REPORT

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OF THE

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

OF THE

Irish Women's Suffrage

AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

ASSOCIATION

FOR

1915.

SOUTH COLLEGE

PAMPHLET

Dublin:

PRINTED BY THE ORMOND PRINTING COMPANY, LIMITED.

1916.

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CITY OF LONDON POLYTECHNIC FAWCETT COLLECTION

Calcutta House Old Castle Street London E1 7NT

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NON-PARTY. NON-MILITANT.

OBJECTS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

- 1.—To promote the extension of the Parliamentary Franchise to all qualified women on the same terms as men.
- 2.—To promote the registration of all qualified women electors under the Local Government Act.
- 3.—To promote the election of suitable women as Poor Law Guardians, and Rural, Urban, Borough, and County Councillors.
- 4.—To promote the appointment of women as School and Sanitary Inspectors, and to all other public offices for which they are eligible under the Local Government Act and other Statutes.
- 5.—To promote the formation of Women's Suffrage and kindred Associations in all the leading towns of Ireland.

The Association seeks to achieve these objects by means of Drawing-room and Public Meetings; Petitions to the House of Commons; Letters to our Parliamentary Representatives, to the Heads of Public Departments and to the Press; the distribution of appropriate literature, etc.

Subscribers of 1s. and upwards will receive all publications issued by the Association.

COMMITTEE FOR 1916.

THE RIGHT HON. W. F. BAILEY. P.C., C.B. MRS. C. E. WHITE BIRCH. MISS A. BOLTON. MRS. M. BROOKS. MISS BUCHANAN, P.L.G. MISS M. H. CARSON, P.L.G. MISS CLINCH, P.L.G. LADY DOCKRELL, U.D.C. MRS. EVANS. MRS. HENRY DOCKRELL MRS. STEPHEN GWYNNE. MISS I. W. HARPER. MISS HARRISON. MRS. HASLAM. T. J. HASLAM, ESQ. MISS HAYDEN, M.A. MISS HILLES.

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MRS. ANNA M. HASLAM, 163 RATHGAR ROAD.

Hon. Sec, and Treasurer

MRS. SANDERSON, 7 MOUNT TEMPLE TERRACE, DARTRY ROAD, Co, DUBLIN,

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REPORT

OF THE

COMMITTEE FOR 1915.

HEN the last Report of this Committee was published, just five months after the outbreak of this terrible world war, we were rapidly adjusting our lives to the altered conditions, but the old questions still remained, and the old endeavours were still necessary. Now, after sixteen months of war, we are trying to keep pace with the march of events! Before the war women were struggling for a foothold on the fringe of things, to-day they are being called upon by thousands to work in hospitals, in factories, in field and in arsenal, and their work is now known everywhere, from the battlefield to the bank counter. Not only have some of our foremost women stepped into posts of difficulty and danger, but in many cases have given their lives in the service of their country. The name of Edith Cavell will long survive as an evidence of devotion and self-sacrifice. The heroic nurses who refused to be rescued from the Anglia until the wounded men were safe, gave another proof of women's devotion to duty, evinced in every country and under every circumstance. In Paris, Dr. Louisa Garrett Anderson's Hospital in Claridge's Hotel, drew the attention of the Authorities—the only men in the place were the patients in their beds. Now Dr. Louisa Garrett Anderson and Dr. Flora Murray are

Granted the rank of Major for the first time, and are Chief Surgeons over the big military hospital in Endell Street, described as women's biggest conquest, while in Salonika and in Serbia Dr. Elsie Inglis, Dr. Alice Hutchison, Dr. Mary Blair, and many others are working in hospitals; many of these under terrible conditions. Splendid women have been mentioned in dispatches, and many women of all nationalities have been awarded medals and mentioned in army orders.

Suffrage work, as such, has been in abeyance, the feeling has been that, as women individually are so deeply engaged in assisting the State at this critical time, there is little room or inclination for controversy, and this Association recognising the position, has interested itself in furthering the efforts of organisations working for the immediate good of the community.

At the beginning of the year Mrs. Haslam collected monies to endow a bed in the Dublin Castle Red Cross Hospital, called the Irish Women's Suffrage and Local Government Association Bed; members of the Committee make a point of interesting themselves in the alas, successive inmates of the bed.

As a purely Suffrage Association we were unable to take up certain questions of deep interest and vital importance, but since the formation of the Joint Committee our delegates have been able to bring the different subjects before the Committee, and good and progressive work has been done.

The establishing of Women Patrols has been a complete success. It is, perhaps, too early to speak of the results of their work, but already the Authorities view with respect and sympathy their efforts to improve the condition of our Dublin streets, and have acted in several cases on suggestions made by the Patrols. Incidentally the presence of these devoted women in our streets, quietly watchful, tactfully alert to every opportunity to assist or advise, must be of enormous moral effect. The only hindrance to the progress of the work of the Patrols is want of numbers. Some of the original Patrols are in France or Belgium, and the need for additional workers here in Dublin is urgent. The Joint Committee has also interested itself in the endeavours of the "Women's Watching the Courts Committee." This Committee was formed to insure that while offences against women and children are being heard, some authorised women should be present in Court, to collect information and give publicity to points often unreported, and generally to educate public opinion in regard to such cases. The Joint Committee has also been the means of the appointment of two women on the War Saving Committee.

Startling facts and figures were given by Mr. Asquith in the House of Commons as to women's participation in industry. The difficulty experienced in obtaining information as to women's position in industry in Ireland led to the holding of a Conference on November 12th, under the Presidency of the

Countess of Fingall in the afternoon, and of the Hon. Ethel Macnaghten in the evening, when Irishwomen engaged throughout the country in different industries read practical and expert papers on their respective subjects. The Conference resulted in the formation of the Irishwomen's Association, with a representative Committee whose aims are:—

To be a centre of information on all questions affecting women and children in Ireland, and

To act as a link between existing organisations concerned with such questions.

The National Union of Women Workers held their Conference in London in October. The Association's delegates were Miss Buchanan, P.L.G., Lady Dockrell, U.D.C., and Miss I. W. Harper. At a Committee Meeting in November, Miss Buchanan and Lady Dockrell gave most interesting accounts of the business done and the papers read at the Conference. The main subject being "Women's share in the work of re-construction after the war."

The question of Women Police and Women Patrols was much discussed, the subject arising under many headings. Miss I. W. Harper was unfortunately unable to be present at this meeting.

This Association is affiliated to the National Union of Women Workers, and Mrs. Haslam,—who has again been elected a Vice-President—has

long desired to form a branch in Dublin, this has now been effected, through the instrumentality of Lady Wright. Lady Arnott, Lady Fingall, Lady Holmpatrick, Lady Wright, Mrs. Haslam, and Miss White, LL.D., were elected Vice-Presidents, while Miss Buchanan, P.L.G., Miss Hayden, M.A., Miss Rosa Barrett, and Mrs. Starkie are amongst those forming a provisional Committee.

A most interesting and enjoyable meeting was held on November 18th, when Mr. Haslam, the veteran champion of the cause, who has now completed his 90th year, read his latest paper, "Some Last Words on Women's Suffrage." This paper has now been printed and published in pamphlet form, and can be obtained at 1/- for a dozen copies.

AMERICA.—In the States, Women's Suffrage has suffered defeat, in New York by nearly 200,000 votes; in Massachusetts by over 150,000, and in Pennsylvania by between 30,000 and 50,000. In the rural districts of Pennsylvania and even in Pittsburg Suffrage won. The old Quaker influence in Pennsylvania is still powerful enough to cast a heavy weight in favour of freedom. The entire hostile majority was furnished by the City of Philadelphia, which voted against the women by about 77,000. That is significant of the kind of forces the women's cause has to contend against—it is the party machine and the big liquor interests that quietly pass the word to vote down the women. But Suffragists in America are not beaten! forty-eight

hours after the poll Mrs. Chapman Catt and Dr. Anna Shaw held a huge rally to open the new campaign, and some 100,000 dollars were pledged on the spot as a nucleus of a new fund. The above is taken from a series of articles published in the *Irish Citizen*.

DENMARK.—On June 5th, 1915, the Royal Assent was given to the new constitutional law bestowing the franchise on women "with the determination to secure national unity in the face of the European crisis."

AUSTRALIA.—In Queensland until the tension of army work for the war is over much definite Suffrage work cannot be done. Efforts are being made to arrange for the publication of a Women's Commonwealth newspaper, in order to unite Australian women.

south Africa.—The Hon. Hugh Wyndham and Mr. Patrick Duncan introduced a Bill, in Feb., 1914, to grant the Suffrage to women on the same conditions as it is granted to men. It was defeated by one vote, owing to the accidental absence of the Labour members. It is to be hoped that another Bill will be introduced into the new Parliament, and that the Government will support a measure which is obtaining increased interest in all corners of the Union.

The European crisis has found woman everywhere ready and willing to prove her right to her place side

by side and shoulder to shoulder with her men. Surely when this terrible time is over she will be assured of her place in council "with her fellow brave," to quote Rudyard Kipling, the anti-suffragist poet, who writes, after visiting Rheims, and looking into the faces of the women who have endured the horrors of war, "You are inclined to think that women will have a large say in the final terms, they have earned it a thousand times!"

REPORT FROM CORK BRANCH.

In the beginning of the year we had hoped to establish a Corps of Women Patrols, such as our Head Association had done in Dublin. However, after much consideration our Committee decided that under the existing conditions in Cork it would be not only impracticable but unwise to try and do so, especially as there are already societies here looking after such matters.

In May we sent out 100 pairs of socks to the prisoners of war in Germany.

On consulting Captain Harvest, Garrison Adjutant, Victoria Barracks, Cork, he said the most pressing need just then was clothes for our brave men who are interned in Germany, and he could guarantee that any things sent would reach their destination safely. Consequently through him we sent out the socks, and some months after had an acknowledgment of their

arrival and thanks from the Rev. J. T. Crotty, O.P., Chaplain of the Kriegsgefangenen Lager, at Limburg af Lahn, Germany.

We learn with pleasure that Miss E. M. O'Sullivan, M.A., one of our members and Professor of Methods of Education in University College, Cork, has been elected one of the Governing Body. We offer her our sincere congratulations, and feel confident she realizes her responsibility, and will exercise her best energies to promote and protect the interests of those of her sex at University College.

The following is a letter in to-day's Constitution from a member of our Association re Professor E. M. O'Sullivan, M.A.:—

IRISH ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN GRADUATES AND CANDIDATE GRADUATES.

To the Editor of the Cork Constitution. Sir.

Will you allow me through the medium of your paper to inform the Graduates who worked and voted for our candidate, Miss Elizabeth O'Sullivan, M.A., in the recent election of Graduates' Representatives to the Governing Body of University College, Cork, that they secured her return at the head of the poll. We expected the support of the Women Graduates, who are acquainted with the work of our Association, but it was a great encouragement to us to find so many realizing the necessity of electing a representative on the Governing Body of a College by whose statutes women are expressly declared to be eligible as members of this particular body.

Thanking you in anticipation for inserting this letter,

Yours, etc.,

CHARLOTTE J. FOREMAN, M.A.,

3 Redclyffe, Dec. 13th, 1915.

St. Patrick's Place. Ock.

Ton. Sec. and Preudard.

President.

Miss Mary Ryan, M.A., Professor of Romance Languages, has also been re-elected on the Governing Body of the same College by the Academic Council. She too was returned at the head of the poll, and we would wish to congratulate her most heartily.

We send warm congratulations to Mr. Haslam on attaining his ninetieth birthday, and hope he may be spared to say many more "Last Words" on Women Suffrage. We rejoice that he and Mrs. Haslam are still with us, and with clear brains and able hands ever working to further our interests, and still trying to improve those social conditions which affect us so intimately. We are deeply grateful to them for their unflinching devotion to women's cause, the advancement of which is the one and only sure foundation for all true social reform.

In closing, it may be remarked that through all the deep shadows of this most terrible war we see that woman's day has come, and the nation's and man's extremity has given birth to her opportunity by which all pre-conceived ideas of her incapacity must be swept away. Hitherto women have thought, theorised, protested; now they have the opportunity to act, and are filling positions and doing work of which heretofore they were considered incapable. They are not only executing it well, but thoroughly, conscientiously and faithfully.

We append the list of those of our members who contributed to the Sock Fund.

(MRS.) ELIZABETH CHRISTIE, 15 St. Patrick's Place, Cork, Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.

REPORT FROM LIMERICK BRANCH.

Of purely Suffrage work we have nothing to report. In this our Association is not singular, as since the outbreak of war Suffragists have to a large extent shelved their own special interests, and instead, have, in various ways, tried to "do their bit" for their country. As an Association our "bit" was not very much, but many of our individual members have been doing war work of one sort or another.

Miss Barrington was for some time in France, helping in a Soldiers' Café, and Miss Tuckey is working in a hospital in Dublin.

As arranged at our last General Meeting we allocated the year's subscriptions, together with £7 2s. received in special donations, to the relief of Belgian Refugees. After deducting our usual annual expenses, we had £8 11s. 8d. in hands, of this £8 0s. $4\frac{1}{2}$ d., was spent directly by our Belgian Clothing Sub-Committee, and the balance, 11s. $3\frac{1}{2}$ d., handed in from the Association to the Hon. Treas., Limerick Belgian Relief Committee.

When our own funds and the supply of garments sent us were exhausted, it was arranged that the Sub-Committee should order whatever clothing was required and send the bills each month when checked to the Hon. Treas., Belgian Relief Committee, for payment.

The Clothing Sub-Committee at first had by no means an easy task. The Belgians who were sent to Limerick were not satisfactory. Several sets came

and went in quick succession, just staying long enough to get complete outfits, which they were careful to take away with them! They were impossible to please, and no matter how much was given them they were never satisfied.

Some months ago a new lot arrived, most respectable farmer folk, and with them there has been no trouble.

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MABEL M. DODDS, Hon. EVERINA S. I. MASSY, Secs.

ND EXPENDITURE for 1915.	Payments.	By Subscriptions to London 3 13 0	" to Joint Committee 1 0 0	" Delegates to London 0 10 6	" Rent 2 4 6	". Printing 8 4 0	" Literature 0 15 2	" "Common Cause" 2 2 0	" Stationery and Postage 5 3 6	"Secretarial Expenses … 12 0 0	£35 12 8	" Cash in hand 6 6 3	$24\overline{11811}$	ound correct. ISABEL W. HARPER.	
STATEMENT OF INCOME AND	Receipts.		After Audit 0 7 6	Subscriptions, 1915 35 3 0	Affilation Fee—Cork 1 0 0	Limerick 0 10 0	Bank Interest 0 4 0						£41 18 11	10th January, 1916. Examined and found correct.	

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS FOR 1915.

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Alston, Mrs. J., Rathgar	0	1	0	Clarke, Miss F. F., P.L.G.,		
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Dublin	0	5	0	Dublin 0	2	6
				Cole, G. A. J., Esq., F.G.S.,		
Badham, Miss, Dublin	0	1	0	Dublin 0	2	6
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Bailie, Miss, ,,	0	1	0	Dublin 0	5	0
Barrett, Miss, Kingstown	0	2	6	Crawley, Dr. Frank,		
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Donnybrook	0	2	6	Crichton, Mrs. A. J.,		
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Oldham, Prof., Rathgar 0 2 6	Anna Liffey 0 2 6
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Orr, Miss L., Clonmel 0 2 6	D. Dothers
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D.D., M.A., Dublin 0 2 6	B.A., Dublin 0 1 0
	Simpson, Miss S., Kildare 0 5 0
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Oulton, Miss L., ,, 0 1 0	Smith, W., Esq., Dublin 0 1 0
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Swifte, E. G., Esq., M.A.,				Webb, Miss J., Rathgar	0	5	0
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Townshend, Mrs. C. L.,				Wilson, Mrs., Dublin		2	6
Dublin	0	5	0	Woodhouse, Mrs	0	1	6
Tremaine, Miss, B.A.,				Wrench, Miss, Bally-		- 44	Vil
Wales	0	2		brack	0	2	6
Tullock, Mrs., Rathgar	0	2	6	brack Wright, Lady, Dublin	1	0	0
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	0	•	1	Wright, Miss D., Rath-			
Urwick, Miss, Dublin				gar	0	1	0
Ussher, Mrs., Carlow	0	2	6	Wright, Miss J., Rath-			
Varian Mrs A H				gar		1	0
Varian, Mrs. A. H.,	0	9	6				1
Glenageary	U	2	0	£	35	3	0
Varian, Isaac, Esq., Dublin	0	2	6				
Dublin	U	4	0		4		4

Subscriptions for 1916 now due.

SUBSCRIPTIONS FROM CORK.

	£		d.		£	ŝ.	d.
Anglin, Mrs. A. H	0	2	0	Mack, R. F., Esq	0	2	6
				Mack, Mrs	0	1	0
Barrett, Joseph, Esq	0		0	Mark, Mrs	0	1	0
Baker, Mrs. T. Fredk.	0	1	0	Martin, Miss Nellie	0	1	0
Bewley, Miss Blunden, Mrs	0	2	6	McDougall, Mrs. James	0	1	0
Blunden, Mrs	0	2	0	M'Carry, Miss Mary	0	1	0
Brown, Mrs	0	2	0	Murphy, Mrs. J. Howard	0	2	6
Brown, Mrs. Rentoul		1	0	Murphy, Miss, B.A.,			5
Booth, Dr. John	0	1	0	T.C.D	0	1	0
Booth, Mrs. John	0	1	0	Murphy, Mrs. Grace	0	1	0
				Murphy, Miss Nan	0	1	0
Christie, Mrs. Elizabeth	0	2	0				
Carnie, Miss	0	1	0	O'Connor, Mrs. J. T	0	9	C
Conlon, Miss	0	1	0	O'Gorman, T., Esq	0	2 2	6
				O'Gorman, Mrs. T	0		0
Egan, Miss Dorothy	0	1	0	O'Flynn, Mrs. Bertie	0	2	6
Evans, Mrs	0	2	6	O'Sullivan, Mrs. David	0	2	0
	7	~		O'Shea, Mrs	0	1	0
Fitzgerald, Dr. Lucia	0	1	0	O'Sullivan, Professor	0	1	U
Field, Mrs	0	1	0	Elizabeth, M.A	0	2	6
Foreman, Miss, M.A.	0	1	0	Elizaboth, III.A.	0	0	U
roroman, Miss, M.A	U	1	U	Didas Mas	0		0
Callaghan Mar Kath				Ridge, Mrs	U ?	2	0
Gallagher, Mrs. Kath-	0	0	0				
leen	0	2	0	Smith, Dr. Lucy	0	1	0
Goodman, Miss		1	0	Smith, Thomas, Esq	0	1	0
Grindley, Mrs	U	1	0	Stiven, R., Esq		1	0
Harton Prof Maraus				Stiven, Mrs		1	0
Hartog, Prof. Marcus,	0	1	0	Sutton, George, Esq	0	1	0
M.A., D.Sc., F.L.S.	0	1	0	Sutton, Miss	0	1	0
Hartog, Mrs Higgins, Mrs	0	1 1	$\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$	Sutton, Miss A	0 5	2	0
Hoare, Mrs. Richard	0	1	0				
iloare, Mis. Itichard	U	T	0	Tyrie, Mrs. W. B	0	1	0
Johnson, Mrs. W. H	0	2	0				
Johnson, Miss	-	1	0	Warren, Lady	0 1	_	^
Joynt, Mrs		1	0				0
Jones, Mrs	0	1	0	Waters, Miss Margaret (Williams, Mrs. M	-	1	0
	U	1		Williams, Mrs. M	0 -	1	0
Kells, Mrs	0	1	0	F.	4 4	1	0
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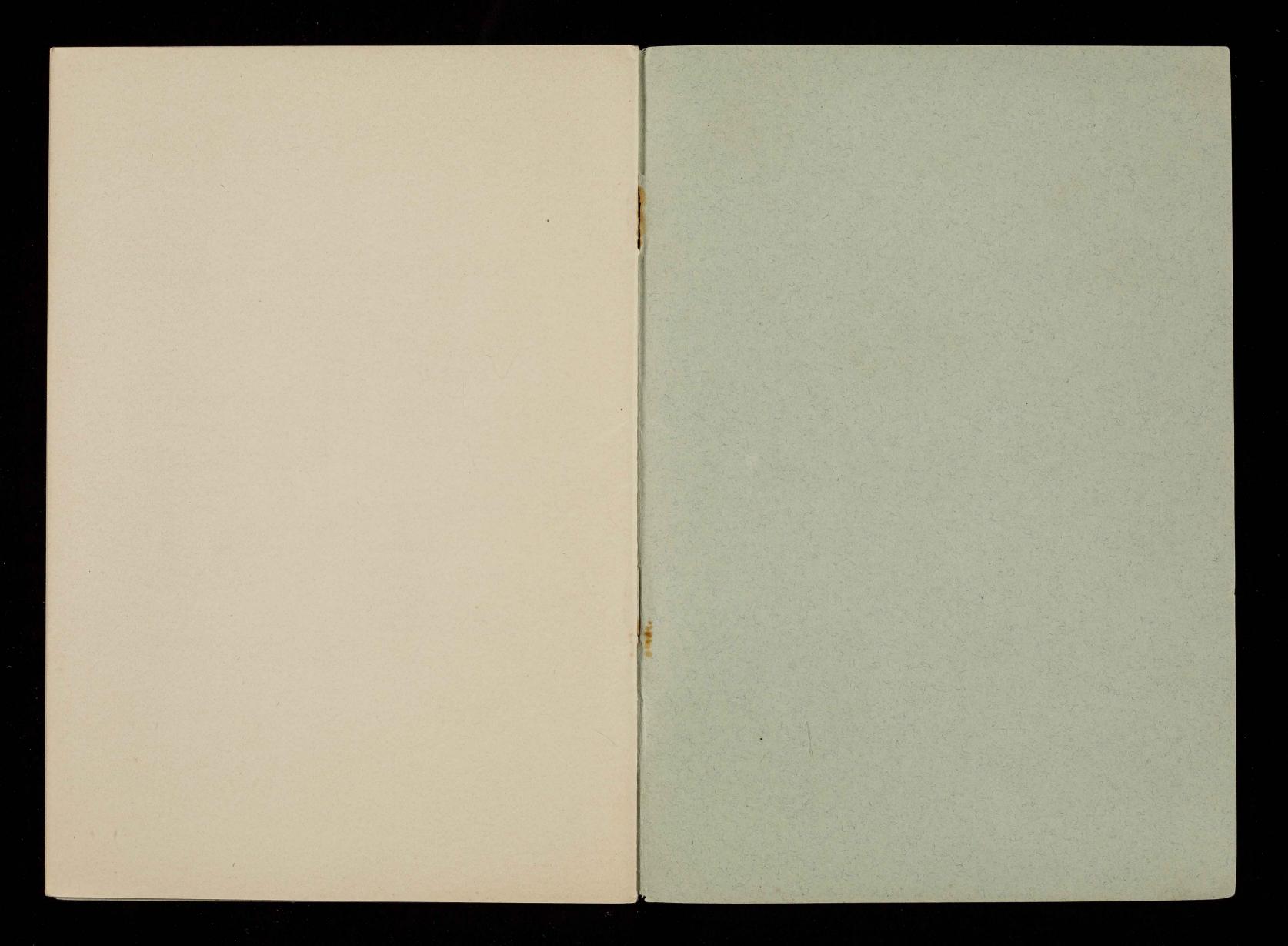
CORK BRANCH.

The following are those of our Members who subscribed to the "Sock Fund."

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d·
Anglin, Mrs. A. H	. 0	2	0	Mack, R. F., Esq 0	1	0
				Mack, Mrs. R. F 0	2	0
Baker, Mrs. T. F	. 0	1	0	McDougall, Mrs. James 0	2	0
Blunden, Mrs	. 0	1	0	Murphy, Mrs. J. Howard 0	2	0
Brown, Mrs., Lehenagh				Murphy, Mrs. Grace 0	1	6
more	. 0	3	0			
	(1	.0	O'Connor, Mrs. J. T 0	2	6
Booth, Mrs. John				O'Gorman, T., Esq 0	2	0
				O'Gorman, Mrs. T 0	2	0
Christie, Mrs. Elizabet	h (2	6	O'Flynn, Mrs. Bertie 0	2	6
				O'Sullivan, Mrs. David 0	5	0
Evans, Mrs	() 2	0	O'Shea, Mrs 0	1	0
Fitzgerald, Dr. Lucia	. () 2	0	Smith, Dr. Lucy 0	2	0
Field, Mrs				Smith, Thomas, Esq 0	1	0
Foreman, Miss M. A.				Stiven, R., Esq., 0	1	
2 010111011, 2.2100 2.21 2.21				Stiven, Mrs. R 0	2	0
Gallagher, Mrs. Kathlee	en () 1	0	Sutton, Miss A 0	1	0
Grindley, Mrs.				Simcox, Miss May 0		0
Cilitate 9, 1212.						
Hartog, Prof. Marcus	s.			Tyrie, Mrs. W. B 0	1	0
M.A., D.Sc., F.L.S			0			
Hartog, Mrs.				Warren, Lady 0	3	6
Higgins, Mrs.	(
				£3	6	0
Johnson, Mrs. W. H	. (0 1	. 0	From Annual Subscrip-		
	(. 0	tions 2	0	0
	(
Jones, Mrs	. (0 1		£5	6	0
					20 6	
Kells, Mrs	1	0 1	. 0			
		The same of the sa	1 1000			

SUBSCRIPTIONS FROM LIMERICK.

	£	s.	d.	£ s. d.
Abbott, Mrs			6	Massy, Dr. Everina 0 2 6
Agar, Mrs			0	Massy, Dr. Everma o 2 o
Armstrong, Mrs. Heaton			6	O'Brien, Mrs 0 3 0
1111110110118,11110.11001011				O'Brien, Miss E 0 2 0
Begley, Mrs	0	1	0	O'Donoghue, Mrs 0 2 0
208103, 1115				O'Mara, Miss 0 5 0
Coogan, J. V., Esq	0	2	6	0 0 0
	0		6	Russell, Miss Betty 0 2 6
				Rynne, Mrs 0 5 0
Dobbins, Mrs	0	1	0	
Dodds, Mrs		2	6	Spring-Rice, Hon. Alice 0 2 6
				Sweeny, Mrs 0 2 6
Guinane, Miss, 1914-15	0	5	0	
Special Don. Belgians		2	6	Tuckey, Miss 0 1 0
Halpin, Mrs	0	2	6	Watson, The Misses,
Halpin, Mrs Halliday, Miss	0	1	0	1914-15 0 4 0
				Welsh, Mrs 0 2 6
Ireland, Miss	0	1	6	Woodley, Mrs., Special
				Don. Belgian Refugees 0 5 0
Jones, Mrs	0	1	0	
			1	£3 7 6
			1	



PAMPHLET