

Richmond, Kentucky.

September 1st, 1911.

My dear Mrs. Munds,

I often think of Arizona and my friends there, and wish I could hear from you. I hope that at last Arizona will win Statehood; and then of course the suffragists will make another struggle for "votes for women". If California wins in October it will naturally give a great impetus to the cause in Arizona. You know that the National A.W.S.A. convention meets in Louisville this October 19-25, at the invitation of the Kentucky Equal Rights Association; and in many respects it is to be a very important convention. Serious changes in the constitution are submitted, most of which I think are injurious to the National character of the Association, as you will see by a marked Woman's Journal which I am mailing to you. But membership, without individual dues, is one of the things I have advocated, and inaugurated in Arizona. No doubt that will come up for full discussion. I read with interest what you sent in your report to the National at the convention in Washington City; but then it was just in its experimental stage in Arizona. By this time you must have formed a definite opinion of its merits. I am writing to ask if you will kindly formulate what you think of it, its merits, its deficiencies, where it can be improved, its results, etc., so that I can have your experience to refer to at the convention. Particularly, I want you to say if you think it is possible to raise as much money by asking contributions from those who join on the membership cards as could be raised by dues from the old method of membership dues. I do not mean as much as if every card member paid dues, but allowing for the undoubtedly greater number who will join on the card enrollment system than would join if they



were obligated to pay dues.

I hope you are coming to the convention, as I know you sometimes indulge yourself in a long trip, and I wish you might make it to Louisville at this time. But if you do not come, or have some other delegate to represent Arizona, I hope you will send in a report to encourage us by knowing what is going on in your STATE! If California wins, which we will know by the time of the convention, then Arizona will be a hopeful campaign field, and you might be planning how the National could help there again, though several states already are ahead of Arizona in having campaigns on hand. At present, the sense of the Official Board seems to be to turn all its attention to California, as its vote is taken first. After the convention, though, other campaigns will receive attention; and among them, I hope, Arizona, if California wins. If not, the states which have campaigns now must take precedence. It is expected that Miss Gregg will be sent to Kansas to work till November of 1912, as they have urgently asked for her there, and it is her own state. I know this will be a disappointment to you, as you and she did such efficient work together.

In Kentucky, we are just now rejoicing that the Democrats have put a School Suffrage for Women plank in the state platform; and as this is normally a Democratic state we are in hopes of getting this fragment of suffrage from the legislature of 1912, especially as the Republican candidate for governor is also in favor. This is a small boon compared with full suffrage, but we will be thankful if we get it.

Please remember me to such of my suffrage friends as may still bear me in mind. I trust that you and your family are all well. Let me have a letter from you as soon as you find time to write, for I want information on the points I have written about.

I am

Very cordially your friend,



Near Richmond, Kentucky.

Sept. 1st, 1911.

Dear Mrs. Cantrill,

I was glad to get your letter of Aug. 27th, and to learn that you are thinking of attending the National Suffrage Convention to be held in Louisville Oct. 19-25 inclusive. I am sorry that I cannot comply with your request about being made a delegate, for the delegates are elected, and not appointed, and there is no fractional representation. I am confident, though, that I can arrange to see that you have a good seat, convenient for hearing and seeing all that is going on.

The time of the year has arrived for me, as local treasurer of the Fayette E.R.A. to collect donations for the annual dues to the state and National Associations. As the State Association is entertaining the National, costing about \$400 outside of what is raised in Louisville, I hope each local, in addition to its dues, will contribute something to the entertainment fund.

The State Convention is to be held in Louisville the day of the last Executive Committee meeting of the National, -that is, Oct. 25th.

We hope, by choosing this day to have a larger attendance both at the National and the State conventions from Kentucky.

If you can make your usual annual donation with a view to these two objects, please write to me at Richmond.

Very cordially yours,

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If you can make your usual annual donation, please write to me at Richmond.

Ver



and methods, particularly when the state is very active in exhibition of a campaign, that it is desirable to allow more than one auxiliary; but not every fifty disinterested or faction members.

Just now we are rejoicing because the Democratic party adopted a School Suffrage for Women plan in its state platform; and we hope it will carry. For Judge O'Neal, candidate for governor on the Republican ticket, is also for

Near Richmond, Ky.  
Sept. 1st, 1911.

My dear Mrs. Farmer,

I received your card telling me of your going to Duluth for the summer. I had no idea it would be so long before I answered it; but you know the summer is my busy time. I came from Lexington quite early this time, and have spent a great deal of time in the farm. Mary has a very nice white tenant in the family, and she keeps all the upperfloor, so that we have room for Mary, Green and myself, and can make room for an occasional visitor by "doubling" up.

I have been greatly troubled by the proposed revision of the constitution of the N.A.W.S.A. I suppose you have been following the discussions as they appeared in the Woman's Journal. If the revision carries, it seems to me the work will be certain forms of business, such as carrying on the Woman's Journal, selling literature, etc., with a staff of officers, all salaried, presumably; and the part of the Association will be to act as patron to these enterprises. I have no objection to the enterprises; in themselves; for there was no more ardent advocate for taking over the management of the Woman's Journal than myself. But I think they ought to be carried on by persons employed by the Board, and not by the officers themselves. Just as we put the business of the W. Journal in the hands of Miss Ryan, who no doubt does it better than Miss Blackwell could do; but Miss Ryan is nothing like so capable as Miss Blackwell of serving on the Board, and taking a broadminded and National view of the suffrage work. Then I am also strongly opposed to giving every little local club of fifty members the right of direct membership with the National, though I recognize that it is expedient not necessarily to limit our auxiliaries to one in each state. In some states there are such serious disagreements about leadership



and methods, particularly when the state is very active in anticipation of a campaign, that it is desirable to allow more than one auxiliary; but not every fifty discontented or factious members.

Just now we are rejoicing because the Democratic party adopted a School Suffrage for Women plank in its state platform; and we hope it will carry, for Judge O'Rear, candidate for governor on the Republican ticket, is also for it, and wanted it in the Republican platform. The Lexington Leader says it was defeated there by a small minority. It did not say, but I do not doubt it was the whiskey interest.

We had a very severe drought during July and a part of August; but in the last three weeks we have had abundant rains and now the grass looks like spring. It was very cold after the last rains and a fire would have been agreeable; but I am glad the sun has now come out warm and bright, and we are to have some summer weather still.

Of course, I am very much interested and occupied in the arrangements for the National convention to be held in Louisville. We have decided to have our state convention on the 25th of October, in Louisville. This is the day of the last Executive meeting of the National; but we thought by taking this day we could get more Kentuckians to attend the National and then stay over to the State convention than in any other way. We shall have only a one day convention, with all three sessions open for business. We do not need speakers, as all will have heard the best at the National convention. How I wish you could come to the Convention! Do not you think you can manage it?

I hear from dear Mrs. Henry occasionally. Her eyes give her trouble, though her last letter to Mary was written with quite a steady hand. She is not willing to undergo another operation on her eyes. Hopes they will last as they are as long as she lives.

I hope Mr. Farmer is quite comfortable. Please give him my very warm regards. I trust you are keeping up your health and spirits. Write me a line, if only a card. Mary would be glad, if she were in the house.



402 Garrard St.

Cornington, Ky

Sept. 1st 1911

My dear Miss Clay: Your letter, and journal received, I had read your article of July on "The new constitution" and I quite agree with you in your contentions. I am passing it around among the prospective delegates to the convention. We have not yet elected the delegate to the National, nor have we elected those to the State



The truth is, we have not been able to get any number of the members together since the lawn fete, but we will have the next meeting here at my home on Sept 11<sup>th</sup>, when we will elect them, who ever the delegate is she will be instructed to vote with you, for we have every confidence in the judgement, and the keen insight of our State President, and feel sure she has looked into this matter from all its different angles, therefore <sup>is</sup> able to point out to us the weak places in the proposed amendment. I have delayed answering, in order that I might be able to say whether or not I would sing my song at the State Convention, as you request. I had nothing on paper except the words and the melody, and that was so crude, that no one but



myself could read it, to make  
it easy to sing effectively  
I would be obliged to have  
an accompaniment, so I  
have arranged with a music  
writer to arrange the  
accompaniment for the  
melody, and now I am  
glad to be able to tell you  
that I will be glad to grant  
the request. I am expecting  
"A Suffrage hint" to do con-  
siderable for our cause in  
this State, even though it  
does nothing more than arrest  
attention long enough to provoke



a smile, I will <sup>then</sup> have contributed <sup>Sept 1, 1911</sup>  
my "mite". I give it unconditionally  
to the State Association if it  
will have it.

A Cincinnati publisher has  
asked me to publish it for  
the convention, and that  
caused me to wonder if  
we could make some money  
out of it for the State.

Some of our members here  
seem to think so, but I  
do not know, the song is  
so local in its nature, that  
I doubt if even Suffragists  
outside of the State would



be pleased enough to buy it.

I should be glad indeed if the Kentucky asso. could add something to its finances by the use of some of my work.

I notice in our local daily paper the "National Suffrage Anthem" which I consider very meritorious indeed, and it is sad that the writer did not live to enjoy her triumph.

I am wondering what the tune is, I see it is not "Dixie Land".

I am going to attend both conventions or think it better to sing the song myself because I am so familiar with every thought in it, and if sung by any one else, some point might be lost, and the sentiment is the most important feature of it.

I hope it will have a place in the evening session, when the audience will be composed of men & women.

And now I must close this long epistle or you will grow weary with reading. I will write you after



our next meeting when the  
delegates are chosen and  
the constitutional amendments  
discussed.

Very cordially yours,

Jessie Riddell Firth.



Posey, Kentucky  
Sept. 2, 1911

Miss Laura Clay,  
Richmond, Ky.

Dear Madam:-

Yours of Aug. 18<sup>th</sup>  
received, and we kindly thank  
you for the interest you have  
taken in our club.

Our plan to arouse interest  
in our club was a decided  
success. There were several con-  
tendants for the prize which  
was awarded to Mrs. Florence  
Rowland for the best original  
story in rhyme of how she



Sept 2, 1917

earned her contribution.

Our club respectfully ask you to send the book offered to this lady, whose address is, Major, Ky.

Our contest proved extremely amusing as well as profitable, and should you desire a further account of it, we will cheerfully give it.

Sincerely yours,  
(Mrs.) Cynthia Flanery,  
Corresponding Sec.



# NATIONAL AMERICAN WOMAN SUFFRAGE ASSOCIATION

MEMBER OF INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE ALLIANCE AND OF NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

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505 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK

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5464 JEFFERSON AVENUE, CHICAGO, ILLS.

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TREASURER, JESSIE ASHLEY,  
505 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY

AUDITORS { LAURA CLAY, 189 NORTH MILL STREET  
LEXINGTON, KY.  
ALICE STONE BLACKWELL,  
45 BOUTWELL AVENUE, DORCHESTER, MASS.

CHAIRMAN PRESS COMMITTEE, MISS CAROLINE I. REILLY,  
505 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY.

## AUXILIARIES

COLLEGE EQUAL SUFFRAGE LEAGUE,  
PRESIDENT, MISS M. CAREY THOMAS, BRYN MAWR, PA.  
FRIENDS EQUAL RIGHTS ASSOCIATION,  
PRESIDENT, MARY BENTLEY THOMAS, EDNOR, MARYLAND

AFFILIATED SOCIETY  
THE EQUAL FRANCHISE SOCIETY  
PRESIDENT, MRS. MACKAY, 1 MADISON AVENUE, NEW YORK

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS, 505 FIFTH AVE., NEW YORK

Sept. 25<sup>th</sup> 1911

My dear Miss Clay:

Thank you for your letter of Aug. 25<sup>th</sup>.

I assure you I am holding tight to the conviction that you have no personal feeling against me.

You may deplore my judgement (or lack of it) but you don't mix up our disagreements about National affairs and personalities. I can hope that once we have met I may understand your point of view so well that we won't quarrel much thereafter.

Now, I want to ask this about my accounts. I am troubled by this situation. In several instances -



Sept 2, 1915

particularly in the N. J. Telephone Co + the towel supply bills, the companies do not <sup>always</sup> return receipts. Will it be enough to show the cancelled check?

These are regular monthly expenses and from a legal point of view the check is the proper voucher, since no one is obliged to give a receipt for a bill. But do you require more? Of course an order would not be signed without something to show what the money was to go for, but in auditing I should think a cancelled check ought to be sufficient. If not, I may be able to get something from the companies, but it will be troublesome.

I have not sent copies of this letter to the Board + it is intended to be personal:

Cordially Yours,

Jessie Ashley.



Near Richmond, Ky.

Sept. 2nd, 1911.

Dear Mrs. Dennett,

Miss Shaw writes that you would like to hear my method in getting a hearing before the Governors last December.

In the first place, I was appointed by the Ky. Equal Rights Association to ask for a hearing for our Association. I wrote to Gov. Augustus E. Willson, of Ky., who was the chairman of the proceedings; saying we would like the hearing, that we would not ask more than fifteen minutes, and that we would accept time either in Frankfort, where they met the first day, or in Louisville, where they went for the last days. He answered that he could not give any outside parties a hearing; that the program required that the governors only should be the speakers, and such as they voted to hear, and that they had extended this privilege only to Mr. Bradford, of Boston. In the meantime, your letter from headquarters had come, sending letters to the suffrage governors. I then wrote to Gov. Willson that I had your letter naming me the representative of the National and had sent me letters to deliver to several governors to whom it was too late to address at their homes; that our committee would be in Frankfort to deliver these letters in person and I hoped the letters would get us enough votes of governors to obtain the hearing. Mrs. Cramer and I, as committee, went to Frankfort the first day and I had the letters delivered, with my card. We had a few minutes' interview with Govs. Willson and Shafroth, and Gov. Shafroth said he thought we ought to have the hearing. Gov. Willson said he would be glad to have our memorial printed in the minutes, as he had promised (I believe) Mrs. Blatch and some other memorialists to do. I told him I did not care to have a memorial printed in the minutes, as I did not think it would do us any good, but that our associations thought it would be a fine thing for



us to have a hearing before their important body. He then said he would do the best he could for me, but that it would be impossible to put anything more on that day's program. I told him it would be equally convenient for me to have time in Louisville, as I was due to make a speech there to the Out Door Art League. Accordingly, I went to Louisville on the same train with the governors, though not in the same coach. I stayed in the hotel or in the hall, which was in the hotel, the rest of that day and the next, so as not to miss my opportunity. I notified the Suffrage Club there, and so it happened that we had several of the members when my chance finally came Thursday afternoon after the regular program was finished. Of course, I had my little speech written, so as to be sure that it would not exceed the ten minutes I told Gov. Willson it would take; and also in hopes that a reporter would ask for it. And so it turned out; for the reporter of the Courier Journal asked for it before I could get to my seat, and I gladly presented it to him.

I do not think the Governors were at all desirous of hearing me; and the real reason of my getting the hearing was that they could not refuse Gov. Willson, who was in a sense their host, and Gov. Willson could not refuse me, or did not care to do so, as it would have been difficult for him to refuse a woman in his own state who was accustomed to having the public ear. I also think the fact that I waited evidently for that hearing a day and a half made it difficult for any of the Governors to refuse when it was put to the vote by Govs. Shafroth and Willson.

I wish I had my correspondence with Gov. Willson here to send you; but I left many of my letter files in Lexington, not expecting to have use for them.

I wrote to Miss Robinson about a quartette singing the prize song to the tune of "Dixie", and I presume she has written to you acceding to your request. In the meantime I have heard from Miss Fenwick of San Antonio, saying the final decision could not be made till about the middle of Sept., and she also expressed gratification that the song was to be sung at the National Convention.

Very truly yours,



# LEGISLATIVE CANDIDATES' COMMITTEE

ROOM 1644, 79 DEARBORN STREET

TELEPHONE CENTRAL 1391

For the Purpose of Supporting, throughout the State, those Candidates Who Favor Woman's Suffrage, Elected October 11, 1910, by Delegates from the Following Organizations

Anti Cigarette League.  
Chicago Association of Collegiate Alumni.  
Chicago Federation of Young Women's Clubs.  
Chicago Men's Equal Suffrage League.  
Chicago South Side Club.  
Chicago Teachers' Federation.  
Chicago Woman's Club.  
Commonwealth Club.  
Cook County League of Clubs.  
Culture Coterie.  
Eastern Star—Lady Washington Chapter.  
Woman Principals Club.  
Englewood Woman's Club.  
Evanston Political Equality League.  
Fred Douglas Center.  
Hull House Woman's Club.  
Humboldt Park Woman's Club.  
Henry Booth House Woman's Club.  
I Will Club.  
Ideal Woman's Club.  
Neighborhood House Woman's Club.  
No Vote No Tax League.  
Political Equality League.  
Political Equality Union.  
Public Policy League.  
The Radical Club.  
Social Economics Club.  
Socialist Woman's Club.  
Southside League of Parents.  
South Side Suffrage Association.  
Suburban Civics and Equal Suffrage Club.  
Twenty-fifth Ward Good Government Club.  
University of Chicago Settlement Club.  
Woman's Christian Temperance Union Cook County.  
Woman's Columbian Club.  
Northwestern University Settlement.  
Woman's Trade Union League.  
Woman's Union Ethical Society.  
Woodlawn Woman's Club.  
Good Fellowship Club, Eli Bates House.  
Friends of Russian Freedom Woman's Branch.

CHICAGO,

Sept 4, 1911

My dear Miss Clay,

Thanks for your

kind letter to me + Mrs. S.

Yes Miss Gordon would be admirable to help audit the books if she will do it you need no expert if you have here.

Yes Mrs. Stewart ought to stay on the Board + your of course but not I. I am good for a little spurt of work but I shall refuse things which draw me away from my family.

Your letter to Miss Gillette is excellent. I told her I would endeavor to have Ell. U. Can. do something similar yours truly,  
Catharine W. Mullock

over



Would not Caroline Bartlett Crane be  
fine for V. P. of N. A. W. S. A. ?

She is well known + would  
represent the Middle West.

Later

I have just read Mrs. Drussett's  
letter on new const. in W. J. Sept. 2.

From one terms experience on the  
Board she and Miss Ashley can give points  
to all the older workers particularly you  
who must have been on twenty years or more.

Well I may burst into print again  
& save the rest of your scalps. Some  
one ought to say that nothing has been  
delayed because of board only corresponding  
except the lease & that matter could  
have been settled earlier if the New York  
members had not withheld the facts.

Perhaps I may feel calmer later  
& keep still.



WILLIAM BUCKEY & COMPANY  
SUCCESSORS TO

**B. W. DODGE & COMPANY**  
PUBLISHERS  
43 WEST 27TH STREET  
NEW YORK CITY

Sept. 5, 1911.

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

My dear Miss Clay:-

While I know that you are more than busy with preparations for the coming Convention I want to ask as a special favor that you find time to read "An American Suffragette" a new novel by the Hon. Isaac N. Stevens. No man in Colorado has done more for suffrage or had a larger opportunity than Mr. Stevens, who has been the owner of newspapers and his editorial columns and from the platform he has been untiring as an advocate of woman suffrage and in helping the Colorado women in all their political battles. A personal endorsement of the book from you would be appreciated.

Because he has gone to California to help in the campaign there I am doing what I can to call attention to his book. Would it be possible to put it before the delegates at the Convention? If there is any suggestion that you can make I should be very grateful to you.

I am With the hope that I may hear from you,

Yours sincerely,

*Mary Holland Kirkland*



OFFICERS

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2ND VICE-PRESIDENT  
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TREASURER  
MISS JENNIE F. W. JOHNSON, 4937 MICHIGAN AVE., CHICAGO

AUDITOR  
DR. CLARA TODSON, ELGIN

LECTURER AND ORGANIZER  
MISS HARRIETT E. GRIM, 934 FINE ARTS BLDG., CHICAGO



# Illinois Equal Suffrage Association

Headquarters  
934 Fine Arts Building  
Chicago

SUPERINTENDENTS  
OF DEPARTMENTS

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MRS. CATHARINE WAUGH McCULLOCH  
EVANSTON

PRESS  
MRS. VANDALIA V. THOMAS  
CHICAGO LAWN

LECTURE BUREAU AND CHAUTAUGUS  
MISS ANNA E. NICHOLS  
6710 MAY ST., CHICAGO

RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS  
MRS. MARGARET NOBLE LEE  
5615 MONROE AVE., CHICAGO

CHAIRMAN ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE  
MRS. MARY R. PLUMMER  
OAK PARK

MRS. GRACE WILBUR TROUT, OAK PARK  
MRS. ALICE JAMES, CANTON  
MRS. FANNIE SHAW FISHER, GALESBURG

September 5, 1911.

Miss Harrette J. Hifton,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Madam:-

At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Illinois Equal Suffrage Association your letter of August 24th was read. It was the opinion of the committee that your points were well taken and a resolution was unanimously carried that we cooperate with you in maintaining the spirit of the old constitution.

Very truly yours,

*Ella S. Stewart*

President.



OFFICERS

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OAK PARK

MRS. GRACE WILBUR TROUT, OAK PARK  
MRS. ALICE JAMES, CANTON  
MRS. FANNIE SHAW FISHER, GALESBURG



September 5, 1911.

Dear state president:-

At a recent meeting of our Executive Committee the resolutions of the District of Columbia Suffrage Association, regarding the proposed new National Constitution, were read and the following letter sent to their president, Harrette Hirton.

Very Cordially,

*Anna E. Blount*

Acting president.



August 5<sup>th</sup> 1911.

Richmond, Kentucky.

Dear Mrs. Dennett,

I am in Richmond for the day; and I find in my letter files here the correspondence with Gov. A. C. Willson I thought I had left in Lexington. I am sending it for your inspection, though probably it is now too late to be of service. Please return all the letters, as I keep them for reference.

Very truly yours,  
Laura Clay.



September 5, 1911.

Dear Member of Business Committee :-

You may be interested in some recent letters. Miss Ada James, the President of Wis. P. E.L. writes at the close of Miss Grim's month with them: "Harriet Grim's popularity in Wis. is becoming the talk of the country. She has had a strenuous time but the result is wonderful. At the Spring Green Inter County Fair she took the affirmative in a suffrage debate. A straw ballot was taken. The vote among the women was 10 to 1 in favor and among the men 2 to 1. A good many men claim the State will go 2 to 1 in 1912. A minister of Waukesha was inspired by what she said to preach a sermon on it. Another minister in Beloit wrote her "If you can give us a Sunday forenoon at Beloit, during the year, I will guarantee you an audience of at least 500!" The fine press notices make me determined this work shall go on".

As Rev. Olympia Brown was not ready for Miss Grim until Sept. 12, Miss Grim came over the line for Illinois work and Mrs. Brown's month will be from Sept. 12 to Oct. 12. The first work will be at the State Fair at Milwaukee and Mrs. Brown's committee or Miss James' will have a suffrage speaker each day. Both groups are having difficulty in filling all the requests for speakers. A week ago the League telegraphed Dr. Blount and me to go to Ashland, Wis. for a big Fair. We were both engaged and so were Mrs. Trout and Mrs. Stewart. I recommended Dr. Aylesworth. Now although Mrs. Brown is to have Miss Grim, she has an extra appointment which she wanted Mrs. Stewart or me to fill at Lancaster. We cannot go, nor Dr. Blount, and I am trying to get Mrs. Trout. Mrs. Brown has also asked me about Mrs. Patter, but I said I believed Mrs. Trout's witty style would capture an open air audience more surely.

The Minnesota Association seems to be having difficulty in getting speakers for its convention in early October. They have asked both Mrs. Stewart and me. She has a constant string of Illinois appointments up to the time of the National Convention.

In a recent letter to the Board I asked about the Ohio situation and no one seemed to have any information. So when writing Mrs. Steinem about her approaching visit to Chicago and other things, I asked point blank about what they were doing to prepare for the constitutional convention. She turned my letter over to Mrs. Upton who writes me September 4, so interesting a letter you may be glad to read quotations from it:

"The Ohio Campaign work is largely in my hands. Mrs. Steinem is running the machine part of the association, like the conventions and the distribution of literature and all the headquarters work, but I have the campaign. It is coming on just as I expected it would. We are finding many more friends among the delegates for the Constitutional Convention than we supposed we had.

Mrs. Steinem said you wanted her to write something to the Woman's Journal about the Campaign and she asked me, since she did not have the facts, to do so. I have replied to her as I do to you, that all the work we are doing now is not work we can report.

For instance, we are interviewing either by letter or personally, all men who are candidates for the convention. So far as it is possible we get these candidates to pledge themselves for woman suffrage. In most instances we get this pledge in writing. It has been astonishing how we have been able to find people of



Sept 5, 1915

-2-

influence willing to see these men and talk matters over with them.

Now the Progressives are very strong in Ohio just now. The Initiative and Referendum people have made a vigorous campaign for years. Most of their men favor suffrage. Sometimes they do not, but very few of them are rabidly opposed to it. The Grange is almost solidly for us, even in the parts of the state where we have little or no organization. The Labor Union has been for us for some time, but it has been growing our way because we have been able to do a number of good things for them. I cannot take time to tell you of these things but the latest was our helping out the strike in Cleveland. I think we must have done this very adroitly because the labor people felt we were their friends and helped them greatly, and the manufacturers felt as if we had come on a mission of adjustment.

Now the matter of the wet and dry question will enter in of course. Most of the dry people are for suffrage. They have been converted to this.

Now many of the labor men are opposed to the dries but their leaders are woman suffragists so that the fact that they are wet is not going to hurt us.

In Portage County where we have only one suffrage organization, although it is next to my county and I have spent very much time on it, four of the five candidates have written me pledges to support the woman suffrage amendment, but today, a party of women from the only club in the county, will wait upon the fifth gentleman and ask him where he stands. If he does not stand with us, the lower part of the county where these women live, will vote against him, in which case one of the other men will be elected.

Now the Initiative and Referendum people say that there are 30 counties where the I & R men are for suffrage but they do not want us to make any fuss openly. We have therefore arranged to send a very reliable woman to each of these counties to see the men themselves.

I nearly laughed out loud at what you said about Dr. Dan Bradley not praising the Cleveland members very highly.

The "Interest" and "Big Business" and the brewers, will not own every member. They will own some to start, and some may fall by the way side at the sight of the big checks, but many of our men are fundamental suffragists and could no more be bought than you or I could. The man who will probably go from my county would submit to rotten eggs or any of the old time persecutions before he would either yield his principles or cease to work for us. He is a democrat.

The Republican, is a life long friend of my father's and I choose him myself and gave his name to the central committee and although he was born many years before the democrat and does not believe in the I & R. he not only would vote for, but work for suffrage.

Of course we are greatly hindered for the want of money and it has been an awful temptation to me not to write to the people who used to give money to the National. I mean now, my own sort of personal friends. I did not do any begging in the beginning because I was afraid of interfering with the Susan B. Anthony Fund and later because I feared the California campaign. We are all of us working for nothing and I am putting in every morning and every night. I find it takes a good deal of money just for the administration and the every-day things".

*C. W. Mculloch*



Newport, Sept. 5. 1911

My dear Miss Clay:-

Your letter received and I have answered the questions on the same paper you sent. I have been reading the discussions on the proposed constitution, in the Woman's Journal with much interest, and can see little to recommend it. It seems to have in mind only the advantages to the few residing near headquarters and to have forgotten the national character it should maintain. Then again the proposal of such an immense Advisory committee, ~~which~~ including the presidents of all local auxiliaries looks to me like simply "a bone to the dog" (in vulgar phrase), pretending that all sections of the association were being represented when it is very evident that



by far, the greater number of such presidents could not attend.

I am very much better physically have discarded my crutches and am using only a cane to assist me in walking. I am still in a very nervous condition and can stand little excitement. I cannot say yet as to whether the doctors will allow me to attend the whole national convention, but I hope to be there part of the time and I want to be strong for our own state convention. I am gaining strenght all the time.

I have not been able to attend to the minutes of the last convention and thought that as we are to have only a one day session this year, the reports of the two conventions of our state, <sup>last</sup> year & this year, might be published & printed together after this convention. What do you say



to this? If you do not approve  
let me hear from you.

I sent Mrs. Bennett 500  
membership cards, as you  
requested, but have not heard  
whether she received them. Do  
you know if they reached her  
safely.

Hoping to hear from you  
soon again I am

Very Sincerely  
Emma M. Roebuck.



State Motto: Standing, Having Done All Stand

National Motto: For God and Home and Native Land

President:  
MRS. FRANCES E. BEAUCHAMP,  
Lexington.

Vice President:  
MRS. MALTA B. BAILEY,  
Paintsville.

Corresponding Secretary:  
MRS. JULIET L. POWERS,  
Grayson.

Recording Secretary:  
MRS. LUDIE DAY PICKETT,  
Wilmore.

Treasurer:  
MRS. NORAH B. TAYLOR,  
723 Central Ave., Lexington.

...Kentucky...

## Woman's Christian Temperance Union

Time of Prayer—Noontide  
Methods—Preventive, Educational, Evangelistic, Social and Legal

Badge—A Knot of White Ribbon  
Watchwords—Agitate, Educate, Organize

W. C. T. U. SETTLEMENT SCHOOL, HINDMAN

COMMITTEE IN CHARGE: { MISS KATHERINE PETTIT, Lexington  
MISS MAY STONE, 1400 Third Avenue, Louisville

Grayson, Ky., Sept 5, 1911

Dear Supt:-

The W. C. T. U. year is drawing to a close, The State Convention is at hand. I do hope you have pressed your Dept, and have a fine Report to read at Convention. You know we only hear the Reports of the Supt who attend. You understand how very important it is that you be present. So the workers may know you and your work, and learn what has been done in your Dept.

Your Comrade.

Juliet L. Powers.

(Over)



Please answer these Questions

1. Did you send Blanks for Reports to all your Supt, and to each Local Union?
2. Did you have a Special meeting in your town or your Departments?
3. Have you ~~planned~~ to attend the State Convention?
4. Have you a Banner in your Dept?  
Will you give a prize this year?
5. What have you done to encourage your Local Supt.?
6. Did you attend the District or County Convention, and present your Dept.?



# NATIONAL AMERICAN WOMAN SUFFRAGE ASSOCIATION

MEMBER OF INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE ALLIANCE AND OF NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

PRESIDENT, ANNA HOWARD SHAW, MOYLAN, PA.

1ST VICE-PRESIDENT, CATHERINE WAUGH MCCULLOCH,  
EVANSTON, ILLS.

2ND VICE-PRESIDENT, KATE M. GORDON,  
1800 PRYTANIA STREET, NEW ORLEANS, LA.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY, MARY WARE DENNETT,  
505 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK

RECORDING SECRETARY, ELLA S. STEWART,  
5464 JEFFERSON AVENUE, CHICAGO, ILLS.

TREASURER, JESSIE ASHLEY,  
505 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY

AUDITORS { LAURA CLAY, 189 NORTH MILL STREET  
LEXINGTON, KY.  
ALICE STONE BLACKWELL,  
45 BOUTWELL AVENUE, DORCHESTER, MASS.

CHAIRMAN PRESS COMMITTEE, MISS CAROLINE I. REILLY,  
505 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY

## AUXILIARIES

COLLEGE EQUAL SUFFRAGE LEAGUE,  
PRESIDENT, MISS M. CAREY THOMAS, BRYN MAWR, PA.

FRIENDS EQUAL RIGHTS ASSOCIATION,  
PRESIDENT, MARY BENTLEY THOMAS, EDNOR, MARYLAND

AFFILIATED SOCIETY  
THE EQUAL FRANCHISE SOCIETY  
PRESIDENT, MRS. MACKAY, 1 MADISON AVENUE, NEW YORK

TELEPHONE 6855 BRYANT



NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS, 505 FIFTH AVE., NEW YORK

September 6, 1911.

Miss Laura Clay,  
Near Richmond, Ky.

Dear Miss Clay:

Thank you ever so much for your careful and complete information about the House of Governors meeting; also for the correspondence with Governor Wilson, which came this morning. We have started things going and hope it will be possible to arrange for Miss Shaw to speak.

Faithfully yours,

*Mary Ware Dennett*

Corresponding Secretary.



Near Richmond, Kentucky.  
Sept. 6th, 1911.

Miss Linda Neville,

Lexington, Ky.

My dear Miss Linda,

The time has come for collecting the annual dues of the Fayette E.R.A., and I am a good deal troubled how to do it this year, because I have been planning to stay in Madison all or most of the fall. However, it must be done; and we must elect delegates to the National convention to be held in Louisville Oct. 19-25 inclusive. The Fayette E.R.A. is entitled to elect three National delegates. Also, we have decided to hold the State convention in Louisville the last day of the National, since on that day only its Executive Committee meets; and we thought by choosing that day we could get more Ky. suffragists to attend the National and then stay over one day to the State convention. The state convention will meet in The Seelbach Red Room, and the convention will be only for one day, with three sessions, morning, afternoon and evening. We need not have public speeches this time, as the delegates will have had opportunity to hear the best at the National.

Mrs. Roark has called a meeting of her Educational Committee of the Federation of Clubs for Saturday, Sept. 9th, in Lexington. I am on that Committee and as I have to come to Lexington soon anyway, I have decided to attend the Committee meeting. I shall remain in Lexington several days, going over before the 9th, if it convenient for you to call a meeting of the Fayette E.R.A. before the 9th; or I will time my stay so as to meet with the E.R.A. early in the next week, if much more convenient to you. For I writing to ask you to call a meeting, so that I may have assistance in collecting the dues, and in other ways preparing the delegates for the two conventions in Louisville.

Please be thinking of ways to help about collecting the dues, for collecting from three hundred members is no little task. I wonder if you could get several assistant collectors to help me? At any rate, some who would receive the dues, who are accurate and careful accountants.

Please let me hear from you on receipt of this letter, so that I may know when it will be convenient for you to time my visit, whether before or after the 9th. Write to me at Richmond, Kentucky.

Hoping you and your sister are well, I am  
Very cordially yours,



September 7, 1911.

Dear Member of Business Committee:-

Mr. J.H. Braly of the Los Angeles Men's League has urged Mrs. Stewart and me to help California during the last few weeks of their campaign. Mrs. Stewart is now too much crowded with Illinois engagements to leave, and has persuaded me to go.

I waited before deciding, until other California telegrams convinced me I was wanted. Mr. Braly and Mrs. Watson, President of the State Suffrage Association are cooperating in making the engagements. The first part of the time will be devoted to an automobile tour. Mr. and Mrs. Braly will go and either Judge Neely or Mr. Harbert former Evanston friends and good campaigners.

The Illinois Executive Committee voted to send me but I shall be grateful for any advice or suggestions from any one of you who may be better informed about the situation.

My mail can be sent in care of Mrs. J.H. Braly, 201 S. Orange Grove Avenue, Pasadena, California. I will not know my itinerary till I reach there, September 11.

Catharine Waugh McCalloch



Near Richmond, Kentucky.  
Sept. 7th, 1911.

Dear Miss Ashley,

I thank you for your cordial reply to my letter of Aug. 25th. It is certainly my earnest desire to work together with all our Board without personalities or discord.

In reply to your questions: The auditors have usually requested the treasurer to get receipts when possible; but they have recognized the fact that in small and regular office expenses it is usually hard, or at least, over-punctilious to require regular receipts. So the request of the auditors has been that in every expense there should be consideration given as to a voucher in some form of the expenditure. In such regular office expenses as you speak of, I should think a cancelled check was sufficient, especially if the check bears on its face a statement of what it is to pay for.

On the farm I have not the minutes of the past years; but if you will look at the minutes of the Official Board of the convention at Chicago, I think, you will see an expression of the sense of the Board about certain small bills which will be useful, perhaps, in preparing your books.

I hope you will soon send out the blank credentials for the delegates from the states. In Kentucky particularly we need them early, as our local associations are to elect their own delegates this year; and it is necessary to know the exact number to which we are entitled. Some of our dues were sent in so late that it was not easy for our own treasurer to keep the dates.

Very truly yours,



Racine Wis, Sept. 7, 1911

My dear Miss Clay,

Your very kind letter of August 31<sup>st</sup> with check, was duly received. Thank you very much - We very much need all the assistance our friends can give us and are grateful both for this and for sympathetic words -

Yours Sincerely

Genevieve B. Willis  
Treasurer Wis. W.S.A.



Near Richmond, Ky.

Sept. 8th, 1911.

My dear Miss Robinson,

I am enclosing a letter from Mrs. Dennett, which explains itself. I hope your Association will do what you can to obtain suffrage resolutions from this Juvenile Court Association. The Fayette E.R.A. was active in getting the subject of Juvenile Courts before the attention of the courts in Lexington when the movement was new in Kentucky.

Mrs. White will have told you that at last we have satisfactorily arranged to have the State convention in the Seelbach Red Room Oct. 25th. We will have three sessions, morning, afternoon<sup>noon</sup> and night, all of them open to the public, and all of them principally devoted to business. I am now getting up the program and would be glad if the Louisville association has any particular subject to present to give it place on the program. Of course, the report of the work of the local association and of the chairmen of committees have already had time assigned to them. I mean anything extra besides these. I have written to Miss Hast asking her to reconsider her declination to give us Personal Impressions of the convention at Stockholm, and to write a paper for reading at the convention.

I have heard from Miss Shaw that she will call the Official Board meetings to commence Tuesday morning, October 17th; so that all the officers will arrive Monday or early Tuesday morning. I expect myself to arrive in the city Monday afternoon, and hope I may see some of the local committees that evening. I could easily come in the morning, however, if there is any reason why I should do so.

Very cordially yours,



Near Richmond, Ky.

Sept. 8th, 1911.

My dear Miss Hast,

I am not at all willing to let you off from giving your Personal Impressions of the Stockholm convention. If you are afraid of your own voice in public, I want you to write your Impressions out, and either read them yourself or appoint some one else to do so in your place. We cannot afford to have personal observers keep all the good things to themselves!

In order that you may know exactly how long to make your article, I will allot time on the program for a paper containing between 2000 and 2500 words. I think it is better to give the limits in number of words rather than in the time it takes to read, as it is less uncertain, on account of the differences in rapidity of reading.

Please do let me <sup>hear</sup> ~~hear~~ that you will contribute this to the <sup>ar</sup> program, which I am now making up.

Very cordially yours,



Near Richmond, Ky.

Sept. 8th, 1911.

Dear Mrs. Firth,

I am gratified that you will sing your suffrage song for the E.R.A. convention to be held in Louisville Oct. 25th. I will give it a place on the evening program, with you as its singer. The convention is to be held in The Seelbach Red Room. I thank you for offering the song and music to the State Association. I think you should make this presentation at the state convention, as it is now so near that time that it is more suitable than presenting it through the Executive Committee. I think also it would be well to consult and be advised by your Covington E.R.A. about publishing it, as the State Asso. has really no facilities for taking suitable steps towards it.

I hope at the meeting at your house on the 11th you will see and discuss the resolutions of the Suffrage Association of the District of Columbia on the proposed revision of the National constitution. Mrs. McLaughlin and Mrs. Shepard both have received a copy from me, as well as Mrs. Roebuck. But Mrs. Roebuck has sent her copy back to me, with answers to certain questions.

I shall be glad to hear of the election of delegates from your E.R.A. both for the National and the State conventions. A list of the names is always useful to me, so as to know something in advance of whom to expect at the convention, for the forming of committees, etc. Please say to the delegates that the The Seelbach is the National headquarters; and that the ladies in Louisville have also secured the names of a number of de-



2.

sirable boarding houses near to the Seelbach, where the terms are more moderate. Inquiries can be made about these by writing to the president of the Louisville W.S. Association, Miss Virginia P. Robinson, 1710 Rosewood; or to Miss Caroline Leib, 1234 First Street. I do not know yet whether or not we shall succeed in getting railroad rates. Various items about the convention will appear from now on in the Woman's Journal.

I am glad that you will attend the National as well as the State convention.

Please remember me to the suffrage friends when they meet with you.

Very cordially yours,



[Sept 8, 1911]

Upper River Road

c/o Mrs. John Hayes

ky.

Dear Miss Clay

I had a most  
wonderful time in

Stockholm Sweden.

Mr Shaw was very  
kind to me sending

me all kinds of

beautiful mementos

I met so many beautiful

and interesting people

Miss Robinson says

you would like to

have one make a

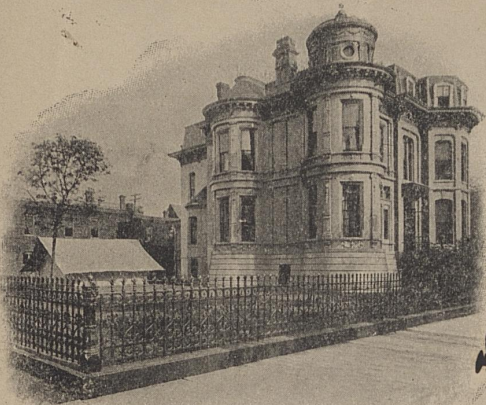


report of the  
committee. I only  
wrote that - I could  
but you know  
I have never  
found my bridge  
when it comes to  
checking on public  
to know ahead  
me to do the same  
thing. And I place  
her I would consider  
it. But I am about



to write to her, that I cannot  
Miss Lucy Anthony will I believe  
by her care  
Yours truly  
Anna Hall-





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Sep 8 1911

Down Town Offices

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Opposite the Fair

Telephone Harrison 6130

Dear Laura Clay:

Find enclosed

\$1.00 - I wish I could make it  
from - but can't just now - I'm  
still waiting for the  
courts from my departing father  
and from the building of the town  
and from building of the town -  
I'm small time to live in  
of later - I can do more

will do so to remember to see  
be here to remember to see  
I get a good seat to see  
see - I want work to be done  
actively also see more - You

When will be the head-  
quarters in Louisville? The name  
thinking you in the name  
of women humanity for the  
of some humanitarian things you  
are already done your fund  
with truly  
Mary Cecil Conrad



September 9th. 1911.

Mr. S. M. Payton,  
Attorney at Law,  
Elizabethtown, Ky.

My dear Mr. Payton:-

Your letter written on August 17th. to Mrs. Wm. Penfield of New York City, has been forwarded to me as National President. I am now forwarding it to Mis Clay, the President of the State Woman Suffrage Association of Kentucky. All such matters as these which have to do with State or local work are matters which must come directly under the control of the Woman Suffrage Association of the State which they concern. It is not the habit of the National Association to in any way interfere with State or local work.

Miss Laura Clay of Kentucky has for many years been the President of the Kentucky Equal Rights Association and whatever she feels desirable for the suffrage work in her State, I am very sure she will be only too glad to support, and it would be well for you to enter into correspondence with her. Although it is not the custom of any of our associations to take sides in partisan politics, Miss Clay will inform you as to what she and her State Association consider wise for the suffrage movement in Kentucky.

I am very glad that you are interested in the suffrage movement, a great many of our best men everywhere are, they feel that suffrage in the hands of women is needed as a great support to the best men in all of our States who are really desirous of establishing pure politics and do away with the partisanship which has made the government of our country a mere machine for the advancement of politicians rather than for the benefit of the people.

Hoping that the time will come when women in the State of Kentucky will have the power to elect the official servants of the State.

I am,  
Faithfully yours,



Cin. Sept 9 - 1911

Miss Laura Clay

Dear Friend Excuse postab. The Club  
Woman's Magazine of Cin. gets out the authorized  
Dowren's programme for the Oct. issue.  
of the National Woman's Suffrage Association  
Meeting in annual conference in  
Louisville Oct 19-27. We desire as many  
pictures of the National officers and State  
Presidents as we can secure. Please let  
promptly and put us in position to secure the  
Kentucky State President. Send both to me.  
842 Beechdale Ave. Humberg Staff  
Grondale Cin. Ohio

Wendell



CINCINNATI  
SEP 10  
2-AM.  
1911



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS ONLY

Miss Laura Clay  
~~Lexington~~ Richmond  
Kentucky.

189 North Mill St.



[1191, P 1/2]

2.

ciation. I hope they are what you would like.

Have you any names to suggest for a new Official Board? Things certainly cannot go on as they are and I wish we could agree on a slate. Of course I do not want all new officers. The trained and experienced workers are too valuable. It seems to me we are getting away from the broad idea of work all over the country especially in weak and unorganized states and mixing too much with strong state work. I am hazy as to exactly what is happening, but I feel the atmosphere.

Cordially yours,  
Emma M. Gillett.

I answered:

Richmond, Kentucky.  
Aug. 28th, 1911.

Dear Miss Gillett,

I have your letter of Aug. 21st, with enclosures; and I have just written a few lines of appreciation to Miss Hefton.

You ask if I have any names to suggest for a new official board? I feel that being on the Board myself precludes me from suggesting any names for new officers in place of any who are now on the Board and may wish to remain; and I cannot say with authority who will decline re-election. I can only speak for myself, and I intend to consider myself eligible for election to the Board, even though the proposed revision rather marks out those who occupy my geographical position; for I am entirely foot-free and can go or even live, wherever the work requires, and I think it most important that the south should be represented. But I consider it even more important that the west should have representatives on the Board. I have a recent letter from an Ohio friend, a prominent suffragist in her state. She writes: "We cannot get the status of a locality second-hand. I believe that if you and Miss Gordon had not been on the board from the south, that the south would hardly be awakened to activity by this time..... It would be very bad politics, in my opinion, for the Association to cut off the south but it would be far worse for them to cut off the west. The next states which will be enfranchised will be the west and middle-west, and when those states get into campaigns they are certainly not going to be controlled by a few eastern people who are not on the ground."

She expresses my sentiments exactly; and therefore it is with the greatest regret that I read in the last Woman's Journal that Mrs. McCulloch says she hopes to be relieved of national office. I feel this would be the greatest loss to the National, and I sincerely hope she will be influenced to reconsider a decision so injurious to the National work. As the news is so recent I have not even thought of whom we could try to put in her place, if she insists upon declining a re-election.

I am very sincerely yours,  
Laura Clay.



Sept 10<sup>th</sup> 1911

CARLISLE COTTAGE

CHAUTAUQUA, NEW YORK

Dear Miss Lamm.

Please do not think me  
very remiss for not thank-  
ing you for your trouble  
in sending the laws con-  
cerning women and the  
States where Co. Guardian-  
ship exists. Do you know  
that Wisconsin was added  
this year making 16 States.

You will be interested  
to hear that nothing I



did here in the Woman's  
Club, aroused so much  
interest. As a result  
there were additions to  
the Club & one Virginia  
woman told me she would  
go home to make a study  
of her own laws. She is a  
friend of Mary Johnston of  
Richmond, but not a thorough  
suffragist. I feel some study  
of the laws will make  
her one if she can be con-  
vinced.



My special purpose now is to ask  
who in Louisville you would  
like to have introduced to the  
Suffrage Convention for a few  
words. Miss Laffin meets the speak-  
ers but on any more or and as  
Chairman of the platform, it is the  
line ask Louisville people who  
ought - to say a few words.

If you have any suggestions  
I or desires I hope to have them.



Evelyn Barrett & I get home  
on Wednesday noon - Carolyn  
goes to the Adirondacks for two  
weeks.

I am anticipating with much  
pleasure my visit to Richmond.

Affectionately yours.

Caroline C. Leech -



State Motto: Standing, Having Done All Stand

National Motto: For God and Home and Native Land

President:  
MRS. FRANCES E. BEAUCHAMP,  
Lexington.

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...Kentucky...

## Woman's Christian Temperance Union

Time of Prayer—Noontide  
Methods—Preventive, Educational, Evangelistic, Social and Legal

Badge—A Knot of White Ribbon  
Watchwords—Agitate, Educate, Organize

W. C. T. U. SETTLEMENT SCHOOL, HINDMAN

COMMITTEE IN CHARGE: { Miss KATHERINE PETTIT, Lexington  
Miss MAY STONE, 1400 Third Avenue, Louisville

Lexington, Ky., Sept. 11 1911

Miss. Laura Clay

Richmond, Ky.

My Dear Miss. Clay:-

First, I must thank you for your remittance.

I am sure the people want to give the money but they are so slow.

I cannot express to you how much I regret your inability to be with us at the Convention. It is a real disappointment and grief to me. You are not only a great help in the convention, but an inspiration.

When I read your letter I felt as though I could not stand it, but I know how many things you have to do.

Now, I come with a renewed request:-won't you write me an article within the next week or ten days on Suffrage in the Prohibition Platform. I don't mean an article asking them to retain Suffrage, because there is absolutely no danger of their dropping it, but a cogent argument for the principles of Woman Suffrage. These arguments may be stale and familiar to you, it may seem even unnecessary to you to give them, but the masses of the people do not know.

Hoping that you will take the time to do this

I am with real appreciation and real regard

Sincerely yours

*Frances E. Beauchamp*

Dict. J. G.



Near Richmond, Kentucky.  
Sept. 12, 1911.

Dear Member of the Official Board of the N.A.W.S.A., We have all received Miss Shaw's letters of Aug. 30th and Sept. 6th, in which she conveys the information that she has been given a sum of money from an unknown source, which is to be used for the suffrage cause according to the suggestion of the lady who presented it and Miss Shaw's judgment of the needs of the work. Miss Shaw says that she desires the money to go through the National Treasury; and has so sent some of it to California in the name of the National Association; but if there is any objection she will send it in her own name.

I rejoice that the Suffrage cause has this financial help at this time of great activity; and I find no fault with the conditions the donor has affixed. But I am writing this to record my objection officially to any money being expended in the name of the N.A.W.S.A. which comes from an unknown source, with unknown conditions, or dependent upon the judgment of only a portion of the Official Board and yet give the impression to the Association or the public that its acceptance had been approved by the Official Board and that its expenditure had been made on the free judgment of the Board.

My objection is based upon my view of my duty to the Association which has entrusted the direction of its affairs to eight officers who by its constitution and the election of the convention are co-ordinate in the duty of casting a vote on every matter of business which affects the Association. As one of those officers I am not willing to relinquish my duty of understanding where money comes from spent in the name of the Association and of the whole conditions attached to its acceptance, nor to delegate to one member judgment of conditions which by this interpretation of duty should be submitted to the whole before it can properly appear as the action of the Board.

I believe that a necessary inference from this assignment of duty to all officers is that each officer owes it to all others to communicate any



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information which comes to her in her department which may concern these matters upon which they are called to vote. And I am going to take this occasion to state that neglect or rejection of such an inference on the part of some of the Board since the last convention has so hampered or defeated me in my effort to cast my votes for the best interests of the Association that I relate the circumstances here, for the purpose of having my understanding of them corrected, if they are mistaken, so that I shall have the facts exactly when I explain to ~~the~~ members of the Association the situation in which I have been placed.

The circumstances are these: At the convention at Washington City Mrs. Belmont caused a pledge from her to be read, a copy of which is in the minutes. This pledge promised to maintain headquarters in 405 Fifth Avenue for the Association until the next convention, or the convention of 1911, and also certain sums of money. On this pledge and understanding no other effort to locate or provide for the support of Headquarters was made at the Convention. But when the lease between Mrs. Belmont and the Board was signed by Mrs. Belmont she interlined the lease by a condition that the headquarters were to be provided only till August 1st, 1911, the time that her lease of the premises expired. Mrs. Stewart had not this information at the time of preparing the minutes; and though she might have seen the interlineation after the minutes had passed out of her hands when the lease was sent her for filing away, I am informed that she did not read over the lease beyond ascertaining that Mrs. Belmont's signature was attached, and therefore she remained ignorant of the interlineation. I think the interlineation (here I beg that my understanding will be corrected, if necessary) was known to Miss Shaw promptly after it was made, and that Miss Ashley was soon informed of a circumstance coming so immediately under her department. I think it was known to Mrs. Bennett when she published the minutes and omitted the interlineation. I think it was known to Miss Shaw when she visited Chicago in November and met Mrs. McCulloch, Mrs. Stewart and



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Miss Gordon and afterwards came to Kentucky and met me. I think it was known to the three members in headquarters when Miss Gordon visited New-York in November, 1910. I think it was communicated for the first time to at least four of the members distant from headquarters in Miss Shaw's letter of April 18th, 1910. I think no general information has ever been given of Mrs. Belmont's withdrawal (if it has been withdrawn) <sup>of</sup> ~~from~~ the pledge of money to be given monthly till the convention of 1911, with the exception of the specific amounts mentioned in the printed minutes. In short, I think these particulars were known by one or more members of the Board at headquarters before the final vote was taken to hold the annual convention in October instead of April; before the vote was taken as to calling a Board meeting; and before the correspondence began about providing headquarters for the interval between Aug. 1st and the convention in October. A similar neglect or declination to give information concerning the conditions of Mrs. Belmont's pledge of \$1000 towards the rent of headquarters has been too thoroughly discussed recently to need further comment.

This lack of information which affected the most important subjects upon which it has been my duty to cast votes since the last convention places me in a position where it is fair, even obligatory, to explain my votes to those who entrusted me with office. This I expect to do to suitable persons and at the convention. I therefore earnestly request each and every member of the Board to point out any error or misunderstanding <sup>in</sup> ~~of~~ the facts ~~as~~ <sup>have</sup> related above, so that I may not inaccurately present the situation. If I receive no such corrections I must of necessity take such silence as corroboration of what I have written, and which <sup>is</sup> ~~was~~ the basis of the explanations I shall make.

I am sincerely yours,

Laura Clay.



Near Richmond, Kentucky.

Sept. 13th, 1911.

Miss Mary Rennick,

Cinn. Ohio.

Dear Miss Rennick,

In compliance with your request, I am enclosing my photograph for the programme of the annual convention of the National-American Woman Suffrage Association to be held in Louisville, October 19-25 inclusive.

You will observe that I am president of the Ky. E. R. A. which invited the National to Louisville, and also auditor of the National Association.

If I can assist you in any other way in getting out the programme, I shall be glad to do so.

Very respectfully yours,



Near Richmond, Ky.

Sept. 13th, 1911.

My dear Mrs. Leech,

I was just thinking of sending you a letter by this mail when I received your letter from Chautauqua. I want you to be my guest at the Glyndon hotel during the Board meeting of the K.F.W.C. in Richmond. Belle Bennett is at the hotel and other ladies will probably be there also in attendance on the meeting, and I hope to see you constantly. Elise is an enthusiastic little president, and I am truly glad you are coming to her first Board meeting. She has the greatest respect for your judgment on all club matters, and your presence will be a great support; and much pleasure to me.

And now to the business you write about. I want dear Mrs. Susan Hook Avery to be presented and asked for a few words, if she is in Louisville; or a note of invitation written if she is elsewhere. Besides her, I would like the members of our Ky.E.R.A. Lecture Bureau, Mrs. Charles Weaver and Mrs. Lucy A. Nield asked to say a few words. Our Press Chairman, Mrs. M.W. Castleman; and Miss Laura R. White, Chairman of committee on Peace and Arbitration. Miss Virginia P. Robinson, president of the W.S.A. I feel so proud of all these representatives of the E.R.A. that I want every one asked; if it is not too much. Of course, I do not know exactly your plans about it, and I know they must be considered. After these who are so directly representative of the Ky.E.R.A. there are also so many others whom I would feel proud to present to our visitors that I feel it would be invidious to try to mention them; and I am going to leave that to you. I shall have the



time to talk a little about that convention when you are in Richmond, though that time will be much crowded. It is probable that the chairmen of two committees, Mrs. Roark, of the Educational Committee, and Mrs. Breckinridge, of the Legislative Committee, may ask their committees to meet in Richmond at the same time, for mutual conference and encouragement. It was not definitely decided when I last heard. But we are likely to have a very business-like meeting, beginning early the morning of the 3rd, so I hope you will plan to come the day before, so as to be ready for work early. Please let me hear on what train to expect you; for we now have two good trains from Louisville. Elise and I like the new train which comes around byway of Stanford and Lancaster.

Hoping soon to see you, I am

Affectionately yours,

P.S. I have just thought of it: Would it not be a good idea to have some gentleman, a representative of the Democratic party, to make a few remarks on the plank in the Democratic platform endorsing School Suffrage for Women? It would be a great stroke if we could get Mr. Watterson to do that.