

Richmond, Kentucky.

June 13th, 1911.

My dear Mrs. Boyer,

Your letter sent me by "Massie" clinched the determination I have long had, amid much other correspondence, to write to you how often I think of you and how much I appreciate all your devoted work in Oklahoma. I know you will forgive your old comrade for apparent neglect, because none knows better than you the temptations to put off correspondence when it is not absolutely necessary. I do not believe, however, that you ever ~~yielded~~ yielded to that temptation as much as weaker flesh.

I read your account of your struggles with our dilatory treasurer, and I feel very regretful about it; but I do not know of anything I can do. I maintained your claims whenever anything official was sent to the Board; and I had hoped that full justice had been done to you. I am sorry to know that \$200 are still unsettled, for I never remember our treasury being in such straits as it is now. I appreciate the long years of efficient service of Mrs. Upton more than ever, now that I find it cannot be taken for granted that every treasurer will be the same.

It was with the deepest regret that I saw it would be impossible to help you to return to Oklahoma. You know, of course, that every appeal was made from that state to have you return. But there was absolutely nothing in the treasury to meet such needs. As far as I know, the National is not going to help with anything but literature in any of the five states where campaigns are now in progress.

Of course you know the National convention is to be held in Louis-

ville Oct. 19-25th, the first and last days to be devoted to the Executive Committee meetings. I do hope you will be there. The Hotel Seelbach will be hotel headquarters. Have you noticed that the Ky. Federation of Woman's Clubs took up as one of its departments National Reservations, with the special object of working to have the Mammoth Cave made a National park? I am quite enthusiastic over the project, and think if it can be carried through it will be a great blessing to the whole country, to add another great source of pleasure to weary minds and hearts. The Cave is truly one of the great natural wonders of the world. I have asked the Chairman of the Department, Mrs. James A. Mitchell, to arrange an excursion to the Cave in connection with our National Convention. October is a beautiful month to visit it; and incidentally to go through the center of the state. She has cheerfully consented to do so; and I am in hopes a large number of excursionists will take advantage of the occasion.

I do not deserve a letter from you, but I felt regret that you did not add a little postscript to your letter telling your friends about your own personal doings now. I am as usual on my farm most of the summer weather, hard at work trying to make enough money to keep up my suffrage work. In some respects it is more promising now in Ky. than ever before. Our numbers are greatly increased; and we have now so far done all the most pressing work in getting statute laws amended that we are preparing to go to work for a Constitutional Amendment, - not with any immediate expectation of having it submitted. We know years of labor will probably be necessary to succeed in that. My blood boiled to see the new injury inflicted upon women in your own state. How can women or men be so blind as to imagine that justice will be done to the disfranchised!

Do write to me when you can. I often think of you, if I have been so long in writing. I hear occasionally from Mrs. Biggers. What a noble hearted woman ^a she is!

Good-bye.

Always cordially yours,

WOMAN SUFFRAGE ASSOCIATION
OF OKLAHOMA

President, Mrs. Kate H. Biggers, Chickasha, Ind. Ter.
First Vice President, Mrs. Minnie Keith Bailey, Enid, Okla.
Second Vice President, Mrs. N. M. Carter, Guthrie, Okla.
Recording Secretary, Mrs. Ida Wood Norvell Wynnewood, I. T.
Corresponding Sec'y, Mrs. Jessie Livingston Parks, Enid Okla.
Treasurer, Mrs. Anna Laskey, Oklahoma City, Okla.
Auditors } Mrs. Adelia C. Stephens, Oklahoma City, Okla.
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WOMAN SUFFRAGE LEAGUE
OF INDIAN TERRITORY

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First Vice President, Mrs. Narcissa Owen, Muskogee, Ind. Ter.
Second Vice President, Mrs. H. L. Cloud, Wellston, Ind. Ter.
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Treasurer, Mrs. A. K. McKellop, Muskogee, I. T.
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 } Mrs. John Brown, Chickasha, I. T.

HEADQUARTERS: 124-6 WEST MAIN STREET
ROOM 407, FOURTH FLOOR
OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLA.

86

Centralia, Pa. June 2, 1911

My dear Massie:- *[Alice Stone Blackwell]*

The enclosed poem and printed article have been sent me from Oklahoma, with the request that I forward them to the *Womans Journal*. The deed is did!

My patience is well-nigh frazzled over the Oklahoma accounts and the present national Treasurer. Here is my statement of affairs.

At time of the National Convention in Washington, 1910, Mrs. Upton had sent me no funds for some time, and I was carrying the Headquarters on borrowed money. This was not unusual. During my four years in Oklahoma, I advanced from month to month every dollar for campaigning, and when it was necessary to borrow money, I paid the interest myself. I made out my bills at the end of each month, and then waited until Mrs. Upton was able to make settlement. But our basis of accounting was monthly, and claims were closed for each month respectively. I always wiggled along somehow, and the money came sooner or later. (Chiefly later.)

Now to return to the time of the Washington Convention, April, 1910. At the Business meeting April 12, "" It was moved that the Treasurer send ~~xx~~ \$ 300 to Oklahoma to cover all obligations of Mrs. Boyer's salary and expenses, and the BALANCE TO APPLY TOWARD HEADQUARTERS EXPENSES TO MAY 1 st."

I quote this to show that this had no relation to the \$ 2000 Pledge which was not discussed until the Business meeting held April 24, NINE DAYS LATER, and which specified this Pledge WAS FOR SIX AND ONE-HALF MONTHS, UNTIL THE AMENDMENT SHOULD BE VOTED ON IN NOVEMBER. This defined the time for the Pledge money for expenses from May 1st, to middle of November.

Therefore by no construction could the \$ 2000 be made to apply to accounts which the Treasurer had not then liquidated. To included the back accounts for February and March would make the period EIGHT AND ONE-HALF MONTHS.

After the Convention, Mrs. Upton squared the accounts to May 1 st, specifying the amount to apply as follows:

I quote from her letter containing remittance: April 30.

"Bill of Headquarters expenses to March 1,	\$ 120 75
Bill Headquarters expenses to Apr 2,	153 55
Your personal Bill to Apr 2,	43 75
Headquarters Expenses	181 95
	<hr/>
	500 00 "

[June 2, 1911]

Two later cheques, May 18 received, closed the accounts for April.

From May 1st, the Pledge was to begin, and monthly installments of \$ 150 for Headquarters and \$150 for salary and personal expenses of board and traveling were to be sent me as per motion in Business meeting, ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ this was not done, however.

The new Treasurer, Miss Ashley, on receiving the books of her predecessor, noted that cheques were drawn for Oklahoma May 18, and she immediately deducted these from the \$ 2000 Pledge. I wrote her that these cheques applied to the monthly accounts of Feb. March and April rendered before the Pledge made at Washington, which was specifically for the SIX and One-Half MONTHS preceding the November election, and not for retro-active accounts.

It is also significant that Miss Ashley accepted precedent for she closed the Headquarters expense account for May on the accustomed monthly basis and sent cheque for exact amount July 6 th. (This did not include my salary).

August 22, she again struck a monthly balance for June and July.

Not UNTIL OCTOBER 6 th, was I notified that the accounts unpaid at time of Washinton Convention were to be deducted from the Pledge money!!! With this information came a cheque of \$ 208.01 with the statement that it would be all I was to receive. This was late information, and I could not make it agree with bills sent to National, so I immediately wrote Miss Ashley asking what amounts she had charged against me, what I might check over my accounts before closing Oklahoma affairs. To this request I received no reply. Again I wrote Nov 2, urging this information as the time was short. There was a discrepancy that I could not account for. NOT UNTIL NOVEMBER 25, AFTER THE CAMPAIGN HAD CLOSED AND I WAS BACK IN PENNSYLVANIA, WAS I TOLD THAT THE NATIONAL HAD SPENT \$ 148.50 for the Owen Memorials! WHO C.Ked THAT BILL? HOW MANY MEMORIALS WERE PAID FOR? HOW DID THE NATIONAL KNOW HOW MANY WERE RECEIVED?

In Oklahoma we thought the Memorials were a gift from Sen. Owen, when after a reasonable time no bill was presented, and Dr. Gay and I sent a letter of thanks to Mr. Owen for them.

Now I understand perfectly that the Memorials were to be paid for from the Pledge money. Please do not mistake me in this. BUT THOSE MEMORIALS WERE PAID BY THE NATIONAL ~~XXXX~~ JUNE 5, AND I WAS NOT INFORMED UNTIL NOVEMBER 25, after all accounts were closed and forwarded! I do not think this was fair or business-like. I certainly would not have gone so far beyond my depth in borrowing money if I had known in time what bills were being drawn from the pledge.

This point about the Memorials is the only one about which there should be any question. The \$2000 pledge was apportioned at the Convention specifically as follows:

Monthly items approximately,

Stenographer	\$50 00
Room Rent	50 00
Press Work	50 00

OF INDIV. MEMBERS
MONTHLY CONTRIBUTION
INDIV. MEMBERS

June 2, 1911

Personal expenses	50 00
Salary	100 00
	<u> </u>
	\$ 300 00

From May 1, to Nov. 15, SIX AND ONE-HALF MONTHS would require \$ 1950. So in round numbers the Business Com. appropriated \$ 2000 to cover actual Headquarters necessities. All extra funds I was expected to raise, such as for printing, field work, etc. , by subscriptions and donations.

If my requests to national Headquarters for the items charged against me had been complied with, much later difficulty might have been avoided. I was particularly insistent to compare accounts because of an experience in which the national sent a cheque to an Oklahoma City printer . This bill was already paid by my personal cheque, and was sent receipted , as a voucher with the Oklahoma accounts. The amount was \$ 25.50 It was included in my monthly items. Miss Ashley sent me a cheque for the total amounts, and then singled this bill out from others, and sent the printer a cheque for them same thing! The printer himself came to me and told me the National had sent him a cheque for this bill for which I had drawn a cheque July 2. I immediately wrote Miss Ashley expressing my surprise that the national should pay local bills of any nature. It placed me in a defenseless position, and also unless a bill bore my O K the national might be preyed upon. The audit of my July accounts would show the printers bill, and surely the national audits accounts before paying.

However I let that incident pass.

My entries on pledge show a total of \$ 1296.15 sent by National on bills from May 1, account pledge. Balance due \$ 703.85, of which Miss blackwell is entitled to \$ 200, and I advanced \$ 503.85.

May 15 I received a letter containing cheque for \$ 504.85 written in body of cheque but only \$ 500 written in figures on same, and furthermore the cheque WAS NOT SIGNED.

I was obliged to return this and ask that it be properly filled in and signed. In reply I received a letter explaining that cheque was corrected and enclosed, BUT THERE WAS NO CHEQUE IN THE LETTER. Next mail brought another letter with cheque enclosed and the explanation that it had been forgotten, or omitted!!! This cheque was for \$ 504.85--- one dollar more than I was entitled to, but nothing was said about the \$ 200 belonging to Miss Blachwell. I immediately acknowledged the amount, and asked if the \$ 200 had been sent directly to Miss Blackwell, if so I should like to have her receipt, as I felt a responsibility . To this inquiry I have had no reply as yet, although my letter was written May 18, and this is June 2.

The cost of Headquarters in Oklahoma, from time of Washington Convention to November election, the Six and one-half months specified, was \$ 2282.39. I was obliged to exceed the \$ 2000 but this \$ 282.39 I spent at my own risk. I could not sacrifice the campaign, and we had to send extra workers out during the crisis. This \$ 282.39, I do not exact, and am glad to make as my contribution. But it is all I can afford to make.

I think it only right that the Auditors should understand the Oklahoma situation, and I shall therefore send Miss Clay a

[June 2, 1911]

copy of this letter. I feel a deep obligation to you and Miss Clay, for there were times when I do not see how we could have struggled along without the help you both gave. There *are* ~~and~~ many heart-aches incident to a campaign, and the load is heavy to one who is hundreds of miles from National advice and cheer. The splendid vote of 90,000 on our Amendment owes much of its attainment to you and Miss Clay. The credit is gladly given you. It was a big showing for our restricted means. I am heartsick that the Summer season, with its picnics and political gatherings is allowed to go without suffrage agitation. If the National had settled my claim I could have arranged to donate the month of June to work in Oklahoma, but I could not do that owing to the delayed settlement of over \$ 703.

Please understand I full realize the difficulties of the National Board. I do not criticize in a hostile spirit, nor do I want you to interpret my position unfavorably. Our relation have always been with a true desire for the suffrage cause, first, and personal differences afterward. I am stating my point of view to you as Auditors, and from your judgment I shall make no appeal.

If I have left any points obscure, Miss Gordon can probably explain.

Now my dear Massie, the cheque for \$ 503.85 has been deposited. If you have not been paid your \$ 200, please advise me, and I will send it to you from amount sent me, and wait until balance is settled later. You were so prompt in replying to plea for the loan, that I want to be equally good in repayment.

What DO you think of the nefarious Penna. law which prevents a woman from securing a trial by jury, in case of divorce.?

Affectionately Yours,

Ida Potter-Bayer

RECEIVED JUN 2 1911
 NATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE ASSOCIATION
 1115 BROADWAY
 NEW YORK CITY

Centralia, Pa. Sep. 30, 1911.

My Dear Miss Clay:-

Most heartily do I thank you for the vigorous presentation in last week's JOURNAL, - "The New Constitution Un-American". It covers the whole situation, and concisely states the dangers invited by the proposed Amendments submitted by an Academic Advisory Council. There is no use in me rehashing the points proposed. You have stated the menaces so comprehensively, but I do want you to know that there are many who agree with your views. An Advisory Council, whose merit consists chiefly in propinquity, would be more of an embarrassment than otherwise.

The official Board has heretofore been representative. East, West, North and South have had advocates who could officially suggest relief for the delicate questions which affected their respective sections. And in this diversified counsel we have had confidence. Since nearly all the business of the national Headquarters has its source in communications received, a daily report furnished each Board Member, and an answering telegram or Night Letter, would obviate the necessity of an Advisory Committee as proposed. This method for emergency use only.

I confess, from my practical standpoint, that much of the Amending process recommended, could be discharged by clerical instead of managerial methods. There is a possibility that a too elaborate National machine may run over the States and crush them . irremediably.

Some years ago, Miss Gordon advocated the appointment of a Field Secretary. This , I think , would solve the present situation far better than an Advisory Council. Ordinary current affairs ought to be settled by any efficient Headquarters force. When unusual conditions arise, the Field Secretary should be sent to the seat of war, and confer with the local powers. Her report and help would be far more practical than that of a tentative, inexperienced committee. I confess that I do not see where time is gained by monthly meetings. Correspondence with Board Members would be more expeditious than that! No one who has had the responsibility of ~~the~~ state-wide work, would suggest the disrupting procedure of erratic little clubs directly affiliating with the National body. Nothing but chaos could result. Not even the plea of " impossible to harmonize" should authorize such anarchistic methods. Personally, I

believe a little tact and adjustment would bring about harmony in nearly every one of our diaffected States. . This would be part of a Field Secretary's duties. Petty quarrels transferred to the National, instead of being adjusted by the respective States, would weaken the whole National influence. My Dear Miss Clay, just imagine the Advisory Council solemnly straightening out Abigail and Dr. Mary Thompson in Oregon; or " sitting on" Woodworth in Oklahoma; or repressing our eager but militant workers in maryland, Missouri and Wisconsin, when each of these doughty warriors led their respective adherents to local battle, AND THE WORK INFRINGED OR OVERLAPPED!

Do you remember the jingle about the Injun Squaw who

" swallowed a 'lasses hogshead down.
The hoops flew off; an' squaw she bust;
An' she went up in a thunder gust!"

That's what would happen to the National!

I am writing by this mail to engage a room at the Seelbach. Have never let go of Oklahoma. During the whole summer I have devoted most of my spare time to helping with the work there. Dr. Gay, who succeeds Mrs. Biggers, has unlimited courage. We have made many friends among the politicians, and the suffragists

-4-

are trying not to alienate these. If California achieves a victory, it will have a tremendous effect on Oklahoma.

My best wishes for a great, splendid Convention in your Kentucky State, and part of the joy of the Convention time will be seeing you, and chatting over the battles we fought, --but didn't win, alas!

Affectionately Yours,

Ida Porter Boyer.

PENNSYLVANIA WOMAN SUFFRAGE ASSOCIATION

ORGANIZED 1869

AUXILIARY TO THE NATIONAL AMERICAN WOMAN SUFFRAGE ASSOCIATION

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VICE-PRESIDENT, ANNA M. ORME, WAYNE, PA.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY, KATHARINE COLLISON,
1904 GREEN STREET, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

STATE MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE
NATIONAL AMERICAN WOMAN SUFFRAGE ASSOCIATION

JANE CAMPBELL, 413 WEST SCHOOL HOUSE LANE, GERMANTOWN, PA.

RECORDING SECRETARY, MARY C. MORGAN,
4418 OSAGE AVENUE, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

TREASURER, MATILDA ORR HAYS,
1006 ROSS AVENUE, WILKINSBURG, PA.

AUDITORS { MRS. ROBERT D. COARD,
6334 HOWE STREET, PITTSBURG, PA.
ELLEN L. THOMAS, NORRISTOWN PA.



208 Hale Building, Philadelphia, Pa.
Dec. 7, 1911

My Dear Miss Clay:-

I do not know if you have been advised that I am to undertake the work of Field Secretary for Penna. You may remember that at the Louisville Convention, there was pending a suggestion that I go to Kansas. I was perfectly willing to accept this, my sole proviso being that the National be responsible for my salary and expenses, in order that all the money I could raise for the Kansas campaign, be devoted to the work in that State. There is much embarrassment connected with raising money for one's own pocket, and frequent dissatisfaction. Besides, I had previously been told that one of Kansas' grievances against the National, some years ago, was that a certain officer, Miss Shaw, had taken over one thousand dollars out of the State for her own perquisite. So I felt I was doing the best thing for myself, and avoiding future trouble if I could go to Kansas and not have the perplexing question of converting any of the funds to my salary or personal expenses. I wrote this as explicitly as I could to the National Board, and in my talk with Mrs Hoffman and Mrs. Johnston, I expressed the desire that the National would relieve the State from any of my expenses. Mrs. Dennett wrote me. and I refused to deviate from my first stand. Mrs. D. enclosed copy of a letter from the Kansas Board accepting the terms of the National: viz, that the National would pay my salary, and expect the State to pay personal expenses. I heard nothing more, and

Dec 7, 1911

when a month later, the Penna Convention was held, I was urged to remain in this State, and assist. I replied that I felt in a measure that I was involved with Kansas. At the close of the Convention in a talk with Miss Shaw, she told me she could not sympathize with my attitude relative to Kansas; that she thought I was mistaken, and that the National Board had sent a woman from Ithaca to Kansas! So I considered the Kansas proposition closed, and reported to Mrs. Price that I was free to do what was wanted in Penna. An hour later, the Executive Committee, appointed me Field Secretary.

Yesterday, a week later, I received a letter from Mrs. Johnston, of Topeka, stating that she presumed the National had advised me that Kansas would guarantee my expenses and said letter contained two sentences that aroused my wrath. The letter I sent Mrs. Bennett is explanatory, so I enclose a copy. Ye gods, isn't it tough to be misrepresented? *(copy is at my boarding house, so I will explain on another sheet.)*

Am arranging my itinerary for the field work, and shall probably be here in Headquarters until just before Christmas. Did, oh did, you read the article in LIFE AND LABOR by Mary Peck? Am glad she handled you so carefully, but Miss Thomas and Miss Shaw fared illy.

I do not have Mrs. Bennett's address. Am trying to worry through a lot of correspondence for Mrs. Price, who is occupied in school work all day. Please forward letter to Mrs. Bennett.

My hearty wishes for a Merry Christmas, and loving remembrances from,

Truly Yours,

Ida Porter-Bayer

OHIO WOMAN SUFFRAGE ASSOCIATION

HEADQUARTERS, MASONIC BUILDING
WARREN, OHIO



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Member National Exec. Committee
PAULINE STEINEM
Scottwood Ave., Toledo, Ohio

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Direct Legislation League
Cincinnati

HON. WM. B. KILPATRICK
Warren, Ohio

May 23rd, 1912.

Miss Laura Clay,
Chillicothe, Ohio.

My dear Miss Clay:-

Mrs. Upton is skylarking in Chicago at the Mississippi Valley conference, and we know she must be having a good time ~~and~~ "stirring up the animals," because when she left here it was with the avowed determination of returning yesterday. We urged her to remain until the end of the conference and as she has not yet returned we conclude that she is finding the conference very interesting.

I am trying to fill her chair in the office and I find this is just as much a mental impossibility as it is physically. Said chair is chiefly remarkable for the amount of vacant space.

Your field reports are most interesting.

I note that you have no pledge slips and am enclosing sufficient for your Chillicothe meeting. I do hope I may be able to see you some time during the campaign. Pennsylvania has loaned me to Ohio for two months and I shall do my best to make Pennsylvania feel that her contribution was worthy.

Yours with love.

IPB/HF.

Ida Porter-Boyer

c Dec 7, 1911

The one sentence in Mrs. Jonston's letter was " Mrs. Dennett writes that you will not come to Kansas if there is any UNCERTAINTY about your salary".

The closing sentence was, " Kansas people are honest, Mrs. Boyer, and will pay their debts."

Now just think of the miserably, sordid light in which that word uncertainty put me, when I was trying to get all I could for Kansas, and use all that would be raised for the campaign, and not a penny for myself.

J. R. B.

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Columbus, Ohio

Member National Exec. Committee
PAULINE STEINEM
Scottwood Ave., Toledo, Ohio

June 24, 1912.

Miss Laura Clay,
Richmond, Ky.

My dear Miss Clay:

Mrs. Upton has assigned to me the pleasant task of acknowledging your New York draft for \$50.00 for the Ohio Suffrage campaign, such amount being from the Laura Bruce fund.

I never think of the Laura Bruce fund except with a great wave of gratitude. It seems to me as though she, being dead, yet speaketh, for I remember how opportunely came the contribution from this fund that tided us over in the Oklahoma campaign. What a wise provision it was that made you the custodian.

Now that I have expressed the sincere gratitude I know Mrs. Upton feels, I do want to talk politics for a moment. Teddy's third term is the subject of a cartoon which I am clipping from this morning's paper. Please note that it is a healthy vociferous infant and if it will just howl "Woman's Suffrage" loudly, we will forgive it and T.R. for much of the noise of days gone by.

The G.A.R. in state convention in Springfield, Ohio, unanimously indorsed woman's suffrage. Mrs. Upton has been trying for years to get some expression from them, without success, until last week. Their action was followed by an enthusiastic indorsement from the Woman's Relief Corps. Mrs. Upton thinks the inclosed red and blue leaflets had an influence, but I think woman's suffrage is atmospheric in Ohio and Mrs. Upton's personality has much to do with it.

Yours with love,

Ida Porter - Bayer

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June 5 1912,

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Scottwood Ave., Toledo, Ohio

My Dear Miss Clay:-

The enclosed letter came some time ago, and I am late in acceding to Miss Peck's request to forward it to you. It was accompanied by several clippings. One was written by an Anti, (pardon the capital A.) and the reply by Miss Peck. They are lost somewhere in our Press Files. If they turn up, will send them to you. I think Miss Peck wished you to know of her reply.

May 31 st, was our last day of trial in the Constitutional Convention. The agony was over our position

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Warren, Ohio

on the ballot. Our opponents were determined we should be placed in a separate column with the License Measure as our boon companion. We didn't appreciate said boon. Wanted a place with the other Amendments, fair-play and no Boons. To make the story short, the Con-Con decided to put us on the ballot, in column with all the other Amendments, and the Liquor Amendment does a solo in a separate column! Have an engagment to wrestle with the Mimeograph, and ^{mary gray} miss peck (this is how I insult her) is howling for me to come and wrestle.

Lovingly Yours,

Ida Porter-Bayer

[Dec. 19, 1912, ?

(COPY.)

Dear Mrs Boyer;

I attended the County Convention of the F.E. & C.U. at the Capshaw School house, yesterday, it was an all day session, with a picnic dinner on the ground. B.C.Belt, Pres., being absent I went to Vice Pres. W.B.Fulkerson, told him my mission and requested that the house give me a few minutes. He asked if 1/2 hour would be enough. Within five minutes after arriving on the grounds, I found myself addressing about 100 men and women. I had never before stood before an audience to speak. Within a minute after arising I was all right and spoke for probably 20 minutes. I saw that the crowd was with me almost to a man. I told them that I had a resolution for them to consider that day and whether they granted me that favor or not, that I wished them remember that I am heartily in sympathy with their movement. In my speech I spoke of the object of their organization, also lingered on the fact that they were a non partisan asso. that that was why I had come to them, that most all other organizations were partisan and that it was hard to get a hearing of a non partisan principle, until one of the parties had advocated it. While I was speaking the Pres. came in and went out again. When I left the floor, he came in again and took the chair, asked an officer to pass the word. My crown consisting of three retired to the ground. Then I learned for the first time that the Pres. is opposed to woman suffrage, and was angry when he retired while I had the floor. Every body on the grounds except us were Union men and women. They took hold of my resolution immediately. It was 11:15 when I left the

[Dec 19, 1912]

floor; at 12 they adjourned for dinner. A big bunch of them came to me red hot, for the Pres. had ruled the resolution out of order in the F.U. meeting. Opposed it from the chair, until he induced the majority to vote against the consideration of the resolution. Now understand they did not vote on the resolution at all, simply voted as to whether the body should vote on it or no. So our resolution was not defeated. The reason for this move was that the chair held, and some of them thought that it smacked of politics. A discussion of politics is forbidden in the F.U., they deal strictly with economics. The men came to me, told me to ~~call~~ call a mass meeting on the grounds, reword my resolution and they would pass it. They suggested a temporary chairman, we called a meeting at 12:45, as soon as we had dinner, proceeded with the meeting in parliamentary order. An amendment to strike out the words "members of the F.U." (I had changed the original wording of the resolution, to read, "we members of the F.H. & C.U. in Mass meeting assembled as citizens, do, etc. ".) Well we got into a hot discussion as to whether these words were to be replaced by the word farmers; the house was evenly divided on this question, when in walked the Pres. of the Union, who tapped on the desk and said that he was sorry to disturb the meeting, but that the F.U. was to meet there at 1, and that he claimed the floor. The boys were mad; they seemed not to know what to do. I believe they would have attempted to have held the floor, but I was on my feet before the gentleman (?) had finished speaking. I moved that we adjourn, to meet immediately after the adjournment of the F.H. & C.U. for a few minutes. I got an immediate second move to adjourn carried, and my crown did not wait this time to get the "skidoo". They adjourned about 4. Our chairman called the mass meeting to order. He then had the resolution read; chairman requested me to make a little talk,

2 Dec 19, 1912

which I did stating, that I had no desire to run over the rulings of the Union, but urged them to pass on the resolution as presented to them; explained to them that they had a right, as individuals to proclaim themselves "members of the F.E.&C.U. in mass meeting assembled". This time there was a good discussion, but not a dissenting voice on the floor. The question was put, I asked for a rising vote. Resolution was adopted by a majority of 47, there being 653 ayes and 6nos. Some of those who voted against its adoption, were in favor of adopting the resolution without the term F.E.& C.U. None except the F.U. voted. There were many of them who did not vote because of these words, but a resolution worded any other way, would not have been to the end that we wished it to be. We had a big majority even if all who did not vote had been against us; but they were not, they simply hesitated to use the Union term as individuals. I think that it was all for the best, and I am greatly surprised at the almost solid sentiment in the Union for us. I am invited to one of the Locals to speak on the subject as soon as I can. I will go if I can muster up courage enough to face an audience. I am sure that our enemy, Mr. Belt, won the day for us, I told them that one man like him did us more good than 50 men who were not interested. He made voted for us in that body. I understand that this is not the only instance where he has been a tyrant, since his election. In the final commotion after adoption, we forgot to have the minutes signed by the Sec. and Chairman. I will send them to them by mail for signatures. I will then send or bring them to you, about the 10th of May. Do not publish the resolutions, until after I see and talk to you. But it must be published some time. There were about 13 lady members present. I took our cor. sec. with me, hired a car-

[Dec 19, 1912]

riage and driver for \$3.00 which was very cheap, distance being 11 miles, over a very bad road. We were gone all day.

Shall I send out the resolutions to each Local, as we originally intended?. I believe that they will consider them in their Local, if away from the influence of that man, Belt. If they consider them, they will adopt them almost unanimously. Advise me as to this soon. Goodby for the present, from

Winnie Branstetter.

Centralia, Pa. July 16, 1913

My Dear Miss Clay:-

Enclosed find copy of the Amendment to be submitted in Oklahoma. It is a fine preliminary, and if it carries will make possible a successful suffrage campaign in that southwest State. The suffragists are aiding to secure signatures. The Amendment is being pushed by Campbell Russell, who was formerly State Senator, and at one time head of the Farmers' Union. He is one of the few democrats of the State who has not been assailed for graft. I do hope the Amendment will carry, and Mrs. Stephens writes me she is hopeful.

The wind-blown straws indicate a lively time at the coming National Convention in Washington, November 30 th.

I go into Delaware in September for a week's engagement at their State fair and other organizations, and then will look forward to the Washington trip.

Cordially Yours,

Ida Porter Boyer.