

Lexington, Ky. Jan. 17, 1910.

My dear Miss Alice,

I have been greatly grieved at your being sick and not being able to attend the Board Meeting. I was much disappointed when I found that I was not to see you in New York.

Please find enclosed a Postoffice money order for a renewal of the subscription to The Woman's Journal for the Lexington Library and for myself.

Is not it grand to have the Oklahoma petition finally filed. I hope that Mrs. Boyer is to be sent. I gave my vote to that effect on Saturday by telegraph and have not yet had the opportunity to receive the result from Miss Shaw.

I thank you for your postal card and I value it not only as a remembrance from you, but on account of the beloved photograph, which it contains.

With my best love, I am

Affectionately your friend,

Dict

Dear Miss Celay:

I read with sorrow in the papers that Mrs. Avery & Mrs. Upton have resigned. If the places are not already filled when this reaches you,

difference between  
Chicago & Boston,  
but I think them both  
as Easterners.

Yours always affectionately,  
Alice Stone Blackwell

April 21, 1910, Dorchester, Mass.

do suggest the  
advisability of  
electing a  
woman of the  
far West in  
place of  
Mrs. Avery.  
Mrs. Keith of  
California would

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be good for Mrs. Green  
full of Colorado. We  
have a fine board,  
but not one  
Western woman  
on it — for the far  
West sees no

Dorchester, Mass.

April 12, 1910.

Dear Miss Celay:

Many thanks for your very kind letter. So far as I can now see, I should be able to carry on the Journal alone for some years longer, if it were necessary; and should even be able, probably, to restore its size to eight pages, with the active coöperation that Miss Ryan is confident she can secure. But I would rather have the

Unless I can supervise the "make-up" of the paper (i.e. the putting together of the articles), and can read the proof, I cannot ensure its coming out in what would seem to me satisfactory shape. Also it would make us 24 hours later with all the news. It is bad enough to be dated Saturday & have to go to press Thursday! And if Miss Ryan takes hold of it, she can do much more in the way of getting advertisements & other coöperation here where she knows a great many people. ~~I~~ I am enclosing to you the statement that she gave me of her plans for

<sup>2</sup>  
National take hold of it,  
if they care to do so; and  
I have decided not to  
make any stipulation  
as to keeping up the  
price, or on some of  
the other points that  
I mentioned to you in  
my former letter. But  
I am quite clear that  
I am not willing to  
part with the owner-  
ship of the paper,  
especially while the  
outlook for the

Association's future is so uncertain.

<sup>3</sup>  
Some time ago, largely in consequence  
of your representative as to the wisdom  
of it, I changed my will, and bequeathed  
the Woman's Journal to the N. A. W. S. A.  
So, if anything happens to me, it will  
become the property of the Association.

I now suggest the possibility of  
the paper's being edited in Boston but  
printed in New York. I do not think  
that would be a good arrangement.

[Apr 12, 1910]

enlarging and improving the Journal when she was thinking of it merely as a Massachusetts paper. Some of them were probably too ambitious to be practical; but most of them I think are good, and feasible.

Dear Miss Celay, your kind personal words of appreciation are far, very far, beyond what I deserve; but it warms my heart that you should think so. You

rock in a weary land. You have been all that to  
me & more. Affectionately, Alice Stone Blackwell.

do not know what a com-  
fort to me you have been  
all these years, or what  
a pleasure and refresh-  
ment it has been to me  
in the B. C. meetings  
just to sit and look at  
you. I seemed to drink  
strength from your  
strength, and from  
your courage and  
high-mindedness and  
absolute integrity. The  
Bible says somewhere  
that a man shall be a  
covert from the wind and  
a shelter from the tempest,  
the shadow of a great

Lexington, Ky.

April 6th, 1910.

My dear Miss Blackwell,

I received your letter of the 3rd inst. yesterday and have been considering what to say in answer. This is difficult, because there are practical difficulties in the way of adjusting the ideal I have in mind, and which I suppose is yours, with business arrangements. My ideal is that the Woman's Journal should always be the memorial of your mother and now of your father, as long as the suffrage cause needs a special paper at all, which will be till the cause has won a complete victory. Whether this will be in the next few years or fifty years from now there seems to be no clear indications. Therefore I think that you ought to study to place it on such a basis that its future will be secured whether you are here to look after it or not. I believe I told you once that I do not think you can secure its perpetuity by will, as an enterprise like running a reform paper is not a matter merely of dollars and cents. My thought has been that you should transfer it to the permanent care of the National A. W. S. A., in such a way that you could insure that it should be a memorial to your parents and have a career of usefulness to the cause as long as a paper is needed. You know having a weekly organ has been spoken of for some years now; and in New York it was again spoken of, and in the discussion, which was short, so much other pressing business being on hand, it was brought out that the feeling of the Board was that it would be very desirable that the Woman's Journal should become the organ of the Asso., with you as its editor-in-chief, but the management in the hands of the National. Mrs. Ke ley said she expected to see you soon, and she was requested to talk to you informally and find out your views. From your letter I judge she has not seen you. Nothing definite enough to call a proposition was discussed; but these points were spoken of: that Mrs. Harper and other of our Press friends thought that

(Over)  
(Over)



Progress could be either printed as a weekly or greatly enlarged, and made a paying business by pushing methods. You know a change of name for Progress has been under discussion; and I thought the issue in the new year would have a new name. In connection with this discussion it was talked of that now would be a good time, if ever, to make an arrangement with you to give over the Journal to the extent of taking that name for the paper, and concentrating all our press resources on one paper, and not to have two papers in the field, where there is scarcely support for one. There was nothing so definite as a proposition; but as you now have all the care and work of the editing, and it is known that your father advised you to have this labor shared, it seemed desirable that the Board should at least inquire your view.

So much then for what has been said. Now as to what I would advise. A year ago I should have been much more assured in what I would advise. Then I would have said that it appeared wise to me for you to cease trying to bear the burden of this paper; and that you should only study the best way to preserve its continuity as a memorial, which could be done best by transferring it to the N.A.W.S.A. The features which I think would be conceded to you are: That the name should continue, with the Memorial headline you now use; that its general form should remain the same and that you should be the editor-in-chief as long as you cared to perform that office. I doubt whether any other important points would be guaranteed to you. The price is one of the business points, and must be regulated by the usual business considerations. So must the advertising, though I think you could be secured that all of it should be on the high tone the paper has always had. With you as the editor-in-chief I believe this would be a secure basis for the future of the paper; and on sentimental grounds, at least, I would have recommended it and thought it a safe business proposition.

to you a year ago, perhaps unqualifiedly. But as you are a member of the Board I feel that I may say to you frankly that my confidence in the wisdom of the business management of our affairs has been shaken in the past year. The hurried renting of the Washington headquarters, and then their practical

E. A. 6, 1910

and the lack of all business success in transferring the headquarters to New York are some main features of what I consider a very weak business management of the Association's affairs. And at present I see no outlook for improvement. Miss Shaw has the artistic temperament and not that of a business manager. This would not matter so much if she were aware of her limitations. But in spite of failing health and the remonstrances of her friends she persists in looking after every detail of business. As far as I have heard, the only two candidates for the presidency are Miss Shaw or Mrs. Avery. I do not think much more, if anything, of Mrs. Avery's business ability than of Miss Shaw's. The whole transaction with Mrs. Potter and Miss Peck seem to me to have lack of all business definiteness and prudence. You know that all suggestions of the ordinary precautions in drawing up a contract were rejected by Miss Shaw with impatience. And the result has been disastrous far beyond my worst fears. Every body in headquarters, and indeed, in New York, seem to be at loggerheads, and barely free from quarreling. I could not advise that any one should try to enter into a serious business arrangement with an organization so much lacking in all business stability as ours is at present. This is why I say it is difficult to advise you. I think the final disposal of the Woman's Journal ought to be what I have outlined; but as to advising you to proceed just now I do not see my way clear to doing. You must decide that for yourself. You know better than I the disadvantages of two papers running in opposition, especially if one should be a well-conducted official organ. Also, you are the only one who can judge in the least whether you are going to be able to manage the Journal on the old lines, now that you are left alone. If you have to part with your independence in its management, I should even now advise that you should join with the National. But I cannot with my former undivided mind advise that you should hand over the work which forms so large a part of your interest in life unless you have better assurances than are presented just now that business is going to be wisely attended to.

I have received this morning the letters from Miss Hauser, which I presume have gone to you also, but for fear they have not I enclose my copy. Please return them to me. They will help you to your decision. I see in reading over your letter that you ask in what points has your conduct of the Journal been criticized? I would answer that I have never heard any criticisms except that you had not the money-making faculty with the paper. I never made this criticism, for I know nothing of newspaper business. I have always been proud of the paper and its record. I have been its constant reader almost from the first, and I have never seen a copy of which every suffragist could not be proud. It has always had the highest literary and ethical merit. And I believe its continuance is a worthy monument to your mother and your father, both of whom I have always revered and admired in the exalted degree. My interest in your disposal of the paper arises from my desire that our cause shall reap the full benefit of a publication which has always been an honor to it, even through the troubled days when other publications could not be praised without reservation; and to insure the continuance of a memorial which I do not believe your unassisted efforts can secure.

It seems to me to be very doubtful in the present depleted state of the finances of the Asso. whether any enlargement or great change in the policy of Progress or a national organ under another name will be attempted at the Washington convention. If it is determined upon, I feel sure that you will receive a proposition of some sort, though it may not be what will suit you. And I suppose the gist of this rambling letter is that my opinion leans to the conclusion that if such a proposition is made to you that you should accept it, if you can. For I believe that is the logical conclusion sooner or later. But I can see that even if you admit that you may still prefer waiting for further developments of the new plans before you enter into any new arrangement. I am glad you will be a candidate for a place on the Board. That

[Apr 6, 1910]

fits in with Miss Hauser's idea that a member of the Board should be the editor and direct its policy. It may be showing my ignorance of newspaper work when I say that it seems to me it would suit you better to write the leading editorials and direct the policy of the paper than to struggle every week, rain or shine, sick or well, with the huge burden of all the make-up of the paper and getting it out on time, and all the business attached to running it. As long as you keep the paper you must bear the main responsibility, even if you get a first-rate assistant, such as you describe you now have in view. I shall be very glad to meet Miss Agnes E. Ryan in Washington, and shall be pleased if you will tell her so. But do not enter into any positive contract with her till after the Washington convention.

I am more than sorry you are not to be in Washington. You do not know how much I missed your clear, calm good sense in New York. And I fear it will be much needed in Washington. I do not know whether I have assisted you any in your conclusions. But whether my advice helps you or not I want you to be assured that you always have my warm personal affection and admiration, and that you can depend upon them for sympathy and appreciation in whatever you may determine to do.

Very cordially your friend,

45 Boutwell Ave. Dorchester, Mass.  
April 20. 1910.

Miss Laura Clay,  
Hotel Arlington, Washington, D. C.

Dear Miss Clay:-

Miss Ryan writes me that the question of making the Woman's Journal the organ of the National Association has been referred to a special committee of five, of whom you are one. The Committee have a right to know the details of the last year's receipts and expenses to help them in arriving at a decision, so I send you the detailed report that was given at our stockholders' meeting a few days ago.

I see with much sorrow ~~that~~<sup>by</sup> the report in this morning's paper that Mrs. Upton and Mrs. Avery have resigned the offices to which they had been re-elected. I am afraid this means that there is a great row on. If so, I don't know whether it is better for the Journal to be made the national organ or not. However, ~~it~~ I suppose it is best, if we can arrive at a mutually satisfactory arrangement; but it makes me feel less keen about it. Of course this last paragraph is only for you and not for the committee.

Yours, always affectionately,

Alice Stone Blackwell

I also enclose for the committee's consideration Mr. Grimes's estimate of making the paper larger.

45 Boutwell Ave. Dorchester, Mass.  
April 18. 1910.

Dear Member of the Official Board:-

In the letter that I wrote you about the Woman's Journal, I said that the annual deficit was a little over \$800. I had made that calculation by striking an average for 1905 (the year that we put the price down from \$2.50 to \$1.50 and reduced the size of the paper from eight pages to four), 1906, 1907, and 1908. At that time I had not the figures for 1909, as the last year's report was in the city, and I did not remember what they were. I have them now, and the deficit on the Journal last year was over \$1100. It is all paid off and the paper clear of debt, as I told you; but I do not want to give you an unduly rosecolored view of the paper's present financial status. The receipts from subscriptions were a little larger in 1909 than in 1908 (\$3493. in 1908 and \$3552. in 1909.) So were the receipts from advertising (\$298 in 1908 and \$393. in 1909.) But the expenses increased. The Mailing Company

raised its price, we had to pay more for paper, etc.

These details may be immaterial, but I wanted you to know the worst.

I was much pleased by the unanimity of the vote to adopt the Journal as the official organ.

Sincerely yours,

*Alic Stone Blackwell*

Dorchester, Mass. April 12. 1910.

Dear Member of the Official Board:

I have just heard that at the mid-year meeting of the Board a majority of the members expressed themselves in favor of adopting the Woman's Journal as the official organ, if a mutually satisfactory arrangement could be made; and that Mrs. Kelley was to see me when she came to Boston, and talk the matter over. Mrs. Kelley, I understand, was taken suddenly ill while attending the child labor meeting in Boston, and probably for that reason she was not able to come out to see me; and if she wrote me anything about it, the letter miscarried, as I fear many things may have done during my illness. So that the matter did not come to my knowledge till two or three days ago. There had been suggestions of a possible coalition between Progress and the Woman's Journal, in the circular letters sent around to the official board by Mrs. Harper and Professor Potter; but I was not sure that a majority of the board would favor such a plan, and I felt a delicacy about broaching the subject myself. But if the board want my views, I am glad to give them.

Trying to look at the matter as impersonally as I can, it really seems to me that it would be the part of wisdom for us to concentrate our efforts on one national paper, and make that one as strong and good as possible, rather than to have two papers in the field. Among the obstacles

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to a coalition in the past have been the feeling that the national organ must be published at National Headquarters - which of course is the best and most suitable place, - and the conviction that the Association ought to control its organ, which is undoubtedly a sound principle. I do not feel that I can go to New York to live; and I have been very reluctant - perhaps foolishly so - to give up my editorial independence.

It has been suggested that the paper might be printed in Boston, but dated from New York, Boston and Chicago. If so, that would meet the first difficulty. And if the National chooses to adopt the Journal as its organ, I will agree that so long as that arrangement continues, the official board shall dictate the editorial policy of the paper, and shall run its business end. We might either make the arrangement for a year, on trial, or for a term of two or three years. I think myself that it would probably work pretty smoothly, and that both sides would be satisfied to keep on indefinitely. But I should not wish to put the control of the paper permanently and irrevocably out of my own hands, without any certainty how the experiment will work, even though I believe it will work well.

In view of the present stringency of the Association's finances, I should not ask any salary for editing the paper. But if I were editing it for the Association instead of on



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my own hook, I think it would be proper that the Association should pay for my secretary. If it were not for the editorial work, I should not require a secretary.

In the case the board is satisfied to control its organ, and to let it be printed here, I should like to know, before definitely entering into the agreement, what things the board will want me to leave undone that I have been doing, editorially, or <sup>to</sup> do that I have not done; and also what they will want to do about the business management.

The Woman's Journal now has a circulation of about 3000 copies. This includes the exchanges. The paper is out of debt. Its receipts fall short of its expenses by an amount varying somewhat from year to year, but averaging a little more than \$800. This is made up partly from money given on purpose for the Journal by various friends, partly from money given to me to use for suffrage in any way that I choose. When I receive a gift of that kind, I use part of the money for the Journal.

Whether the Journal is adopted as the national organ or not, I think it will become self-supporting in the near future. All that it needs to make it so is a competent business manager. Miss Agnes E. Ryan wants to take hold of the paper with me, or is willing to <sup>take</sup> hold of it with the National if desired. She is young, energetic, and full of bright and original ideas. She worked her own way through Boston University, and did it so successfully that other students wishing to earn their own way are now referred to her for

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advice, by the faculty. She has done everything about a newspaper, from setting type to writing editorials. She now has a good position on the Boston American, a paper which has been increasing its circulation enormously; and she knows just how they have done it. Some of the methods of course would not do for the Journal, but others would. Miss Ryan is a very enthusiastic suffragist, and I believe that she is a good, sincere girl. She is convinced that the Journal can not only be made self-supporting but can be made to pay, and that she can do it. I believe she can make a success of it, at least so far as concerns enabling the paper to meet its expenses. It is even possible that she may make it pay, but of this I have more doubts.

Some little time ago, she came to see me and proposed to take hold of the Journal with me. I wanted to accept, but told her frankly that I could not afford to pay her. We have had several talks since, and she is confident that she can raise most of the money not only for her own salary, but for making the Journal eight pages instead of four. Of course, on those terms I ask nothing better than to have her take hold. That is what she is going to do for me if the National does not want to take the paper, and I think it would pay you to have her do it for you if you do. I would suggest that you call her before the Business Committee and have a talk with her.

Some of our Massachusetts women would rather have the Journal keep on as a Massachusetts paper, because they think

Σ Apr. 12, 1910  
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that as such they could have more space in it for matters of local interest; but I personally should rather have it made the national organ, because of the wider circulation and influence that this would give.

Nothing is to be said in public about the possibility of Miss Ryan's taking hold of the Journal until she is ready to announce it herself to her present employers; so the part of this letter which relates to her is a confidential communication to the Business Committee.

Of course, if the National takes over the control of the Journal for a year or for a term of years, and with it the business management and the financial responsibility for the paper during that time, the official board can employ any business manager they please. I only recommend Miss Ryan; I cannot insist upon her. But I judge from Miss Hauser's letter to the Business Committee that there is no one else particularly desirous to do it. Miss Ryan really wants to; and there is a saying that one volunteer is worth six pressed men. However, if you take charge of the paper, all that will be "up to you" to decide.

The problem is how to have a national paper frequent enough to keep up people's interest and big enough to be a creditable looking organ and to contain all the news, and at the same time cheap enough to be within everyone's reach. These conditions cannot be combined in one paper. To try to do it is to be like the old lady who wanted to buy "a very

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small Bible with very large print". Her demand paralyzed the whole resources of the Bible House. It really needs two papers to meet the different needs. If the National ran an 8-page weekly of the Journal's size, it could at very little extra cost run a small weekly like the old Woman's Column, or small<sup>er</sup> at 25 cents a year. That came within \$100. of paying its expenses the last year it was issued. I discontinued it because it cut into the circulation of the larger paper. There is no doubt that a smaller paper made up from the larger one does do that. But it could be made immensely useful for campaigns, for general propaganda, for literature, and as an inexpensive aid to press work in the States. Of course it could not in any way take the place of the invaluable press work that the Association has been doing in New York City.

I think the ideal arrangement would be for the National ultimately to run the large and the small papers together. But I should not advise doing that until the national organ whether it be Progress or the Journal, is established on a firm basis.

I wish, if possible, that the board would decide in advance of the Convention whether it wished to adopt the Journal as its organ on these general lines, and also let the question come up early in the Convention. Then we could settle the details by correspondence before the end of the Business Committee meetings that will follow the convention. Also, if you decide to do it, it will be a help toward getting subscribers during the Convention.

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Yesterday I was allowed to go downstairs for the first time. The doctor says I shall soon be able to get back to work. But it was not possible for me to go to Washington.

With best wishes for a successful meeting, and kind remembrances to all friends,

Yours sincerely,

*Alice Stone Blackwell*

P.S. If one department of the paper can be edited in New York and another in Chicago, it will be very desirable.

45 Boutwell Ave. Dorchester, Mass.  
April 25. 1910.

Miss Laura Clay,

Care: Mrs. S.D. Crenshaw,

919 W. Franklin street, Richmond, Va.

Dear Miss Clay:-

Yours of April 23d came this morning.

Miss Ryan has written me nothing about the Journal since she sent a note saying that the Committee were considering the details of the contract which they wished to make. I suppose she has been too overwhelmingly busy. Consequently I do not know as yet any of the particulars. I hope we may be able to make a mutually satisfactory arrangement, but of course I can tell better when I get some idea as to what the Committee wish.

It is true that I should very much rather not change the size of the Woman's Journal pages; but I might not be absolutely determined against doing so if the change were to be to a smaller instead of a larger size. I feel sure that it would be unwise to have a four-page paper of a considerably larger size than the present. Twenty-five or thirty years ago a good many weekly papers were published in that form, but it has become almost, if not quite, obsolete. Among the Woman's Journal's multitude of exchanges I do not recall a single weekly paper which now uses it. The whole tendency of weekly papers is and has been for many years to increase the number of pages and make the size of the pages smaller. The Christian Register was almost the last to change from four pages, and it made the alteration

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nearly twenty years ago, if I remember correctly. I remember a humorous editorial in the "Register" at the time, publishing what purported to be a letter of protest from <sup>a</sup> the Baptist dressmaker, who <sup>that</sup> said, although a Baptist she had taken the Register because it was the only religious weekly ~~just~~ still appearing <sup>a</sup> in the form in which she could use it to cut dress patterns out of it; and now even this resource was denied her. The big size of the dailies does not look well where there are only four pages. It would be a case of Penny wise and pound foolish, in my judgment, to save a few hundred dollars by putting the paper into a shape which would look obsolete rather than modern. It would not make nearly so good an appearance nor nearly so creditable an organ. I should be quite willing as a measure of prudence to be satisfied with the present size and shape until we were sure that we were going to be able to raise the money for an enlargement; but when the enlargement is made I should very much rather have it take the form of adding four pages of the present size. I could reconcile myself to lessening the size of the pages, but I do not think I could to enlarging them.

Mr. Grimes made that suggestion simply out of his own head. In sending on his letter, I did not mean to convey the idea that I should be prepared to adopt it.

I am glad that you do not feel as if the disagreement in the Convention would do irreparable damage. Our Massa-

Massachusetts women went down there predisposed to sympathize  
 with Mrs. Potter in consequence of what I had told them;  
 but they came back tremendously displeased with Mrs. Potter  
 and her supporters, and their feelings all won over to  
 Miss Shaw's side. I shall await with interest the outline of the contract  
 that the committee are willing to make, and shall try to

meet their wishes if I can. The big size was denied her. It would be a case  
 well, Yours always affectionately,

*Alice Stone Blackwell.*

of any size, in my judgment, to save a  
 few hundred dollars by putting the paper into a shape which  
 would look obsolete rather than modern. It would not make  
 nearly so good an appearance or nearly so creditable an  
 organ. I should be quite willing as a measure of prudence  
 to be satisfied with the present size and shape until we  
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Mr. Grimes made that suggestion simply out of his own  
 head. In sending on his letter, I did not mean to convey  
 the idea that I should be prepared to adopt it.  
 I am glad that you do not feel as if the disagreement  
 in the Convention would do irreparable damage. Our losses



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Washington, D C, April 23, 1910

Miss Alice Stone Blackwell,  
Boston, Mass.

My dear Miss Blackwell:-

I have received your several letters, and Miss Ryan, no doubt, has kept you informed of the proceedings of the Special Committee appointed on the Woman's Journal business. I am very earnestly in favor of your carrying out the proposition, and I hope there is nothing in the contract, of which you will soon receive an incomplete form, which will deter you from perfecting the arrangement. The whole Convention was very warmly in favor of making the arrangement, but some saw some practical difficulty in case the paper was really built up to a paying basis in the fact that you are retaining a right to resume the ownership and management. The Special Committee, with Mrs. McCulloch's assistance, has tried to meet these objections of the convention, all of us feeling that as far as you individually are concerned there would never be any difficulty arising from this source, but recognizing the fact that when a legal contract is drawn up all contingencies must be considered. I hope that nothing will meet with your decisive disapproval. I judge from your letter enclosing Mr. Grime's estimate that you do not stickle for the Journal to remain in the exact shape and size in which it is now published. If this is the case, please state it in your letters on the subject; for we had supposed that you would object to any change in the form of the paper. It appears to be cheaper in a larger page, and, therefore, if you do not object, the business management might prefer to use a larger form.

I do not think the prospect of a stable business management has been lessened by the unpleasant row, if it needs to be called by that name, which caused the retirement of Mrs. Avery and Mrs. Upton. I think this result was brought about by an injudicious motion of Miss Thomas reflecting upon the actions of the officers who signed the note of approval of Mrs. Potter, which will be forwarded for your signature if you care to give it. Though the papers made some comments on the fact that Miss Shaw's name was not attached to it, yet I believe if nothing more had been said the incident would have passed away without

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Miss Blackwell -2-

any serious consequence. Even now, though I greatly regret the loss of our true and tried officers, I believe the breach can be repaired, and in a business point of view I am as much disposed to recommend your making the arrangement for the Journal as I was in the letter you received from me before the Convention; but I am not more in favor than I was then. I give you my judgment but you must form your own conclusions.

The Convention and friends of an enlarged paper are full of enthusiasm derived from the Convention, and in that spirit the difficulties are minimized of building up the Journal to a paying basis, but if this is not done within a brief time, or time or a year or two, still I have no reason to think that the prospects of the Journal will be in any degree injured by the arrangement which will be proposed to you. I trust very sincerely you will see your way clear to accepting it. You will observe that it is part of our proposition to obtain for the National as many shares as possible of the Woman's Journal stock with the understanding that you shall retain the majority part, which I am informed is at least 101 shares. Miss Ryan does not know who has the stock which you do not hold, but much of it is supposed to be in the hands of Mrs. Julia Ward Howe. At my suggestion we are going to ask Mrs. Howe to give her shares to the National immediately, with the expectation and intention that we shall sell them for not less than \$50 a share and possibly more. Of course, we know that at present the stock ~~is~~ has no market price, and our idea of selling this hoped-for gift is that we will make the present incorporation serve the business purpose which Miss Ryan proposed should be done by increasing the shares, selling them, and raising a fund on which to start the Journal. If we can find the other owners of the stock we desire to ask them also to make an immediate gift of them to the National. We may even ask you to give any surplus over the majority that you possess, but of course we feel that you have already been very liberal, and we merely suggest and shall not in any way urge it. Of course, those who purchase will do so with the idea of providing a capital to start the Journal on its new career, and with very little hope if any of ever receiving any financial returns. Naturally, none but suffragists will buy on such terms, and therefore we feel that no non suffrage interest will be injected into its management.

[Apr. 23, 1910]

Miss Blackwell -3-

In looking around for some one to make this request of Mrs. Howe particularly and of other stockholders of whom you may know, it was advised that you would know who would be the best person to apply to Mrs. Howe and to explain the present position. Therefore, as soon as it seems clear that the contract will be successfully made between you and the National, we want you yourself personally to ask Mrs. Howe or to suggest the person who should ask her. Miss Ryan has been instructed to find out as near as possible who owns the other shares, and we will take steps to get them into the possession of the National as far as possible, and hope you will help as much as you can to accomplish this.

In spite of all, the unpleasant incidents, we have had a grand convention, and we are starting into the new year with great hopes for the future. Mrs. Boyer was here and we succeeded in getting the promise from the Board of \$2,000 to be spent between the first of April and the last of the campaign, and Mrs. Boyer secured some small individual gifts. Senator Owen will put through Congress a memorial and will get it franked extensively, and this will be one piece of literature which Mrs. Boyer will have to reach her constituents. We promised Arizona to support Miss Gregg and a stenographer for Mrs. Munds during their campaign; and instructed Miss Shaw to write to Mrs. Munds that the Arizona campaign committee must manage its own campaign without any reference whatever to the National, and without expecting any further assistance of any sort. I am glad to say that I hope by this step we will escape responsibility for mistakes which made be made in that campaign, and escape from any other annoyances and vexations attending it. However, at the Washington end of the line I am now engaged in a little effort to get Congress to give the women of Arizona a right to vote for delegates to the Constitutional Convention when statehood is secured. I shall stay a day or two in Washington for that purpose, and then I am going on for another few days to visit my sister, Mrs. S. D. Crenshaw, 919 W. Franklin St., Richmond, Va. After a few days my address will be my home address.

I want to thank you personally for your preferred arrangement for the Woman's Journal, which is one I have desired very ardently, and which I believe will turn out to

Miss Blackwell -4-

[Apr. 23, 1910]

the satisfaction of all parties. I have missed you very much at the convention, and am pleased to hear that your health is improving so much, so that I hope at the next business meeting you will be able to be present.

Hoping to hear from you occasionally, and to hear of your continued and rapid improvement, I am, always your affectionate friend,

Chicago, May 26, 1910.

Miss Alice Stone Blackwell,  
45 Bowdoin Avenue,  
Boston, Mass.

My dear Miss Blackwell:--

Your letter of the 23rd is just at hand. I am sorry that Mrs. McCulloch's letter did not reach you before you sent off your answer, but perhaps it would have made no difference any way.

I do not know whether Mrs. Crane would take the First Vice Presidency or not, but she might be asked, and if she would consent, it seems to me she would make a magnificent one. She probably would turn the attention to suffrage work that she has given to other specialties if ~~she did or were~~ called to, and it seems to me that she would be a splendid person to have on our board and in training; and I do not believe but what she would make good if anything should happen to Miss Shaw this year, and she should have to succeed to the presidency.

I told Miss Shaw while in Washington that my first choice was for Mrs. McCulloch for <sup>1st</sup> Vice President, but she said she would rule such action unparliamentary; that the board could not shift the officers elected to certain places by the convention. She did say, however, finally, that she would be willing to leave the first vice presidency vacant and allow Mrs. McCulloch to be the only one. I told her that I thought that might be a very wise thing until we could find just the right person.

Miss Shaw wrote that Miss Gordon would serve as first vice president, and I also have a letter from Miss Clay saying that she would serve either as second, or as treasurer.

I do not agree with you at all, or the others, on the necessity of having a treasurer in New York. I do not think that other organizations are bothered about <sup>question</sup> that at all. If our treasurer were merely a bookkeeper, or one that took care of the money that comes in naturally, it would not make much difference, but what we want is, not a bookkeeper merely, but a woman of force and direction. A woman who can get money, big money, for the National Association. Such a woman, whether she lived in New Orleans or California, would far more than balance the extra cost of two

Miss Blackwell.

-2-

5-26-10.

or three bookkeepers, and there is always a system to be devised which will make the carrying on of the work easy and methodical.

I believe that Miss Gordon would make a very good treasurer, better than Miss Gillette, perhaps. I believe if she turned her attention to systematic money-raising, she could invent a good many schemes for raising money, and she has the personality to interview people who might give goodly sums to the work. I think we ought to have a treasurer who might go to some of the state conventions and make a plea for generosity for the suffrage work, both state and national. There is a tremendous, undeveloped field in that office.

I voted for Harriet May Mills as first choice, and Miss Gillette as second. I put Miss Mills as first choice out of deference to the people who felt we should have a New York woman. I think Miss Mills would be a strong and practical worker on the Board, but I doubt if she would accept it.

Miss Gillette seems to be very level-headed, and her notions as to matters of the Board I believe would be judicious. She might not have as brilliant ideas for getting money as Miss Gordon.

I am not willing to vote for any one to serve for just a short time. I would rather let the money go into headquarters to be taken care of by Mrs. Bennett, while we find the right one for treasurer. It will lead to endless confusion if people get to sending their money to one person for a little while, and then another treasurer comes upon the scene.

Yours most cordially,

P.S. I enclose some Illinois items which I have not seen in the Woman's Journal.

*She said  
she thought  
we might  
have Miss  
Ashby for  
a few  
months  
to take us  
over till  
we found a good one.*

*McCulloch & McCulloch,*  
LAWYERS.

1104 MERCHANTS LOAN & TRUST BLDG.  
CHICAGO.

FRANK H. MCCULLOCH  
CATHARINE WAUGH MCCULLOCH

May 11, 1910.

Dear Miss Blackwell

and

Members of the Business Committee:

After the exchange of letters between myself and Miss Blackwell, I have prepared this first draft of our contract, concerning The Woman's Journal. Please make such criticisms as you see fit. I have purposely made it very brief, so that the main points only may be covered. All the specific items which the Business Committee asked me to incorporate are here so incorporated, excepting the one item asking Miss Blackwell to convey her one hundred one (101) shares of stock when the subscription list reached 10,000. She has replied concerning that in a satisfactory way, and the provision about her will and the six months notice properly protects the Association.

Yours truly,

*Catharine Waugh McCulloch*  
*per H.*

Enc.

CWM:H

Lexington, Ky.  
May 11th, 1910.

My dear Miss Blackwell,

I have been on the wing nearly ever since I left Washington, and am now writing you a few lines before I go early tomorrow to Cincinnati, where I hope I may see Mrs. Stewart and Mrs. McCulloch, and have some personal conference with them about the election of officers.

The amendment to our constitution to which you refer gives the ex-presidents only a vote in the convention, and not on the board. Have you consulted with any one on Miss Shaw's ruling that the retiring officers shall not have a vote in electing their successors? I am not parliamentary enough to have a decided opinion about it.

After I see Mrs. Stewart and Mrs. McCulloch, if they are in Cincinnati at the Biennial of Woman's Clubs I shall make up my mind definitely how I shall vote. At present, I have it in mind to say definitely that I will not vote for the treasurer to be in New York or in N.Y. Headquarters. This is because I recognize that it will be a concentration of all our influence in New York. Now to me it seems that our organization is distinctly political in its nature, and if so we must act in accord with the political genius of our country. As we all know, our political affairs are dominated by the idea that each section shall be represented. Whether we like this or not, or think it wise or economical or not, it is a fact and we must so recognize it, to concentrate all our force in one state and that one far removed from the centre is to do violence to this well recognized principle of political action. Unless, therefore, I hear good reasons to do otherwise, I shall not vote for the treasurer to be in N.Y. Headquarters, even if I vote in the minority. I would like as first choice Mrs. Stewart, as she is a woman well known in the Asso., and has ideas about collecting money. Failing her and I think she will refuse to be a candidate if Miss Shaw opposes it, I would prefer Miss Anna Gillett, of Washington City. The little rent we pay would help them to maintain headquarters, and we would have a claim on some one to do Congressional work when we need it, as Arizona did last winter and does now. I would also be willing to vote for Miss Kate Gordon in New Orleans as treasurer, though I doubt if she would accept any office except that of vice-president.

I hope you will be patient with the contract, and wait until we can get the details worked out to your satisfaction. I mean, about the Journal. I think it surely was an oversight not to put in that you were to have a stenographer, for there was no objection to it in the discussion. On the contrary, your liberality in giving your services as editor was commented upon and warmly appreciated. In spite of all these disturbances in the Board, I still think it will be a good thing all around to carry out your proposition, for wherever the headquarters may finally be, the Journal will probably never be published anywhere except in Boston, or perhaps New York.

I will write again after my return from Cincinnati.

Affectionately yours,



venience about having  
the treasurer in N. Y. But,

since we are agreed we  
would rather have  
~~least~~ Mrs. Stewart, & since  
it is not sure that  
Mrs. McCulloch will  
vote with Miss Shaw,  
why don't we bring all  
our efforts to bear to  
induce Mrs. McCulloch  
to vote for Mrs. Stewart?

She would naturally  
incline to, as I think  
she has a high opinion  
of Mrs. S.

It is a thousand

Dorchester, Mass.

May 2, 1910.

Dear Miss Clay:

I should like to have  
Miss Gordon for 2<sup>d</sup> Vice  
President, if she would  
accept that office; and  
I think that the choice  
would be satisfactory to  
the Association. I also  
think that it would be  
much more satisfactory  
to them if we put Mrs.  
Stewart in as treasurer  
than any person who is  
not well known to the  
members at large. They  
know Mrs. Stewart & like

her, & have faith in her ability & business sense. Miss Ashley may be ever so good, but she is not well known; & there is sure to be dissatisfaction if so important an office is awarded to a comparative stranger. At least, I think so. The chief objection to Miss Gordon is that she is down on Mrs. Upton. But this is more than offset by the fact that she is an independent member

of the board, and will not follow Miss Shaw's lead through thick & thin, right or wrong. If Miss Shaw wants <sup>Miss Ashley's</sup> ~~her~~ Miss Shaw probably thinks Miss Ashley a person whose vote on the board will be under her influence; & that is my chief objection to her—more than her being a New Yorker. It would be better to have more sections of the country represented; still, there is a con-

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pitied that Mrs. Upton &  
Mrs. Avery resigned.  
It has thrown the game  
into Miss Shaw's  
hands, whereas before  
it was in ours — so  
far as the official  
board ~~is~~ <sup>was</sup> concerned.

I quite agree with  
you that if W. Y. must  
have another officer it  
would better be the Rec.  
Sec. than the treasurer.

Mrs. McCulloch has  
written me an outline of  
the proposed contract, and

May 2, 1907

I am enclosing my comment on it.

I hope the board will not insist upon my giving up ~~my~~ all control over the ~~paper~~ paper, for good, as soon as it attains a satisfactory circulation. If so, that ends the matter.

After I am dead, the Association may have the journal, but as long as I live I want to have some say about it. And what possible objection was there to the Association's paying for my

Secretary? Yours always affectionately  
Alice Stone Blackwell.

45 Boutwell Ave. Dorchester, Mass.  
June 23. 1910.

Dear Member of the Official Board:-

In the contract between the National Association and myself, it is provided that the Woman's Journal is to have five contributing editors, in different cities. I do not know whose idea that was, but it seems to me a good one. Will you please give me your suggestions as to who these contributing editors should be? I had thought of asking Mary Johnston, Mrs. Caroline Bartlett Crane and Ellis Meredith. There ought to be someone on the Pacific Coast, but no suitable woman occurs to me. There ought also to be someone in New York City. Would it not be a good plan to ask Miss Shaw? There are so many factions in New York that if we choose a contributing editor from any of them, the others will growl; but if the National President accepts the place, nobody can complain. Miss Shaw would not be expected to assume the labor of preparing the regular "State Correspondence" from New York, of course, but only to write such communications for the Journal as she has been in the habit of writing for Progress.

Any or all of these women may decline, so we ought to be prepared with some more names, and I hope you will all do your best to think of good ones.

Mrs. Dennett's idea of advisory committees has proved very valuable. Miss Ryan is going to get an advisory committee to assist her on the business end of the paper, and I want an advisory committee to assist me on the editorial side, I want Mrs. Harper and Miss Mills to be on it, and I wish you would suggest to me any other women, outside of Massachusetts, whose advice

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would be of especial value. The members of the advisory committee who can actually meet will have to be Massachusetts women, but the others can send me their advice by letter.

Also, please tell me anything you would like to have me do or refrain from doing, as editor in chief. I mean to live up loyally to my agreement, and I am now under your orders, and ready to carry them out to the best of my power.

Yours cordially,

Alice Stone Blackwell

Dear Miss Clay:

Mrs. McCulloch has told me about the good fight you have made in behalf of the Woman's Journal, and I am sincerely grateful. I shall try to give you no cause to repent it.

Yours cordially,  
Alice Stone Blackwell.

45 Boutwell Ave. Dorchester, Mass.  
June 4, 1910.

Dear Member of the Official Board:-

I want a clause in the contract that the business manager shall be authorized to sell the shares of Woman's Journal stock which I turn in, at not less than \$50. per share. If you have any objection to this, please write immediately to Miss Shaw and tell her so. If she does not hear from you, she will understand that you are willing.

Sincerely yours,

*Alie Stone Blackwell*

Chilmark, Dukes County, Mass.

July 20. 1910.

Dear Member of the Official Board:-

My will is made, and the majority of the Woman's Journal stock bequeathed to the Association.

Life is uncertain, and I am considering what you would do in case of my suddenly passing away. I suppose that Mrs. Harper would be your choice for editor of the Journal; and there is no doubt about her ability. If, however, she should be unwilling to do it, or if you should not wish to take her away from the National Press work, you might be at a loss for an editor. I want to suggest a woman who I know could do it well, and who would do it at a reasonable salary. That is Mrs. Florence M. Adkinson, who has been one of my associate editors. Some twenty years ago she was editing the Woman's Department of the Indianapolis Sentinel. We did not know her, but my mother's attention was ~~directed~~ attracted by the excellence of that department in the Sentinel. On the strength of it, she got Mrs. Adkinson to come to Boston and assist on the Journal. She is a well trained, experienced and thoroughly competent newspaper woman. We have never been able to pay her such a salary as would enable her either to keep help or to lay by money. She has worked under very serious handicaps, doing her own housework and dress making for herself and her daughter, and pretty nearly starving herself to put the daughter through college. The daughter has now begun to teach school, but she earns only a small salary, and if anything happened to her her mother would be destitute. Mrs. Adkinson is good at journalism, and has especial



[July 20, 1910]

ability and experience in suffrage journalism. She is abundantly able to carry on the paper, and to do it well. When my father and I went to Europe and were gone for several months, she took full charge of the paper, and people liked it as well as they did when Papa and I were editing it, and many of them better, because she made it more varied and interesting, putting in the news about women's doings in many different lines, whereas my tendency is always to devote the space too exclusively to suffrage - making it too much pill and not enough gilding.

When she has the responsibility, she always rises to it and does very well. In case of your being suddenly left without an editor, unless Mrs. Harper was able and willing to take hold, I should advise you to let Mrs. Adkinson go on with it, at least temporarily; and if she gave you satisfaction, you might let her continue. ~~If~~ She could go to New York if necessary. But she has a house here partly paid for, and I dare say she might be willing to undertake the inconvenience which I have refused to undertake i.e. that of editing the paper at arm's length, preparing the material in Boston and sending it to New York to be printed. If she went to New York, she would of course have to have a larger salary in order to enable her to live there. She does not know that I am writing this letter, and I have not said anything to her about this matter. But I feel concerned both about her future and about that of the Journal in case anything should happen to me, and so I have ventured to make this suggestion. Partly for her sake and partly for my own, I have been trying to raise a small fund in order to continue to employ her. My first idea had been really to raise a pension for her; but it is clear that Miss Ryan will have to devote almost all her time to the business

[July 20, 1910]

of the Woman's Journal, if she is to do justice to ~~do~~ it; and I shall need some one to go over the exchanges for me, which has been Mrs. Adkinson's work. I do not want to put any additional tax upon the Association's treasury, and yet I must have the help. I am therefore raising the money, and shall pay her myself; but it is an altogether inadequate amount for a woman to get along upon. If you can utilize her in case of my departure, you will find that she will serve you well. I would not recommend her if I were not sure of this.

Sincerely yours,

*Alice Stone Blackwell.*

P. S. I want to make the N.A.W.S.A. a present of a complete set of the bound volumes of the Woman's Journal from the year 1870, to keep at Headquarters. The bound volumes of the earliest years are now very scarce, but I think we have a few of the complete sets still left. They are quite valuable; the library of the British Museum paid a large price for a full set, a few years ago. As the Journal is now the national organ, I think ~~the~~ the Association ought to have them. The whole row of forty volumes looks quite impressive, and I think the sight of them at headquarters, where so many people come in every day, might arouse interest and stimulate subscriptions. They would also be invaluable to anyone who wanted to compile a book of suffrage readings and recitations, or anything of that sort.

Not wishing ~~xxxx~~ to impose even a small expense upon the treasury in its present state, I have asked Mrs. Villard whether she would be willing to pay the cost of boxing and shipping them and putting up shelves at Headquarters to hold them. She has kindly consented; so if the Official Board will vote to accept them, they can be sent right on. Perhaps Mrs. McCulloch will send out a vote. I have written this just to explain.

[July 20, 1910]

P. S. I was writing to Ellis Meredith about something else, and asked if she would be our contributing editor from Colorado. In a letter just received, she says:

"I will try and do what I can as a long distance editorial contributor, but I wish very much you could afford to give some bright young woman here a small sum for a weekly or bi-monthly letter. In the meantime, let me suggest that if the organization will pay for a clipping bureau service, here, I may be able to send you considerable stuff. What I would like would be to go to the Bureau man and tell him to get me items from the local and state press about women's political activities; rumors of candidacies, etc.. They wouldn't be much use to ~~me~~ you because you wouldn't know whether they had any foundation, but I know the state fairly well, and would be able to judge; from them I might get a number of news items as well as ideas that would be of interest to your readers. I don't think it would amount to more than 50¢ a week, and I ought to be willing to give that much to the cause, but I haven't been able to make anything for a year past, and have to count the pennies. I hate to seem small, but on the other hand, I wouldn't give my services to any other cause."

I think it would be well worth while to do this, since Colorado is continually harped upon by the anti-suffragists.

I have been for some time subscribing to a press clipping bureau, as a help in my Woman's Journal work. It is one of the less expensive ones, which instead of charging five cents a clipping charges five dollars a month for the whole. Would you consider it proper that the Association should pay this? It does not bring me many clippings from Colorado, but a great many valuable ones from other places.

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SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT

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MISS ANNA LINDEMANN  
DEGERLOCH, STUTTGART, GERMANY

MISS SIGNE BERGMAN  
10A ARSENALSGATAN, STOCKHOLM, SWEDEN

TREASURER

MRS. ADELA STANTON COIT  
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LEGAL ADVISER

MRS. CATHARINE WAUGH MCCULLOCH

# THE WOMAN'S JOURNAL

585 BOYLSTON STREET

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

TELEPHONE 4717 BACK BAY

45 Boutwell Avenue, Dorchester, Mass.,  
November 20, 1910.

Dear Member of the Official Board:-

Mrs. J. W. Brannan of New York has telegraphed asking if the Woman's Journal will not announce the opening of a sympathetic fund to help the English militants, and saying that she herself will head it with \$100. As this is a matter on which there might be two opinions, I have telegraphed her that I must submit the question to the Board. Please let me know your opinion as soon as you can. If the fund is to be announced, the earlier it is done, the more timely it will be.

Yours sincerely,

*Alice Stone Blackwell*

Richmond, Ky.

Aug. 1st, 1910.

My dear Miss Blackwell,

I enclose a round robin letter I received some days ago; but I have been on the farm for the last two weeks, where I have no facilities for receiving or sending letters.

Today I received your circular letter, and am mailing it to Miss Gordon. I have no decided opinion about most of the changes you speak of in editing the Journal, except I agree with you emphatically that not too much is said about the important news of what women are doing, or about the news of any important occurrence concerning them and the welfare of children. I would miss severely this source of information, if I was cut off from it; for even when I see the news first in the secular papers I always look for accuracy and comment in the next Journal. I hope no counsel will prevail to cut down these important news items.

I believe the new departure of running the Journal is and is going to be a great success. I had not yet heard that it is in contemplation to make it of eight pages immediately.

I really have no suggestions to make about the five editors; but Miss Mary Johnston told me that she was not

(Over)

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available for any extra suffrage work, as she was going to some quiet place with her stenographer and finish up the work she has promised for her publishers. I think her article in the Atlantic (was it not?) last spring was fine; and I would like her to receive the compliment of being asked to contribute ~~at~~ least occasionally to the Journal.

I trust you are enjoying the summer and regaining your strength steadily.

Always cordially your friend,

Lexington, Ky.

Nov. 22nd, 1910.

My dear Miss Blackwell,

I have just received yours of the 20th asking about the advisability of announcing in the W. Journal the opening of a sympathetic fund to help the English militants. I approve of the announcement, with a simple statement of the situation, but without any urging to American suffragists to give, or any endorsement of the tactics of the militants. Since there are persons in this country who would like to give I think we should show that our sympathies are broad. But in the present state of our funds I do not <sup>think</sup> we ought to urge giving out of our own country; and I think we ought particularly to avoid giving the National sanction to militant methods. If you think you can harmonize these requirements in your announcement, you have my vote to go ahead.

I suppose ere this you have learned of the invitation of the Ky. E. R. A. to the National to hold its annual convention in Louisville in April. Our vote was unanimous in the convention; and I have just received a note from the president of the Louisville Women Suffrage club, Miss Virginia P. Robinson, 1710 Rosewood, Louisville. She was selected by the Louisville delegates for the local member of the National Program Committee. She says: "I think the National Convention will be the most wonderful thing that could happen to Louisville. It had never occurred to me that the National would consider coming to us or that we could venture to invite them. I confess I am somewhat appalled at the responsibility and

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work it implies for our little Association if we are to make the Convention a success. But if we do succeed, we will be infinitely repaid!

With such a spirit in our Program member I feel pretty sure of success/ I wrote before the convention that I would give some account of the State convention. I note a few of the most important points on another sheet.

Always affectionately yours,

P.S. It may interest you to know that we offer the National to provide the hall for day and evening meetings, and to entertain the Official Board at a hotel. If we find our funds permit us to do somewhat more, we will gladly do it. But that must be left for a later time.



45 Boutwell Ave., Dorchester, Mass.,

December 30, 1910.

Dear Mrs. McCulloch, Mrs. Stewart, Miss Clay and Miss Gordon:-

Mrs. McCulloch writes me that she has voted against the proposal to have Mrs. Dennett, Miss Ashley and Mrs. Page be a committee to investigate the business management of the Woman's Journal, on the ground that Mrs. Dennett and Miss Ashley voted against signing the contract for the Woman's Journal and Mrs. McCulloch felt that "the tariff ought to be revised by its friends." This was a very kind thought, and I am grateful for it, but Miss Ryan and I are quite willing to have those members of the Board, or any others, investigate the Woman's Journal's affairs. Mrs. Dennett and Miss Ashley did not vote against signing the contract through any lack of good will toward the Woman's Journal or toward me, but because they disapproved of certain particular features of the contract and especially because they were afraid of the expense in which last point, experience seems to be showing that their fears were justified. I voted for the appointment of the Committee, for I don't think they would investigate in any unfriendly spirit, and the Journal's affairs are entirely open to the knowledge of the Board, and ought to be. Personally, I should be glad to have Mrs. Dennett and Miss Ashley come on and look at the books and talk the matter over. It may stimulate them to make more effort to push the Woman's Journal in New York City. There is a great field there, as there is so much interest and so many clubs including large numbers of women who could perfectly well afford to take the paper; yet I don't think that it is the custom at the meetings of the Suffrage Clubs or at the immense public meetings which are held in New York to extend any invitation to subscribe for the Journal, nor to have the paper on sale either there or on the streets and news-stands. This is not through any ill will to the Woman's Journal, but through everybody at headquarters being overburdened and engrossed with other things. At least, this is my opinion. If Miss Ryan can get Mrs. Den-

net and Miss Ashley imbued with some of her own zeal and faith in the paper, and get them interested in some of the many bright plans for pushing it with which her brain is teeming, but which she cannot carry out for lack of co-operation, I think it will be a very good thing. So don't let anybody vote against appointing the committee out of any tenderness for me.

Knowing that my strong point is not business, I have left the business management of the Journal absolutely to Miss Ryan, knowing that she had undertaken a big job, and feeling that it was only fair to her and to the Association to let her have a free hand. In one matter I did "butt in" with a remonstrance and that was in regard to paying the printer something on account of what we owe him. One day when I was getting the Journal to press the printer's wife came and sat down beside me and said that she hated to bother me with business when I was so much out of health, but that she felt obliged to show me how the account stood. She gave me a memorandum of it and it showed that the Woman's Journal was owing Mr. Grimes more than \$1300. Mr. Grimes is a poor man, and has to pay his help regularly, and really cannot afford to wait so long for his money. I was shocked, and wrote to National Headquarters urging that something should be done about it. I also wrote a begging letter and got \$100. and as a share of stock was sold about that time, I encouraged Miss Ryan to apply that \$200. on Mr. Grimes' bill without delay. It really made no difference to the National Association, since it lessened by \$200. the amount they would have to pay, while it did make a difference to Mr. Grimes to get it promptly. While the business management of the Woman's Journal has been slack in many respects during the past years, we have always made ~~it~~ a point ~~ix~~ of paying our bills promptly, and in that respect we had a first class reputation when the National took over the paper. The Woman's Journal is losing the good reputation which it had been forty years in building up. I am sorry for this, but I don't mind it half so much as I do keeping poor people waiting

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for money which we owe them, and which they really need. This is most distressing. I really do not dare to ask nowadays how our account with the printer stands.

This is not the fault of National Headquarters. They cannot pay out money which they have not got. The trouble was that in voting to take over the Journal and to put down the price to \$1. and to make various expensive improvements, the Board did not count the cost. When the Journal was a four page paper at \$1.50, the average deficit was less than \$1000. a year. No appropriation was made in laying out the budget, so far as I am aware, to cover even this deficit, to say nothing of the much larger deficit which the changes were bound to produce for a time, until the increase of subscriptions and especially of advertisements should fill up the gap. You may remember that I wrote the National Board that I thought Miss Ryan would be doing extremely well if in the course of several years she could make the paper meet its expenses at \$1. a year and with an enlarged size. She herself was ambitious to make it cover expenses within the first year, and still hopes that she can do so, and of course she could if everybody would cooperate, but in the same way, we could easily have got our one million signatures to the National Suffrage petition if everybody would have cooperated. It is always a foregone conclusion that not all will do their share, and therefore those who are willing to do anything have to work the harder.

Miss Ryan is a thoroughly well meaning girl, and has been doing her level best, and working herself almost to a thread-paper. I hope you will all try to encourage her rather than to throw cold water, for what she says is perfectly true - when she is feeling depressed she is not nearly so successful in talking other people into helping the paper by buying stock or otherwise. I have not been able to do as much as I could wish, for my small strength is pretty well used up, just in doing the editorial work. But I have been paying my secretary myself for

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several months past, knowing that the National treasury was embarrassed and thinking that I would wait to send in my bill for the secretary's services until the printer and other more pressing claims were paid. I am really concerned for the National Association as well as for myself, and very sorry that making the Journal the organ should have added so much to the Association's financial difficulties. Of course the unusual fact that we had four campaigns in one year made it worse. My own remedy for the trouble would be a drastic one - to reduce the paper to four pages again, and, if possible, to put the price back to \$1.50. The former would almost break Miss Ryan's heart, and I doubt if the National Board could bring their mind to consent to the latter; but, if not, it is up to them <sup>to find some way</sup> to pay these bills. Both Miss Ryan and I will welcome a visit from the National secretary and treasurer and the fullest investigation of the state of things at our office.

Yours cordially,

*Alice Stone Blackwell*

Miss Ryan has really done wonders in the way of enlarging the circulation.