Street, lent by the National Political League. Miss Richardson, the Hon. Treasurer, has had complete charge of this. A large number of unemployed needlewomen and small firms who would otherwise have been unable to keep on their workers have been helped through this shop. Large orders for comforts for the troops have been undertaken. Fortunately, the condition of the employment of women in Newcastle is more satisfactory, and the numbers requiring assistance in this way have been greatly reduced.

4. A Lady Mayoress' Work Depôt for mending and renovating old clothes has been opened. All work done here has been distributed through the Soldiers' and Sailors' Association, which undertook to attend to civilian cases also. The women here were paid at the standard of the Queen's Workroom, in London.

OUSTON.

Hon. Secretary: Mrs. Hare, Ouston House, Birtley.
 Hon. Treasurer: Mrs. Sawyer, 50, Dee Street East,
 Perkinsville, Pelton, S.O.

Meetings held—

May 21. Miners' Hall. Inaugural Meeting. *Speaker*, Miss Alice Low.

RYHOPE & SILKSWORTH.

Hon. Secretary: Mrs. Pearson, Co-operative Buildings,
 Ryhope.

Hon. Treasurer: Mrs. Cole, Tunstall Terrace, Silksworth.

On the outbreak of war, at the instance of some of the members of the Society, a very representative Women's Committee was formed. The Secretary, Treasurer and the Work Party Secretary of this Committee are all members of the Society.

SACRISTON.

Chairman: Mrs. Richardson, Bournville, Sacriston.
 Hon. Secretary: Mrs. Beardmore, Prospect House, Sacriston.
 Hon. Treasurer: Mrs. Dunn, Woodside, Sacriston.
 Number of members, 37. Income, £2 1s. 1d.

1914.

May — Meeting in Mrs. Green's Café. *Chair*, Mrs. Richardson.
Speaker, Miss Sheard.

SEAHAM.

Hon. Secretary: Miss Grimes, 31, Byron Terrace,
 New Seaham.

Hon. Treasurer: Mr. Jennings, 20, Lord Street,
 Seaham Harbour.

Meetings held—

May 26. Londonderry Institute. *Speaker*, Miss Sheard.

SHILDON.

Chairman: Mrs. Brown, Hallgarth, Shildon.
 Hon. Secretary: Miss Hall, Belmont House, New Shildon.
 Hon. Treasurer: Mrs. Newton, Wesley Crescent, Shildon.

All three Officers are on the Chief Towns Relief Committee, and members have taken part in house to house canvassing.

The Society gave a donation of £5 to the Prince of Wales Fund.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

Chairman: Viscountess Gort, Hamsterley Hall,
 Rowlands Gill.

Hon. Secretary: Miss Walton Wilson, Derwent Dene,
 Shotley Bridge.

Hon. Treasurer: Miss Nordaby, Hamsterley Hall,
 Rowlands Gill.

Meetings held—

June 5. Members and Friends Drawing-room Meeting at
 "Derwent Dene." *Hostess*, Miss Walton Wilson.
Speaker, Miss C. M. Gordon.

The Society co-operated with the Consett Society in a Flower Day, held in Consett, which resulted in a profit of £14 being handed over to the Fund raised to start a Knitting Work-room in Washington.

SOUTH EAST WANSBECK.

Chairman: Mrs. Campbell, Shellacres, Monkseaton.

Hon. Treasurer: Mrs. Montgomery, Etherley Lodge,
 Monkseaton.

The Society is well represented on all Relief Committees, and working in conjunction with the public bodies. Regular sewing parties have been held, resulting in some hundreds of garments being sent to the Red Cross, French Red Cross Societies, and to civilians in need through the war. The Society contributed £5 to the National War Relief Fund.

STANLEY.

Chairman: Miss Hilda Johnson.

Hon. Secretary: Miss Millard, Inglewood, Tyne Road,
 Stanley.

Hon. Treasurer: Miss Harriss, Gardia Terrace, Stanley.

Meetings held—

1914.
 May 15. Social Evening, Co-operative Hall. *Chair*, Mr. James.

Ambulance Classes were held soon after the outbreak of war, commencing with a membership of 52. The proceeds of fortnightly concerts were handed over to Relief Funds.

STOCKTON.

Hon. Secretary: Miss Brown, Seaham House, Worthing
 Street, Stockton-on-Tees.

Hon. Treasurer: Mrs. Bensted, Glenthorne, Norton-on-Tees.

Number of members, 54. Income, £14 19s. 5½d.

Number of "Friends," 22.

1914.
 Oct. 22. Y.M.C.A. *Chair*, Miss Appleby. *Speaker*, Miss Gordon.
 April 20. Y.M.C.A. *Chair*, Miss Jones. *Speaker*, Dr. Ethel Williams.
 Nov. 27. Y.M.C.A. Entertainment in aid of Women's Unemployment Fund. *Soloist*, Miss D. Davison. *Reciter*, Miss I. Smithson.
1915.
 March 6. Jumble Sale, in Adult Schools, in aid of local Mothers' and Babies' Welcome.

Since the outbreak of war, the Society has been co-operating with the Mothers' and Babies' Welcome, while one member provides invalid food and hot dinners for poor mothers at cost price. Members are also on Relief Committees.

SUNDERLAND.

President: Robert A. Bartram, Esq., J.P.
 Chairman of Committee: Miss Milbanke, South Hill Crescent.
 Hon. Secretary: Mrs. Arthur Johnson, 2, Gray Road.
 Hon. Treasurer: Mrs. Mundella, 11, The Oaks.
 Number of members, 130. Income, £81 5s. 11d.

Soon after the outbreak of war, a letter was sent to the Mayor offering the services of the Society for the relief of distress. Help was immediately asked for by the Soldiers' and Sailors' Association, and members were hard at work, morning, afternoon and night for some considerable time. Some of the members are still engaged on this work. The Society has also started a Mothers' and Babies' Welcome where much valuable work is being done. In answer to an appeal issued early in March, £50 has been raised for the Scottish Women's Hospitals. This sum will equip a bed for a year, to be called the "Sunderland" bed. Excellent Press Work is done by the Society, its Press Secretary, Mrs. Walford Common, sending notes on Women's Work to the editor of the "Sunderland Echo," and a paragraph appears once a week.

TYNEMOUTH.

Chairman: Mrs. Charles, 1, Newcastle Terrace, Tynemouth.
 Hon. Secretary: Miss H. W. Balleny, 5, Northumberland Square, North Shields.
 Hon. Treasurer: Miss Nancy Wilkinson, 54, Beverley Terrace, Cullercoats.
 Number of members, 100.

A very successful entertainment was organised in November, 1914, by the Society's Treasurer and friends, and resulted in a profit of £12.

Members of the Society secured the loan of an empty house thus enabling workshops to be opened by the Northumberland County Women's Employment Committee, and the Queen's Work for Women Fund Committee, for the employment of girls who had been thrown out of work owing to the war, where they were taught toy making, knitting and sewing. Members have also taken an active part in the extension of the Mothers' and Babies' Guild, in the organisation of Soldiers' Concerts, and in the work of Women Patrols.

WALKER.

Hon. Secretary: Miss Ellis, 613, Welbeck Road, Walker.
 Hon. Treasurer: Miss McGowan.

Meetings held—

May 27. Co-operative Hall. *Speaker*, Miss Alice Low.

The Society has organised Whist Drives and Social Evenings, as a result of which substantial sums have been handed over to the various Relief Funds.

WALLSEND.

Hon. Secretary: Mrs. Spencer, The Green, Wallsend, *pro. tem.*
 Hon. Treasurer: Miss Spence, Laburnum Avenue, Wallsend.

Meetings held—

1914.
 May 28. Drawing-room Meeting. *Hostess*, Mrs. Forest.
Speaker, Miss Alice Low.
 " " Café. *Chair*, Miss M. Dewar. *Speaker*, Miss Sheard.

WASHINGTON & USWORTH.

President: Mrs. Scholefield, Usworth Villa, High Usworth.
 Hon. Secretary: Miss E. Spencer, Eldon House, Usworth.
 Hon. Treasurer: Mr. Ramshaw, 24, Glebe Crescent, Washington Station.

Number of members, 40. Income, £29 8s. 8d.
 Expenditure, £21 12s. 9½d. (including donations to War Relief Funds amounting to £16 os. od.)
 Balance, £7 15s. 10½d.

Meetings held—

1914.
 May 7. Co-operative Hall, New Washington. *Chair*, Rev. A. Begg. *Speaker*, Miss Margaret Robertson.
 May 21. New Washington Store Hall. *Speaker*, Miss Alice Low.
 June 22. Meeting, Members and Friends. *Chair*, Rev. A. Begg. *Speaker*, Miss I. S. A. Beaver. *Pianist*, Mrs. Begg. *Soloist*, Mrs. Hamilton. *Reciter*, Miss Spencer.

Aug. 31. Meeting, Members and Friends, Usworth Colliery Mission Hall. Discussion *re* "War Work to be undertaken by the Society."

Regular Sewing Meetings have been held, when clothes have been made and distributed to children rendered necessitous by the war.

Entertainments—

1915.

Feb. — Concert and Dramatic Entertainment.

Chair, Dr. Ethel Williams. *Pianist*, Mr. Phil. Gauden, A.L.C.M. *Vocalists*, Madame Alic Richardson, Miss Ethel Norman, Mr. R. W. Waddle. *Violinist*, Master Willie Race. *Elocutionists*, Miss Eva Manson, A.L.C.M. Miss Esbelle Spencer, A.L.C.M., Mr. C. H. Crabbe, Mr. F. Burland Jacob.

The proceeds, amounting to £16, were divided between the Washington and Usworth Relief Funds and the Federation Fund.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.

Chairman: Miss L. C. Brew, M.A., Westgate House, York Road, West Hartlepool.

Hon. Secretary: Miss G. M. Durnford, 82, Wansbeck Gardens, West Hartlepool.

Hon. Treasurer: Mrs. Denton, 92, Clifton Avenue, West Hartlepool.

Number of Members: 73. Income £5 2s. 6d.

Members are rendering active help in work connected with the V.A.D. Hospital, with the Soldiers' and Sailors' Families' Association, the "Tipperary Clubs," and other forms of War Service.

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS to N.E. Federation for year 1914—1915.

	£	s.	d.
Miss E. A. Atkinson	3	3	0
Anonymous	25	0	0
Mrs. & Miss Balleny	10	0	0
Miss H. W. Balleny	5	0	0
Mrs. Brown	1	1	0
Mrs. Darwin	2	0	0
Miss Dring	0	4	0
Mrs. Dunn	6	2	0
Mrs. Fryer	2	0	0
Mrs. Johnson	1	1	0
Miss Lindsay	0	2	6
Miss Lucas	3	3	0
Miss Merz	2	0	0
Miss Newbiggin	1	0	0
Mrs. Pease	1	1	0
Mrs. Peile	2	0	0
Miss Peile	221	0	0
Miss F. Peile	5	0	0
Sir Walter Plummer	5	0	0
Mrs. Potts	0	5	0
Miss A. Robson	4	8	4
H. Saint, Esq.	2	2	0
Miss Stevenson	5	0	0
Mrs. Stuart	2	0	0
Mrs. Watkins	2	2	0
Mrs. Spence Watson	2	0	0
Miss Westwood	0	7	0
Mrs. Wilkinson	0	2	6
Dr. Williams & Miss Hardcastle	18	3	7
Miss Sybil Wragge	1	0	0
	<u>£323</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>11</u>

SOCIETIES.

	£	s.	d.
Bishop Auckland	2	15	0
Consett and Blackhill	0	12	0
Darlington	5	0	0
Gosforth and Benton	4	5	6
Jarrow	5	0	0
Shildon	5	0	0
Stockton	3	15	0
Tynemouth	8	10	0
Washington and Usworth	4	0	0
	<u>£38</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>6</u>

North Eastern Federation of Women's Suffrage Societies.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS
FOR YEAR ENDING 30th APRIL, 1915.

FEDERATION FUND.

May 1st, 1914, to April 30th, 1915.

INCOME.	£	s.	d.	EXPENDITURE.	£	s.	d.
Organisers' Expenses	100	7	6	*Owing to Bank, May 1st, 1914	93	8	6
Speakers' Expenses	10	10	1	Organisers' Expenses	208	13	8
Delegates' Expenses	4	14	3	Speakers' Expenses	10	14	1
Percentage on Incomes	15	4	4	Delegates' Expenses	14	9	1
Subscriptions and Donations	369	5	5	Printing and Stationery	43	0	4
Collections	12	18	4	Postage, etc.	31	10	6
Sales	13	1	1	Literature	14	1	10
Donations to Salaries	3	0	0	Salaries	277	6	1
Active Service League	12	0	0	Hire of Halls	10	12	10
Exhibition Funds	292	12	10	Exhibition	51	1	4
Sundries	7	7	10	Active Service League	3	2	9
				Sundries	21	1	10
				Balance in hand	779	2	10
					61	18	10
					<u>£841</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>8</u>

*Overdraft on Account of Federation Fund, as in last Balance Sheet

Add—Money in hands of Organisers, also drawn from Bank

Overdraft on Account of "Mining Villages," now taken into Federation Fund

£ s. d.

47 15 1

72 0 0

0 1 2

119 16 3

12 17 7

13 10 2

26 7 9

£93 8 6

Deduct—Balance in Bank on Account of "Special Constituencies" now taken into Federation Fund

Balance in Bank on Account of "Exhibition," similarly taken into Federation Fund

Actual Overdraft on Account of Federation Fund

£93 8 6

ELECTION FIGHTING FUND.

May 1st, 1914, to October 31st, 1914.

INCOME.	£	s.	d.	EXPENDITURE.	£	s.	d.
Donation from Dr. Williams and Miss Hardcastle	37	11	11	Owing to Bank, April 30th, 1915	37	11	11
Grant from N.U.	87	10	0	Organisers' Expenses	90	7	0
Aug. 1. " " "	87	10	0	Speakers' Expenses	3	15	10
Balance due Bank	212	11	11	Organisers' Salaries	121	12	0
				Postage	6	16	0
				Literature	1	14	9
				Hire of Halls	1	7	6
				Printing and Stationery	1	18	11
				Sundries	1	10	4
					<u>£266</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>3</u>

November 1st, 1914, to April 30th, 1915.

INCOME.	£	s.	d.	EXPENDITURE.	£	s.	d.
Grant from N.U.	75	0	0	Owing to Bank	54	2	4
" " " Gateshead	16	13	4	Organisers' Expenses	34	19	11
Donation from Gateshead Society	3	14	10	Organisers' Salaries	68	8	2
Returned by Organisers	95	8	2	Postage	2	2	7
	25	0	0	Printing and Stationery	4	0	2
	120	8	2	Sundries	3	9	2
Balance due Bank	46	14	2		<u>£167</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>
	<u>£167</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>				

FELL SIDE, LOW FELL, GATESHEAD,

July 21st, 1915.

I have examined the foregoing Statements of Receipts and Payments, and in my opinion they exhibit a true and correct view of the North Eastern Federation's affairs up to April 30th, 1915, to the best of my information, and as shewn by the Federation's books; and the balances shewn, namely a credit of £61 18s. 10d. in the General Account of the Federation, and a debit of £46 14s. 2d., in the account of the Election Fighting Fund, agree with the balance of £15 4s. 8d. shewn by the Bank Pass Book, on April 30th, 1915.

J. T. DUNN.

NOTE.—The Election Fighting Fund Accounts have been divided into two portions, the first of which applies to expenditure incurred in the actual E.F.F. work of the organisers. During the second period these organisers were engaged in National Work, and the Statement shews that the expenses of this period were more than met by the grants from the National Union and the money in the hands of the organisers at the beginning of that period.

PAMPHLET