

services, they were most grateful. Miss Florence Routledge was the International Press Committee Representative, and Mrs. Alfred Booth had succeeded the Countess of Aberdeen as Convener of the Peace and Arbitration Committee, while Mrs. H. Percy Boulnois represented the N.C. on the International Relat. Domes. Committee. There was no doubt that the N.U.W.W. was capable of doing much "to promote sympathy of thought and purpose among the women of Great Britain and Ireland; to promote the social, civil, moral, and religious welfare of women; to focus and redistribute information likely to be of service to women workers;" but they were hampered by limits of space, an insufficient staff, and very small funds. They wanted a largely increased membership that they might have room to grow to the measure of their opportunities, which were endless and boundless.

MORE FUNDS WANTED.

The Hon. Treasurer (Mrs. George Cadbury) next read her Annual Report and Balance-sheet, which appealed for more members and stated that quite £150 a year more were needed in order to continue on their present lines, and they would need more than that if the work was to grow and expand as all healthy organisations should. They had been obliged to withdraw £50 from the donation given to them as an endowment fund, and from which they were receiving 4½ per cent. interest. By great efforts the Treasurer had managed to raise another £50, but they closed the year with an adverse balance of £46. During the conference, however, they had received a most kind and welcome donation of £50, which would remove their difficulties for this year. But to place the Union on a sound financial basis they needed a large number of fresh subscribers of a guinea or more. Would each member try to obtain just one during the coming year? They had gained nearly 100 subscribers during the past year, but had also lost some through death and other causes. The Balance-sheet showed receipts amounting to £668 17s. 10d., including a balance from last year of £156 14s. 8d., and £467 7s. 6d. for subscriptions. The expenditure amounted to £594 8s. 7d., the principal items being £274 10s. for salaries, £105 14s. for printing, and £65 for rent of office. The cash at the bank and petty cash amounted to £121 2s. 1d. and there was a balance due to the Treasurer of £46 12s. 10d.—The Reports and Balance-sheet were unanimously adopted.

THE REPORTS OF SECTIONAL COMMITTEES.

The Reports of the Legislation and Industrial Committees, the Rescue and Preventive Committee and its Moral Education Sub-Committee, the Committee for Work among Children, Girls' Club Committee, Committee for Women's Work among Men and Boys, Domestic Science Committee, Indian and Colonial Committee, Central Bureau for Women's Employment, Associated Guild of Registries, and the Joint Committee for Lectures on Charitable and Social Work, were then read and received, on the proposition of Lady Battersea. In connection with the reception of reports of committees, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick spoke of the importance of having the nursing interest represented upon the Legislative and Executive Committee. If this had been the case, some pressure might have been brought to bear upon Parliament with a view to

the appointment of a trained nurse upon the Commission which went out to South Africa to inquire into the management of the hospitals; and she would have been able to extract information which no gentleman of the Commission would be able to elicit.

THE ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION.

Mrs. Edward Goodeve then proposed: "That owing to the fact that the expenditure of the Union though conducted on lines of strict economy, is always in excess of the income, it is desirable that the subscription for full membership should in the future be 10s. per annum. But that as this increase might exclude valuable members whose available funds are consumed by their own work, there should be an Associate Membership with subscriptions of smaller amounts." Several other suggestions were put forward, and eventually an amendment, proposed by Mrs. Creighton, and seconded by Mrs. Alfred Booth, to the effect that instead of raising the members' subscriptions the Council recommended that the existing local branches be asked to raise their contributions to the central fund by granting 6d. for each member, and that it be a rule that all future branches should contribute 6d., was carried by a large majority, it having been explained that the alteration would not be retrospective.

WOMEN AND EDUCATION.

Lady Laura Ridding next moved, and Mrs. Henry Fawcett seconded: "That the Council of the National Union of Women Workers pledges itself to do all in its power to promote the presence of women on the future Educational Committees of the County Councils and other local authorities." An amendment to this was moved by Miss Leigh Brown, and seconded by Mrs. Sheldon Amos, to the effect that the Council pledges itself to promote the presence of women on the Technical Instruction Committees of County and Borough Councils, and the future Educational Committees, and was carried unanimously.

INCREASED REPRESENTATION ON THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN.

Lady Aberdeen then moved: "That it is desirable that National Councils be accorded a larger representation upon the International Council at its business meetings (see the 'Occasional Paper' for October, 1900), and that an expression of the opinion of this Council upon the subject be sent to the President of the International Council, in order that it may be placed upon the agenda of the Quinquennial Council Meeting in 1904." This resolution was supported by Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, and was unanimously agreed to.

THE STATUS OF SECTIONAL COMMITTEES.

The President, on behalf of the Executive, next asked the consent of the Council to the following by-law for Sectional Committees: "Each Sectional Committee shall appoint two representatives who shall be members of the National Council." Mrs. Richardson moved an amendment to omit the words, "members of the National Council," and substitute, "be present at the meetings of the National Council to take part in its proceedings, but not to vote," as their direct representation would violate the Constitution. Lady Aberdeen seconded. A lengthy debate ensued, and declaring that there were not sufficient present to justify their definitely deciding the question there and then, Mrs. Creighton gave notice of motion for the next business meeting, and the proceedings terminated.

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