

**MINUTES**  
OF THE  
**Fourteenth Annual Convention**  
OF  
**The Kentucky Equal**  
**Rights Association**

HELD AT  
**Guild Hall**  
**Trinity Episcopal Church**  
**Covington, Ky.**  
**November 11-12, 1903**

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**"If Ye Abide in My Word \* \* \* Ye Shall Know  
the Truth and the Truth Shall Make you Free."**

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## OFFICERS

—OF—

### THE KENTUCKY EQUAL RIGHTS ASSOCIATION.

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*President.*

MISS LAURA CLAY.....Lexington, Ky.

*First Vice-President.*

MRS. MARY B. CLAY.....Richmond, Ky.

*Second Vice-President.*

MRS. MARY C. CRAMER.....Lexington, Ky.

*Third Vice-President.*

MRS. N. S. McLAUGHLIN, 1011 Scott St.....Covington, Ky.

*Corresponding Secretary.*

MRS. MARY C. ROARK.....Lexington, Ky.

*Recording Secretary.*

MRS. EMMA M. ROEBUCK, 112 W. Front St.....Newport, Ky.

*Treasurer.*

MRS. ISABELLA SHEPARD, 31 E. 12th St.....Covington, Ky.

*Superintendents.*

*Bible Study.*

MRS. ELLEN V. GIBSON.....Richmond, Ky.

*Press Work.*

MRS. L. C. OBENCHAIN.....Bowling Green, Ky.

*National Enrollment and Petition Work.*

MRS. S M. HUBBARD.....Hickman, Ky.

*Work Among Young People.*

MRS. JOHN BURK.....Newport, Ky.

*Advancement of Women's Work.*

MISS ANNA Morgan.....Newport, Ky.

*Political Study.*

MRS. A. M. HARRISON.....Lexington, Ky.

*Literature.*

MRS. SUSAN LOOK AVERY.....Louisville, Ky.

*Educational Opportunities for Women.*

MRS. CAROLINE LEECH.....Louisville, Ky.

*State Historian*

MISS HALLIE HERNDON.....Frankfort, Ky.



MINUTES  
OF THE  
FOURTEENTH ANNUAL CONVENTION  
OF  
THE KENTUCKY EQUAL RIGHTS ASSOCIATION,  
TRINITY CHURCH, COVINGTON, KY.,  
November 11 and 12, 1903.

EXECUTIVE and PLAN OF WORK COMMITTEE MEETING,  
NOVEMBER 11th, AT 9 A. M.

The President, Miss Laura Clay in the Chair.

The Committee decided to recommend the following plan of work to the convention:

That we continue our efforts to obtain school suffrage from the legislature, for all women in the state.

That we ask for Presidential suffrage for women.

That we endeavor to obtain for mothers the co-guardianship of minor children, equal with fathers.

That we ask for a bill making it mandatory to appoint women on the Board of Trustees of the State College.

That we pay to our Press Superintendent a salary of \$5.00 a month as long as there are free will offerings sufficient.

That we elect a Corresponding Secretary who lives in the same city as the State President.

That if there are sufficient free will offerings, the state employ Dr. Francis Wood for a month's lecturing throughout the state.

That as many news letters be sent to the local presidents as they will distribute.

That we appoint a State Historian.

That we amend Article 6 of the constitution, and put the office of State Historian next to that of State Organizer.

That the delegates to the National Convention go uninstructed as to what pledge of money shall be made to the N. A. W. S. A.

That we incorporate the State Association.

That if the State Association succeeds in raising a club of 25 new subscribers to the *Woman's Journal*, the disposition of the same



be left to the choice of the local Associations, whether it shall be put in the state treasury or returned to the locals proportionately to the number of subscribers they send

That we leave the adoption of the plan of Mrs. Hackstaff, Chairman of the Committee on Enrollment of the N. A. W. S. A., to the choice of each local association.

That we adopt the plan of the Chairman of the Committee on Increase of Membership of the N. A. W. S. A. (See reports.)

Committee rose.

### MORNING SESSION.

Convention called to order at ten o'clock by the President, Miss Laura Clay.

Scriptural reading by Mrs. Elizabeth Cook, followed with a prayer by the President.

Moved that the program be made the order of business.

The Chair appointed the following committees:

Credentials—Mrs. S. M. Hubbard; Finance—Mrs. N. S. McLaughlin; Auditing—Mrs. Alice H. White; Courtesies—Mrs. Mary E. Giltner; Subscription to *Woman's Journal*—Mrs. Jennie Cleveland; Subscriptions to *Progress*—Mrs. Ida M. Beck.

Resolutions Committee consisted of one member from each local association represented.

Minutes of the Executive meeting, January, 1903, were read.

Report of circular letters from the President to members of the Executive Committee, in which vote was taken to pay \$20.00 to Press Superintendent for postage and stationery, \$25.00 for the Woman's Council at Lexington, and the invitation was accepted from the 20th Century Club to hold the convention in Covington.

Report of the chairman of the Woman's Council at the Lexington Chatauqua was read by Mrs. Mary C. Cramer and accepted.

Moved that the plan of work recommended by the Executive Committee be considered seriatim.

Moved that we pay the Press Superintendent, Mrs. L. C. Obenchain, a salary of \$5.00 a month, provided there are free-will offerings sufficient.

Moved that we elect a Corresponding Secretary who resides in the same city from which the President is elected.

Moved that the State Association employ Dr. Francis Wood



Gen Capt H Prentiss 9-12-58

for a month's lecturing throughout the state, provided there are sufficient free-will offerings.

Moved that as many Kentucky E. R. A. news letters be sent to each local president as they will distribute.

Moved that each local president send news items to the state president for the news letters.

Moved that, in accordance with the recommendation of the National Association, we appoint a State Historian.

Moved to amend Article 6 of the constitution and put the office of State Historian next to that of State Organizer, thereby giving her a seat in the convention. Passed unanimously.

Moved that we incorporate the State Association.

Moved that a committee be appointed to inquire into the details of incorporation and report before the convention adjourned. Chair appointed Mrs. Isabella Shepard and Mrs. N. S. McLaughlin for this committee.

Moved that we continue our petition to the General Assembly to grant school suffrage to all women.

The delegates from the Fayette E. R. A. having been instructed, presented the following resolution: "Recognizing the menace to good government of our present illiterate vote, we recommend to the State Equal Rights Association that it hereafter asks for suffrage for women with an educational qualification.

Moved that we accept the recommendation of the Fayette E. R. A. Passed unanimously.

Convention adjourned until 2 o'clock.

**AFTERNOON SESSION.**

Convention resumed at 2 o'clock.

Mrs. S. M. Hubbard led the devotional exercises.

Minutes of the morning session read and approved.

Reports of the Superintendents of Press Work, of Literature and of the Advancement of Woman's Work were read and accepted.

Report of the Member of the Executive Committee of the N. A. W. S. A. was read and accepted.

As Mrs. Kate Trimble Wolsey was not present to address the convention as appeared on the program, Mrs. N. S. McLaughlin read a paper by Mrs. Wolsey, which was much enjoyed.

Mrs. Sarah Schrader of the Cincinnati 20th Century Club addressed the convention and spoke most entertainingly on Lucy Stone.



Miss Laura Clay, our State President, gave her annual address. She said in part:

"There are distinct advances on several lines in the State Association. One of them is printing the Kentucky Equal Rights *News Letter*. It is not intended to make this letter a newspaper depending on subscriptions. We desire to encourage our members to subscribe to the *Woman's Journal*, which has in it the National column, the official organ of the N. A. W. S. A., and to *Progress*, a small sheet published by the N. A. W. S. A., and of which free copies, equal to the number of subscribers, are sent to editors, ministers, college professors and other influential persons. \* \* \* \* For the first time our Association has made a systematic use of one of our large Summer Chatauqua Assemblies. Under the able management of Mrs. Mary C. Roark, the State and the Fayette E. R. A.'s combined to hold a Woman's Council through the whole session of the Lexington Chatauqua. \* \* \* Everywhere there is a growing conviction that our question is a live question of the day. I believe that ours is really the most popular reform of the day. What we need is organization. \* \* \* \* We are happy to welcome into our ranks the Jessamine E. R. A.. organized on Nov. 2nd."

Report of committee on credentials was received and accepted.

The convention returned to the consideration of the suggestions of the committee on Plan of Work.

The courtesies of the floor were extended to Mrs. Sarah Schraeder, and she was invited to take part in the discussions.

Moved that co-guardianship, of father and mother, of minor children, shall be one of the bills asked from the Legislature.

Moved that we ask the Legislature for Presidential suffrage

Moved that we ask the Legislature to make it mandatory to have women on the Board of Trustees of the State College.

It was decided that the distribution of the premium on the state club of the *Woman's Journal* shall be awarded to the local association which obtained the subscribers.

Moved that we adopt the plan of the chairman of the committee on Increase of Membership of the N. A. W. S. A.

The chairman of this committee advises that the requirements of membership in local Suffrage Associations shall be simplified, so as to throw no duties upon the individual who does not care to assume them, except those which cannot be delegated. All other necessary ones for maintaining organization should be performed by official members, with such aid from the others as may be given of free will. An analysis shows that there is but one duty which cannot be delegated to officers; and that is to "stand up and be counted" by subscribing to our principles and by paying annual dues.

The chairman recommends, therefore:

The local clubs adopt this simple requirement as the sole obligation of an



unofficial member; the member agreeing, in order to spare the treasurer the appearance of importunity, that the dues for each year may be asked for until paid, or the year closes. No back dues should be collected.

Also, that the duties of local officers shall be simplified. Where there is difficulty in maintaining frequent meetings, only one meeting annually, for the election of officers and the transaction of other business, shall be obligatory.

Of course they may undertake any other meetings or work they may desire and consider feasible with the resources they have at hand; but they should direct their chief activity to increasing the membership. In doing this or any other work, they may freely ask aid from unofficial members; taking care to be moderate in their expectations, and to use tact in asking what is likely to be congenial to the person asked; and also remembering that the member so asked is perfectly free to decline.

The officers shall collect the dues; and all of them, especially the treasurer, should be strongly imbued with a sense of the dignity and importance of this duty. since without a careful collection of dues, all the efforts of the club to increase the "argument of numbers" will be thwarted.

They should co-operate as far as possible with the plans of the State and National Association. To promote mutual helpfulness between the State and local associations, it is recommended: That State officers shall keep in touch with local clubs by quarterly or monthly letters, constantly inculcating that increasing membership is their most indispensable service. That they shall maintain work for education and agitation by a vigorous use of the newspaper press, under the superintendency of the National Press Committee; by a systematic distribution of literature; and by sending a speaker and organizer at least once a year, and as much oftener as practicable, throughout the State. In these efforts they should ask the co-operation of the officers of the local clubs, as far as practicable.

Adjourned until 10 o'clock Thursday morning.

#### **Thursday Morning, Nov. 12.**

Executive Committee met Thursday morning at 9 o'clock.

After reading a letter from Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, presenting the subject of Child Labor, it was decided unadvisable to recommend any action on the subject to the convention.

Convention called to order at 10 o'clock.

Devotional exercises led by Mrs. Mary R. Paterson.

Minutes of previous session read and approved.

Report of State Treasurer, Mrs. Isabella H. Shepard, was received and the books placed in the hands of the Auditing Committee.

Letter was read from the Corresponding Secretary, Miss Annie Miller, who was unable to attend the convention. She regretted this, and thought that this important office should be filled by a



woman with time for the work. She expressed her appreciation of the cordiality of the members everywhere to herself.

Letters of greeting were read from our National Honorary President, Susan B. Anthony, calling attention to the celebration of the birthday of Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and to the history of Woman's Suffrage; also from our National Treasurer, Harriet Taylor Upton.

Letter was read from the national committee on the celebration of Lucy Stone's birthday, August 13th.

The President urged all to use the suffrage stamps on envelopes of their letters.

Reports from the local associations were:

Mrs. Mary R. Paterson gave a verbal report of what Lancaster had done.

Mrs. S. M. Hubbard gave an encouraging report of work done at Hickman.

Mrs. Alice White reported awakened interest at Louisville.

Mrs. Mary C. Cramer read report from the Fayette E. R. A.

Mrs. N. S. McLaughlin read report of the Covington 20th Century Club.

Mrs. Amanda Stimson read report of the Campbell Co. E. R. A.

Mrs. Isabella Shepard reported from the Kenton Co. E. R. A.

Report of the Corresponding Secretary was read and accepted.

President urged the locals to raise clubs of six for the *Woman's Journal*, and ten for *Progress* so as to secure the reduced club rates.

Moved that we take up the election of officers.

Mrs. Mary R. Paterson and Mrs. Mary L. Ogle were appointed tellers.

The election resulted as follows:

For President, Miss Laura Clay, of Lexington.

The local committee, having announced luncheon was ready, requested that we postpone the remainder of the election until the afternoon meeting.

Adjourned.

#### Thursday Afternoon.

Convention resumed at 1.30 o'clock.

Devotional exercises conducted by Mrs. M. W. Bender, of Louisville.

Minutes of morning session read and approved.

Convention returned to the election of officers with the following results:

First Vice-President, Mrs. Mary B. Clay of Richmond.

Second Vice-President, Mrs. Mary C. Cramer of Lexington.

Third Vice-President, Mrs. N. S. McLaughlin of Covington.



Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Mary C. Roark of Lexington.

Recording Secretary, Mrs. Emma M. Roebuck of Newport.

Treasurer, Mrs. Isabella H. Shepard of Covington.

Chair declared an intermission of five minutes to allow the Executive Committee to nominate superintendents.

The following superintendents were nominated:

Bible Study, Mrs. Ellen V. Gibson.

Press Work, Mrs. L. C. Obenchain.

National Enrollment and Petition Work, Mrs. S. M. Hubbard.

Work Among Young People, Mrs. John Burk.

Advancement of Woman's Work, Miss Anna Morgan.

Political Study, Mrs. A. M. Harrison.

Literature, Mrs. Susan Look Avery.

Educational Opportunities for Woman, Mrs. Caroline Leech.

State Historian, Miss Hallie Herndon.

The courtesies of the floor were extended to the Rev. Anna Shaw, and she was made a member of the convention.

Moved that the nominations of the Executive Committee for Superintendents and State Historian be accepted as a whole.

Moved that we nominate our delegates to the National Convention by acclamation.

The nominations were:

Member of National Executive Committee—Mrs. Mary Giltner, Covington.

Delegates—Mrs. Mary C. Roark, Lexington; Mrs. George C. Avery, Louisville; Mrs. Mary L. Ogle, Covington; Mrs. Sarah Charles, Newport; Mrs. Mary C. Cramer, Lexington; Mrs. A. C. Ellis, Covington; Mrs. Ida M. Beck, Covington; Miss Laura Bruce, Lexington.

As we were entitled to only four delegates they were chosen by ballot from the nominees, and the balloting resulted as follows:

Mrs. Mary L. Ogle, Covington; Mrs. Mary C. Cramer, Lexington; Miss Laura Bruce, Lexington; Mrs. Mary C. Roark, Lexington.

Moved that nominations for alternates be by acclamation.

Nominations for alternates:

Mrs. N. S. McLaughlin, Covington; Mrs. Sarah Charles, Newport; Mrs. Ida M. Beck, Covington; Mrs. Mary R. Paterson,



Lanaster; Prof. Giltner, Covington; Mrs. A. C. Ellis, Covington; Mrs. M. W. Bender, Louisville.

Nominations closed.

Moved that if, when the delegates arrive in Washington at the National Convention, there is a vacancy, they have the power to appoint some member of the Kentucky E. R. A. present, to fill the vacancy.

Moved that the first alternate fill the first vacancy, the second alternate the second vacancy, etc., including the executive committee member.

The committee on incorporation reported that Judge James Tarvin offered to attend to all the business pertaining thereto.

Moved that the convention accept Judge Tarvin's offer and extend our thanks to him.

The auditing committee presented the following report:

We, the auditing committee, have carefully examined the Treasurer's accounts and find them correct.

ALICE HARRIS WHITE,

MARY W. BENDER,

Auditing Committee.

Mrs. Drucker, of Cincinnati, was introduced and the courtesies of the floor were extended to her. She responded and spoke of the good work done by the Kentucky E. R. A.

Rev. Anna Shaw followed with a decidedly entertaining address on Elizabeth Cady Stanton.

The convention was pleased at being able to celebrate both Lucy Stone's and Elizabeth Cady Stanton's birthdays.

The president said it was the policy of Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, the National President, to recommend to the States to pay their Corresponding Secretaries a salary, and maintain headquarters where possible. The Kentucky E. R. A. had followed this recommendation for some years in voting a small salary to our corresponding secretary, and asked if it was the wish of the convention to continue this policy.

It was moved that a salary of five dollars a month be paid to our corresponding secretary, as long as there are free will offerings enough.

Mrs. S. M. Hubbard moved that the plan of the National Enrollment Committee, of which Mrs. Priscilla Hackstaff is chairman,



be recommended to the attention of the locals, but the action of the locals which may adopt it shall not make it obligatory upon their individual officers or unofficial members.

Mrs. Stanton, of Cincinnati, was introduced to the convention, and the courtesies of the floor were extended to her.

Mrs. N. S. McLaughlin, of Covington, made an appeal for free will offerings from all members, to pay the salaries of Press Superintendent, Corresponding Secretary and Lecturer.

The president explained that the dues were sufficient for the absolutely necessary expenses of the Association. But expenses for salaries, if they were incurred, must be met by offerings from those who chose to give more than their membership dues. She emphasized the point that no one was obliged to give from loyalty to the association, since it was the distinctly pronounced policy of the association to make the giving the name and paying annual dues the sole obligation of the unofficial members.

Free will offerings:

Mrs. S. M. Hubbard .....	\$30 00
Mrs. Trimble .....	2 00
Mrs. Emma Colcamp .....	50
Rev. Beasley .....	50
Mrs. E. M. Roebuck .....	1 00
Miss Laura Bruce .....	20 00
Mrs. S. C. Bennett .....	10 00
Mrs. Isabella Shepard .....	1 00
Mrs. Laura R. White .....	10 00
Miss Belle Bennett .....	5 00
Mrs. Susan Look Avery .....	1 00
Mr. and Mrs. George Handy .....	3 00
Mrs. Mary L. Ogle .....	1 00
Mrs. Mary Giltner .....	5 00
Miss Anna Morgan .....	50
Mrs. Stanton .....	50
Mrs. Alice White .....	1 00
Mrs. M. W. Bender .....	1 00

The whole amount which the convention voted for salaries and organizer, which is to be paid from free will offerings is \$195.00.

Mrs. N. S. McLaughlin read Prof. John Burke's address to the convention, which he was prevented by illness from delivering.



Moved that we adopt the suggestion of the Plan of Work Committee and take no action looking toward a legislative bill on child labor at this time.

Letter was read from Mrs. Caroline Leech, Superintendent of Educational Opportunities for Women, quoting opinions of certain professors on co-education.

Dr. Louise Southgate addressed the convention advocating co-education.

Moved that the delegates to the National Convention go uninstructed as to pledging money to the N. A. W. S. A.

Report of committee on resolutions was received through the chairman, Mrs. M. W. Bender, and it was moved that the resolution of thanks be read at evening meeting.

Pleasant and encouraging remarks were made by Mrs. Alice White, Mrs. Mary Giltner, Mrs. S. M. Hubbard, Mrs. A. C. Ellis and Dr. Southgate.

Mrs. Jennie Cleveland, committee on subscriptions to *Woman's Journal* reported about ten subscriptions.

Moved by Mrs. Emma F. Colcamp, that the cut flowers presented to the convention be sent to the Old Ladies' Home, after the evening session.

Adjourned.

### **Night Sessions.**

#### **Wednesday, eight o'clock.**

The evening session was opened with music, both vocal and instrumental, by Miss Ella Kruse and Mr. Levassor, after which Judge James Tarvin in a pleasing speech introduced Rev. Anna Shaw. The subject of Miss Shaw's address was "A New Ideal in Democracy," and was most enthusiastically received. After the lecture a silver collection was taken at the door.

#### **Thursday Night, eight o'clock.**

Delightful music again opened the evening's exercises. Judge James Tarvin spoke of the rights now enjoyed by women here which were obtained by the work of the Kentucky E. R. A., after which he again introduced Rev. Anna Shaw, who spoke on "Republics." Miss Shaw delighted a large audience with many witty anecdotes. A silver collection was taken at the door.



**Meeting of Executive Committee, Friday, Nov. 13, 1903.**

It was decided that the following appropriations be made:

Rev. Anna Shaw's salary .....	\$45 00
Stationery for Corresponding Secretary .....	5 00
"    "    Recording .....	1 00
"    "    Treasurer.....	1 00
Printing of Minutes.....	18 00
"    Programs .....	2 50

For the Frankfort Committee \$25.00 was appropriated, and more if necessary.

Moved that the Treasurer pay the expenses of incorporation.

Moved that the Frankfort Committee be allowed discretion as to which bill be pushed most, when at the legislature.

Committee adjourned.

EMMA M. ROEBUCK,  
Recording Secretary.

**REPORTS.**

**TREASURER'S REPORT FOR 1903.**

RECEIPTS.

To Balance, Jan. 1, 1903.....		\$134 93
Annual dues of Local Associations to Kentucky E. R. A.		
Arlington.....9.....	\$ 3 15	
Ashland.....10.....	3 50	
Bowling Green...10.....	3 50	
Kenton Co. Ass'n...3.....	1 05	
20th Century....80.....	28 00	
Frankfort.....12.....	4 20	
Hickman.....6.....	2 10	
Lancaster.....6.....	2 10	
Lexington.....101.....	35 35	
Louisville...20.....	7 00	
Newport.....20.....	7 00	
Richmond.....73.....	25 55	
State Members.....2.....	2 00	124 50
Total.....352.....		\$259 43

DISBURSEMENTS.

By Chatauqua Work.....	\$ 25 00	
Press Work.....	20 00	
Printing Minutes.....	23 50	
Annual dues to National Association.....	35 20	
Incorporation papers, etc.....	5 00	108 70
Balance, Jan. 1, 1904.....		150 73
Total.....		\$259 43

ISABELLA H. SHEPARD,  
Treasurer.



## CORRESPONDING SECRETARY'S REPORT.

### FAYETTE E. R. A.

Fayette E. R. A. has held three open program meetings and one business meeting. The program meetings have been enlivened by music provided by friends, not necessarily members of the Association. Short business sessions have followed the program meetings. On February 20th officers were elected. The Association united with the State Association in holding the Woman's Council during the Lexington Chatauqua. Mrs. Mary C. Roark was the efficient chairman of the Woman's Council Committee, which secured the donation of the services of the various speakers and made the local arrangements. The Fayette E. R. A. provided the refreshments for the receptions to the speakers, and made a loan of the furniture for the tent, and met other local expenses. The Woman's Club of Central Kentucky invited the Equal Rights Association and the Woman's Christian Temperance Union to unite with it in a petition to the Board of Trustees of the State College, to appoint a Dean of Women, in full standing as a member of the faculty, and to establish a department of Domestic Science. The invitation was accepted. A letter embodying the petition, signed by the officers of the three associations was prepared and mailed to each member of the Board of Trustees, and after the passage of a few days was given to the Press. When the Trustees assembled in the city for the regular June meeting a hearing was asked and granted. Members of the E. R. A. formed a part of the committee which attended the hearing. We mourn the loss of two much loved and valuable members in the death of Mrs. Louise Morton Bewlay and Mrs. Mary Dudley Short. Twenty-four (24) new names have been added to the roll of membership. Several members take the *Woman's Journal* and other Suffrage papers.

### TWENTIETH CENTURY E. R. A.

The 20th Century Club has a membership of eighty, and the regular meetings have been held at the home of Mrs. Giltner. At one of these meetings the organization was addressed by Mr. Gunn, on the civic and financial conditions of the city. In January an open meeting was held in honor of Miss Clay, at which time several members were added. Sent Mrs. McLaughlin as delegate to the National Convention at New Orleans. A number of social meetings were held, others than members taking part. Invited the State Convention to Covington as its guest.

### ARLINGTON E. R. A.

Dues paid on nine (9) members. Principal work done has been distribution of suffrage literature. The members are loyal and true, and ready to answer any call in time of emergency. Owing to great distance from Covington, members find it impossible to attend convention, but are waiting for the wave of help and encouragement that shall go forth from this body.

### JESSAMINE E. R. A.

This organization was the result of a visit by Miss Clay to Nicholasville, and a parlor meeting in the home of Dr. Wm. Fish, on Nov. 2, 1903. Many were delighted with the able remarks of Miss Clay, and joined.



BOWLING GREEN E. R. A.

The little daughter of the President sent the report, which, to quote her literally is: "The Bowling Green E. R. A. does nothing but keep together, pay dues and distribute literature." Such work persevered in will bring a harvest of good to our State and National organizations.

CAMPBELL COUNTY E. R. A.

Has held called meetings this last year. Paid dues on twenty members and sent three delegates to the convention. Have distributed some literature, and several members take suffrage papers and then hand them to friends.

MADISON E. R. A.

Continues to grow in strength and numbers. Have distributed some literature and shall try to get some subscribers to the *Woman's Journal*. Have appointed delegates to the convention. One new feature of work has been to appoint three Press Superintendents, one lady for each Richmond paper, and they are to see that articles favorable to women are printed in these papers. Eight new members have been added. Have paid dues for seventy-one members.

FRANKFORT E. R. A.

Reports twelve paid-up members. Miss Herndon was elected delegate to the convention.

LOUISVILLE E. R. A.

Has paid dues on eighteen members. Some effort has been put forth to secure new members, and the president, Miss Alice H. White, has been active in the distribution of literature.

ASHLAND E. R. A.

This club reports all dues collected, except one. Owing to much illness other work could not be done, but the faithful officers will shepherd the flock.

HICKMAN E. R. A.

Paid dues on six members and sent delegates to the convention. Mrs. S. M. Hubbard of this club sent Miss Clay \$25.00 for State work.

KENTON COUNTY E. R. A.

Still keeps together and pays dues.

LANCASTER

Paid dues on six members and sent delegate to convention.

Respectfully submitted,

ANNIE MILLER, Cor. Sec.

**REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT OF PRESS WORK.**

BOWLING GREEN, Ky., Oct. 7, 1903.

My last report was sent off October 3, 1901, so I have the work of two years to report to you now. The first year, I regret to say, was a very disappointing one, owing to sickness, death and the loss of a servant who had been a tower of strength to me for thirteen years. There were times when I could do nothing but send out the weekly articles, and finally even this grass-hopper became a burden, and I wrote to Miss Clay begging to be relieved of the work, temporarily, at least. Instead she suggested the payment of \$5.00 per month with which to hire a housegirl. I gladly consented to this arrangement. In spite



of many drawbacks I have a gratifying increase in my list of papers. Instead of 38 there are now 60 papers on my list, which is one-fifth of the newspapers in the State. In revising the list I encountered the usual difficulty in getting replies from all the editors. Judging from the replies I have received from the editors, these molders of public opinion are men of broad and enlightened views on the woman question, and when it comes to the battle royal for Equal Rights the press of Kentucky will give us chivalric aid.

Here are some of the answers that gladden the heart of a press superintendent.

"I am in hearty sympathy with the movement."—Editor Winchester *Sun-Sentinel*.

"Send on your articles. It is a step in the right direction."—The *Morehead Mountaineer*.

"The *Covington Courier* will take pleasure in publishing occasional suffrage articles, also any news of interest to your organization."

"We shall be pleased to help along the E. R. A. by the publication of your articles,"—Hickman *Courier*.

"I am only too glad to give publicity at any time to any articles on this subject. I am for our noble women first, last and all the time. They should have their rights. We need more of the influence of women in our land."—The Jackson *Hustler*.

"Being a firm believer in woman's suffrage, I am glad to give space to your articles."—The Catlettsburg *Daily Press*.

"I am in sympathy with the movement. Have been for years. Send on your articles."—Greensburg *Record*.

"It has always given us pleasure to grant the ladies anything on earth they asked for, if in our power, and certainly we would not except the ballot. In fact, we doubt if it would really be any use to deny them that, if they really want it. We take pleasure, therefore, in granting your request, and will use the articles regularly if you care to furnish them."—The Princeton *Leader*.

"I am an advocate of the cause of woman's suffrage, and propose to advocate it editorially."—Editor the Lexington *Gazette*.

"I am in full sympathy with your cause, but cannot see my way clear to use the proffered articles at present. Shall be glad to serve you in any way we can."—Editor the *New Era*.

Other editors, while not wholly in sympathy with the movement are fair minded enough to give us a hearing. The Glasgow *Times*, for instance, says: "We publish the article you send. We would not want to make our paper an organ of the cause you suggest, but an occasional conservative article would not be objectionable."

The Adairville *Enterprise* says: "Our paper is Democratic, but we can use an occasional article, as news matter, to help your cause along." (By and by this editor will realize that woman suffrage and democracy are the same thing.)

The most delightful answer of this character came from the Owensboro *Inquirer*. It was as follows: "The *Inquirer* would be pleased to have an occasional communication from your bureau. The *Inquirer* is not by any means



an advocate of woman suffrage, but it is quite willing to give all sides of every question a hearing. It is especially pleased to give space to matter such as that sent with this card."

Just think of it! A man who is willing to give a hearing to all sides of every question! Such a man ought to be made king, or president, or governor. He ought to be sent to the Kentucky Legislature. He is needed everywhere—the man who is not the slave of his prejudices, but who is willing to be enlightened on all sides of every question, and we may rejoice to know that many men of this type are found among the host of Kentucky editors.

Equally satisfactory were the replies I received when I made inquiries as to the number of articles that were being published in the course of a year.

The Henderson *Gleaner* said: "We have printed *all* the articles sent us." This editor, by the way, is a believer in woman suffrage.

The Dawson Springs *Oracle* said: "About one-half of your articles have been used."

The Burkesville *Herald* said: "Fully two-thirds of your articles have been used."

The Lexington *Herald* reports "more than three-fourths have been published."

Mrs. Sally Marshall Hardy, of the Louisville *Post* says: "I have *always* published the articles sent to me, and the Woman's Page is always open to articles of interest to women."

The Frankfort *Roundabout* says: "We have published nearly all the articles. Crowded columns sometimes prevent." Other editors express regret that they cannot publish all I send them.

Wherever there is an Equal Rights Association there should be a newspaper publishing suffrage matter, and the members of the Association should, whenever possible, express to the editor their appreciation of his courtesy. I have just secured a paper in Ashland and one in Hickman, after several unsuccessful efforts. I am indebted to Mr. and Mrs. Giltner, Miss Aylward and Mrs. N. S. McLaughlin for getting me the Covington *Courier*.

STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES FOR THE TWO YEARS' WORK.

Stamps.....	\$22 85
Envelopes .....	4 65
Postal Cards.....	2 25
Typewriting .....	3 75
Total.....	\$33 50
Cash on hand.....	6 00

Respectfully submitted,

L. C. OBENCHAIN,

Supt. Press Work, Ky. E. R. A.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF LITERATURE.

To my co-workers of the Kentucky E. R. A.:

It would give me unqualified enjoyment to meet with you in annual convention and express my optimistic outlook for the final success of our cause.



A *casual* observer must discover progress—a *careful* one, if interested, becomes what I am—enthusiastic! As evidence, I cite the history of this village of Wyoming, among the hills of western New York. It contains not more than 500 souls, all told. Just three years ago a Political Equality Club was formed, with 32 members, three of whom were men. Now we have 82 “paid-up” members, 21 of whom are men. The interest of the women has been such that the monthly meetings have not been suspended during the summer, though as the community is one of farmers, the men have not attended the meetings.

I think it has become difficult to find anywhere, those who do not acknowledge the justice of woman suffrage. Its expediency only is doubted. All sufficient reply to such is Wendell Phillips’, viz: “God will see to it, that what is right *shall* be expedient!”

I wish to commend to those who have not seen it “Spiritual Knowing or Bible Sunshine,” by Theodore H. Seward, Funk & Wagnalls, publishers, especially the twelfth chapter, “The New Factor in Race Development” Alice Stone Blackwell’s “Twelve Reasons Why Women Wish to Vote,” is, I think, among our most effective literature.

Truly and earnestly,

Wyoming, N. Y., Nov. 2, 1903.

SUSAN LOOK AVERY.

#### REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT OF ADVANCEMENT OF WOMAN’S WORK.

\* \* \* \* In an English town a conservative member of the Board of Poor Law Guardians objected violently to the election of a lady to the Board, on the ground that women could not understand accounts. The newly elected woman soon after called attention to a bill which was presented to the Guardians for payment, charging about \$25.00 for a soup tureen for the paupers. Investigation proved that for years the Board had been systematically overcharged for all the household supplies. The old gentleman who objected to a woman on the Board exclaimed testily: “How can you expect me to understand these little domestic matters.” The lady answered quietly: “I do not expect you to understand them, but since you do not, is it not well that there should be somebody on the Board who does?”

Women are giving great satisfaction on school boards, library boards, prison boards, as overseers of the poor, and all the boards relating to public charities.

Respectfully submitted,

Newport, Ky.

ANNA B. MORGAN.

#### REPORT OF MEMBER OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE N. A. W. S. A.

Kentucky sent three delegates to the National Convention at New Orleans, besides our beloved State President, Miss Laura Clay. The New Orleans *Picayune* said it was a magnificent audience that packed the Atheneum to its utmost capacity. A distinguished justice of the supreme court said, after hearing one of our national speakers, that they were the most eloquent and logical he had ever heard. This is only one of the many tributes paid to our speakers. The Kentucky delegation pledged \$100.00 to the National Association.

Respectfully,

MARY E. GILTNER.



## REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS.

The following delegates presented credentials and were accepted:

Covington 20th Century Club—Mrs. E. B. Johnson, Miss Elizabeth Aylward, Mrs. Jennie Cleveland, Mrs. Mary Ogle, Mrs. Mary E. Giltner, Mrs. A. C. Ellis.

Fayette County E. R. A.—Mrs. Elizabeth Cook, Mrs. Alice L. Carpenter, Mrs. Emma Forsythe Colcamp, Mrs. S. A. Charles.

Madison County E. R. A.—Mrs. Jessie Kennedy Burnam.

Campbell County E. R. A.—Mrs. Eva Brown, Mrs. Amanda J. Stimson.

Louisville E. R. A.—Mrs. M. W. Bender, Mrs. Alice H. White.

Hickman E. R. A.—Mrs. S. M. Hubbard.

Lancaster E. R. A.—Mrs. Mary R. Paterson.

General Officers—Miss Laura Clay, Mrs. Mary C. Cramer, Mrs. N. S. McLaughlin, Mrs. Emma M. Roebuck, Mrs. Isabella H. Shepard.

Superintendents—Mrs. S. M. Hubbard, Miss Anna Morgan.

Respectfully,

MRS. S. M. HUBBARD, Chairman.

## THE WOMAN'S COUNCIL.

A Woman's Council was held at the Lexington Chatauqua, at four o'clock each afternoon for nine days during the past summer. It was under the auspices of the Kentucky E. R. A. and the Fayette E. R. A. The State Association contributed \$25.00 toward the expenses, which amounted to about \$60.00.

The speakers very generously contributed their services, and everyone seemed glad to help make the meetings profitable.

The Chatauqua management gave us a special tent pavilion, which was artistically decorated with flags.

The Fayette Association had a beautiful tent, where numerous teas and receptions were held during the Council, and here were found piles of good suffrage literature. A fine oil portrait of Miss Clay, painted by Miss Laura S. Bruce, was loaned for our tent.

The Council was one of the most popular features of the Chatauqua, and large crowds attended and seemed greatly interested.

A special reception was given in honor of Rev. Anna Shaw. This was in charge of Mrs. W. L. Threlkeld, to whom we are indebted for a most delightful occasion. The Association also entertained in honor of Miss Tarrant, Miss Breckenridge and Mrs. Nellie Kedzie Jones.

The following was the program :

Child Labor . . . . .	Miss Eleanor Tarrant
The old and new in woman's education . . . . .	Dr. Sophronisba Breckenridge of Chicago University.
A Perilous Limitation . . . . .	Miss Mary C. Brehm
A Better Citizenship . . . . .	Miss Laura Clay and Mrs. Frances B. Beauchamp
The Trend in Education . . . . .	Mrs. L. W. St. Clair
Domestic Science . . . . .	Mrs. Nellie Kedzie Jones
The Work of Woman's Clubs . . . . .	Mrs. Chatterson
The Woman who Toils . . . . .	Mrs. Harrison and Mrs. Breckenridge

Respectfully,

MRS. MARY C. ROARK, Chairman.



The Resolutions Committee offered the following :

RESOLVED, That we extend our heartfelt thanks to the 20th Century Club, for their many courtesies and the generous entertainment of those who so kindly opened their hearts and homes for our comfort and care; to the Trinity Episcopal Church for the use of their beautiful Guild Hall, to the Press for kindly and comprehensive notices of our proceedings; to the musicians for beautiful music rendered; to the florists for floral decorations; and to any and all who have in any way contributed to our comfort and the success of this convention,

Respectfully submitted,

MARY W. BENDER, Chairman.

### DUTIES OF STATE HISTORIAN.

1. She should be the Custodian of historical records of Association.
2. She should secure copies of all bills introduced into the legislature which in any way concern the status of women, together with a report upon the action taken by the Legislature on the bill. If the bill is debated in the Legislature, a copy of speeches should be obtained and placed on file, together with a record of the vote.
3. She should record the various supporters, especially organizations, which have aided the passage of all such bills.
4. She should record with equal fidelity the declination of organizations to assist in supporting bills looking to the interests of women.
5. She should record any advance or retrogression made in the status of women in schools, colleges, industries, professions, or public positions.
6. She should collect books and periodicals which may appear and which have a bearing upon the subject. She should keep a scrap book of editorials and news items concerning women and women's work.
7. If required by her State Association, she should make an annual report to the State Convention.



ARTICLE VII

## ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF THE KENTUCKY EQUAL RIGHTS ASSOCIATION.

The undersigned associate themselves to establish a corporation under the provisions of Chapter 32, Kentucky Statutes, with the following articles of incorporation:

### ARTICLE I.

The name of the corporation shall be the "KENTUCKY EQUAL RIGHTS ASSOCIATION."

### ARTICLE II.

The principal office of the corporation shall be located at Lexington, Ky.

### ARTICLE III.

The object of the corporation shall be to advance the industrial, educational and legal rights of women, and to secure suffrage to them by appropriate State and National legislation; and to accept and receive such donations, gifts, bequests or devises as may be made to it to aid in accomplishing the objects of the corporation, and to expend same for that purpose.

### ARTICLE IV.

There shall be no capital stock.

### ARTICLE V.

The corporation is to commence on the 19th day of November, 1903, and to continue for a period of twenty-five years.

### ARTICLE VI.

The affairs of the corporation shall be conducted, after their election, by the President, the First Vice-President, the Second Vice-President, the Third Vice-President, the Corresponding Secretary, the Recording Secretary and the Treasurer of the KENTUCKY EQUAL RIGHTS ASSOCIATION, these officers constituting a Board of Directors. Until these officers are elected, the signers of these articles of incorporation shall have the direction of the affairs of the organization of the corporation. These officers shall be elected by the members on the 19th day of November, 1903, and shall serve for a term of three years, and until their successors are elected. These officers shall thereafter be elected every three years at convention at such place and time as may be provided by by-laws.



## ARTICLE VII.

The membership of the corporation at the time of its organization shall consist of the signers of these articles.

## ARTICLE VIII.

The corporation shall incur no indebtedness.

LAURA CLAY.

NANCY SANDFORD McLAUGHLIN.

EMMA M. ROEBUCK.

ISABELLA H. SHEPARD.

MARY E. GILTNER.

ELIZABETH AYLWARD.

COVINGTON, KY.

Minutes of the meeting of the signers of the incorporation papers, on Nov. 18, 1903.

Incorporation papers were prepared by Judge James Tarvin.

Incorporation papers were signed and acknowledged before Notary Public, Mr. W. H. McLaughlin, who attended the meeting for this purpose. The ladies asked the privilege of giving his name in as a member of the Association, to mark this occasion and he acceded and declared himself honored by their request.

The members in committee of whole drew up the By-Laws for the Board of Directors of the corporation.

Signers adjourned.

EMMA M. ROEBUCK.

Recording Secretary.

COVINGTON, KY., Nov. 19, 1903.

Moved that the By-Laws drawn up by committee be adopted as a whole.

Moved that we declare all members of the Kentucky E. R. A. members of this corporation.

Moved that all the general officers of the Kentucky E. R. A. elected at the convention on Nov. 12, 1903, be elected to be the Board of Directors of the Incorporated Kentucky Equal Rights Association. Unanimous vote.

EMMA M. ROEBUCK,

Recording Secretary.



BY-LAWS  
OF THE  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF THE INCORPORATED  
KENTUCKY EQUAL RIGHTS ASSOCIATION.

ARTICLE I.

OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES

The members of the Board of Directors of the corporation shall hold the same positions respectively as in the Executive Committee of the Equal Rights Association, and each shall perform the duties usual to such officer. The Treasurer shall at any time give such bond as required by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE II.

MEMBERSHIP.

All persons becoming members of the State Equal Rights Association shall be members of this corporation.

ARTICLE III.

DUTIES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

The Board of Directors shall control and provide for the general interest of the corporation, of whom three (3) 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 Board of Directors, not less than ten days beforehand, by the President.

ARTICLE IV.

ELECTIONS.

The Board of Directors shall be elected at an annual convention of the Kentucky Equal Rights Association. The time and place of meeting and manner of election being regulated by the Constitution and By-Laws of that Association.

ARTICLE V.

AMENDMENTS.

The By-Laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members of the Board of Directors present at any annual meeting.



## OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS.

### FAYETTE COUNTY.

President, Mrs. A. M. Harrison, Lexington. Vice President, Miss Laura Bruce, Lexington. Secretary, Miss Laura Clay, Lexington. Treasurer, Mrs. H. H. Gratz, Lexington.

### TWENTIETH CENTURY CLUB OF COVINGTON.

President, Mrs. M. E. Giltner, 1554 Madison Ave. Vice-President, Mrs. A. C. Ellis, 21 Martin St. Secretary, Mrs. N. S. McLaughlin, 1011 Scott St. Treasurer, Mrs. Ida M. Beck, 733 Garrard St.

### ARLINGTON, E. R. A.

President, Mrs. A. T. Hocker. Secretary, Mrs. M. B. McConnell. Treasurer, Mrs. C. R. Pyle.

### JESSAMINE, E. R. A.

President, Mrs. Sarah A. Corrington, Nicholasville. Secretary, Mrs. Sam Anderson, Nicholasville. Treasurer, Mrs. Susan Waggoner.

### BOWLING GREEN, E. R. A.

President, Mrs. L. C. Obenchain. Treasurer, Mrs. Carrie Mitchell.

### CAMPBELL COUNTY, E. R. A.

President, Mrs. Emma M. Roebuck, 112 W. Front St., Newport. Secretary, Miss Anna Morgan, 21 E. Fourth St., Newport. Treasurer, Miss Mary E. Wood, 11 E. Seventh St., Newport.

### MADISON E. R. A.

President, Mrs. Sarah Clay Bennett, Richmond. Secretary, Mrs. K. R. Wiggins, Richmond. Treasurer, Mrs. Lucy McCann, Richmond.

### FRANKFORT, E. R. A.

President, Miss Hallie Herndon, Frankfort. Secretary, Miss Rebecca Averill, Frankfort. Treasurer, Miss Charlotte E. Watson.

### LOUISVILLE, E. R. A.

President, Mrs. John D. White, Crescent Hill. Secretary, Mrs. W. H. Bradbury, Louisville. Treasurer, Miss Annie Miller, Louisville.

### ASHLAND, E. R. A.

President, Mrs. Davis, Ashland. Secretary, Miss Laura White, Ashland.

### HICKMAN, E. R. A.

President, Mrs. S. M. Hubbard, Hickman.

### PADUCAH, E. R. A.

President, Mrs. Dorothy Koger, Paducah. Treasurer, Mrs. Eliza Puryear, Paducah.

### KENTON COUNTY, E. R. A.

President, Mrs. Fredk Wolcott, Covington. Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. Isabella H. Shepard.

### LANCASTER, E. R. A.

President, Mrs. W. O. Bradley, Lancaster. Secretary, Mrs. B. F. Walter, Lancaster. Treasurer, Mrs. Mary R. Patterson, Lancaster.



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OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL ASSOCIATION

President, Mr. J. H. ...

Vice-President, Mr. ...

Secretary, Mr. ...

Treasurer, Mr. ...

Members of the Association

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