

CAMPAIGN FOR WOMAN'S SUFFRAGE IS REVIEWED

Association Expresses Gratitude to Those Who Worked for Referendum.

The secretary of the Provincial Woman's Suffrage Referendum Association has prepared for publication the following official resume of the work done by the association since its inception last May:

"On May 15th the Provincial Political Equality League held an emergency convention in Vancouver to deal with the question of urging the government to grant a government measure extending the franchise to women.

The request was wired to Victoria, and the reply came to the effect that a referendum would be submitted at the coming election. The Provincial Political Equality League extended an invitation to all suffrage societies to be present to discuss the action to be taken regarding the referendum, with the result that the P. P. E. L., with its branches and two other suffrage societies, decided to work for the successful passage of same.

"On the day following the convention, Mrs. Gordon Grant, president of the P. P. E. L., together with Mrs. McIntyre, Sec. P. P. E. L., took the first steps for the organization of the Provincial Women's Suffrage Referendum Association, and Sir Charles Hibbert Tupper was asked to preside at a meeting to be held for that purpose.

"The first organization meeting was called for June 1, at the Labor Temple, and invitations were sent to all men's and women's organizations by circular letter, asking all in favor of working for the referendum to send delegates.

"The meeting on June 1, presided over by Sir Charles Hibbert Tupper, was a large one with representatives from many organizations and districts.

"The preliminary steps were taken for organizing a Provincial Women's Suffrage Referendum Association, and the acting secretary, Mrs. A. McIntyre, was asked to prepare a constitution, to be presented at a meeting to meet at the call of the chair.

"On June 19, the P. W. S. R. A. was fully organized at a large and representative meeting held in Labor Temple. The various wards of the city and North Vancouver, South Vancouver, New Westminster, and Delta were represented. After being slightly amended, the constitution was adopted.

"The following officers were elected: Chairman, Mrs. Bryan; vice-chairman, Mr. Leon Ladner; secretary, Mrs. A. McIntyre; treasurer, Mrs. Hodson, New Westminster; assistant secretary, Mrs. R. Taylor.

"The following were appointed as chairmen of standing committees: Organization, Mr. J. Y. Adam; voters' lists, Mr. G. Cameron; public meetings, Mrs. J. O. Perry, Mrs. Walter Smith; literature, Miss A. Reid; press and publicity, Miss Laverock and Mrs. Benson.

"A joint finance board was formed for the purpose of raising funds to carry on the work of the organization with the following members from the Provincial Women's Suffrage Referendum Association; I. Rubinowitz, chairman; Mrs. L. Hall, Mr. Leon Ladner, Mrs. R. Taylor and Mrs. Macken, Mrs. Clark, Miss H. Gutteridge and Mr. G. Cameron from the City Central Association. Miss H. Gutteridge was appointed secretary-treasurer of the joint finance board.

"It was found necessary to open a provincial office, and Mr. Jonathan Rogers very generously donated the use of an office in the Rogers building for that purpose.

"Through the kindness of Mr. Kent chairs were loaned from the Horse Show building and the Mainland Transfer Co. very kindly donated the cost of carting.

"The loan of a Remington typewriter by the Remington Typewriter Co. was of great value and has greatly been appreciated.

"Mrs. McIntyre was asked to take charge of the office and attend to all provincial correspondence and all the duties of secretary. Committees to work for the referendum were formed in the following places: Chilliwack, Abbotsford, White Rock, Sardis, Hazelmore, Murrayville, Fernridge, Cloverdale, Ladner, Steveston, Kerrisdale, New Westminster, Burnaby, South Vancouver, North Vancouver, Revelstoke, Enderby, Salmon Arm, Summerland, and Greenwood.

The following ladies and gentlemen kindly gave their time to speak at meetings wherever and whenever called upon to do so: Miss H. Gutteridge, Mrs. Macken, Mrs. J. O. Perry, Mrs. Bryan, Miss Patterson, Mrs. Clark, Mrs. Wiggin, New Westminster; Mr. Leon Ladner, Mr. G. Cameron, Mr. Adam, Mr. Cantelon, Mr. Holland, Mr. H. H. Stevens, and many others.

"The provincial secretary sent out letters to one hundred and thirty-nine clergymen in the interior, asking that suffrage sermons be preached, with the result that the clergy assisted very materially with the educational part of the campaign. Literature was printed in the form of a letter to the soldier and a letter to the civilian voter. The soldiers' letter was sent to the following military camps: To camps in England, 3000 copies; Petawawa, Can., 500 copies, Toronto, 200 copies; Halifax, 500 copies; Valcartier, 300 copies; Camp Hughes, 400 copies; Ottawa, 200 copies; Vernon, 1500 copies, Camp Morris, 200 copies, Sidney, 100 copies; New Westminster, 150 copies; Otter Internment Camp, 100 copies.

"Literature to the soldiers was also

delivered to all the recruiting stations, camps and polling booths in the city. Letters were forwarded to all the commanding officers, and in some cases to the secretary of the Y. M. C. A. in the various camps in Canada, asking that they distribute the literature to the soldiers, and replies were received from the majority saying request had been granted.

"Letters enclosing copies of the women's suffrage bill and a section of the act were sent to fifty-three newspapers in the interior, asking that the enclosed be published.

"Letters to the voters were sent to the following places to be distributed: Enderby, Revelstoke, Salmon Arm, Chilliwack, New Denver, Prince Rupert, Powell River, Campbell River, Bonnington Falls, Bowen Island, Courtenay, V. I.; Cumberland, V. I.; Summerland, Rossland, Abbotsford, Ladner, White Rock, Cloverdale, Nanaimo, Steveston, Murrayville, Sardis, Fernridge, Kerrisdale, Burnaby, North Vancouver, South Vancouver, and Trail, B. C.

"Scrutineers were secured by the provincial office for the polling booths for soldiers' votes, the following ladies acting: Mrs. Craig, Miss Gutteridge, Miss Reid, Mrs. R. Taylor, Mrs. Walter Smith, Miss Peers, Mrs. McIntyre, and credentials were made out for all scrutineers.

"Requests were received from Revelstoke, North Vancouver, South Vancouver, and Burnaby for credentials for scrutineers, which proved that the suffrage workers in these districts were anxious to take advantage of their privileges and provide scrutineers. It was also the duty of the secretary as one of the presidents forming the United Suffrage Societies,

to sign one hundred and thirty credentials for the city scrutineers.

"The president, Mrs. Bryan, organized committees throughout the Fraser Valley to work for the referendum. She also spoke at meetings in many organized and unorganized districts.

"The secretary would like to thank the following ladies for their kindness in assisting so freely with the work at the provincial headquarters: Miss Reid for typewriting letters to the clergy and the press; Miss Gutteridge for assisting with writing letters and assisting in any other capacity in which help was needed, and the following members of the South Vancouver Political Equality League for assisting in the work of the office in various ways; Mrs. Craig, Mrs. C. Keith, Mrs. Williams, Mrs. Height and Mrs. Porter.

"During the existence of the association fourteen business meetings were held, the attendance of delegates showing that a keen interest was being taken in the campaign which closed so very successfully on September 14, with the enfranchisement of the women of British Columbia."