

# Kentucky Equal Rights Association

HEADQUARTERS: 726 MCCLELLAND BUILDING,  
LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY.

MRS. DESHA BRECKINRIDGE, PRESIDENT

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT, MRS. E. L. HUTCHINSON, LEXINGTON  
SECOND VICE PRESIDENT, MRS. MARY C. CRAMER, LEXINGTON  
THIRD VICE PRESIDENT, MRS. N. S. McLAUGHLIN, COVINGTON

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY, MISS LAURA CLAY, LEXINGTON  
RECORDING SECRETARY, MRS. EMMA M. ROEBUCK, NEWPORT  
TREASURER, MRS. WARFIELD BENNETT, RICHMOND

STATE MEMBER NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, MISS BELLE H. BENNETT, RICHMOND

Feb. 6, 1914.

Miss Laura Clay,  
Lexington, Ky.

Dear Miss Clay:

Please read the enclosed and see if you have any advice to offer  
Mrs. Firth when you see her in Frankfort.

Cordially yours,

*M. W. D. B.*

3

Covington, Ky.  
Feb. 4th 1914

Dear Mrs. Breckinridge:

There is a great fight on here between the Ministerial Ass'n and the Saloon + Brewery interests.

The protestant churches held a mass meeting at a church two weeks ago, protesting against saloons being kept open on Sunday.

Resolutions were adopted, with great enthusiasm, and sent to Mayor + Commissioners. Now, the Saloon + Brewery interest have organized what they term, "The Mutual Protective Ass'n" and have had the audacity to send out to all the voters the inclosed article by Mrs. Catt.!

Now, I write to ask if you think it wise or unwise <sup>for me</sup> to answer this nefarious distortion of truth, (in the press.)

Confer with some of your wise colleagues and let me know the decision, when I am in Frankfort. - Cordially + hastily yours

Jessie E. Firth.

Will bring about 20 new card signatures.

Miss Clay.

R.R. Richmond, Ky.

July 29th, 1914.

My dear Mrs. Breckinridge,

I was much interested in reading the letters, which I re-enclose.

In answer to your questions I would say: That I recommend that separate leagues auxiliary to the State might be organized where local conditions make them desired. In the large mountain counties there are no good roads, and the districts are practically too far apart for different ones to work together. I believe it would be better for each to belong to the State than to have a mere appearance of a County League, when probably the officers at the county seat would not write letters or keep in touch with them in any way. While the State Headquarters both could and would keep up communication and be able to get some work out of all those where the members are willing to work. After all, the chief work that lies before us now is discovering and encouraging out sympathizers, and with their help, educating others. Where there are two or more leagues in a county, which seem to desire co-operation among themselves, I would advise that they be recommended to form a County League, all branches being auxiliary to the state, but united for specific purposes of work and encouragement in the county. This would be well in the closely settled counties, too, so as not to have county work or city work undertaken by one league alone, contrary, probably, to the wishes and judgment of the others. Perhaps such an emergency might arise in Covington, for instance. This County League method is well understood, as it is the method of the W.O.F. where a county can support more than one league. I am delighted with Miss Glenn's work as she reports it. It shows that we have sympathy everywhere, and it only needs work and organization to make it effective.

As to Mrs. Bartlett's letter about Mr. Marsh: I am in favor of trying his

work, if you can make suitable terms of price and time. He is a man of legal knowledge and some experience, and I know that at times we have need specifically of a man's work. He has sufficient recommendation for us to try him, and if he proves valuable, then you can engage him as long as you think best. At any rate, I should try to hold him as a part of our organizing force. We will need all we can get when once we have our amendment submitted.

Mrs. Piggott's letter. I approve of complying with her request. Literature does not cost much; and I consider it of prime importance that we should co-operate with all organizations already formed which are willing to co-operate with us. It is often much easier to work through them than to work alone. That is one reason I always try to work with the W.C.T.U. and the Woman's Clubs., etc. Belle Bennett, I know, with her colleagues, is doing much for the suffrage cause all over the south, in their missionary work. I would make a point of complying with any request which came from that quarter.

I have been written to and asked to send names of suffrage speakers to the National Bureau. I shall mention Mr. Marsh's name, on Mrs. Bartlett's recommendation. My list will probably practically be the same as what you very likely have already sent in.

Very cordially yours,

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AUDITOR, MRS. CHARLES L. NIELD, LOUISVILLE

STATE MEMBER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, MRS. THOMAS SMITH, FRANKFORT

LEXINGTON, KY., July 27, 1914

Miss Laura Clay,

Richmond, Ky.

Dear Miss Laura:

Read the enclosed letter and let me know what you think of it. Mrs. Piggott is evidently afraid that she will scare some of her people off from Social Evil work by mentioning anything so radical as woman suffrage. I think it good suffrage work if you think it <sup>a</sup> justifiable expense for Kentucky

E. R. Assoc.

*no*

*If you don't, I believe I might get national to do it.*

Please return letter to me.

Cordially yours,

*W. W. D. B.*

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STATE MEMBER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, MRS. THOMAS SMITH, FRANKFORT

LEXINGTON, KY., July 27, 1914

Miss Laura Clay,  
Richmond, Ky.

Dear Miss Laura:

Please read the enclosed letter from Miss Glenn, returning it to me afterward.

The part of it I want you to consider concerns the forming of separate leagues in Pike County. It seems to me it is a question we are going to have to meet in various counties. I should like to have your suggestions on the subject. The only notion I now have is to advise these men to form separate leagues with a separate list of officers each in their own community, but that the league shall be auxiliary to or a part of the county league. You would not advise, would you, a separate league in direct affiliation with the state organization?

Also enclosed please find letter from Mrs. Wallace Bartlett, upon which I would like you to express your opinion, <sup>as to the employment of</sup> returning her letter to me.

Cordially yours,

*M. Desha Breckinridge*

*Mrs. Marsh*

Richmond, Ky.

July 24th, 1914.

My dear Mrs. Breckinridge,

I cordially give my vote for you to use your discretion in sending literature free to our Leagues. Now is the time to prepare for the next Legislature, and nothing is cheaper than literature.

I have read your enclosed leaflet carefully, and think it is one of the best I knew. I vote certainly to have a goodly number of them printed, both for use in Ky., and for sale in other states that wish them. I like a folded leaflet better than the long form in which the sample is printed.

I thank you for letting me see the letter from Mrs. Funck, which I return. I am glad the Congressional Committee is starting a new line of work, without expressing any opinion about its probable success. At any rate, any new experiment is worth the cost she mentions. Personally, I do not believe the effort to get a U.S. Con. Amend. is worth anything except for the agitation. It can never pass the legislatures until 36 states are enfranchised, and it is not worth while to change the Constitution for the 12 states which will remain, and can get it easily by states, after so much moral help is given them by the preceding states. I hope after awhile the Congressional Com. will get down to considering seriously the Federal Suffrage, which, if we could get, would enable the States to get State suffrage for themselves.

Very cordially yours,



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STATE MEMBER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, MRS. THOMAS SMITH, FRANKFORT

LEXINGTON, KY., July 23, 1914.

Miss Laura Clay,

Richmond, Ky.

Dear Miss Laura:

I enclose one of Dr. Shaw's letters to the members of the Board of July 7th, thinking you may be interested in it, as you asked about the bequests.

I also enclose another letter of July 18th just received, asking you to read it and give me your judgment, as you are familiar with the situation and I am not. My natural inclination would be to take the \$10,500 now, as it seems to me it would do more good than a good deal more later on. I actually do not know whether, if we won the suit, the whole \$35,000 would come to the Association. *Perhaps you do.* Please return these letters to me as soon as possible.

Miss Glenn telephoned me from Covington Sunday evening that she had had a letter from Mrs. McCormick to go back to Chicago, and was starting that night. I had her wait there and telegraphed Mrs. McCormick, asking her if she could leave Miss Glenn with me, that my Board would pay one month's salary. It seemed to me that might be as long as was necessary, and I thought I could take the rest up later. I received the following telegram from her: "Regret exceedingly impossible to leave Miss Glenn in Kentucky more than ten days or two weeks longer, would be glad to do this but work here beyond force and too important to neglect. Not necessary for Miss Glenn to leave for at least ten days, at your convenience!"

July 23, 1945

But yesterday this telegram came: " Have thought out way of leaving Miss Glenn with you if not too late to change your plans. What financial arrangement can you make? Will it be possible for you to pay half her expenses. The work here is trebling and volunteers have fled on their vacations. Mrs. Medill McCormick. I answered as follows: "Yes, I will gladly pay half Miss Glenn's expenses now any thanks." I presume if Mrs. McCormick continues to pay Miss Glenn's salary, she would not pay the hundred dollars for the two other organizers, so that that would devolve upon our Board. It is "six <sup>to</sup> of one half a dozen" of the other, and I presume that arrangement would be perfectly satisfactory to the Board. Do you agree with me?

Cordially yours,

W. W. J. Beechiridge.

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AUDITOR, MRS. CHARLES L. NIELD, LOUISVILLE

STATE MEMBER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, MRS. THOMAS SMITH, FRANKFORT

LEXINGTON, KY., July 21, 1914.

Miss Laura Clay,

Richmond, Ky.

Dear Miss Laura:

One thing I intended to ask the Board the other day, and forgot until after you left, was what they thought of making a gift of one dollar or two dollars worth of literature, say map fliers and rainbow fliers, to the local leagues, at least to the new ones. I do my best to get them to buy this, but have only succeeded in a few cases. I believe in many cases having two dollars worth of literature on hand would be the difference in an active and an inactive league. Then when I suggest to them that they distribute literature at fairs, institutes, chautauquas, etc., they would most likely do it. Let me know what you think about it. The others approved it and thought it within my authorization, but I would rather have your opinion.

Miss Boswell in the report of her committee spoke of the enclosed leaflet which her committee had printed. She had had many more demands for it than she could fill, for the departments in the Federation have a measly little bit of money. I am just replying to a firm in Indianapolis who have written me a second time to know where they can procure this. I know that her reports of it on the platform have caused a good many demands. I wonder whether it would be worth while for us to print it for use here? Be frank in saying what you think. I am not in the least set on doing it.

[July 21, 1914]

Mrs. Firth, Miss Van Pelt and Miss Glenn all stayed all-night with me last night. I have just gotten Mrs. Firth and Miss Van Pelt off on their way to Booneville. Mrs. Firth goes back to Covington at the end of the week and will cover institutes near there for the next two weeks. Miss Van Pelt is to stay in the mountains for three weeks covering institutes at Hindman, Campton and Whitesburg, and doing all she can in between. I telegraphed Mrs. McCormick about letting me have Miss Glenn. She says she can let me have her ten days longer only, and after that she needs her herself. But I am grateful for her for those ten days. She goes tomorrow morning to Hyden, Leslie County, for me and will do Whitley City, McCreary County the next week, putting in the time in between helping me work out the institutes.

Mrs. S. M. Hubbard telegraphed she would pay one month's salary of an organizer.

Cordially yours,

*M. Desha Breckinridge*

(Mrs. Desha Breckinridge)

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AUDITOR, MRS. CHARLES L. NIELD, LOUISVILLE  
STATE MEMBER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, MRS. THOMAS SMITH, FRANKFORT

LEXINGTON, KY., Aug. 20, 1914.

Miss Laura Clay,

Richmond, Ky.

Dear Miss Laura:

Thank you for check from Mrs. Bennett, for which I am mailing her receipt. I will state that you desire your two checks to go to Ohio in sending them.

By writing Mrs. Bartlett I have finally gotten word from Mr. Marsh, who is in Lawrenceburg, that his wife is still ill, but he hopes to go to work in a day or two.

In view of the fact that a majority of the teachers' institutes are over this week, I have come to the conclusion that it is better business for me to let Mr. Marsh go and to send Miss Glenn down into south-western Kentucky. It has the added advantage that Mrs. McCormick pays one half of Miss Glenn's expenses and I can't get railroad passes over the Illinois Central or another short railroad line in that section, which we will have to use mainly; so I have just put in a telephone call to Mr. Marsh, so as to take this up with him.

Miss Van Pelt has been a little uncertain about her winter's arrangements. If I were strenuous enough, I think I might yet inveigle her into giving up a teaching position and taking up suffrage work, but am slightly afraid to take the responsibility of her continuous employment and she also feels somewhat of a moral obligation to continue in the Frankfort position. I am keeping her, however, the two weeks

Miss C.

[Aug. 20, 1914]

longer that she is willing to give.

I don't know whether you feel that we ought to take people right on for continuous work, and am writing you of these decisions, so that I may ~~yet~~ upset them if your judgment is very strongly the other way. Perhaps I can arrange, however, to get Mr. Marsh for irregular work at \$2.00 a day. Do you think that would be desirable?

Cordially yours,

M. W. D. B.

(Mrs. Desha Breckinridge)

I got out of the Marsh arrangement for steady employment and he is willing to do the irregular work when we want him.

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STATE MEMBER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, MRS. THOMAS J. SMITH, FRANKFORT

LEXINGTON, KY., Oct. 5, 1914.

Miss Laura Clay,  
Richmond, Ky.

My dear Miss Laura:

Please read the enclosed letter from Miss Glenn. Miss Glenn's expense account from September 5th to 29th amounted to \$22.05. You see I have been unable to get any passes down in that section of the country. Miss Glenn is economical and I don't believe there is anything on the expense account that could have been omitted, But in future we shall have to pay all of Miss Glenn's expenses, as Mrs. McCormick discontinues her services on the first of October. It enters into the question as to whether we should keep Miss Glenn on into the winter. I am doubtful about it.

*to c may have to pay Miss Glenn's salary from Aug 17. I am writing Mrs. McCormick*

I send also a letter from Miss Van Pelt, which I will get you to return after you have read. I told Miss Van Pelt that you thought we ought to pay her an equivalent of the salary she was making and some extra for clothes and asked her what that was. She didn't answer the question, but I believe she is getting more than \$50.00 a month. I would like suggestions from you as to how to write her again.

I have bad news about our Convention. I am going to tell you the situation to date, as I shall probably be telephoning you about it in the next day or two, unless Owensboro simply decides to come up to the situation.

I finally had a letter last Saturday from Mrs. Rudyt

*to-day to get the thing cleared up -*

Oct 5, 1914

that seems to indicate that she had not gotten any of my last three letters. I wrote her and wrote another letter to each member of her board. I enclose copies of these. Please return to me. I also wrote personal letters to several other people in Owensboro whose names I had. I wondered afterward afterward whether I had made a mistake in insisting on Owensboro taking the meeting. At any rate, I have done that now and I should hear from it by tomorrow or the next day. If Owensboro declines, must I then offer it to Covington? I should be a little sorry to do this, though Covington is on speaking terms with me all right again, but they might have cause, might they not, for considering it unfair if we went elsewhere without giving them any opportunity?

Lexington ought to be able to take the meeting all right, but there is no use even mentioning to Mrs. Oldham until the treasurer gets home, we send out our circular letter and get an overplus of money in the treasury. Time now is awfully short - knowing the length of time it takes the Lexington people to get ready to move.

Also I have this morning heard from Mr. Kennedy, the Nebraska Congressman, that he can't come. I told you, did I not, that Rabbi Wise could not come? I have also heard from Mrs. McCormick by writing her that I had heard nothing from Mrs. Funk, that Mrs. Funk will not come. Therefore, the only thing we have as yet for our program is Miss Gordon.

I have today written letters to Rabbi Fineschreiber in Memphis, to Mr. And Mrs. Laidlaw and to Mr. Barnes in Richmond. I have also written an inquiry about Beatrice Forbes-Robertson and I am also going to write Mrs. Catt to know if there is a chance of getting her or Madame Rosika Schwimmer. They are to be in Cincinnati the 23rd, and I think at Nashville, so it seems to me there is a faint hope. However, I don't believe with all the letters I have written there is any danger of my having an overplus on the program. Any further suggestions will be appreciated.

Cordially yours,

W. W. D. Breckinridge  
(over)



The following telegram from Mrs. Rudy  
received since this was written:

"We expect conviction. Let us have  
Miss Glenn two weeks."

Richmond, Ky.

Oct. 23rd, 1914.

My dear Mrs. Breckinridge,

Your letters of Oct. 21st are at hand.

I will write at once to Miss Gordon about her entertainment.

I certainly give my consent to your plan for sending out credential blanks to the locals. I do not believe the question has ever come up about one delegate-at-large whether dues are paid or not. But the little constitution is not iron-clad, and I believe always in putting good business first, unless the objection is very plain.

Certainly, I approve of Miss Glaenn's paying for such advertisements and other expenses as she thinks are for the good of the convention. We have never had any hard and fast rule about such things, and it would have done no good to send her if she was not to have a good deal of discretion. Please do not worry about such things when there is so much work on hand and so little time to do it. I am sure the Board intended you to use your best judgment in the emergencies which have arisen, and will gladly approve what you think must be done.

Very sincerely yours,

P.S. I will see about the Treasurer's books.

Richmond, Ky.

Oct. 7th, 1914.

My dear Mrs. Breckinridge,

I return ~~sample~~ draft of letter to be sent local presidents. I think it excellent, and see no occasion for changes.

The provision for sending certificates to each local for delegates has been a dead letter with us, as our constitution has been arranged for a much stricter organization than ours has been. However, now that we are so much larger a scale it is well to keep up with these details. As Esther Bennett is still confined to the house, it may be better for you to send the credentials blanks from your office. They are to be filled out by the locals, and at the convention they will be verified by the Treasurer's accounts. It is useless to try to verify them, (that is, to admit the delegates on a paid-up basis) till the convention, for very few will send their money before the convention.

I do not expect to be in Lexington any time before the convention, so I gladly concur in your plan to have the letters sent to Headquarters and opened there.

I enclose a draft of a blank, which I think answers the purpose.

Now about Miss Glenn: if you are not quite certain that you can employ her usefully, I think you had better let her go at the close of the convention, as she has a good opportunity of stopping for a visit home at that time. I suppose she will be willing to break into the month of November long enough for the convention.

About Miss Van Pelt: I still think it is worth our while to make every effort to keep her in our employ. I do not think Th

Thanksgiving is too long to wait for a final decision; and I do not think \$50.00 and expenses is too high a price to pay for salary. I think a Ky. woman much more useful than even a very efficient out-of-state woman, and Miss Van Pelt, I suppose, is quite as efficient as any one who could hope to get out of the state.

Now about Owensboro: I hope they will stand to their invitation. I am sure I am quite surprised they are hesitating. But if they do not come up to it, if you think best, we can still go there without their help, paying for a hall and having the advertising done ourselves. I do not much like that, however, unless your program demands that no change be made in the place of the convention. I think it might be more polite to speak to the Covington people; but that also has its disagreeables, especially as I am of the opinion that another convention in Covington, which has already had so many, would be in a measure throwing away good propaganda. What I would prefer is, in case of failure of Owensboro, is for you to decide upon a good point for state propaganda, without regard to invitations, send Miss Glenn there, to engage hall, do advertising, etc., and go there. Our former Board had about decided that it was best to do this, as it gave us more liberty of choice of places, and would in many cases make a more successful convention. What would you think of some of the southern towns, which have just been organized, and which need the inspiration of a convention? Whatever you would like, under these difficult circumstances, I will vote for and do what I can to help. The trouble is, so little time is left for any sort of arrangements.

Very cordially yours,

Mrs. Upton is overflowing with gratitude for Ky. S donation.

[Oct 7, 1914]

Give names and post-office address of officers.

How many members enrolled on the membership cards?

How many new ones during the year?

How much money sent to State Treasurer for State and National dues?

How much donated for other State purposes?

How many ~~members~~ subscriptions for Woman's Journal taken by the members?

What effort has been made to get out the woman's vote for school elections, and with what success?

How many public meetings?

How many meetings of other kinds?

How many pages of suffrage literature distributed?

Remarks on any other points of interest.

Send to Corresponding Secretary of Ky. Equal Rights Asso., #26  
McClelland Building, Lexington, Ky., or bring to convention.

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AUDITOR, MRS. CHARLES L. NIELD, LOUISVILLE

STATE MEMBER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, MRS. THOMAS J. SMITH, FRANKFORT

LEXINGTON, KY., Oct. 6, 1914.

Miss Laura Clay,

Richmond, Ky.

Dear Miss Laura:

Please read the enclosed circular letter, which I want to get off ~~to~~ presidents at once, making corrections or suggestions that you ~~shenk~~ think fit and mail <sup>it</sup> back to me.

You notice I have said that the report should be sent to you at this address. I presume you will be in Lexington shortly, but if not, is it not better any way, in order to avoid confusion, that these reports be mailed to us here and that you authorize us to open and take care of them. I suggest this because we are anxious to be able to make up a complete report as to membership to submit at the State Meeting and there is no use at all in asking them to make one report to you and another to me.

The by-laws of the constitution say "It shall be the duty of the Cor. Sec., 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." Have you such blanks on hand? If so, will you mail to us at once, that I may enclose with this circular letter? If not, and if they have to be printed, will you kindly send me a blank form giving your idea of what it should be.

Article 6. of the by-laws provides for the examination of credentials, but in a hasty examination I am unable to find <sup>any</sup> ~~in the~~ provision as to who shall send out these credentials. I would conclude that the treasurer

Oct 6, 1914

should do it and I suggest that if she is not already provided with them, you see that she has them printed at once, so that she may mail them immediately to any organization sending in its dues. Covington, for instance, has already sent its dues and if credentials have not already been mailed <sup>them</sup> ~~it~~, I am sure they are all worked up over it. *It takes less than that to work them up -*

If the treasurer cannot attend the Annual Meeting, she will of course send on a book of these credentials blanks that some one else may fill out at the Convention.

I wish we had gotten this matter all attended to a month before Convention time, but as we haven't, the best we can do now is to hustle for all we are worth.

Cordially yours,

*W. W. D. B.*

(Mrs. Desha Breckinridge)

Enclosure.



Return to me.

**George H. Rudy & Co.**

INCORPORATED

MINERS AND DEALERS

**NO. 9 COAL**

R. F. D. No. 4

Owensboro, Ky., 10 - 5 - 1914

My Dear Mrs. Bruckinridge,

Owensboro is ready. I had arranged as far as I could without hearing from you the letters which you thought you had sent me never came only the one of July 20th. However no harm has been done except several days of great annoyance to you. The letters you have written others have created an interest which did not exist before. Our people want to give a reception some afternoon during the meeting. Let us have Miss Glenn two weeks. And your probable program at once. Are you to have Rabbi Wise? Someone at Evansville has inquired. Do not worry all is well I think

Resptfully

Katherine F. Rudy



Richmond, Ky.

Nov. 28th, 1914.

My dear Mrs. Breckinridge,

This morning I received letters from the N.W.S. Publishing Co., with blanks to fill out for the share of stock

I subscribed for at the Nashville convention. One was for myself and another was for the S.S.W.S. Conference. The last was a mistake.

I did not subscribe for a share of stock for the Conference, but for the Ky. E. R. A. I have now sent my check for twenty dollars for the two shares, and have requested that the share for the Ky. E. R. A. be sent to you, as its president. I intended the share to be a gift to the Ky. E. R. A., so you need not give it further thought.

I did pledge a donation of fifty dollars for the work of the N. A. W. S. A. from the Southern States W. S. Conference, to be paid within a year. I suppose this is the cause of the mistake. I pledged for the Southern Conference because I wished to give a tangible expression of the fact that the Southern Conference was a flank ~~new~~ movement " for the National work, as Miss Gordon expresses it, and not in any way a discordant element.

As you requested, I am sending in my account of expenses for the Owensboro convention. When you O.K. it please tell Mrs. Judah to charge it off to the 25 dollars I pledged for state work, and not to send a check for it.

I have received a very charming letter from Mrs. Henderson Baingerfield Norman. I think it so pleasantly written that I wonder if the Herald would not like to publish it, as Mrs. Norman is so well known in Lexington? I am enclosing it, with some compliments to myself bracketed as best not to publish.

I.

Laura Clay's Expenses to Owensboro Convention.

Nov.5-7, 1914.

St.car and baggage at Lexington-----	.30
Hotel at Owensboro-----	10.50
Chair car both ways to-and-from Owensbere to- Louisville.	1.00
R.R.ticket (part of the way I paid from mileage)	2.40
Baggage and 'bus from Owensboro - - - - -	.50
Dinner at Louisville -----	.95
Porter and st.car at Louisville,	.15
Cab at Lexington - - - - -	.25
Total,	\$ <u>16.05</u>

# Kentucky Equal Rights Association

HEADQUARTERS: 726 McCLELLAND BUILDING  
LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY.

MRS. DESHA BRECKINRIDGE, PRESIDENT

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT, MRS. EDWARD L. HUTCHINSON, LEXINGTON  
SECOND VICE PRESIDENT, MRS. CHARLES FIRTH, COVINGTON  
THIRD VICE PRESIDENT, MRS. JACOB B. JUDAH, LOUISVILLE

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY, MISS LAURA CLAY, LEXINGTON  
RECORDING SECRETARY, MRS. ROBINSON A. MCDOWELL, LOUISVILLE  
TREASURER, MRS. WARFIELD BENNETT, RICHMOND

AUDITOR, MRS. CHARLES L. NIELD, LOUISVILLE

STATE MEMBER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, MRS. THOMAS J. SMITH, FRANKFORT

LEXINGTON, KY., Dec. 30, 1914.

Miss Laura Clay,

Richmond, Ky.

Dear Miss Clay:

I am sending on a letter just received from Mrs. Graham with one written her before I understood that you were working on the Woman's Journal proposition. I enclose copy of my reply to her. Won't you let her know when the thing is definitely settled and how?

Cordially yours,

*M. D. B.*

Pres.

(Mrs. Desha Breckinridge)

Enclosures.

(COPY)

Dec. 30, 1914.

Mrs. John Graham,  
Louisville, Ky.

Dear Mrs. Graham:

In a letter received from Miss Clay yesterday occurs the following paragraph "At Owensboro we voted to accept the Woman's Journal proposition E. At the time we supposed it consisted necessarily of only the taking of 1/8 of a column of space, for which we were to pay \$35.00 a year. But afterwards Miss Blackwell told me she thought it included two other clauses - 100 papers in bundles weekly, for which we were to pay \$137.00 annually, and 50 new subscriptions, on which we were to receive 30% discount or premiums. It was in regard to these last two points that I wrote to Miss Ryan. I have not yet received her answer, and I shall be very glad if we find we are not bound to fill these last two requisitions. I will let you know her answer when I get it." We will let Miss Clay work the thing out if possible. I will get her to send you on the result of her labors. In the meantime, I will say if you have a piece of good news send it on to Miss Ryan. If you haven't, don't worry about it. We are not making much news just now.

Cordially yours,

Pres.

(Mrs. Desha Breckinridge)

Richmond, Ky.

Dec. 28th, 1914.

My dear Mrs. Breckinridge,

I am in receipt of your letters of Dec. 24th?

I have written to the Lexington Trust and Savings Bank Co?, now in the same building as the Phoenix and Third Nat. Bank, asking to have Mrs. S. M. Hubbard's donation turned over to your order, as president of the Ky. E. R. A. after Jan. 1st, and inquiring if that was the only formality needed to have it done.

(2). The Ky. E. R. A. is incorporated under the laws of Kentucky. You will find the Articles of Incorporation printed in the State minutes of 1903, of which I suppose you have kept a copy in your office. I have the original document in my lock-box in the bank. It is not necessary to print these Articles every time the constitution is printed, and so I have written to Mrs. McDowell.

(3) At Owensboro we voted to accept the Wpman's Journal Proposition E. At that time we supposed it consisted necessarily of only the taking of 1-8 of a column of space, for which we were to pay \$33.00 a year. But afterwards Miss Blackwell told me she thought it included two other clauses, - 100 papers in bundles weekly, for which we were to pay \$137 annually, and 50 new subscriptions, on which we were to receive 30% discount or premium. It was in regard to these last two points that I wrote to Miss Ryan. I have not yet received her answer; and I shall be very glad to find if we find we are not bound to fill these last two requisitions. I will let you know her answer when I get it.

(4) I am perfectly willing that the local branches should

have two sorts of members,- dues-paying and non-dues-paying. There is nothing in our constitution to prevent their doing as they think best about that. I will express my opinion, however, based on my experience, that the clubs which will not make free-will offerings will not pay dues, and the only result would be a falling off in enrollment. My advice would be that emphasis be laid on the duty of treasurers, local and state, to be active and resourceful in asking members to make gifts according to their means. Most of the treasurers seem to wait until people hand them donations; in that way they are likely to wait forever. In one, at least, of the dozen reports from the locals which came into my hands, the statement was made that no request had been made for state and National dues. Our organizers ought to be instructed that the treasurer should be a carefully selected officer. For this reason, I always advise that this should be the officer selected immediately after, if not before, the president, though it is not the usually parliamentary order; so that the most efficient women will not be selected for the less important offices.

I am much pleased with your leaflet, A New Hope, and shall be very glad to have it distributed among our locals. I wish we had an equally good one on the prevention of war, and its connection with woman suffrage to send it the same way. I believe instruction in the connection between social purity and prevention of war with woman's ballot is exceedingly valuable to convert women.

Wishing you A Happy New Year, I am

Very cordially yours,

[Dec 24, 1914]

Dear Miss Laura:

I have just received - today, Christmas Eve - copies of your letters to Mrs. Judah and Miss Ryan, which I herewith return. The letter which I have previously dictated to you explains why you have not had your Convention expenses. I am sending Mrs. Judah voucher for that today. I will also send voucher for \$150.00 for National dues, since you think it well to send that at once and Mrs. Judah has not authority to send it without a voucher from the president.

I think the Woman's Journal proposition which we took up was simpler than this. My recollection is that we simply paid so much for space. Mrs. John Graham, 1547 Floyd St., Louisville, Ky., is acting as Woman's Journal chairman for me and has already been sending off the news.

As I understand from this proposition we would get the space without paying anything for it, but we would have an obligation about selling papers. I sent a copy of this proposition to Mrs. Graham. As you have already asked Mrs. Judah about it I am going to consider that you will settle and decide on the thing after consultation with the Louisville women. I can use copies of the Woman's Journal to send out as literature, but have been able to get as many of these as I wanted from the Journal merely by paying the express. They are back issues, of course, but so they would be anyhow by the time I got them out.

We haven't made any headway with selling them. Stella tried faithfully to get subscriptions went from house to house, <sup>I was away &</sup> once when she had a good deal of time, without success. I have never done anything about the news-stands besides ask a few questions. I am glad you are going to take it up, for while it ought to be done, it seems just beyond me with the other things I have to do.

Thank you for getting permission to use Mrs. Hubbard's monty.

Merry Christmas to you and a happy New Year.  
Su P. 3.

Yours ever faithfully  
M. D. Beechinside

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STATE MEMBER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, MRS. THOMAS J. SMITH, FRANKFORT

LEXINGTON, KY., Dec. 24, 1914.

Miss Laura Clay,

Richmond, Ky.

Dear Miss Laura:

Is the K. E. R. A. incorporated? Virginia McDowell asks me some questions about articles of incorporation. If it is where are the articles of incorporation to be found?

I only got home from the South Sunday and am slowly working through my basket of accumulated mail and subsequently I am just sending voucher to Mrs. Judah for your Convention expenses. I send her your letter also, that she may see how you wish the question of donation and expenses attended to.

What do you think of advising locals in addition to having a regular non-dues-paying membership to have also an active membership, dues-paying, for such persons as desire to enter <sup>that way</sup> I would like to submit this question to all the members of the Board, for I think something has really got to be done to induce absence of financial responsibility on the part of the local leagues. It has just occurred to me that actually I have no right to claim all those tighty odd organizations that I boasted about at Owensboro and Nashville. Really I don't believe over a half-a-dozen of them are actually affiliated with State and National. I think our chief work this year should be to make those organizations affiliate and I will have to have the help of all the members of the Board to do it.

See P. 2.

Hastily yours,  
M. W. D. Breckinridge.



Richmond, Ky.

Dec. 23rd, 1914.

My dear Mrs. Breckinridge:

Will you please read the enclosed letters? one from Miss Ryan and my reply to it, and one to Mrs. Judah, of which a large part refers also to the Woman's Journal offer.

If you approve my plan for the Journal's offer, please let me know how many Journals in bundles you would like to have sent to Headquarters. Also, please have Miss Martin send me a complete list of our local branches and their presidents or chairmen. I never get all the local reports, and those I had I sent to Mrs. McDowell.

If you do not like my plan for pushing the Journal offer, let me know and I shall be glad to help as far as I can in any you suggest.

Very cordially yours,

Richmond, Ky.

Dec.4th, 1914.

My dear Mrs.Breckinridge,

This morning I sent off a letter to Mrs.Judah, in answer to hers about using the gift of Mrs.Hubbard, and by that mail I got a letter from Mrs.Hubbard which I had been expecting. She says: " You speak of using my donation for 1915. I am perfectly willing for you to use it as you think best. I am so anxious to see our state free that I am more than willing that it should be used for preparatory work".

Therefore, her donation can be used for current expenses. I hope, however, we will not have to draw upon it till Jan., as we lose the interest of as much as we draw for six months.

I think you had better go to the bank and see what kind of order they wish; as I informed them that it was not to be drawn by a simple check from the treasurer, but I think I said by order from the Board.

Very cordially yours,

Richmond, Ky.

Dec. 4th, 1914.

My dear Mrs. Breckinridge,

This morning I sent off a letter to Mrs. Judah, in answer to hers about using the gift of Mrs. Hubbard, and by that mail I got a letter from Mrs. Hubbard which I had been expecting. She says: "You speak of using my donation for 1915. I am perfectly willing for you to use it as you think best. I am so anxious to see our state free that I am more than willing that it should be used for preparatory work".

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I think you had better go to the bank and see what kind of order they wish; as I informed them that it was not to be drawn by a simple check from the treasurer, but I think I said by order from the Board.

Very cordially yours,

Laura Clay.

Dec. 24<sup>th</sup>.

I have just found this letter among  
tills — I don't know what bank it is —  
Don't it simpler for you to write an enquiry to  
the bank, & then there'll be no misunderstanding  
about what they want. Don't hurry over to  
Mrs. Judah till Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>. I sent her \$100. of  
my Texas money from New Orleans to pay rest of  
Miss Glenn's salary. I won't send vouchers for 1914 &  
Dec. office expenses till Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>