

*Eastern C. Fed  
Report*

NATIONAL UNION OF  
WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES.

FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
EASTERN COUNTIES FEDERATION.

FEBRUARY, 1916.

THE EASTERN COUNTIES FEDERATION.

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OFFICERS FOR 1916.

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CHAIRMAN—

Mrs. RACKHAM, 18, Hobson Street, Cambridge.

HON. TREASURER—

Miss O. J. DUNLOP, Tuddenham, Mildenhall, Suffolk.

HON. SECRETARY—

Miss L. PULLER, Youngsbury, Ware, Herts.

HON. ORGANISING SECRETARY—

Miss ELLEN M. CREAK, 71, Panton Street, Cambridge.

HON. PRESS SECRETARY—

Miss F. FOSTER, Park Lane, Southwold.

REPRESENTATIVES ON N.U. ORGANISATION COMMITTEE—

Miss O. J. DUNLOP AND Miss PULLER.

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A List of Speakers may be obtained from the Secretaries.

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HON. SECRETARIES OF SOCIETIES.

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Braintree & Bocking—Miss M. R. Courtauld, Evegata, Bocking, Braintree  
Brentwood—Miss Thompson, Warwick House, Warley Mount, Brentwood  
Cambridge—Miss G. M. Johnson, 37, Eltersley Avenue, Cambridge  
Girton College—Miss D. Everett  
Newnham College—Miss M. Symons  
E. Cambs—Miss Colson, 23, Grange Road, Cambridge  
W. Cambs—Miss Gray, 9, Station Road, Cambridge  
Chelmsford—Miss R. Christy, Orchards, Broomfield, Chelmsford

Cromer—Mrs. Jolly, Manor House, East Runton, Cromer  
 N. & E. Essex—Miss Courtauld, Colne Engaine, Earl's Colne, Essex  
 S.E. Essex—Mrs. Cattell, Shencliffe, 19, Leighton Avenue, Leigh-on-Sea  
 Eye—The Rev. H. Drake, Braisworth Rectory, Eye  
 Harlow and Sawbridgeworth—Miss Young, The Green, Harlow  
 Harpenden—Mrs. Oakshott, Chelsfield, Clarence Road, Harpenden  
 E. Herts—Miss L. Puller, Youngsbury, Ware  
 Hitchin—Miss Annie Villiers, Stevenage, Herts  
 Hockwold—Mrs. Tennant, Merton House, Cambridge  
 Holt—Miss Verrall, The Pightle, Letheringsett, Holt  
 Hunstanton—Mrs. Messiter, Wavel Kellie, Hunstanton  
 Hunts—Miss B. C. Staley, Hemingford Abbots, St. Ives  
 Ipswich—Miss Gardner, 21, Westerfield Road, Ipswich  
 King's Lynn—Miss Hovell, Guanock Terrace, King's Lynn  
 —Miss Pearson, High School for Girls, King's Lynn  
 Letchworth—(*pro tem*) Miss Tudor Pole, Tudor Cottage, Field Lane,  
 Letchworth  
 Lowestoft—Mrs. Ponder, Waldo Cottage, Oulton Broad, Lowestoft  
 March—Mrs. Sherbrooke Walker, March Rectory, Cambs  
 North Walsham—Mrs. Baldry, North Walsham  
 Norwich—Miss E. L. Willis, Southwell Lodge, Ipswich Road, Norwich  
 Romford—Mrs. Walker, The Nook, Oak Street, Romford  
 St. Albans—Mrs. Stuart, Leaside, St. Peter's Road, St. Albans  
 Sheringham—The Rev. Howard Wright, Sheringham  
 Southwold—(*pro tem*) Mrs. Charles Foster, Southwold  
 Stowmarket—Miss Wallis, Combs, Stowmarket  
 Woodbridge—Mrs. Kennard Davis, The School House, Woodbridge  
 Woodford—Mrs. Fenn, Fernlea, Latchett Road, South Woodford, Essex  
 Yarmouth—Miss Teasdel, Martlesham, Southtown, Great Yarmouth



## RULES.

1. NAME.—The name of the Federation shall be “THE EASTERN COUNTIES FEDERATION.”

2. AREA.—The area of the Federation shall be the counties of Cambridgeshire, Essex (except the Parliamentary Division of Walthamstow), Hertfordshire (except the Parliamentary Division of West Herts), Huntingdonshire, Norfolk, and Suffolk.

3. OBJECTS.—The objects of the Federation shall be :—

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

4. COMMITTEES—

- (i) The Committee shall consist of the Officers, all members of the Executive Committee of the N.U.W.S.S. resident within the Federation area, and of a representative, or representatives, from each Society within the Federation on the following basis :—

Societies with from 20—100 members shall be entitled to one representative.

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

Societies with over 200 members shall be entitled to three representatives.

Representative members shall be appointed for one year. If a representative is prevented from attending a meeting, the Committee of the Society she represents may choose a proxy to attend the meeting, the name of the proxy being sent to the Hon. Secretary of the Federation beforehand.

The Committee shall meet at least three times a year, in the January, April, and October quarters. The meeting in the January quarter shall be the Annual Meeting, at which

- (a) The Report and Balance Sheet shall be presented;
- (b) The Officers shall be elected;
- (c) Two Delegates to the Provincial Council, and one Representative on the Organisation Committee of the N.U.W.S.S. shall be appointed.

(6)

(ii) Sub-Committees.—The Committee may appoint Sub-Committees to carry out such work as the Committee may direct. The existence of such Sub-Committees shall terminate not later than the date of the Annual Meeting. The Committee shall finance the work of such Sub-Committees, and shall fix the amount of the grants which it is willing to make.

(iii) County Sub-Committees.—County Sub-Committees may be formed in each County, and shall consist of two or more members in each Society in the County. They shall meet when required to organise Suffrage work in the County.

5. FINANCIAL.

- (a) Each Society shall be responsible to the Federation for a certain sum per annum, the amount to be agreed upon by the Society in consultation with the Federation Treasurer.
- (b) The financial year shall begin on January 1st.
- (c) The accounts of the Federation shall be audited annually by an auditor appointed by the Committee.

6. Any person wishing to join the N.U.W.S.S., and not being within reach of a Society, may be enrolled as a Federation member, with a minimum annual subscription of 1/-



(7)

FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT  
OF  
THE EASTERN COUNTIES FEDERATION.

January 1st to December 31st, 1915.

The Annual Report for 1915 must needs be a very brief one. For (a) the Federation has held to its decision, arrived at in October, 1914, to the effect that for the present it was not advisable that work should be undertaken by the Federation as a body; (b) the frequency of hostile air raids has considerably affected our Societies on or near the Coast, owing to the general disorganisation of life in the sea-side towns, the distress among landladies, and the number of removals that have taken place; and (c) several Societies that were either newly-formed or in course of formation when War broke out, or were for some other reason in need of special help and encouragement from the Federation at that time, have since lapsed, and this is obviously not the moment for an attempt to revive them.

COMMITTEES. The General Committee has met once, on February 22nd, and the Executive Committee once, on July 20th. Both Meetings were held in Cambridge.

REPRESENTATIVE OF THE N. U. EXECUTIVE. Miss Clough is now the representative of the National Union Executive on the Federation Committee, in place of Mrs. Rackham, who, having temporarily resigned her position on the National Union Executive, is no longer available for this office.

SOCIETIES. There are thirty-five Societies existing in varying degrees of vitality, and four which must be considered to be entirely in abeyance for the present. These four are Beccles, Bury St. Edmunds, Felixstowe and Harwich. From some among the thirty-five we receive from time to time most encouraging reports of the War Work they are doing. Nor has the enrolment of new members altogether ceased. Two Societies in small country towns have increased their membership by ten and sixteen

respectively. These cases are cited as an example of what can be done even during these difficult times.

With a view to keeping up a connection between the Societies and the Federation, a number of Societies have been visited by Mrs. Hazard, Miss Puller, or Miss Creak, a special fund having been placed with the Treasurer for travelling expenses. The Societies thus visited were Brentwood, Chelmsford, Cromer, Harlow and Sawbridgeworth, Harpenden, Hunstanton, King's Lynn, North Walsham, Romford, St. Albans, Sheringham, Stowmarket, Woodbridge, and Yarmouth. In some cases a Members' Meeting was held, in others the Committee only was called together, and in a few cases an interview with the Secretary was all that could be arranged.

In accordance with a suggestion made at the meeting of the Executive Committee in July, Mrs. Vulliamy invited all the Societies in the Federation to help towards raising money for an E.C.F. Bed in one of the Scottish Women's Hospitals. The result has exceeded expectation, as Mrs. Vulliamy has handed to the Treasurer upwards of £114, and the collection is still going on. This sum of course in no way adequately represents the full amount collected for this purpose by Societies within the Federation, many Societies having made such collections independently, or sent by individual members sufficient to endow several beds. Girton and Newnham College Societies, for example, were not asked to contribute, seeing that they had their own College unit to support. The Cambridge Society had already sent a considerable sum independently. Norwich had previously sent more than enough for a bed, through some of the individual members. Letchworth, Stevenage and Holt had already endowed beds.

In pursuance of a resolution passed at the National Union Council in 1915, a Special Meeting was held in Cambridge, when Mrs. Hills met representatives of the Federation to consider the importance of approaching the Lords-Lieutenant of the several counties in the Federation on the question of women's representation on War Emergency Committees. As a result of this meeting deputations of leading women in the counties of Essex, Herts, and Cambs obtained interviews with their respective Lords-Lieutenant,

and suggested to them the advisability, on various grounds, of appointing women on their Committees. In the case of Cambs, the Hon. Mrs. Fordham and Miss Sargant have since been appointed on the County Committee, and in Essex Miss K. M. Courtauld has been put on the Local Committee for the Halstead District. In Herts the deputation resulted in separate Committees of Women being formed to work in co-operation with the Men's Committees. In two cases the formation of a Women's Committee was followed by the co-option of the Chairman on to the Men's Committee. It was hoped that an influential deputation would be got up in Norfolk, but it was found that the Chief Constable of an important district was unfavourable to the scheme and the matter has been left for the present.

In response to a request from the London Society for Women's Suffrage, Mrs. Vulliamy prepared a list of women in the Federation to whom the London Society might send notices about placing women on the land.

In September a short List of Federation Speakers on Thrift and other subjects connected with the War was drawn up and circulated among the Societies. Almost the whole list was afterwards incorporated in the National Union List of Speakers.

It was felt by the Officers that it would be the general wish of the Federation that the Annual Report should this year be produced in as inexpensive a form as possible. The Reports from Societies are therefore omitted, together with some other matter which usually forms part of the Report.

C. D. RACKHAM.  
K. VULLIAMY.  
E. M. CREAK.

LIST I.

DONATIONS FROM MEMBERS AND FRIENDS.

	£	s.	d.
Miss Colman ..	1	1	0
Miss H. C. Colman ..	1	1	0
Miss E. L. Dunlop ..	5	0	0
Miss O. J. Dunlop ..	1	0	0
Mrs. Flowerden ..	5	0	0
Miss L. Puller ..	5	0	0
Miss M. Puller ..	1	1	0
Mrs. Rackham ..	10	0	0
Mrs. P. C. Robertson ..	10	0	0

£15 8 0

LIST II.

DONATIONS FROM SOCIETIES.

	£	s.	d.
North and East Essex W.S.S. ..	9	9	0
Harlow W.S.S. ..	12	0	0
East Herts W.S.S. ..	2	2	0
Hitchin, Stevenage and District W.S.S. ..	1	0	0
Hockwold W.S.S. ..	2	6	0
Holt W.S.S. ..	15	0	0
Huntingdon W.S.S. ..	10	0	0
Hunstanton W.S.S. ..	5	0	0
Ipswich W.S.S. ..	10	6	0
Newnham College W.S.S. ..	10	0	0
Great Yarmouth W.S.S. ..	5	0	0

£7 1 9

(10)

Balance Sheet, 1915.

RECEIPTS

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Balance in Treasurer's hands January 1st—	71	13	1½			
E. Counties Federation W.S.S. ..	30	0	0	101	13	1½
Cambridgeshire W.S.S. ..	15	8	0			
Donations from Individuals, List I ..	7	1	9			
Donations from Societies, List II ..				22	9	9
Miscellaneous Receipts ..				1	19	4
Funds in Trust, Felixstowe W.S.S. ..				3	10	0
By Interest on £75 War Loan ..				1	13	9
By Interest on Deposits—						
E. Counties Federation W.S.S. ..	19	0	0			
Cambridgeshire W.S.S. ..	18	9	0	1	17	9

Examined & found correct, 28th Jan., 1916.

A. BONUS.

£133 3 8½

EXPENDITURE.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Postage, Stationery, & Organisation Expenses ..	10	5	9½			
Rent of Office, 1914 ..	5	0	0			
Printing ..	2	12	6			
Funds in Trust to Felixstowe W.S.S. ..	75	0	0			
Invested in War Loan ..				93	3	3½

Balances—

E. Counties Federation W.S.S. ..	5	16	8
Cambridgeshire W.S.S. ..	30	18	9
Felixstowe W.S.S. ..	3	5	0

O. J. DUNLOP, Hon. Treasurer.

£133 3 8½

Fund for N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospital.

RECEIPTS.

General Fund	£	s.	d.	Allocated	£	s.	d.
Cambridge W.S.S. ..	2	2	0				
East Cambs W.S.S. ..	2	2	6				
West Cambs W.S.S. ..	1	16	0				
Chelmsford W.S.S. ..	5	10	0				
North East Essex W.S.S. ..	3	18	0				
Harlow W.S.S. ..	1	0	0				
Harpden W.S.S. ..	1	0	0				
East Herts W.S.S. ..	25	0	0				
Hitchin, Stevenage & District W.S.S. ..	10	0	0				
Hockwold W.S.S. ..	10	6	0				
Hunstanton W.S.S. ..	4	13	6				
Huntingdon W.S.S. ..	4	4	6				
Ipswich W.S.S. ..	26	2	6	2	16	0	(Serbian unit)
Letchworth W.S.S. ..	1	1	0				
March W.S.S. ..	1	2	0				
Mildenhall and District ..	2	0	0				
Norwich W.S.S. ..	2	0	0				
Sheringham W.S.S. ..	1	0	0				
Southwold W.S.S. ..	2	0	0				
Stowmarket W.S.S. ..	1	5	0	2	5	9	(Serbian unit)
Woodbridge W.S.S. ..	1	5	0				
Miss Creak ..	5	0	0				
Mrs. Stuart ..	5	0	0				
Collected by Mrs. Vulliamy ..	2	2	0				
Miss Waring ..	3	0	0	2	0	0	(Girton and Newnham unit)

O. J. DUNLOP,  
Hon. Treas.

108 14 6

7 1 9

£115 16 3

EXPENDITURE.

	£	s.	d.
Eastern Counties Federation W.S.S. Beds (two) ..	50	0	0
East Herts W.S.S. Bed ..	25	0	0
Ipswich W.S.S. Bed ..	25	0	0
Balance ..	100	0	0
	15	16	3

(11)

Examined and found correct,  
A. BONUS.

28th January, 1916.

£115 16 3

1890

1891

1892

1893

1894