

REPORT

OF THE

Twenty-Sixth Annual Convention

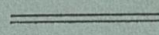
OF THE

Kentucky Equal Rights Association

HELD AT

Lexington, Kentucky

November 8, 9 and 10, 1915



"If ye abide in my Word * * * ye shall know the Truth,
and the Truth shall make you Free."

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GENERAL OFFICERS OF THE Kentucky Equal Rights Association

CHAIRMAN OF CAMPAIGN

Mrs. Desha Breckinridge.....726 McClelland Bldg., Lexington

STATE MEMBER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE N. A. W. S. A.

Miss Laura Clay.....189 N. Mill St., Lexington

PRESIDENT

Mrs. Thomas J. Smith.....State Headquarters, Frankfort

FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

Mrs. R. A. McDowell.....No. 6 Magnolia Apartments, Louisville

SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT

Mrs. Joseph Alderson.....Middlesboro

THIRD VICE-PRESIDENT

Mrs. F. A. Rothier.....185 E. Second St., Covington

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Miss Elizabeth S. Pepper.....State Headquarters, Frankfort

RECORDING SECRETARY

Mrs. J. D. Hays.....Owensboro

TREASURER

Mrs. J. B. Judah.....2115 Murray Avenue, Louisville

AUDITOR

Mrs. W. F. Lillard.....Lawrenceburg

HONORARY VICE-PRESIDENT

Mrs. Mary B. Clay.....Richmond

Mrs. Edmund Post.....Paducah

PAST PRESIDENTS

Miss Laura Clay, Lexington, Ky.....President from 1888-1912

Mrs. Desha Breckinridge, Lexington, Ky.....President from 1912-1915

Special Committees

News Correspondent.....Mr. L. V. Armenbrant, Frankfort
Press Chairman.....Mrs. Desha Breckinridge, Lexington
Church Work.....Mrs. A. M. Harrison, Lexington
State and County Fairs.....Mrs. Mary Bates Miller, Richmond
Prize Committee.....Mrs. Joseph Alderson, Middlesboro
Peace.....Miss Laura White, Danville
Constitution.....Mrs. John C. Graham, Louisville
Finance.....Miss Rebecca Averill, Frankfort
Ways and Means.....Mrs. John Sower, Frankfort

E.B.S. 12/14/33

Advisory Board

Senator Johnson N. Camden, Versailles.
Hon. D. N. Lafferty, Cynthiana—Master Kentucky State Grange.
Mr. Harry Allington, Newport—Pres. Kentucky Federation of Labor
Judge Ed. C. O'Rear, Frankfort.
Mrs. James Bennett, Richmond.
Hon. Claude Thomas, Paris.
Mrs. James A. Leech, Louisville.
Hon. John G. Miller, Paducah.
Miss Belle H. Bennett, Richmond—Pres. Woman's Missionary Council of Methodist Church, South.
Mrs. John C. C. Mayo, Paintsville.
Judge Robert L. Stout, Frankfort.
Dr. R. H. Crossfield, Lexington—Pres. Transylvania University.
Dr. E. B. Barnes, Richmond.
Major James Blackburn, Frankfort.
Rev. H. G. Turner, Danville.
General and Mrs. J. B. Castleman, Louisville.
Mrs. Morris Bartlett, Lawrenceburg—Pres. Kentucky Federation Women's Clubs.
Judge H. S. Barker, Lexington—Pres. of State University of Kentucky.
Dean Irene T. Myers, Lexington—Dean of Women Transylvania University.
Dean Anna J. Hamilton, Lexington—Dean of Women State University of Kentucky.
Mr. Huston Quin, Louisville—Pres. Kentucky Child Labor Association.
Miss Linda Neville, Lexington—Secretary Society for Prevention of Blindness.
Mrs. A. M. Harrison, Lexington.

PROGRAM

Monday, November 8

Phoenix Hotel. Automobile Ride, 2:00 p. m., Mrs. S. H. Halley, Chairman. Reception at Ashland 4:00 to 6:00 p. m.

Monday Evening, 8 p. m., Old Opera House, N. Broadway: Orchestra. Choral singing of "Star Spangled Banner and Suffrage Hymn," led by Miss Katherine Cochran, audience joining in.

Address of Welcome: For the City of Lexington, Mayor J. E. Cassidy; for the Fayette Equal Rights Association, Mrs. F. O. Young, first Vice-President. Response, Mrs. Julia Duke Henning. Rev. J. M. Melear, introducing Mrs. Snowden.

Address—Mrs. Philip Snowden, London, England.

Tuesday, November 9

Ball Room, Phoenix Hotel, 10:00 a. m.

Reports of General Officers—President, Mrs. Desha Breckinridge, Lexington; First Vice-President, Mrs. Edward L. Hutchinson, Lexington; Second Vice-President, Mrs. Charles Firth, Covington; Third Vice-President, Mrs. J. D. Hays, Owensboro; Corresponding Secretary, Miss Laura Clay, Richmond; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Robinson A. McDowell, Louisville; Treasurer, Mrs. J. B. Judah, Louisville; Auditor, Mrs. Samuel Henning, Louisville; State Member Executive Committee, Mrs. Thomas J. Smith, Frankfort.

Reports of State Committees: "Peace," Miss Laura R. White, Louisville; "Education," Mrs. Oden Hodges, Lexington; "College Prize," Dr. Irene T. Myers, Lexington; "Church Work," Mrs. A. M. Harrison, Lexington; "News Correspondence," Mrs. John Graham, Louisville.

Round Table Discussion: "How the Kentucky Federation of Women's Clubs May Help the Suffrage Cause," led by Mrs. Morris Bartlett, President of the Federation.

Appointment of Committees.

Tuesday, 2:00 P. M.

Ball Room, Phoenix Hotel.

"Lucy Stone and the Woman's Journal," Miss Laura Clay.

"What a City, a Small Town or a Rural League May Do For Suffrage," led by Mrs. Herbert Mengel, President of the Louisville Woman Suffrage Association. Presidents of all Leagues present will participate in this discussion, giving their three-minute reports of the year's work.

Press Work: Led by Miss Dow Husbands, Press Chairman, Paducah.

Tuesday Evening, 6:00 P. M.

Ball Room, Phoenix Hotel. Banquet, Mrs. E. L. Hutchinson, First Vice-President K. E. R. A., presiding. Tickets, \$1.00.

Toasts from Mrs. Philip Snowden, Madame Rosika Schwimmer, Mr. Walter J. Millard, "Aunt Jane of Kentucky," Mrs. Abby Meguire Roach, Hon. Edwin P. Morrow and others.

Old Opera House, North Broadway, 8:00 p. m.

Miss Laura Clay presiding.

Miss Mary Frances Scott, solo.

Introduction of Madame Schwimmer, Dr. R. H. Crossfield.

"Peace," Madame Rosika Schwimmer, Budapest, Hungary.

Wednesday, November 10

Ball Room, Phoenix Hotel, 10:00 a. m.

Report of Credentials Committee.

Fraternal Delegates: Greetings.

The Campaign States: Experiences in New Jersey, Mrs. Charles Firth, Covington; Experiences in New York and New Jersey, Mrs. Harry R. Whiteside, Louisville.

Report of Congressional Committee, Mrs. Murray Hubbard, Fort Thomas.

Federal Suffrage, Mrs. Thomas J. Smith, Frankfort.

Petitions to Kentucky Legislature.

Election of Officers.

Wednesday, 2:00 P. M.

Ball Room, Phoenix Hotel.

"The Ballot and the Schools," Mrs. Elizabeth King Smith.

"The Schools and the Ballot," Miss Mary Scrugham.

"The Ballot and Imprisoned Women," Miss Linda Neville.

"The Ballot and Women in Industry," Mrs. R. P. Halleck.

"Need of a Woman's Building at the State University," Miss Mary Clarke.

Forward Movement: 1916.

Report of Resolutions Committee.

Wednesday Evening, 8:00 P. M.

Ball Room, Phoenix Hotel.

"FOR MEN ESPECIALLY."

The New President of the K. E. R. A. presiding.

Mr. William Rout, solo.

Introduction of Mr. Millard by Mr. Paul Lansing.

"Chivalry Up-to-Date," Mr. Walter J. Millard, Cincinnati, O.

"Ring Out the Old, Ring in the New," Mrs. Desha Breckinridge, retiring President K. E. R. A.

PRELIMINARY MEETING

As a preliminary to the business of the Convention, A Boston Tea Party was held at Ashland, the historic home of Henry Clay, where Mrs. Desha Breckinridge received the guests.

With her was Mrs. Philip Snowden, of England, who, that same evening gave a most convincing and enjoyable lecture on Woman's Suffrage.

The next evening, following the banquet at the Phoenix Hotel, Madame Schwimmer, of Hungary, spoke on "Peace," telling many incidents of the war, and greatly impressing her audience.

The last evening of the Convention was opened with "Chivalry Up-to-Date," by Mr. Walter J. Millard, who defined "Chivalry" as "a generous act without expected compensation," and said that the granting of Woman's Suffrage would bring it "up-to-date."

The Convention closed with the speech of our own Mrs. Breckinridge, "Ring Out the Old, Ring in the New," and her earnestness and brilliance made a delightful but regretful close for her term as President, and close of the Convention.

Proceedings of Association

The Twenty-sixth Annual Convention of Kentucky Equal Rights Association was called to order at the Phoenix Hotel, November 9th, 1915, at 10:30 o'clock, the President in the chair. Reports of general officers was the first business.

The President reported first the work of the State Organizers and speakers sent to teachers' institutes with the recommendation that individuals in local Leagues do all the personal work they can.

Second, the plan to get the political parties to endorse in that platform an amendment to the Constitution allowing women to vote with the result that three parties in Kentucky endorsed it.

The President reported the work done in connection with the ministers and church convention. Two thousand letters were sent to ministers with the result that two conventions endorsed suffrage.

The plate page about suffrage was sent to all country papers. The first went to 100 papers and a second page was sent recently to 100 papers. The President suggested that the local Leagues in the future realize that they must not only be self-supporting, but also help the State Association.

The First Vice-President reported work done in connection with bringing Mrs. Snowden to Kentucky and arranging ten lectures in ten towns and that she could not supply all the calls for Mrs. Snowden as she proved such a drawing card.

Second Vice-President reported her work as organizer. She visited four towns, LaGrange, Lawrenceburg, Mt. Sterling and Whitley City.

The Chairman of Courtesies Committee presented Frau Schwimmer to the Convention.

Third Vice-President made report concerning the work she did in connection with the teachers' institute at Hartford at the District Baptist meeting and at the District meeting of the W. C. T. U.

Corresponding Secretary reported that she had not only attended

to the correspondence, but had made speeches in several towns; also attended the Convention at Chicago, speaking at Covington for Suffrage and at Fort Smith on Constructive Peace. She had written letters of condolence to the families of Mrs. Susan Look Avery and Mrs. Mary C. Cramer, who passed from our work in the last year.

The Secretary reported the principal meeting of the Board and the matters for the Convention to take up.

The Treasurer reports receipts\$3,038.50
Expenditures 2,656.00

Balance on hand\$ 382.98

The Treasurer's report was accepted.

The Auditor reported the books had been examined and found correct in every detail.

State member of Executive Committee of National Association reported the various towns where she made speeches and work that she had done in other directions; that she had been appointed Chairman of Political Science Committee of the Federated Women's Clubs and also on the speaker's list.

Mrs. Leech offered the following resolution: That Article 5 of the Constitution be amended by adding the words "A Chairman of Campaign" after the word "Auditor" and before the word "And." The resolution was adopted.

The President reported the following committees:

Credentials—Mrs. Judah, Mrs. Miller and Mrs. Hubbard.

Resolutions—Mrs. Alderson, Miss Husbands and Miss Finch.

Courtesies—Mrs. Hutchinson, Mrs. Young and Mrs. Oldham.

Woman's Journal—Miss Clay, Miss Averill, Mrs. Ripy, Mrs. Moxley and Mrs. Rothier.

Committee of Supplies—Miss Chenault, Miss Cassidy, Mrs. Freeman, Mrs. Bartlett of Covington, Miss Lloyd, Mrs. Chalkley and Mrs. Beckner.

Chairman of State Correspondence Committee reported she had sent each week a letter that was published in the Woman's Journal to the Kentucky News.

State Fair Chairman reported work at State Fair and a gain of 1,525 members on only an expenditure of \$28.85 out of an allowance of \$75.00 owing to the many kind and helpful friends.

Mrs. Morris Bartlett, President of the Federated Women's Clubs of Kentucky, led a round table discussion on "How the Kentucky Federation of Women's Clubs can help the Suffrage cause."

Mrs. Leech and Mrs. Weaver, ex-Presidents of the Federation, spoke as to the past attitude of the Federation on Suffrage.

Mrs. Smith, Chairman of Political Science Committee of the Federation, spoke on the future plans of her committee.

Mrs. Phillips, President of Paducah Club, spoke on her plans for the year.

Mrs. Whitesides spoke on how advanced Kentucky's Federation was compared with New Jersey and some other Eastern states.

Mrs. Hubbard, Chairman of the Federation Committee to present the resolution of the Federation to the political parties, spoke on the value of the Woman's Journal in helping.

Mrs. Judah suggested that the members of the Federation should work for Suffrage instead of so many other reforms.

Mrs. Post, President of Paducah Suffrage Association, spoke on the co-operation of the President of the Woman's Club of Paducah and how helpful it had been.

Mrs. Ripy, Secretary of the Federation, suggested as a practical work, a parade during the Legislature.

Mrs. Willis suggested much more pressure on the Representatives to the State Legislature should be made at home; that local League give farewell parties to their Representatives to let them know how much Suffrage sentiment was in their community.

Dean Myers reported as Chairman of College Prize Committee the methods and results of the debates in colleges in Kentucky.

Miss Clay moved that on recommendation of the Board the Convention appoint a nominating committee. Carried.

On motion the Convention adjourned until 2 o'clock.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved.

VIRGINIA R. MCDOWELL.

Convention of the Kentucky Equal Rights Association was called to order Wednesday, November 9th, 1915, at 10:30 o'clock, at the Phoenix Hotel, the President in the chair. The minutes were read and approved after one correction.

Mrs. Oldham reported for the Fayette County Association. This report will be published. They gained 485 new members at their fair.

Mrs. Leech offered the following resolution to amend the Constitution by adding to Article 6 the words "Ex-State President" after the word "Committee" and before the word "The." Carried.

Mrs. Leech offered the amendment to Article 5 of the By-laws, Section 2, by adding the words "Ex-State President" after the words "Standing Committees" and before the word "Shall." Carried.

Miss Laura White reported for the Peace Committee:

PEACE RESOLUTION

The outcome of recent missions to the governments of the warring nations warrants the belief that, while the nations at war are not willing themselves to begin negotiations or even signify a desire to do so lest it be interpreted as a sign of weakness and place them at disadvantage in the final peace settlement, there is nevertheless abundant evidence that those charged with administration of the foreign policies of these nations would welcome, or at least not oppose affirmative action by a neutral agency to bring about a peace based on international justice.

This meeting, therefore, respectfully urges the President of the United States to co-operate with other neutral governments in calling a conference of neutral nations, which would constitute a voluntary court of continuous mediation, would invite suggestions for settlement from each of the warring nations, and in any case substitute simultaneously to all of them reasonable proposals as a basis for peace.

Adopted this eighth day of November, 1915, by a mass meeting called by the Kentucky Equal Rights Association at Lexington, State of Kentucky.

LAURA CLAY, Chairman.

Credentials Committee reported 89 delegates present.

Mrs. Firth reported some of her experiences in New Jersey in the Campaign as Kentucky Representative. She said she learned first that "Procrastination is the thief of time;" that too much had been left to the last minute to be done and what Kentucky needed before we are a campaign state, was more organization work. She spoke nineteen times in eleven days. In New Jersey they received what is commonly called defeat by the unthinking, but the Suffragists do not feel that way, as they marched in the New York parade after their defeat carrying two banners, one saying:

"Hurrah for the 131,911 men in New Jersey who voted Yes."

Another one:

"Not down and out but up and doing."

Mrs. Whitesides reported that she had made 178 speeches in New Jersey and New York as Mrs. Breckinridge's substitute as Kentucky's contribution to the campaign. She said one of the most inspiring things was the street speaking from gaily decorated automobiles. She said Kentucky must begin street speaking as it is much more effective than indoor speaking can ever be, as you reach an audience not com-

posed of Suffragists, but people who need Suffrage doctrine; that work done in rural counties in New Jersey was not only Suffrage work, but splendid civic work, as the laws in New Jersey were very antiquated. She spoke on how a campaign develops the most wonderfully talented speakers out of women not known before. The eve before election they spoke from 7 o'clock until 1 o'clock in the morning, even reaching dance hall crowds of young people. Mrs. Whitesides said she thought New Jersey had organized too late rather than not organized; that it was not in as good working order as if their organization had been older. In New York each speaker was expected to make at least three speeches each day and this they all did, speaking some places for 26 hours continuous. However long it seems and however dreary, it is all permanent work that Kentucky women are now doing and they will reap the victory later. Kentucky did her part in this campaign by contributing besides speakers \$100.00 and two donations of \$50.00, making \$200.00 in all.

Mr. J. L. Sparks presented fraternal greetings from the fraternal orders of Kentucky.

Miss Steele, of Woodford County, President of the Baby League, reported for her League.

Credentials Committee made a supplementary report, present 95 delegates.

Convention pledges were next made: Franklin County, \$7.50; Daviess County, \$14.00; Boyle County, \$14.00; Bell County, \$7.00; McCracken County, \$35.00; Madison County, \$50.00; Mason County, \$10.00; Fayette County, \$35.00; Kenton County, \$35.00; Louisville Association, \$50.00; Anderson County League, \$5.00.

Individual pledges were next made and these pledges were made on condition that ten people would give \$100.00, ten people would give \$50.00 and ten people would give \$25.00: Miss Clay, \$100.00; Mrs. Henning, \$50.00; Miss Laura White, \$25.00; Mrs. Hutchinson, \$25.00; Mrs. McDowell, \$25.00; Miss Belle Bennett, \$25.00; Mrs. Morton, \$25.00; Mrs. Hayes, \$10.00; Mrs. English, \$10.00; Mrs. Kelley, \$10.00; Mrs. Brannon, \$10.00; Mrs. Clark, \$10.00; Mrs. Alma Bergman, \$10.00; Mrs. Rothier, \$10.00; Mrs. McLaughlin, \$10.00; Mrs. T. J. Smith, \$10.00; Mrs. F. O. Young, \$10.00; Mrs. Dodge, \$10.00; Mrs. Alderson, \$5.00; Mr. Starks, for the Fraternal Day Order, \$5.00; Mrs. Crutcher, \$5.00; Mrs. Roach, \$5.00; Mrs. Judah, \$5.00; Mrs. Geo. Miller, \$5.00; Mrs. Mengel, \$5.00; Mrs. Graham, \$5.00; Mrs. Lindenberger, \$5.00; Mrs. Spencer, \$5.00; Mrs. Cheney, \$5.00; Mrs. Whitesides, \$5.00; Mrs. Bartlett, Covington, \$5.00; Mrs. Laidley, \$5.00; Mrs. Helburn, \$5.00; Mrs. Leech, \$5.00; Mrs. Washer, \$5.00; Mrs. Glossup, \$5.00; Mrs. Warfield Bennett, \$5.00; Mrs. Phillips, \$5.00; Mrs. Van Meter, \$5.00; Mrs. Philip Grinstead, \$5.00; Mrs. Tyson, \$5.00; Mrs. Hartke, \$5.00.

The Nominating Committee reported:

President—Mrs. T. J. Smith.
First Vice-President—Mrs. R. A. McDowell.
Second Vice-President—Mrs. Alderson.
Third Vice-President—Mrs. Hubbard.
Recording Secretary—Mrs. Post.
Corresponding Secretary—Miss Pepper.
Treasurer—Mrs. Judah.
State Member of National Committee—Miss Clay.
Chairman of Campaign—Mrs. Breckinridge.
Mrs. Post withdrew her name.

Mrs. Judah moved that each member vote as individual delegates and the President vote each remaining delegate up to the number to which they are entitled. Carried.

The vote was announced and Mrs. Smith was elected President. Mrs. Leech moved that the informal ballot be made the formal ballot and that the Secretary cast the vote for Mrs. T. J. Smith for President. The Secretary cast the ballot for Mrs. Smith.

The vote was announced and Mrs. McDowell was elected First Vice-President. Mrs. Leech moved that after casting the vote for First Vice-President the Convention adjourn until 2 o'clock and continue the election after lunch. Carried. Mrs. Young moved that the informal ballot be made the formal ballot and that the Secretary cast the vote for Mrs. McDowell for First Vice-President. The Secretary cast the ballot for Mrs. McDowell.

No other business the meeting adjourned until 2 o'clock.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved.

VIRGINIA R. MCDOWELL.

The Convention of the Kentucky Equal Rights Association came to order at 2 o'clock, November 10th, 1915, in the Phoenix Hotel, the Second Vice-President in the chair.

Mrs. Hubbard reported her work as Congressional Chairman in Kentucky.

Mrs. Smith, on account of the crowded condition of the program, requested not to lead the discussion for Federal Suffrage and Miss Clay offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That we desire Federal Suffrage by Congressional legislation; and endorse the actions of the National American Woman's Suffrage Association's Convention at Nashville on this subject."

Carried.

Mrs. Firth suggested that the Convention go on with the program while the tellers were counting the votes for the Second Vice-President.

Mrs. Leech moved that the Convention ask the President to appoint a committee to revise the Constitution omitting the pro rata vote in election. Carried.

The Secretary announced the vote and Mrs. Alderson was elected Second Vice-President. Mrs. Smith moved that the informal ballot be made the formal ballot and the Secretary cast the vote for Mrs. Alderson for Second Vice-President. The Secretary cast the ballot for Mrs. Alderson for Second Vice-President.

The Secretary announced the vote and Mrs. Rothier was elected Third Vice-President. Mrs. Smith moved that the informal ballot be made the formal ballot and the Secretary cast the ballot for Mrs. Rothier for Third Vice-President. The Secretary cast the ballot for Mrs. Rothier for Third Vice-President.

The Secretary announced the vote and Mrs. J. D. Hayes was elected Recording Secretary. Mrs. Smith moved that the informal ballot be made the formal ballot and the Secretary cast the ballot for Mrs. Hayes for Recording Secretary. The Secretary cast the ballot for Mrs. Hayes for Recording Secretary.

The Secretary announced the vote and Mrs. Judah was elected Treasurer. Miss Lloyd moved that the informal ballot be made the formal ballot and the Secretary cast the vote for Mrs. Judah for Treasurer. The Secretary cast the vote for Mrs. Judah for Treasurer.

The Secretary announced the vote and Miss Elizabeth Pepper was elected Corresponding Secretary. Miss Lloyd moved that the informal ballot be made the formal ballot and the Secretary cast the vote for Miss Pepper for Corresponding Secretary.

The Secretary announced the vote and Miss Laura Clay was elected State Member of the National Executive Committee. Mrs. Smith moved that the informal ballot be made the formal ballot and the Secretary cast the vote for Miss Clay for State Member of National Executive Committee. The Secretary cast the ballot for Miss Clay as State Member of the National Executive Committee.

The Secretary announced the vote and Mrs. Desha Breckinridge was elected the Chairman of Campaign. Mrs. Smith moved that the informal ballot be made the formal ballot and the Secretary cast the ballot for Mrs. Breckinridge as Chairman of Campaign.

The Secretary announced the vote and Mrs. Lillard was elected Auditor. Miss Lloyd moved that the informal ballot be made the formal ballot and the Secretary cast the ballot for Mrs. Lillard for Auditor. The Secretary cast the ballot for Mrs. Lillard for Auditor.

Miss Elizabeth King Smith spoke on "The Ballot and the Schools."

Mrs. Mary Schrugham spoke on "The School and the Ballot."

Miss Linda Neville spoke on "The Ballot and Imprisoned Women."

Mrs. Mary Clark spoke on "The Need of a Woman's Building at the State University." It was moved that the Association go on record as approving the suggestion of the Alumni Club for the Woman's building at the State University. Carried.

The following delegates to the Washington Convention were nominated: Mrs. Herbert Mengel, Louisville; Mrs. Samuel Castleman, Louisville; Mrs. James Bennett, Richmond; Mrs. Charles Waite, Covington; Mrs. Edwin Post, Paducah; Mrs. James Leech, Louisville; Mrs. Geo. Rudy, Owensboro; Mrs. Robinson McDowell, Louisville; Mrs. Mary W. Bennett, Fayette County; Mrs. E. L. Hutchinson, Lexington; Mrs. C. M. Freeman, Ashland; Mrs. Desha Breckinridge, Lexington; Miss Laura White, Louisville; Mrs. Charles Firth, Covington; Miss Dow Husbands, Paducah.

The following alternates were nominated: Mrs. Murray Hubbard, Fort Thomas; Mrs. J. D. Hayes, Owensboro; Mrs. Charles P. Weaver, Louisville; Miss Mary Finch, Maysville; Mrs. W. D. Oldham, Lexington; Mrs. T. M. Russell, Maysville; Mrs. W. H. Brannon, Owensboro.

Miss Clay moved that the delegates suggested by Mrs. Breckinridge be put up for election. Carried. All of these delegates were elected.

Miss Clay moved that the first vacancy be filled by the first alternate and the second vacancy by the second alternate, etc. Carried.

Miss Clay moved that when the delegation gets to Washington any vacancies occurring be filled from any members of the Association present. Carried.

Mrs. Alderson, Chairman of the Resolution Committee, reported the following resolutions:

RESOLUTIONS

We, the Kentucky Equal Rights Association, at our twenty-sixth annual Convention in the City of Lexington assembled, reaffirm our belief in the justice, expediency and necessity of extending the franchise to women.

Hence, be it

Resolved, That, believing there is no question of greater importance to the people of Kentucky than the political freedom of her women, the Kentucky Equal Rights Association calls upon the General Assembly in 1916 to submit a Constitutional Amendment giving to the women of Kentucky full suffrage.

Resolved, That we petition Congress to protect women by appropriate legislation against State denial of rights of citizens of the United States to vote for members of Congress, Presidential electors and United States Senators in the State wherein they reside, upon the same terms that men are authorized to exercise this right.

Resolved, Since the labor inspection of Kentucky is inadequate to the needs of the State, we hereby urge the Commissioner of Agriculture to appoint an additional assistant inspector as provided by law.

Resolved, Since the outcome of recent missions to the governments of warring nations warrants the belief that, while the nations at war are not willing themselves to begin negotiations or even signify a desire to do so, lest it be interpreted as a sign of weakness and place them at a disadvantage in the final peace settlement, there is nevertheless abundant evidence that those charged with the administration of the foreign policies of these nations would welcome, or at least not oppose, affirmative action by a neutral agency to bring about a peace based on international justice. This meeting, therefore, respectfully urges the

President of the United States to co-operate with other neutral governments in calling a conference of neutral nations, which would constitute a voluntary court of continuous mediation, would invite suggestions for settlement from each of the warring nations, and in any case submit simultaneously to all of them reasonable proposals as a basis for peace.

Resolved, That the appreciation of the Convention be extended to the Fayette Equal Rights Association, to the Women's Clubs, their many individual members who made such able committees, to the Lexington Board of Commerce, to Mr. C. H. Berryman and staff for the use of the opera house, so appropriately decorated by Mrs. Huston-Shaw; to the Telephone Company for telephone in Convention headquarters and to all friends who so kindly offered their cars for a drive to historic Ashland and for generous hospitality received there and in the city throughout the Convention and to all who helped to make this Convention a memorable success.

We also extend our thanks to the press.

Resolved, That in welcoming our new President and pledging her our loyal support, we cannot but feel the loss caused by the retirement of our State President, Mrs. Desha Breckinridge.

Forgetful of self, she has given her heart, brain, energy and brilliancy to the cause and for this she has gained our appreciation and our love for always.

MISS DOW HUSBANDS,
MISS MARY A. FINCH,
MRS. JOE T. ALDERSON,
Committee.

Miss Lloyd moved the adoption of the resolutions. The resolutions were adopted.

Miss Clay moved that all unfinished business be referred to the Executive Board for final discussion. Carried.

No other business, the Convention adjourned, sine die.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved.

VIRGINIA R. McDOWELL.

President's Report 1914-1915

The type of work this year has varied from that of last year, though the result is not as different as I should like to report. Last year we touched the high points. We sent out organizers during the summer months to a very large number of teachers' institutes in every corner of the State; we got wholesale membership; we made desperate efforts to effect organization and get live officers, but in most places the organizations we effected were nominal. This year it was our purpose to strengthen existing organizations and to get, if possible, real local leadership for the County Leagues.

ORGANIZATION

We have not been able to get either the people or the funds to do anything like the organizing work that we did last year. Mrs. L. S. Knollenberg, of Louisville, was employed for 24 days. She did excellent work in Shelby County and some work under difficulties and with meagre results in Henry County. We employed Mr. W. P. March, of Lawrenceburg, for two months, during which time he spoke and worked in the following counties with somewhat meagre results: Lincoln, Rockcastle, Laurel, Whitley and Knox. Mrs. W. F. DeMoss, formerly of Fayette County, now of Chicago, was employed, but became ill and could not fulfill her contract. Miss Van Pelt, whom we had employed in the hope of keeping her indefinitely in our service, got married and resigned her job just before entering on it. Mrs. Firth has given her time and has spoken in seven places. Miss Laura Clay made several follow-up speeches in Mr. Marsh's territory. I have spoken in seven

Kentucky towns, Mayslick, Flemingsburg, Louisville, Winchester, Versailles, Wilmore, Shelbyville and Frenchburg, organizing a new League in Jessamine, securing new elections or the election of officers where before there had been only chairmen in several. Mrs. T. J. Smith spoke and organized in Bourbon County.

TEACHERS' INSTITUTES

Instead of attempting to send a speaker to every teachers' institute, as we did last year, a letter was written to every County Superintendent saying that a speaker on suffrage would be sent if desired. In not all cases were we able to respond to the request when made, but in ten counties speeches were made. Mrs. Whiteside, of Louisville, Mrs. Post and other Paducah suffragists aided in this work in addition to the persons mentioned above. You will get in the reports of other officers and State Committees other lines of work which have been carried out.

LETTER TO MINISTERS

For the last six months I have worked on the theory that more public sentiment for suffrage must be made in Kentucky before we could expect more live Leagues or very active work from many of our Leagues. To this end a personal letter has been sent to every minister in the State, Catholic, Jewish, Unitarian and all the Protestant denominations, asking each one to use his moral influence for the suffrage cause and to preach at least one sermon on the subject during the year. A leaflet of Miss Alice Blackwell's, reprinted for us by the National, entitled, "To the Ministers of the Gospel," was enclosed with the letters. Very encouraging replies have been received in some instances with requests for more literature. It was designed to follow this letter later with another one enclosing a sample sermon, but that has had to be left for the future. An active Committee on Church Work could undoubtedly do much to make public sentiment for the suffrage cause. A request has been sent to most of the denominations of the State asking that they pass suffrage resolutions at their annual meetings, so far two have complied; the Northern Methodists and the Church of the Disciples of Christ have passed ringing resolutions.

PLATE MATTER FOR NEWSPAPERS

Three columns of plate matter was sent out just before the Democratic Convention to 100 papers over the State. Shortly before our Annual Convention a full page, six columns of plate matter, was sent out to nearly a hundred papers in the State. That this has been widely read is attested by the fact that letters immediately came from West Virginia and Tennessee requesting that Mrs. Philip Snowden be booked for those States. It contained two-column cuts of Mrs. Snowden and Frau Schwimmer and of the suffrage map, and single-column cuts with brief personal notices of the nine members of the Board. Plate-page matter is expensive, but I believe the work put into it and into the effort to get the sympathy of the ministers will probably bring more far-reaching results than any other work done during my three years' term. When there is a general sympathy for suffrage throughout Kentucky the few women in each community who are now willing to make sacrifices for suffrage will not find their sacrifices so unavailing as at present.

Booking Mrs. Snowden in eleven different Kentucky towns is another triumph in the way of making public opinion, of which Mrs. Hutchinson will speak in her report.

PLANKS IN POLITICAL PLATFORMS

Every possible aid has been given to the Federation Committee which attempted to secure suffrage planks in the political platforms. Only the Democratic party has failed to endorse submission and our

staunch friends the Prohibitionists, the Socialists and Progressives have endorsed the principle of woman suffrage also. The plank in the Republican platform will probably mean a solid Republican vote for our submission bill in the next Legislature. This is the most important accomplishment of the year and every suffragist in Kentucky should be grateful to Mrs. Murray Hubbard, who, as Chairman of the Federation Committee, achieved it.

LEGISLATIVE PREPARATION

Forms for our legislative petition for submission have been sent to all local Leagues desiring them and throughout the next two months, until the Legislature convenes, January 1, 1916, active work should be done on these. These are to be returned to this office and presented in bulk to the Legislature. A petition to the Legislature must be stupendous or it is ridiculous. Trial subscriptions to the Woman's Journal were sent to all candidates for the Legislature.

AID TO CAMPAIGN STATES

Mrs. Charles Firth and Mrs. Harry R. Whiteside were sent for about ten weeks' work in the campaign States of New Jersey and New York, the Kentucky Equal Rights Association contributing \$150 for their expenses.

RECOMMENDATIONS

My recommendations to the local Leagues are first the same kind of work we have been doing, only much more of it, speeches, press-work, distribution of literature. The local Leagues will not accomplish much until they come to a realization that the State organization depends on them and that they must not depend so much on the State organization. Though the number of delegates has increased during my term of office as follows: 38 at the Louisville Convention in 1913; 55 at the Owensboro Convention in 1914; and 100 at this Convention of 1915, you will readily see that the great majority of Leagues do not even pay for one delegate at the State Convention.

After putting the maximum strength that we can into the making of public opinion we must then put personal work into building up our local Leagues. I am convinced that this will have to be done by the members of the Board and by the officers and the members of the stronger Leagues. There is very much work for paid organizers, but they can accomplish little without the help of our Board members and other Kentucky suffragists. The personal and social connection is a *sine qua non*.

A Finance Committee for the State Organization must be established. We have largely existed on the generosity of a few people in and out of the State. A solid foundation for the State Organization must be established in the conviction, expressing itself in dollars, of many people; the burden has heretofore been too unequally distributed either for the individuals bearing it or for the good of the organization itself. Press work and more press work, State press work and press work by every local League must be gotten.

The winning of Legislatures and the winning of the electorate will not come in Kentucky, I am convinced, until these other things are effected.

MADLINE MCD. BRECKINRIDGE.

Reports of Special Committees

OFFICERS OF NATIONAL AMERICAN WOMAN'S SUFFRAGE ASSOCIATION

President.....Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, New York
First Vice President.....Mrs. Frank M. Roessing, Pennsylvania
Second Vice President.....Mrs. Katherine Dexter McCormick, Mass.
Third Vice President.....Miss Esther Gracie Ogden, New Jersey
Corresponding Secretary.....Miss Hannah J. Patterson, Pennsylvania
Recording Secretary.....Mrs. James W. Morrisson, Illinois
Treasurer.....Mrs. Emma Winner Rogers, Connecticut
First Auditor.....Mrs. Helen Guthrie Miller, Missouri
Second Auditor.....Mrs. P. R. Jacobs, Alabama

REPORT OF FORTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE NATIONAL AMERICAN WOMAN'S SUFFRAGE ASSOCIATION

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 14-20, 1915.

Kentucky had eleven delegates, as follows: Mrs. Thos. J. Smith, Frankfort; Miss Laura Clay, Lexington; Mrs. Robinson A. McDowell, Louisville; Miss Payne, Frenchburg; Mrs. Charles E. Firth, Covington; Mrs. Jas. Bennett, Richmond; Miss Helen Bennett, Richmond; Mrs. Carlo B. Brittain, Richmond; Mrs. George White, Richmond; Mrs. Edmond Post, Paducah; Miss Laura White, Danville.

The Kentucky Equal Rights Association pledged \$50.00 to the Shaw Annuity Fund, \$25.00 to International Suffrage Alliance, and \$266.00 to the State Fund. The Association was a great success and the following report made of interest.

There were over 500 delegates present. Nearly four million voted in the Equal Suffrage States. The total number of Electoral Votes in Equal Suffrage States were 91. In 1916 the Campaign States are Iowa, South Dakota and West Virginia. Arkansas votes on this question in 1917. In Tennessee the Amendment has passed one Legislature, but must pass two. Something over \$85,000 was raised by the National, and \$30,000, Annuity Fund, for Dr. Shaw, our honorary President. It is interesting to know that Mrs. Medill McCormick gave a donation of \$20,000 during the past two years to carry on the work of our Congressional Committee. Atlantic City, Little Rock and St. Louis extended invitations to the National for next year's Convention. Let us hope for a large delegation at that time.

Respectfully submitted,

LAURA CLAY,

State Member Executive Committee.

REPORT OF CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE

I was appointed in January, 1914, through the recommendation of our President, Chairman for Kentucky of National Congressional Suffrage Committee by Mrs. McCormick.

The first endeavor was to secure chairmen for all of the Congressional Districts of the State. In this work 946 letters have been written to which 286 replies have been received.

It has not been possible to secure an organization in all Districts and only the following have been appointed:

First—Miss Dow Husbands, Paducah.

Second—Mrs. George H. Rudy, Owensboro.

Fourth—Mrs. Charles Shaw, Hodgenville.

Fifth—Mrs. Harry E. Whiteside, Louisville.

Seventh—Miss Rebecca Averill, Frankfort.

Eighth—Mrs. Will Lillard, Lawrenceburg.

Ninth—Mrs. C. M. Freeman, Ashland.

Tenth—Mrs. Joe T. Alderson, Middlesboro.

Eleventh—Mrs. Joe Alderson, Middlesboro.

Efforts to organize the remaining Districts have been persistent, and while the prospect is not encouraging it cannot be said to be altogether hopeless.

Plans are under way to hold "Going-Away" parties in honor of Senators and Representatives. Resolutions will be presented asking their support in Congress of a Suffrage Amendment.

It should be understood that my appointment as chairman and those of the District chairmen are for no fixed tenure.

When the vote on Mondell Resolution was taken in the House, the Hon. John W. Langley was the only Kentucky member to cast an affirmative vote.

Interviews with all members of both Upper and Lower House of Congress have been had, but space forbids incorporating in this report. Respectfully submitted,

MRS. MURRAY HUBBARD.

REPORT OF NEWS CORRESPONDENCE COMMITTEE

The News Correspondence Committee has sent a weekly letter to the Woman's Journal and one article to the New Southern Citizen.

Respectfully submitted,

MARGARET SHAW GRAHAM.

REPORT OF EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE

To the President:

As Chairman of the Educational Committee, I beg to submit the following report:

The function of this committee—namely, the introducing of propaganda in the State through the medium of the public schools—has been performed since I took office, with results that admit of hope, at least, of the future usefulness of the committee.

The plan of work has been to write to the principals of public schools asking them to assign "Woman Suffrage" as a subject for theme and essay work for which the pupil would be given credit in the year's work; and literature has been sent to assist in the preparation of such essays.

At the June meeting of the Board, the President urged that this committee adopt a plan of work similar to one pursued by a certain tax league—a resume of which was set forth in a clipping turned over to this committee.

After a careful examination of this plan—it seems to me identical with that of the Education Committee—with the one difference, i. e., that the tax league has money to offer in prizes and the Education Committee has not.

For effective organization of the work of this committee, a small amount of money to be offered in prizes, is almost essential, and I would suggest that the Board consider the feasibility of making an appropriation for that purpose.

Respectfully submitted,

M. M. ODEN HODGES.

REPORT OF RECORDING SECRETARY

The Board has held three meetings since the adjournment of the last Convention. Besides the routine business the following matters should be called to the attention of this Convention:

The Board authorized letters to be sent to all ministerial associations and all ministers, generally conventions of different denominations, requesting that they endorse suffrage.

Mrs. Mary Hubbard was appointed chairman to present the resolution adopted by the Federation Women's Clubs, calling on the political

parties to insert in their platforms the endorsing of the proposed amendment to the Kentucky Constitution which will enable women to vote.

The Board recommends that Article 5 of the Constitution be amended by adding the words, "A Chairman of Campaign" after the word "Auditor" and before the word "And."

The Board adopted the resolution providing that the annual convention was held in Lexington in November, 1915.

A letter was read by the President from Miss Gordon offering to send free the magazine, "Southern Citizens," and literature to all members of Kentucky Legislature, and the Board requested Miss Gordon to do so.

Respectfully submitted,

VIRGINIA R. MCDOWELL,
Recording Secretary.

REPORT OF STATE FAIR COMMITTEE

To the Convention of the Kentucky Equal Rights Association:

The Board of Directors appointed me as Chairman of the State Fair Suffrage Tent, September 13 to 18, and voted to allow \$75.00 for the expenses of same.

Organization was formed early in the summer. My appointment of a chairman to take charge of each day, to take charge of music, and to take charge of speakers:

For Monday—Mrs. T. W. Crutchér.
For Tuesday—Mrs. Herbert Mengle.
For Wednesday—Mrs. Robert Camer.
For Thursday—Mrs. Lee Bernhem.
For Friday—Mrs. Geo. Yancey.
For Saturday—General Chairman.
Music—Mrs. C. E. Moore.
Speakers—Mr. S. C. Henning.

Each chairman filled her day and planned methods for that day. One special feature was farmers' day, which Mrs. Camer, chairman, called corn day, when the farmers were asked to promise a bushel of corn to the Association when they gathered their crop. We received many promises, and if we never get the corn it was good publicity. Another day a committee of men came and helped.

Each day we had a musical program, ending with a speech. Much literature was passed to the visitors, many more badges were worn than before, and on the whole we noticed a decided change in the attitude towards suffrage. It was no longer in the stage where they would make a joke of it. Everyone was for it or against it, and the increase in sentiment showed at least four times as many in favor as two years ago when the same committee had it in charge, but owing to unfavorable weather and consequent lack of workers, the six days only netted us a gain of 1,525 signed cards; had there been many more workers there would have been many more cards signed.

Your Chairman was present every day and reached the conclusion that there is no better field for suffrage propaganda than at the State Fair; country fairs should be as good in proportion, so we recommend concentration on this work another year. The expense of the week was \$29.85, so a check was returned to the Treasurer of \$20.15, as \$50.00 out of the \$75.00, having been paid to the Chairman.

We are indebted to the Board of Agriculture for the space at the Fair; to the Louisville Herald for the use of telephone, drinking water and many things that saved us expense. The office in Lexington furnished the literature; Baldwin, the piano; Kaufman-Straus moved the furniture; Chairman and all the workers paid their own way, so we were able to do this work at the least possible amount of money.

Respectfully submitted,

VIRGINIA R. MCDOWELL, Chairman.

REPORT OF STATE MEMBER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

As a member of the Executive Board I attended the State meeting in Owensboro last year.

Three addresses have been made by me: One at the Franklin County Teachers' Institute; another at Catlettsburg, and while it was under the auspices of the Illiteracy Commission, I took this occasion to talk woman suffrage as well as no illiteracy in 1920. I also spoke at a banquet at the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, and went with Miss Clay to Stanford to conduct a meeting after Mr. Marsh had organized that town.

I did some work at the State Fair; certainly received an inspiration from the Chairman, Mrs. McDowell, in the way of getting membership cards signed.

It is my pleasure to be chairman of the Political Science Committee of the Kentucky Federation Women's Clubs. Am a member of the Speakers' Bureau, of which Mrs. James A. Leech is chairman, and I have one engagement planned, as I speak on January 10th at the Richmond Woman's Club. I am also Secretary of the Peace Association of Franklin County. Am also a member of the Finance Committee of the National Woman's Suffrage Association, which committee is headed by Mrs. Henry Wade Rogers, the Treasurer of the National Association.

It was a pleasure to work with Mrs. Murray Hubbard in trying to secure the suffrage plank in the Republican and Democratic platforms.

Our school election in Frankfort took a good deal of work, as we had a woman's ticket under the figure of a woman. We had three candidates, and I worked a while at all the precincts. While our candidates were defeated, we did splendid educational work.

I have done more active suffrage work in the Franklin County Association and we feel that we are much better able to assist with the legislative work this year than ever before.

Respectfully submitted,

ELISE BENNETT SMITH,
State Member Executive Committee.

REPORTS OF LOCAL LEAGUES

LOUISVILLE.—This Association now has an enrollment of 4,000. The play, "Your Girl and Mine," was presented and 600 new members secured. Literature was distributed at the State Fair and special committees for each day; new membership totaled 1,525 during State Fair. Headquarters have been maintained with attractive display in windows. Have had teas, music and art exhibits, and one culinary lecture by Mrs. Lawrence; as speakers, Mr. Raymond Robins, of Chicago, and Miss Van Pelt. We plan for the coming year to have lecture in January in connection with the Woman's Club, by Forbes Robertson Hale. Headquarters to be kept open through the winter. Plan to take over one edition of the leading newspapers to be sold throughout the State.

MRS. HERBERT MENGEL, President.

SHELBY COUNTY.—The Shelby County Equal Suffrage League took a new lease on life last summer, following the organization work of Mrs. Knollenburg, who was sent to the League through the generosity of State Headquarters. An earnest Executive Board has endeavored to push the work with the result that a better understanding of the suffrage movement and interest therein is decidedly growing in Shelby County. The League has now 125 members and cards are being signed with encouraging frequency. A number of interesting meetings have been held at the court house, at one of which the one-act tragedy, "War Brides," was read by the President. The League had a suffrage booth at the Shelby County Fair where literature was distributed, and for one week Shelbyville Suffragists enjoyed the privilege of having headquarters, through the courtesy of a leading hardware merchant of Shelbyville, who kindly loaned a large attractive shop-window for suffrage

decoration. Here also literature was distributed. On registration day the League circulated hand-bills broadcast calling the women to register so they could vote later for school trustees. Some delay was occasioned by the election authorities not having provided for the women, having counted too surely on their apathy. In spite of this a good proportion of the women registered. The League felt that the sentiment for suffrage in Shelby County was sufficiently strong to warrant its having Mrs. Snowden speak at the Shelbyville court house on the evening of Sunday, November 7th, realizing that her powerful message would work wonders with some of the recalcitrant citizens of the County. All of the ministers readily accorded their assistance by foregoing their evening services for the occasion. At the annual meeting of the League it was voted to send Mrs. W. C. Hanna and Mrs. Luther Willis as delegates to the Convention, and the following officers were elected for the coming year: Mrs. Samuel T. Castleman, President (pro tem.); Mr. T. D. Williams, First Vice-President; Mrs. Luther Willis, Second Vice-President; Mrs. S. M. Long, Treasurer; Miss Florence Ballard, Corresponding Secretary; Miss Martha Willis, Recording Secretary; Miss Elizabeth Robinson, Magazine Secretary.

MARGARET WEISSINGER CASTLEMAN, President.

FRANKLIN COUNTY.—Work has been done along four lines: First, membership and monthly program meetings, 210. Second, entertainments for money—we made \$100.00 for Equal Rights Association by having a cotton balle (this in the hands of Mrs. Murray, one of our delegates; also helped our Southern countrymen; garden party, \$10.00. Third, giving to the public the suffrage play, "Your Girl and Mine." Fourth, promoting the campaign for three women to fill three vacancies on the Board of Education. While we did not win in this the education along party lines was most salutary. The women spent no money except for announcements, and up to noon were well ahead though their men opponents in the Democratic party (the women were Democrats) did all possible to docket it.

MEADE COUNTY—The Meade County Equal Rights Association held its annual meeting October 23rd. They elected the following officers: President, Mrs. Fred Withers Smith, R. R. 2, West Point, Ky.; Vice-President, Mrs. Lewis Withers, Bartells, Ky.; Secretary and Treasurer, Mrs. Anne Perry, Muldraugh, Ky. This Association has secured 49 new members to our Club. The President, Mrs. Teed Withers Smith, was invited to speak at the State Fair. She accepted the invitation and spoke to a large crowd September 17th. Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Lewis Withers attended a school rally at Brandenburg; they distributed literature and secured names to the petitions to be sent to the Legislature. This Association has donated \$3.50 to the State Association, \$2.00 to campaign fund and \$1.00 for literature.

MRS. TEED WITHERS SMITH, President.

HARDIN COUNTY—Our Kentucky Equal Rights League met October 12th, 1915, at Baptist Church and elected officers. Mrs. Henry Bunger was unanimously elected President; Mrs. Lula Hardiway was elected Vice-President; Mrs. Goldman Hardy was elected Secretary and Treasurer; Miss Josephine Kennedy was appointed a delegate to the State Association. The members of this League have held many irregular meetings and have been faithful to send or distribute literature..

MRS. ADA L. BUNGER, President.

CRITTENDEN COUNTY.—A meeting of the Crittenden County Equal Rights League was held at the residence of the League President, Mrs. Geo. P. Roberts, Saturday, September 25th. Two new members were enrolled. The Treasurer received contributions amounting to \$2.80, to which 70 cents was added to pay for four trial subscriptions to the Woman's Journal to be sent to Congressmen; check for total amount, \$3.50, has been mailed to Mrs. J. B. Judah. No del-

legates were elected to the Convention of the Kentucky Equal Rights Association.

MRS. GEO. P. ROBERTS, President.
MRS. MARY NUNN, Secretary.

BELL COUNTY.—The Bell County Suffrage League has 52 members, men and women. Owing to the absence from the County of the President, Mrs. J. T. Alderson, the meetings were irregular till June, 1915, since which time one meeting has been held each month. Two interesting addresses on Equal Suffrage were recently given to which the public was invited. Several members were added after these lectures. One of the League members gave a talk before the Colored Women's Improvement Club of ten members. Of this number nine registered and eight voted in the recent school election. A Suffrage Tea was held in September, at which \$14.25 was made; \$5.00 of this sum was sent to help the New Jersey campaign. Three dollars and fifty cents dues were paid this year. Suffrage headquarters were maintained in the business part of town for one month. Literature was bought and distributed and several converts to the cause were made in the town and county. Eighteen subscriptions to the Woman's Journal were secured. The Suffrage League, being opposed to existing conditions in the public schools, voted to secure and work for four new members of the School Board. A few women canvassed the four wards to their limits, personally talked to nearly 300 men, had printed and distributed 400 cards having names of new candidates and a request to vote for them; 500 more cards were sent out before election and 600 cards were given out at the polls on day of election. The women were urged to vote; forty of the fifty-five who registered voted for the new Board; both candidates had a large majority. This election made those members of the School Board who are for only the highest standard in the school in the majority, thus doing away with old influences and showing what "Votes for Women" mean in any community.

MRS. STELLA THOMSON HELBURN, Secretary.

CARLISLE COUNTY.—The Carlisle County Equal Rights League held a meeting, October 9th, and elected the following officers: Mrs. Alice Shelbourne, President; Mrs. M. T. Shelbourne, Vice-President; Mrs. Emma Benson, Secretary, and Miss Mabel White, Treasurer, all of Bardwell, Ky.

MRS. ALICE SHELBORNE, President.

BOYLE COUNTY.—Four meetings have been held since last State Convention. December, 1914, our President, Mrs. C. M. Freeman, gave a glowing account of State and National Conventions. Held a parlor meeting with Miss A. T. Hood September 11th; had Mrs. Murray Hubbard and her mother, Mrs. Abner Hood, of Maysville, at that meeting. Mrs. Freeman was appointed Chairman of the Ninth Congressional District. When Morrow was speaking in Catlettsburg he was about to close without mentioning Suffrage for Women; our President sent a little note to that effect; he made a few closing touches. Meeting September 30th, plans were made for a sale to raise money for State pledge of \$3.85 and dues for eight new members. October 28th, the last of the year, was held with Mrs. C. M. Freeman, who was chosen our delegate and delegate-at-large. The possibility of having Mrs. Philip Snowden with us was discussed. Matters have since been arranged and no preventing Providence, Mrs. Snowden will be with us November 17th. We are sending Mrs. J. B. Judah, Treasurer S. E. R. A., five dollars to State pledge and five dollars for fifty paid-up members; first trial of 10 cents dues. Officers of Ashland Equal Rights Association or Boyd County League: President, Mrs. C. M. Freeman, Vice-President, Mrs. J. W. King; Secretary, Mrs. W. H. Bagley; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. A. M. Glenn; Treasurer, Miss A. T. Hord. Greetings to all in Convention.

SARAH T. BAGLEY, Secretary.

CLARK COUNTY.—The Clark County Equal Rights League was organized three years ago last August by Mrs. Desha Breckinridge. Mrs.

John Graham Jones was elected President. Seventeen were enrolled. We had a few meetings from time to time, and some able addresses by Mrs. Breckinridge, Mrs. Firth and Miss Lily Glenn, of Washington, D. C. For several years we have not been very active, but of late have gained inspiration by the visit of our State President, Mrs. Desha Breckinridge, who knows no such word as fail. Mrs. Breckinridge visited us during September, while attending the Clark County Teachers' Institute, and the regular election of officers was held, as follows: Mrs. Lucien Beckner, President; Mrs. John G. Johns, First Vice-President; Mrs. Al Kohlhass, Second Vice-President; Mrs. Claude Scobee, Third Vice-President; Miss Goldie Perry, Secretary; Mrs. John Taliaferro Beckner, Treasurer. We hold regular monthly meetings in the City Hall, and have held two called meetings. The most important work that we have done was completed last week, when the Clark County Equal Rights League elected four out of seven city school trustees after hard work, with the machine against us. The old Board, politicians, daily paper, and other influences which I will not mention here, fought us; but we knew no such word as defeat. We also had two women candidates on our ticket, and while they were not winners, still they showed that they were a power in the community. We visited every precinct and handed out our candidates' cards, kept a regular tally of the votes of our slate; at 4 o'clock the polls closed, and while quite a number of the women could not vote, still over a hundred and forty men were deprived of the ballot, the precinct being too large. We held an exchange on October 23rd for campaign funds for our ticket. We expect soon to have an old-fashioned spelling match to increase our treasury, which at present is exhausted. Our membership is increasing all the time, and we are growing slowly, but surely. Four new members have been added since our last meeting.

MARIE WARREN BECKNER, President.

DAVIESS COUNTY—Our organization began with 34 members in April, 1913. Officers elected at that time and still serving are as follows: President, Mrs. George Rudy; First Vice-President, Mr. T. S. Pettit; Second Vice-President, Mrs. W. M. Rudd; Third Vice-President, Rev. J. A. Gallaher; Treasurer, Mrs. J. D. Hayes; Recording Secretary, Mrs. J. A. Dean; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Virginia Duncan. Membership now numbers 300. A prize of twenty dollars to best speech on Woman's Suffrage in Owensboro High School, ten dollar prize to county schools; had many debates in school. Literature distributed during Chautauqua. Literature containing information relative to voting for school trustees, distributed through the county. County school teachers entertained a speaker at County Institute. Method of electing school trustees was investigated and secret ballot secured. The Association has had the following speakers: Miss Clay, Mrs. Weaver, Mrs. Breckinridge, Mr. R. A. McDowell and Mrs. Philip Snowden.

MADISON COUNTY.—This has been a progressive year for our Association. We have a press committee who contribute such articles on Suffrage as will be of interest to the public through our three weekly newspapers; we have our own Club room, and a large number of cards have been distributed and many of them signed. Our free-will offerings have gone beyond those of former years. We have a nice balance in our treasury. At the solicitation of our Club, Mrs. Philip Snowden gave a lecture in the First Christian Church on the evening of November 6th to a large and enthusiastic audience. Proceeds of play, "Your Girl and Mine," all sent to National. Some subscriptions to the Woman's Journal. Ten dollars prize offered for the best Suffrage speech at the Normal.

KATE G. WIGGINS, Recording Sec'y.

HOPKINS COUNTY.—Have held one Suffrage meeting which was well attended; also distributed quite a lot of literature. Possibly the members of this Convention will be pleased to learn that at a Sunday School Convention of the Christian Church held at Madisonville, Ky., a

few weeks ago a motion was made in favor of Woman's Suffrage; many knowing this motion would be made were apprehensive of much opposition, but strange to say the motion was made, seconded and carried without a dissenting voice. This movement is taking on a new phase. It is no longer its highest aim to acquire powers in politics, to be on an equality with men, but a desire in the heart of every good woman—that she may have this privilege that she can better fight the great moral evils which have been a blot to civilization and a disgrace to American liberty. It seems to be an awakening in the way God has prescribed, and when it fully penetrates into the ways of Eternal truths, its highest fruition, its most glorious consummation will have been accomplished. The Eternal truth shall make you free. And then indeed will dawn the age of true chivalry in which man shall honor woman by recognizing her as worthy to be his comrade, wife and best friend.

MERCER COUNTY—A meeting was held at which the following members were elected: President, Mrs. J. B. Williams; Treasurer, Miss Martha Stephenson; Chairman, Mrs. Glover Kyle.

WARREN COUNTY—Our Association has done little work during the past year. The President was out of the State for six months. We keep a supply of Suffrage literature on hand and give it to the students of our various schools when they have suffrage debates. Mrs. Snowden lectured for us November 13th. By the combined efforts of the Educational Committee of the Current Topics Club and of the Suffragists nearly three hundred women were induced to register, but after all our labors we were unable to get suitable candidates for school trustees, and the old Board was re-elected. We are circulating the petitions to the Legislature for a Constitutional amendment conferring full suffrage on women.

LIDA CALVERT OBENCHAIN, President.

McCRACKEN COUNTY.—The McCracken County Equal Rights Association of Paducah, Ky., was organized by the President of Kentucky Equal Rights Association, Mrs. Desha Breckinridge, February, 1912, with sixty members. Present enrollment, 350 members—men and women. Work of this year has been largely educational. Meetings held on the second and fourth Fridays in Carnegie Library, open to the public. Interesting lectures: "Kentucky Laws of Interest to Women," by John G. Miller, Jr.; "The New Idealism in Business," by Will I. Scott; "If Women Were Human," by Anne Sherill Baird, and "The Suffragists of the Bible," by Miss Fowler. Work done for the county, annual luncheon for Teachers' Institute on court house lawn; suffrage speech, distributed literature and gained 35 members. Supplied literature and speaker for Livingston County and gained ten members for local League. Sent literature to Fulton County Teachers' Institute. "Publicity," the photo-drama, "Your Girl and Mine," brought to Paducah the greatest argument known for Suffrage. Civic parade at summer Chautauqua, five members carried banner, "In Kentucky 85,000 Voters Can't Read Their Ballots—We Could." In Elks' parade, 4th of July, two Suffrage cars received honorable mention. In photo play made in Paducah, E. R. Newbers carried parasols and pennants, "Votes for Women." Tea given on lawns, at home of President, for Congressional Chairman, Mrs. Murray Hubbard, who spoke from balcony to many people. At McCracken County Fair, the rest room was Suffrage headquarters, gained 171 members. In Paducah High School, an annual gold medal to given to best girl orator in declamatory contest. A free night school taught in the factory district by three ardent Suffragists. McCracken County Equal Rights Press Committee edits a Sunday column, "Signs of the Times," in News-Democrat. Hebe Hamilton, Chairman of Press, Suffrage article on Sunday, widely read. Supplied Suffrage literature for Suffrage debates to young men and class of Methodist church, also Rotary Club. In co-operation with Woman's Club, elected to Board of Education our First Vice-President, Miss Dow Husbands; two women on School Board are Suffragists. Have paid to State \$35.00 in dues.

Sent 24 subscriptions to Woman's Journal. President of Equal Rights Association sent petition, representing women's organization (1,060 women), peace plea to President Wilson November 8th. Plans for future, Mrs. Philip Snowden will speak at Kentucky theatre November 16th. Organizations in the thirteen other counties in the First District. Officers: Mrs. E. M. Post, President; Miss Dow Husbands, First Vice-President; Miss Anne Sheril Baird, Second Vice-President; Mrs. Robt. Phillips, Third Vice-President; Anna Mae Yeiser, Recording Secretary; Julia Husbands, Corresponding Secretary; Mrs. Gip Husbands, Treasurer.

HANCOCK COUNTY.—The Hancock County Equal Rights Association held its annual election of officers at the home of Mrs. G. D. Chambers on April 23, 1915. Those elected were: Miss Floretta M. Buhr, President; Mrs. G. D. Chambers, Vice President; Mrs. Mary Foley, second Vice President; Mrs. George Bentley, Corresponding Secretary; Mrs. Jesse Carlton, Recording Secretary; Mrs. Margaret Maston, Treasurer. The celebration of May 1st, "Universal Suffrage" day, was observed here at the court house on Saturday afternoon. The court room was decorated in the yellow suffrage colors and yellow flowers. Mr. George W. Jolly, of Owensboro, made a splendid and convincing address for the equality of men and women, also a strong appeal for national prohibition. Mr. Jolly gave his time and expenses free toward the cause. About ten cards of membership were signed. Mrs. James H. Snowden, of New York, formerly Miss Marian Adair, of Hawesville, contributed \$10.00 to Miss Buhr during the year to use as she desires and in the most profitable way for the cause.

FLORETTA M. BUHR, President.

WOODFORD COUNTY.—Miss Frances Steel, President, Midway, Ky.; Mrs. Lewis Johnstone, First Vice President, Versailles, Ky.; Miss Josephine Carter, Second Vice President, Versailles, Ky.; Miss Jeannette Thornton, Treasurer, Versailles, Ky.; Mrs. Laura S. Estill Williams, Secretary, Versailles, Ky. Our League was organized in July. Mrs. Breckinridge and other ladies from Lexington came down; Mrs. Breckinridge spoke and the officers were elected that day. We meet the fourth Monday in each month. At our meeting in October we had Mrs. Harrison, of Lexington, who gave a lively convincing talk on the subject. We have offered a prize of \$75.00 to the man, woman or child who secures the largest number of signers to the cards, and \$25.00 for the best essay written by any child in the county. Both to be decided by the first of April. In each week's edition of the county paper we have "The Woman's Column," and our Press Chairman, Mrs. R. G. Lowrey (who is a very gifted and enthusiastic woman) keeps us before the public. We have about 150 names now. We are taking about 25 copies of The Journal, and while we are the "Baby League" yet I feel that we are all enthusiastic.

Cordially yours,

LAURA S. ESTILL WILLIAMS.

FLEMING COUNTY.—Officers of Fleming County Equal Suffrage League are as follows: President, Mrs. W. W. Ross, Flemingsburg; First Vice President, Mrs. C. W. Henderson, Flemingsburg; Second Vice President, Miss Rose Lander, Flemingsburg; Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary and Treasurer, Mrs. L. C. Demaree, Flemingsburg, Ky.

FAYETTE COUNTY.—The Fayette Equal Rights Association has closed a year of wonderful activity and splendid success. A substantial gain in interest and membership has been the gratifying result. In January, 1915, a Cotton Ball was given at the Phoenix Hotel and \$94.00 was realized. In April, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, of England, spoke at the Ben Ali Theatre to a very large audience. In May, Miss Frances Jewell, chairman of a committee to produce a suffrage play, gave "How the Vote Was Won" in the ball room of the Phoenix Hotel. It was excellently acted by Lexington amateurs. In May also "Suffrage

Day" was celebrated with an automobile parade, gay with yellow bunting and flags, followed by an open-air meeting and speaking in Duncan Park. Fayette E. R. A. sent delegates to the Women's Club Federation meeting in May. During the summer an active committee worked under Mrs. W. D. Drake as chairman to secure subscriptions for the Woman's Journal. Ninety-two were secured. At the Blue Grass Fair, in August, a tent was kept open with a committee in charge each day. Five hundred new members were secured during the week. In September the Fayette E. R. A., in connection with the Woman's Club and the W. C. T. U., supported a woman candidate for the school board. Mrs. Elizabeth King Smith made a splendid race and received two thousand, five hundred votes, being defeated by only one hundred and fifteen. The annual meeting of the Fayette E. R. A. was held on September 13th in the Phoenix ball room, and officers as follows were elected: President, Mrs. E. L. Hutchinson, 631 East Main Street; First Vice President, Mrs. F. O. Young, 257 South Limestone; Second Vice President, Mrs. W. D. Frake, 140 Barr Street; Third Vice President, Mrs. W. F. Clore, 265 South Ashland Avenue; Treasurer, Mrs. Curry Tunis, 442 Fayette Park; Secretary, Miss Margaret Preston, Hampton Court. In November the State Equal Rights Association met in Lexington and the Fayette E. R. A. provided entertainment and hospitality for all the delegates. Fayette Equal Rights Association during the year, to December 15th, \$717.92; Expenditures to December 15th, \$654.57.

Respectfully submitted,

MRS. F. O. YOUNG,

First Vice President, Fayette E. R. A.

Constitution and By-Laws of the Kentucky Equal Rights Association

(As Amended in 1912.)

MOTTO—"If ye abide in my word, * * * ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

Constitution

ARTICLE I (NAME)—This Association shall be known as "The Kentucky Equal Rights Association," auxiliary to the National American Woman Suffrage Association.

ARTICLE II (OBJECT)—Its object shall be to advance the industrial, educational and legal rights of women, and to secure suffrage to them by appropriate State and National legislation.

ARTICLE III (MEMBERSHIP)—Any local organization may become auxiliary to the State Equal Rights Association by endorsing the Constitution and paying dues to the State Treasurer. Any State organization for other objects, who endorse woman's suffrage, may become auxiliary, by the payment of one dollar annually to the State Treasurer. Any person may become a member of this Association by endorsing the Constitution and paying dues to the State Treasurer. No distinction on account of sex shall be made in membership or eligibility to office in this Association.

ARTICLE IV (FINANCE)—Each local Association shall pay annually to the State Treasurer the amount of thirty-five cents per member of each auxiliary; ten cents of which shall go to the National American Woman Suffrage Association. Each member of the State Equal Rights Association, not a member of an auxiliary local Association, shall pay annually to the State Treasurer the amount of one dollar.

ARTICLE V (GENERAL OFFICERS)—The general officers shall be a Pres-

ident, three Vice-Presidents, a Corresponding Secretary, a Recording Secretary, a Treasurer, an Auditor, a Chairman of Campaign and the State member of the National Executive Committee. These general officers shall constitute an Executive Committee to provide for and control the general interest of work, of whom three shall constitute a quorum when assembled, or a majority may act by correspondence in response to a circular letter addressed to every member of the Executive Committee, not less than ten days beforehand by the President.

ARTICLE VI (ANNUAL MEETING)—The annual meeting shall be composed of the Executive Committee, the State Superintendent of Press work, Chairmen of Standing Committees, ex-State President, one delegate at large and one delegate for every ten paid-up members, for the current year, from each auxiliary State Association. The time and place of the annual meeting shall be chosen by the Executive Committee, and at this annual meeting the general officers and delegates to the National American Woman Suffrage Association Convention shall be elected.

The general officers elected at the end of every term of three years, except Auditor and member of National Executive Committee, counting from the Convention of 1903, shall be the Board of Directors of the corporation of the Kentucky Equal Rights Association, and shall hold the same positions respectively as in the Executive Committee of the State Association.

ARTICLE VII (AMENDMENTS)—This Constitution may be altered or amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any annual meeting.

By-Laws

ARTICLE I (DUTIES OF OFFICERS)—SECTION 1. PRESIDENT: The President may call special meetings of the Executive Committee, when he or she may deem it necessary, or in response to the written request of any three members of the Executive Committee, and shall perform other duties usual to such officers.

SEC. 2. CORRESPONDING SECRETARY: It shall be the duty of the Corresponding Secretary to conduct the correspondence; to send to each local auxiliary at least one month before the annual meeting a blank for their report for the current year. She shall then collate from such reports her own annual report.

SEC. 3. RECORDING SECRETARY: The Recording Secretary shall also be Secretary of the Executive Committee. He or she shall attend all meetings of the Association and of the Executive Committee, and keep correct record of their proceedings, and shall apprise members of committee of their appointments. At the first session of each annual meeting she shall read the minutes of all sessions of the Executive Committee, since the last annual meeting in their proper order, for the information of the annual meeting, and shall perform such duties usually pertaining to such office.

SEC. 4. TREASURER: It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to keep accurate account of all receipts and disbursements of money, and present a detailed report thereof to each annual meeting. He or she pay no bills except on an order signed by the President and Recording Secretary. The fiscal year shall terminate January 1st.

ARTICLE II (PLAN OF WORK)—To forward the objects of this Association the following lines of work are adopted and their efficient prosecution shall be provided for by the annual meeting of the Executive Committee: First, distribution of literature; second, press work; third, legislative and petition work. Any other lines of work consistent with the aims of this Association may be taken up when recommended by the Executive Committee and approved by the annual meeting.

The Executive Committee shall constitute, ex-officio, a Lecture Bureau, and shall from time to time arrange such lecture tours for public speakers as ways and means seem to justify.

An Advisory Committee of men and women shall be appointed, consisting of one member from each State Senatorial District, or, where possible, one from each State Representative District, with whom the officers of the Association may consult in regard to the interests of the work in their respective districts.

ARTICLE III (VOTING)—Each local Association may cast the full vote to which it is entitled as set forth in Article VI of the Constitution. General officers, Superintendent of Press Work and the Chairmen of Standing Committees must vote in person, and their vote cannot be cast otherwise. Local delegates present may cast, pro rata, the vote of absentees.

ARTICLE IV (ELECTION OF OFFICERS)—SECTION 1. The officers shall be elected on the morning of the last day of the annual meeting, and in the following manner: Tellers having been appointed by the meeting, an informal ballot shall be cast for each office separately, and the members of the Convention shall then proceed to vote by ballot for the person nominated, or the informal ballot may be made the formal ballot by vote of the meeting.

SEC. 2. The Press Superintendent and Advisory Committee and Chairmen of Standing Committees shall be nominated by the Executive Committee and elected by the annual meeting. The election of the Chairmen of Committees and the delegates to the National Convention, shall be by acclamation, unless otherwise ordered.

SEC. 3. The Executive Committee may fill any vacancies occurring in the interim of the annual meeting.

SEC. 4. Counting from the Convention of 1913, the terms of office of the President, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer and Auditor shall be extended one year, making a term of three years from their election; and the term of all officers elected at the Convention of 1913, except the member of the Executive Committee of the National American Woman Suffrage Association, shall expire in 1915, in order that the term of office of the seven officers which the Articles of Incorporation of the Kentucky Equal Rights Association specify as officers of that corporation shall be three years in multiples from 1903.

The President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Third Vice-President, Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary and Treasurer shall be elected in 1915 and every third year thereafter; the Auditor in 1914 and every third year thereafter, and the member of the Executive Committee of the National American Woman Suffrage Association in 1913 and every third year thereafter.

No officer shall be eligible for the same office for two consecutive terms.

ARTICLE V (COMMITTEES)—SECTION 1. The following Committees shall be appointed on the first morning of the annual meeting; on Credentials, on Publications, on Auditing, on Resolutions and on Courtesies.

SEC. 2. The Executive Committee, Press Superintendent and Chairmen of Standing Committees, ex-State President, shall meet in joint session previous to the annual meeting, to prepare a plan of work to be submitted to the said annual meeting, and shall hold another meeting at the close of these to complete arrangements for the ensuing year's work.

SEC. 3. The Executive Committee shall be the Business Committee of the annual meeting.

ARTICLE VI (DUTIES OF COMMITTEES)—ON CREDENTIALS: SECTION 1. The Committee on Credentials shall consist of two or more, of whom the Corresponding Secretary shall be Chairman. They shall receive and examine credentials of delegates, and approve such as are signed by the President or Secretary of local Associations represented; shall report to the Convention, setting forth the whole number of delegates present, and in the following order:

1. General officers.
2. Superintendent of Press Work, Chairmen of Standing Committees.
3. Delegates from local Associations.

SEC. 2. ON PUBLICATIONS: The Committee on Publications shall consist of two or more. It shall solicit subscriptions for suffrage papers, shall provide for the publication of the minutes and all other papers ordered to be published by the Convention. The Recording Secretary shall be Chairman of this Committee.

SEC. 3. ON RESOLUTIONS: The Committee on Resolutions shall consist of three, and shall perform the duties usual to such committee.

SEC. 4. ON COURTESIES: The Committee on Courtesies shall have charge of all introductions to the Convention.

ARTICLE VII.—All documents and announcements from general officers shall be sent to each local auxiliary.

ARTICLE VIII.—The expenses of the general officers and the Press Superintendent, in traveling to and from the Convention, also postage and stationery, shall be paid from the State treasury.

ARTICLE IX (BOOK OF REFERENCE)—Roberts' Rules of Order are adopted as a book of reference on points of parliamentary laws.

ARTICLE X—These By-Laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any annual meeting.

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