

In loving memory
of Miss Anthony
and with best wish-
es for the New Year
Annie S. Shaw

Feb 15th 1820 - 1918

Final victory

1920

To Miss Clay

with the sincere regards of

Lucy E. Anthony

and

Annatt. Shaw

NATIONAL AMERICAN WOMAN SUFFRAGE ASSOCIATION

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

ANNA HOWARD SHAW
PRESIDENT
MOYLAN, PA.

JANE ADDAMS
1ST VICE-PRESIDENT
HULL HOUSE, CHICAGO, ILLS.

SOPHONISBA P. BRECKINRIDGE
2ND VICE-PRESIDENT
GREEN HALL, UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO, ILLS.

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CORRESPONDING SECRETARY
505 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK

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RECORDING SECRETARY
585 BOYLSTON STREET, BOSTON, MASS.

JESSIE ASHLEY
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1ST AUDITOR
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HARRIET BURTON LAIDLAW
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ALICE STONE BLACKWELL
EDITOR OF "THE WOMAN'S JOURNAL"
3 MONADNOCK STREET, DORCHESTER, MASS.

NATIONAL AUXILIARIES

COLLEGE EQUAL SUFFRAGE LEAGUE
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FRIENDS EQUAL RIGHTS ASSOCIATION
MARY BENTLEY THOMAS, PRESIDENT
EDNOR, MARYLAND

THE EQUAL FRANCHISE SOCIETY
JESSICA GARRETSON FINCH, PRESIDENT
1 MADISON AVENUE, NEW YORK

NATIONAL PRESS BUREAU
CAROLINE I. REILLY, CHAIRMAN
505 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK

TELEPHONE, 6855 BRYANT



HEADQUARTERS, 505 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK

February 20th, 1912.

Dear State President:-

The Congressional Committee have arranged for the Congressional Hearing in Washington for the morning of March 13th. and, as it is desirable to have as much interest as possible awakened, it is important for every State Association to send an official letter, and for as many individuals as possible in each State, to the State's members of Congress and Senate, calling to their attention this Hearing and asking them to be present. Will your Official Board immediately send letters to Congressmen and ask other suffragists throughout the State to urge upon their own particular representative his attendance upon the Hearing.

It would also be a great point gained if we could have the wives of the different Congressmen present, so that a letter addressed not only to the Congressmen but a letter addressed to the wives informing them of the Hearing, and inviting them to be present, might add to the interest. It would at least show the members of Congress that there were some women in all the States which they represent, interested in the Hearing and in woman suffrage.

It would be a good thing to call to the attention of the Congressmen the various societies of both men and women in their own State, who have passed a resolution in favor of woman suffrage, especially if they are influential bodies.

If there are people from your State at the present time in Washington, or who are likely to be there at the time of the Hearing, it would be well to inform them in regard to it, that they might also be present and so make the Hearing as broadly national as possible. Heretofore we have always had these Hearings as at the time of the National Convention, and we have had speakers from the various States present, but this time we are obliged to take those whom we can secure at the least possible expense of travel and money, and so we have planned the Hearing at the regular time of one of the Official Board meetings that all the members of the Official Board can be present.

[Feb 20, 1912]

State President.

It will be of interest to the various State Presidents to know that the reports from the campaign States are increasing in their encouragement. This is particularly true of Oregon, where the club women have organized and are taking up the work of the campaign, as so that it is not only being carried on inside the suffrage organizations but outside as well.

The Wisconsin campaign is particularly interesting and reports from that State are very encouraging.

Kansas reports increasing interest, and

New Hampshire is very much alive.

So that there is hope all along the line. I cannot help feeling that, if the women of the States where campaigns are pending, will only enter into the work as actively as did the women of California, there is no doubt but we would carry at least three out of the four States where the vote will be taken this fall.

The report from Ohio is also encouraging, since the Committee on Elections reported sixteen to one in favor of inserting woman suffrage in the new constitution. If this is any indication of the attitude of the whole Convention toward the question there is a great promise of an active campaign in the State of Ohio. So that there is marked out for us during the coming year enough to keep both our heads and our hearts very active, since those of us who have not campaigns on hand should feel an obligation to help the States where the amendments are pending.

There is one matter which I wish to call particularly to your attention, and that is our National organ. The Convention voted at Louisville to continue the contract with "The Woman's Journal" to remain the National organ for the coming year. The officers and delegates from the various States were informed that "The Woman's Journal" was the largest and most expensive proposition undertaken by the National Association and that it fell behind more than \$600 every month in meeting its expenses, which amount had to be raised by the National Association to carry it on; in face of this knowledge the Convention voted to continue the contract. This vote pre-supposed that the various States voting would feel the responsibility of raising the money to carry on this great financial burden and to meet the obligation which "The Woman's Journal" imposes upon the National Association.

[Feb 20, 1912]

-3-

State President.

So far few of the States have responded, and none in proportion to the demand. If "The Woman's Journal" is to continue as the National organ, and if the Official Board are expected to carry out the vote of the Convention, it can only be done if the various States respond financially and make it possible. The National Headquarters is not a mint and cannot coin money. It can pay bills only when there is money in the treasury with which to do so; When the National treasury is empty the bills cannot be paid whether they have been voted by the National Association or not.

What response will your State make and how far will you stand by your obligation, assumed by State representatives, to maintain the National Society in continuing "The Woman's Journal" as its official organ?

This is the most important question facing us at this time and it will have to be met by the Official Board at its next meeting. What is the answer which we will receive from your State?

The Literature Department of the National Association is an indication of the growing interest of the whole country in suffrage. On the first month of this year the receipts for literature were greater than those of the entire year prior to the opening of the Headquarters in New York. This, of course, means a great increase in the work of the Headquarters to meet and fill this obligation, and it also indicates the tremendous growth of our movement, and this ought to rejoice every one of our hearts.

Through the generosity of a friend of our cause, the National Association is able to help in the various campaigns throughout the country and it is co-operating with all the campaign committees and rendering every assistance in its power. And now what is needed is that the States shall do their part in helping to maintain the National Association in its enlarging work and its increasing needs.

Faithfully yours,

Anna H. Shaw

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HEADQUARTERS, 505 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK

August 20th, 1912.

Dear State President:-

From all the reports which have come to the National Headquarters, every organized and unorganized State has been doing aggressive work during the past year, notwithstanding that more has been done by the States where campaigns are not pending, both in sending workers whose salary and expenses have been paid by the State from which they came, and in raising money for the campaign States, and especially in the donation of personal service by those who were, fortunately, able to give themselves to the cause free of all financial obligation.

Never in the history of the movement for suffrage have more generous responses been made by those who feel the oneness of our National movement and are not influenced by the fear that those living across an imaginary line shall gain an advantage over themselves, but who, with a spirit of real democracy, feel that while one woman is in political bondage all women are bound. This spirit of national democracy has made the campaigns possible in States which were poorly organized and which would not have been able to have borne the financial obligations, or to furnish the necessary workers unaided.

It has been very gratifying that, not only have individual and State societies been able to assist in these campaigns, but because of the Susan B. Anthony Suffrage Fund, the Susan B. Anthony Memorial Fund, a generous donation from a loyal and long-standing friend of our cause to the National President, and the estate of Mary S. Anthony, the National Association has assisted every State where campaigns are pending, with workers, with literature and with money. It has been the most remarkable year of suffrage propaganda in our history and gives promise of more victories than have ever occurred in one year of our movement.

Aug 20, 1917

-2-

State President,

The frequent claim that American women are not willing to give either time or money to our cause, as are those of foreign countries, especially Great Britain, is possibly, in a measure, true, but not in the sweeping sense in which the claim is made. The difference, if carefully investigated, would doubtless show that in Great Britain, all funds are reported through one treasurer in each national association, no matter where or how raised or expended. While in this country we have State and local societies and the money of suffragists is contributed to and spent by so many different organizations that the aggregate amount contributed cannot be known.

To ascertain, in a partial degree, at least, the amount expended in the nation for suffrage work during the year, the National Corresponding Secretary has sent to the various States a Questionnaire, which, if correctly answered, will give approximately the amount which has been expended. The value of the information will depend upon the active co-operation of the States as a whole, and I have no doubt that when the report is made, the amount will amaze us all.

In making up the year's budget of work done in the States, the National President is very desirous of learning whether in your State you have made any demands upon your legislature for any form of suffrage, and she will enclose in the letter a series of questions asking you to reply as soon as possible, so that the grouping of different forms of legislation may be accurately made.

Your National President is about to enter the various campaigns, beginning in Ohio, then following on to Michigan, Wisconsin, Oregon, Arizona and Kansas, giving nearly two weeks to each State. She expects to reach the National Headquarters in time to receive the news of victory from all of those whose election comes in November, and hopes to join with the victorious Ohioans in their rejoicing on September 3rd.

Because of this extended tour, which will prevent writing later, she is sending this additional message to the State Presidents, to remind them of the change in the National Constitution, requiring the annual dues to be paid at least one month prior to the National Convention, which takes place in Philadelphia, November 21-26. We hope this Convention, held in the city where the Declaration of Independence was given to the world, will be the most triumphant one in our history. All States will desire to participate in its exercises and deliberations. In order that your State may not be left out, it would be wise to send your dues, or if it is impossible to know the full amount of them, at least a portion of them, immediately to the National Treasurer, so that nothing may prevent your State or ~~the~~ Society having representation at the Convention.

[Aug 20, 1912]

-3-

State President,

Several new societies have been added to the National Association during the last year, and more members have been added than ever before. The suffrage tide has risen and we are almost able to see the final victory.

Nothing could show the progress of our movement more than the attitude of political parties toward woman suffrage. They begin to recognize women as a political factor, to be dealt with and not to be ignored. The one million women voters, and the more than a million prospective women voters are convincing arguments to politicians which no amount of sentimental prejudice can refute.

With the prospect of all these victories before us, it is the duty of each State, having done all it can for the campaigns, to get its own house in order ready for an appeal to its own legislature for the submission of an amendment at the next legislature, whenever this is possible, and thus make each succeeding year more victorious than the last.

Keep your thoughts and prayers and help of every kind on the fields of conquest where the battle is now waging, and God grant us the victory.

Faithfully yours,

Anna L. Shaw per H.
President.

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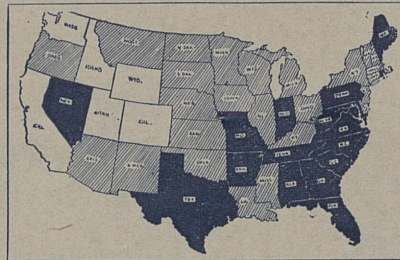
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WHITE STATES . . . FULL SUFFRAGE
SHADED " " . . . PARTIAL " "
DARK " " . . . NO

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HEADQUARTERS, 505 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK

September 6, 1912.

Dear Member of the Executive Committee:-

The National Association is facing bankruptcy this very day. If you want to save it, please give heed to the following facts and then act immediately.

First read this letter from the President to the other members of the Official Board.

"August 17th, 1912.

Dear Member of the Official Board:-

We have reached a crisis in our work which we must face and meet. It is learned by the Ways and Means Committee that the suffragists, and other friends, are so absorbed in campaigns that it is impossible to secure money for any other purpose.

I do not know whether you have been informed of the result of Miss Johnston's investigation into the Coggeshall bequest. She made a very careful investigation during her stay in Des Moines, and, while she feels that there is no doubt of the desire on the part of Mrs. Coggeshall's children that the bequest should be paid, yet the condition of Mrs. Coggeshall's estate is such that it is largely composed of landed property, and, until this property can be sold, bequests cannot be paid. Therefore, the prospects are that we may have to wait five years before we receive it, as it is within the option of the administrators to pay it within that time. I suppose this provision was made in order that time might be given to dispose of the land, and in order to secure the necessary funds.

Sept 6, 1912]

Miss Johnston is probably already at Cincinnati, trying to see what can be done there, but, personally, I have very little hope that anything can be accomplished. So that there is practically no prospect of any income from these bequests. She will continue her effort to secure money, and certainly, she has done a splendid piece of work in Chicago; but there she had the assistance of our National officers and good friends of suffrage, such as she can have nowhere else, unless it is in New York, and this not until after the people return from the country.

The condition of the National Treasury you all know from the various reports received from the Treasurer. We have not had to meet the conditions before this year which have placed us in our present financial predicament. With the expiration of the Susan B. Anthony Memorial Fund last April, we have been deprived of the \$6,000 for the latter half of the year. With the cessation of the support of the Press Department by Mrs. Belmont, we have had to maintain that out of the general treasury and, with the increased expenses and burden of the Woman's Journal, added to the greater cost of increasing work of our National Headquarters, the out-go has been larger than ever before. While, on the other hand, the funds of suffragists have been poured into the campaign States, and they have, therefore, done practically little to maintain the National work during the year.

One cannot blame people for taking a deeper interest in something they see doing, as in campaigns. The general public do not see the millions of pages of literature created and handled at the National Headquarters, the small things, such as buttons, seals, mottoes, flags, and scores of others, the press work, and the thousands of letters of advice and counsel, all of which are tremendous aids in creating the propaganda which makes the campaigns possible. They only see the work after it is started in the field and the great meetings and the motor trips and the flying pennants and the newspaper reports of successful gatherings and various things done. It is very natural that they should think these are the only things that are done, and that they are utterly blind to those things which make them possible.

The Official Board must simply admit the fact and meet it, and there is but one way to do it, and that is to cut out every expense possible by reducing the official force at Headquarters, and the

#3.

[Sept 6, 1912]

Woman's Journal office, even if this requires cutting down the work done by the National Headquarters, and reducing the size and increasing the price of the Woman's Journal.

I wish the Board would instruct those in charge of the National Headquarters, the Woman's Journal office and the Press Bureau, to reduce, as far as possible, the official staff, and to make such other changes in the work as will reduce the expenses. We are \$10,000 in debt now, and the amount is growing at the rate of \$1,800 per month, with no prospect whatever before us of securing the money to pay it.

When we had hopes of raising the amount to meet these expenses, we could continue honestly in incurring them, but we can do so no longer. Therefore, immediate action is necessary, and the opinion of each member of the Board upon the subject is imperative. Will you kindly vote at once so that the work of reduction may begin immediately.

Faithfully yours,

(Signed) Anna H. Shaw,
per J.A.

President."

On receipt of this letter the Corresponding Secretary answered by the following:-

"Spofford, N.H.
Aug. 20, 1912.

Dear Member of the Board:-

Miss Shaw's letter on the financial situation has been forwarded to me. You may have already voted, if not, it may help to consider these points. Why not send a copy of Miss Shaw's letter to the president and secretary of every branch association, and ask if they wish the work cut down, if not, what they will do to save it, and ask for an IMMEDIATE answer? Enclose a stamped envelope and a vote slip, send the letter to the other members of the Executive Committee also.

If this is NOT done and we go to the Convention with the work largely curtailed, the majority of the delegates will not realize the difference and, as usual, will not take any responsibility.

[Sept 6, 1912]

Again if the work is to be cut down, why not cut down the part which produces most of the deficit - the Journal - instead of the Headquarters work, which is largely literature and which pays its own way?

I have long felt that the members of the Association should somehow be made to feel responsibility and not leave it all to the Board.

Faithfully,

(Signed) Mary Ware Dennett."

The suggestion for referring this very serious question to the members of the executive committee was approved. Hence we ask you to proceed as follows; consult with as many responsible members of your association as you can reach inside of THREE days, then make your decisions and vote on the enclosed slip; mail it to Headquarters if you are within twenty-four hours of New York; if farther away, then send a night letter-telegram voting on the questions in order. Put the NUMBER of the question before each answer to avoid mistakes.

Since many members of the Executive Committee are away at this time of the year, we are sending to the Secretary as well as to the President of each branch association, in order to have the responsibility for this important decision rest upon a really representative body of members of the National Association. The total number of people who can be reached will be probably no more than the full membership of the Executive Committee.

In making your decisions, please bear in mind these significant points:-

1. If the work goes on till Convention, it must be supported either by contributions or by loans; which are preferable?
2. If the work is cut down now, it will be exceedingly difficult to expand it again after the Convention. It would mean "breaking in" a new office force.
3. The deficit is about \$10,000. This is the amount of the uncollectable Coggeshall legacy. The deficit comes mostly from the Woman's Journal. The literature department is self-maintaining if the value of the unsold stock and uncollected bills are included in the assets.

#5.

[Sept 6, 1912]

4. The paid office forces consist of the following:

Woman's Journal:

Managing editor,
Circulating manager,
Miss Blackwell's secretary,
Book-keeper,
Stenographer,
Subscription clerk,
Advertising agent,
Asst. Stenographer,
Filing and order clerk.

Headquarters:

Corresponding Secretary (who is also
Chairman of the Literature Committee)
Editor of Literature department and
general assistant.
Manager of shipping dept.
Asst. " " " "
Helper" " " "
Two stenographers.
Saleswoman and information clerk.
(who is in attendance in the main
office and whose duties are
manifold.)
Book-keeper,
Chairman of Press Bureau,
Asst. " " "

5. One stenographer has already been dismissed, a saving made possible by the fact that Miss Shaw will be away campaigning till Nov. 1, also the helper in the shipping department, (service which costs the least and is most easily replaced of any.)
6. Any other curtailments in the office forces will seriously cripple the work, so if they are voted, it must be with this fact distinctly realized.

Hoping you will be able to let some light in upon a dark situation, and that you will not fail to answer as requested above,

Faithfully yours,

Anna Howard Shaw,
Jane Addams,
Sophonisba Breckinridge,
Mary Ware Dennett,
Susan W. FitzGerald,
Jessie Ashley,
Katherine Dexter McCormick,
Harriet Burton Laidlaw,
Alice Stone Blackwell.

5 Mar. 27, 1913

Executive Committee.

the opening of Congress - December first - and, at its close, have the Congressional Hearing. It is impossible to have a National Convention in November and a Congressional Hearing in December, if the Hearing is to be truly representative of the whole country, and at this Hearing it seems important that all the States should be represented.

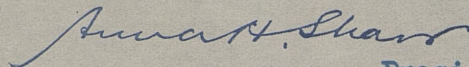
There is but one difficulty in the way and that is the By-law which says the Annual Convention shall be held between Election Day and Thanksgiving. This is not in the body of the Constitution but is a By-law only, and, as December first would be only four days after Thanksgiving, the postponement would be insignificant.

Our Congressional Committee feels that it is very important to open our Convention on the opening day of Congress; that it would, in a sense, ally Congress with the suffrage movement from the first of the session.

I am explaining all these points so that you may understand why the Official Board ask for the vote of the President and Members of the National Executive Committee of your State, as to whether or not the time limit of the Convention dates may be thus extended.

An immediate reply is important. You will find an addressed envelope enclosed.

Faithfully yours,



President.

NATIONAL AMERICAN WOMAN SUFFRAGE ASSOCIATION

Branch of International Woman Suffrage Alliance and of National Council of Women

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Anna Howard Shaw
Moylan, Pa.

1st Vice-President
Jane Addams
Hull House, Chicago, Ill.

2nd Vice-President
Mrs. Desha Breckinridge
Lexington, Ky.

3rd Vice-President
Caroline Ruutz-Rees
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505 Fifth Avenue, New York

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6 East 66th Street, New York

2nd Auditor
Mrs. Joseph Tilton Bowen
1430 Astor Street, Chicago, Ill.

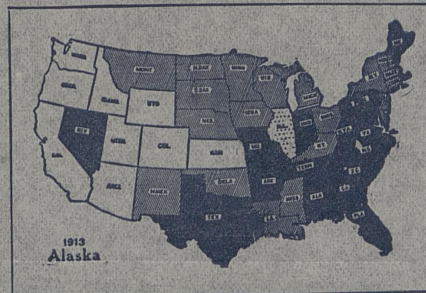
NATIONAL AFFILIATED SOCIETIES

College Equal Suffrage League
M. Carey Thomas, President
Bryn Mawr, Pa.

The Equal Franchise Society
Mrs. Howard Mansfield, President
535 Park Avenue, New York

Friends Equal Rights Association
Mrs. Ellen H. E. Price, President
3316 Arch St., Philadelphia, Pa.

Telephone, 4818 Murray Hill



WHITE STATES . . . FULL SUFFRAGE
SHADED " . . . PARTIAL " " " " "
DARK " . . . NO " " " " " "

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Chairman, Mrs. Medill McCormick
Headquarters,
Munsey Building, Washington, D. C.

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS,
505 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK

August 20, 1915.

Dear State President:-

I am sending you a copy of a letter just received from Miss Kate Gordon of Louisiana. The language of the letter, I think you will all frankly admit, is hardly such as should be addressed to the National American Woman Suffrage Association by an organization which is in no way affiliated with the National body. That Mrs. McCormick did not answer the letter does not in the least surprise me, for I should not think that any self-respecting officer would consider it her duty to answer a letter addressed to her in such terms by an officer of an association so recently formed, especially since that officer is fully aware of the work of the National Association for many years. In fact, almost from the beginning of the organization it has been the custom of the National Association to appear before the different National political conventions and seek to secure a plank in favor of woman suffrage. The National Association is not at all aware that it has given up its prerogative in this direction to the newly organized Southern Conference any more than it has given up its congressional work in behalf of the National amendment to the Federal Constitution to the newly organized Congressional Union.

That the President of the Southern Conference should assume that the continuation of our usual line of work is an interference with its rights is rather astonishing. On the contrary, it might well be assumed by the National Association that the Southern Conference, in taking upon itself the work of the National Association, has exceeded its prerogative. I think the time has come when a definite statement should be made by the officers of the National Association in regard to these newly organized groups throughout the country and I am going to make this statement upon my own responsibility, since the members of the Official Board are absent in different parts of the country. If, after we are able to confer, the other officers do not agree with me in this matter, we will immediately inform the various state associations.

8/30/15.

One after another new society is springing into existence taking upon themselves particular lines of National work, and without being in any way affiliated with the National Association assume immediately that the National Association must relinquish all of its previous lines of endeavor whenever it is asked to do so by any group of people. I wish to state most emphatically that the National Association has no intention of turning over any part of its regularly established National work to any organization outside of its body which it has not authorized to act for it, and that at the coming National Political conventions the National Association will undoubtedly pursue its regular plan of appealing to the different political parties for endorsement. And it will also seek to secure the cooperation of all or any of its affiliated bodies in carrying out this plan. Since the appeal of Mrs. McCormick, as Chairman of the Congressional Committee, was made to members of the National body, you will no doubt admit that she was within her rights as Chairman of the Committee in asking the cooperation of any society or of any individual affiliated with the National Association in carrying out any policy which the National Association adopts. Appealing to the political parties is an established policy of the National Association and I have no doubt that Mrs. McCormick will continue her efforts in this direction so as to bring to bear, at the next political convention, every possible influence within the power of the National Association upon those bodies.

These constant attacks upon the National officers by outside groups which are in no wise affiliated with or responsible for the conduct of the National Association ought to cease. They have been continued altogether too long and the time has come when the National officers feel that they should no longer submit to interference of this sort when expressed in the tone of the letter received from the President of the Southern Conference.

I wish to ask the presidents of the affiliated associations in the south whether or not they approve of this letter of Miss Gordon's to the Chairman of the Congressional Committee and to the National Board, and if her action was taken after consultation with the presidents of the southern states or whether she has assumed, without consultation, to speak for all states affiliated with the Southern Conference which are also affiliated with the National Association. An immediate reply will be appreciated by the National officers.

Faithfully yours,

Anna Howard Shaw.
D.
President.

Miss Laura Clay.

\$2.

11-10-15.

of the federal bill, and the question was asked should that be reintroduced before the National Convention or should we wait until the National Convention had met and their instructions in regard to it had been given. It was the opinion of the National Officers that if that bill were introduced before the National Convention the Congressional Union would pounce upon it and again make their claims before they could be contradicted, that it was a second measure to take the place of the Susan B. Anthony bill. Therefore, we decided that since the convention was to be held so soon after the opening of Congress that it would be wiser to wait until the convention met and we had discussed this question further, before reintroducing it. The Official Board did not take upon itself the authority to over-ride the instructions of the last convention because it was introduced last year, nor would they assume to dictate the policy of the Association for the coming year, but under the circumstances they thought it wise to wait until that policy had been fully defined, before taking any further steps.

I am writing you this letter to let you know that this was not an arbitrary act on the part of the members of the Board, but knowing the circumstances as we do, and the very critical position which is facing us by the Congressional Union rushing into the states where the campaigns have failed and the women are disappointed, and in every possible underhanded way, through misrepresentation and deliberate falsehood, seeking to win over the state societies or the strongest members of the state societies, to divide the interests in the state. It was the consensus of opinion of the women assembled yesterday, who have just gone through these terrific campaigns, that the only hope for holding their women together was to assure them that there was to be no two amendments introduced into Congress before the National Convention met in Washington, and then not unless the National Convention authorized it to be done.

While I have, and always have, believed in the federal amendment, I do not believe that introducing it the first week of the National Congress would avail anything for us that could not be secured after the National Convention met, and it would save these states from rupture, for the work is being pushed with all the energy of those young women who have nothing else to do but to break up existing organizations rather than to build up an organization of their own from the outside.

I hope that you will understand the attitude of the National Board and of the conference in regard to the wisdom of this action, and that you will not feel that it was any lack of regard for the federal bill or for the instructions of the National Convention. Since our main object is to secure suffrage,

Miss Laura Clay.

#3.

11-10-15.

we cannot jeopardize the greater for any lesser advantages -
at least for a few days.

With sincere regards and in the hope that you will be
present at the National Convention and help to decide its
policies for the coming year, I am

Faithfully,

Anna H. Sherr

President.

AHS/MB.

[Nov. 10, 1915]

COPY OF RESOLUTIONS PASSED
AT CONFERENCE HELD ON
NOVEMBER 9, 1915.

Whereas, Under the leadership and encouragement of the National American Woman Suffrage Association eleven states have won full suffrage, many states have won partial suffrage and organizations have been formed and maintained in nearly every state; and

Whereas, The experiences of the past year have deepened our conviction that state work and Federal work go hand and hand, and are mutually necessary. Therefore be it

Resolved, That we, the representatives of the state organizations of the four campaign states of 1915 wish to express our appreciation of the steadfast support of the National American Woman Suffrage Association and to reaffirm our loyalty to the state work of that organization; and further be it

Resolved, That we hold ourselves ready to support the National American Woman Suffrage Association in the work of its Congressional committee on behalf of the Susan B. Anthony amendment, which it has been pushing vigorously in Congress for the last forty-five years and which is developing greatly increased strength. with the accession of suffrage states.

Those present at the conference were:

- Official Board represented by - Dr. Shaw; Mrs. Henry Wade Rogers; Mrs. Stanley McCormick; Dr. Katharine B. Davis; Mrs. Susan W. FitzGerald.
- Congressional Committee - Mrs. Antoinette Funk; Mrs. Laura Puffer Morgan; Miss Ethel Smith.
- New York - Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt; Chairman Empire State Campaign Committee; Mrs. Raymond Brown, President New York State Woman Suffrage Asso.; Mrs. James Lees Laidlaw, Chairman of Bureau of Manhattan of the Woman Suffrage Party; Mrs. Martha Wentworth Suffren; Mrs. Richard Aldrich Mrs. Thomas Wells.

Nov. 10 1915

#2.

Massachusetts - Miss Alice Stone Blackwell, president of the Massachusetts State Suffrage Association; Mrs. Gertrude Halladay Leonard; Mrs. Wirt Dexter; Mrs. Claude U. Gilson; Mrs. Susan W. FitzGerald.

New Jersey - Mrs. E. F. Feikert, president of the New Jersey State Suffrage Association; Miss Esther Ogden; Mrs. Robert S. Huse; Mrs. W. B. Donnell and Mrs. Mina VanWinkle, president of the Woman's Political Union of New Jersey.

Pennsylvania - Mrs. Frank M. Roessing, president of the Pennsylvania State Woman Suffrage Association; Miss Hannah Patterson, chairman of the Woman Suffrage Party of Pennsylvania; Miss Mary Ingham and Miss Anna Snyder, both of Philadelphia.

Connecticut - Miss Carolie Rutz-Rees.

College Equal Suffrage League - Mrs. Ethel Puffer Howes.

189 N. Mill Street, Lexington, Ky.

April 13th, 1918.

Dear Miss Shaw,

Your letter of March 12th reached me after some delay in the mail on account of a mistake in the postage.

I appreciated particularly your thought that I had been mindful of Mrs. Colby's devotion to the cause of suffrage; for I had had to disagree on some fundamental difference in the bills we were working for that winter in Washington; and I was not able to make her see my point of view, or admit its importance; so I think she did not feel that I had been friendly. I am glad that Mrs. Brown has written such an attractive memorial volume of her life. I presume you have seen it.

I thank you for the little souvenir of our beloved Miss Anthony which you enclosed. How her great heart must be rejoicing if she is permitted to know what is going on in the cause now ! However, I must say that I think the N.A.W.S.A. is departing from her broadminded and liberal spirit in not fostering with equal care the two great roads to the accomplishment of woman suffrage. I hold that our N.A.W.S.A. constitution, as well as the constitutions of its several auxiliaries, encouraged the membership of many who never were in sympathy with the Federal Amendment; and led them to believe that each method would have equal and fair field for working out its success. It is true, that that constitution has not been changed; but it is true that the policy of the National is no longer impartial. You know that I am strongly attached to the States Rights doctrine; and I would not now trouble you with a repetition of my views were it not on account of the great facts of this war. The Federal Amendment proposes a revolutionary change in our electoral system; and if it were now enacted into law, it would have the effect of extending in the majority of the states the right of a vast untrained and inexperienced voters to decide the

policy of our nation in this war. Even by itself this great fact might well lead prudent persons to doubt the wisdom of allowing these issues to be decided by inexperienced voters. But there are also to be considered the facts that our electoral systems in many states actually allows practically unnaturalized citizens, many of whom are suspected of being enemies, to vote. The recent discussions in Congress have showed us that there is well-founded reason to suppose that the Germans have 400000 trained and subsidized propagandists and spies in this country. It is certainly a reason to be cautious to reflect that if these propagandists have the opportunity of working among millions of unsuspecting and untrained voters, no amount of native intelligence or sincere patriotism on their part will save multitudes of them from falling into the snares set for them. I wish in these troubled times we might take an example from England, where, though her women are far better politically educated than the American, and where their electoral system does not permit such indiscriminate voting of these who are alien in heart, yet has not thought it prudent in times of war to disturb the electorate by the introduction of too great a number of untrained voters. In America this danger is indefinitely increased by the fact that the whole electoral system must also undergo a radical transfer from the supervision of the states to the supervision of the Federal government by the laws made by Congress.

I scarcely know whether or not I should make these remarks in a letter designed to acknowledge your kindness in your recent letter; but the imminence of the decisions at the Indianapolis Ex.Com. meeting decides me to set aside such considerations, and to think only of what is for the wisest and safest for our counsels, both for our beloved cause and our beloved country.

Thanking you again for your kindly expressions and the little souvenir, I am very sincerely,