

National American Woman Suffrage Association

(Member National Council of Women and International Woman Suffrage Alliance)

President, Rev. Anna Howard Shaw, Swarthmore, Pa.
First Vice President, Rachel Foster Avery, Swarthmore, Pa.
Second Vice President, Florence Kelley,
105 East 22nd Street, New York City.
Corresponding Secretary, Kate M. Gordon,
1800 Prytania Street, New Orleans, La.



NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
Warren, Ohio

Recording Secretary, Alice Stone Blackwell,
3 Park Street, Boston, Mass.
Treasurer, Harriet Taylor Upton, Warren, Ohio.
Auditors: { Laura Clay, Lexington, Ky.
Mary Simpson Sperry,
2100 Pacific Ave., San Francisco, Ca

June 8, 1907.

Dear Member of the Business Committee:-

Granty

I have received several letters from Dr. Woods on her way to Oklahoma and in the last one, under date of June 4th, she says she never saw such a mix-up in her life as exists in the Territory; that injunctions have prevented the Governor from calling the election and that President Murray of the Constitutional Convention has issued a proclamation, and by so doing has put himself in contempt of court. He therefore immediately recalled this proclamation. She further says that she thinks Governor ~~Means~~ is right in not calling the election until a copy of the proceedings of the Constitutional Convention is furnished him. She says she does not see why the members of the Convention refuse to do this. "I do wish Democrats were not such eternal fools". This struck me quite forcibly since she has always applied this term to Republicans, but I think they are not using good sense. She says she finds that Miss Gregg has been doing good work in the field and that Mrs. Boyer is looking splendidly physically and seems to have inspired the Oklahoma City women to work. She says she feels very badly about our not sending Fose Bowers because "when Miss Gregg leaves they will have no one but office help. It is dreadful not to do all the field work possible when we have the Headquarters." She says with all Miss Gregg's fine work, of course she has not touched Indian Territory.

I will ask you to keep headquarters supplied with your addresses. Miss Gordon is far away and so is Mrs. Sperry. Mrs. Kelley is in the field so much and Miss Shaw's address is so uncertain, and Mrs. Avery is going on a long Western trip, so there will be many times when I will be unable to reach you on short notice this summer unless I can know where you are. Even Miss Clay's letters are sometimes belated because she is back and forth from Richmond to Lexington. Sometimes I have to take responsibility which does not belong to me and do the best I can, but let us avoid that as much as possible. For instance, if something unforeseen and important should happen in Oklahoma and I should be telegraphed about it, I would be unfit to give any opinion and unauthorized as well.

Ellis Stewart writes a formal vote of thanks for giving Illinois Dr. Woods for the month. She says "she was so thoroughly appreciated everywhere". She then encloses some letters written by people throughout the state in regard to Dr. Woods, and the same mail brought a letter from Mrs. Abbott asking if it would be possible for us to give the Englewood Womans Club, of 500 members, a Suffrage speaker and she says that they would be pleased to have Dr. Woods.

Cordially yours,

HTU-K

Harriet Taylor Upton

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June 12/1907

DEAR MEMBER OF THE BUSINESS COMMITTEE:-

Miss Shaw has been burdened beyond anything the past few ~~days~~ weeks. She has been in the field, Lucy Anthony has been sick in bed at Miss Anthony's home in Rochester, Miss Shaw has had to take long drives over-land to meet her engagements, because she was held in Rochester looking after Lucy and some business connected with the estate. For instance, they have sold the house and are obliged to give immediate possession, and must pack up and move the things. Miss Shaw's letter (not at all complaining) is really a pathetic one to me, and when I tried to read it aloud to the office force I could hardly get through without my voice breaking. I am therefore writing this to you, although it should properly come through her, but I do not see how she is going to be able to do all she has to do. She is now on her way to the Vermont State Convention, and as Mrs. Avery is breaking up her home, everything seems to be hard for Miss Shaw.

OKLAHOMA: I was directed to carry out the wishes of the Business Committee in this matter. You remember Miss Shaw's letter to you, and your reply to curtail expenses in Oklahoma. You also have received the long letters from Oklahoma which I copied for you. When I saw Dr. Woods in Kokomo, Ind., she said that if Haskell was nominated for governor there was not much use of our working there. I thought she put it pretty strong; much too strong I thought. She has no faith in men as politicians.

Mrs. Marie Janney Howe has just returned from a trip to

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Oklahoma and Denver. As you know, she is a great student of public questions, an individual and original thinker, and in many ways I value her opinion highly. Mr. Howe is a student of conditions, without any oratorical or imaginary characteristics, and I therefore value his opinion, perhaps more than Mrs. Howe's. He is neither so hopeful nor so depressed as she. Both Mr. and Mrs. Howe say they think there is more hope for us in Oklahoma than in any other spot they know of, and say that the men who have promised to stand by us, and some of whom assured Mr. Howe that they would continue to stand by us, are the most influential, honest and most popular men in the Territory. I think some of us felt that when the crucial time came Mr. Owens, Mr. Henraty and Mr. Lynch, as well as others, would be apt to give suffrage a second place. Mrs. Howe says she does not think this is possible, from the conversations which she and Mr. Howe had with some of these men and their friends. She says Mr. Owen is the most popular and highly respected man in the Territory, and everybody admitted that he was honesty and integrity itself. She visited Headquarters in Oklahoma City, and says it is a comfortable looking place; and gave as her humble opinion that it would be unwise for us to withdraw from Oklahoma. She did not offer this advice in any other than the very best spirit, and she would feel very badly if we thought she was dictating or trying to influence us in any way; she just gives it as her opinion. Some of the things she told us made me feel badly. She said the women who belong to the suffrage club in O.C. have no influence at all, and described most of the suffrage women of the Territory whom she met as "unkempt and common"; that even Miss Barnard, whom Mrs. Woodworth attacked, and who has more influence in the State than any other one woman, seems dirty. In other words, she

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does
did not think the organized people in Oklahoma are going to be any help to us, - I mean now our organized people. But she bases her hopes on the fact that they have the Initiative & Referendum, that they need to have only a majority of votes in the Legislature, and that the leaders of the political parties are in many cases in favor of us. You will remember Mr. Asp, who stands at the head of the Republicans, voted for us and has worked for us.

As I told you before, I talked a long time with Dr. Woods at Kokomo, and she thought it would be bad policy to withdraw from the Territory. When I told her of the thousands and thousands of dollars we had put into Oklahoma, without any apparent result, she said, "Well, in such circumstances I always put the question this way, if Oklahoma is not a favorable spot where is there a spot on earth which is better?"

Mrs. Boyer was very much worked up over our asking her to cut down expenses, but she has done this, or at least has promised to, and I have instructed her to hold on to Headquarters until she hears from us to the contrary.

Mrs. Howe says the Denver people think Oklahoma is our most fruitful field, but I think this opinion came chiefly from Mrs. Bradford, and we know Mrs. Bradford has felt that way about it.

The Oklahoma situation concerns me greatly. I explained to Mrs. Howe the great expense we were under there, and that modified her opinion somewhat, as she had been thinking only of Mrs. Boyer's salary of \$100. and expenses. When I told her we were paying \$500. a month just to hold on to Oklahoma, she said she could not advise us in regard to that of course.

I have a letter this morning from Dr. Woods, in which she

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says Haskell has been nominated. When I talked with her she said she thought that if Haskell secured the nomination our goose would be cooked, but she lays no stress on that now, and she may have had occasion to change her mind. The snarl about the Constitutional Convention will probably put off the election until September, October, or maybe November.

I am giving you these details now, so that when Miss Shaw gets ready to send out a request or vote in regard to Oklahoma, you will be prepared to consider it.

Cordially yours

HTU.-R.

Harriet Faylor Upton

June 22, 1907

June 14, 1907.

Dear Member of the Business Committee :

At the last Executive Committee meeting, in Chicago, the enclosed plan, submitted by Dr. Siewers, was brought to our attention. It was referred to the Business Committee for action. Personally I have no recollection of its being considered in the Executive Committee meeting, and the minutes show no such action. Dr. Siewers has written Miss Gordon about it and written to me. I think we ought to take some action on it and would suggest that Miss Shaw put out a vote in regard to it and when that vote is announced, (it will surely be in favor) that the question be turned over to Headquarters. I say "Headquarters" because the machinery is all here and if any of the rest of you tried to do the work you would have to send to me for the lists and probably have to have part of it attended to, and I think that after it is well under way, we can turn it over to one of the clerks in the office who can do it under my supervision. I am willing to do this if it seems wise to you and shall be glad to hear from you at an early date.

Cordially yours,

(signed) Harriet Taylor Upton

HTU-K

189 N. Mill St., Lexington, Ky.

June 18th, 1907.

My dear Mrs. Upton,

Last Wednesday I went to Shelbyville to attend the State Federation of Women's Clubs; and I have no doubt you have seen in the Herald and your clippings that the Federation passed a resolution to ask for school suffrage for women who could read and write. The resolution passed by a vote of 57 to 7 nays. The particularly good part of it to me is that I had no hand in bringing up the resolution, as it shows the school suffrage sentiment now no longer needs the fostering care of the E.R.A.

I shall probably go tomorrow to Winchester to the State meeting of the Educational Association. Our club women will try to get their endorsement of the suffrage resolution; and I like to bring myself into touch with the educators. Mrs. R.N. Roark was elected the Chairman of the Educational Committee of the Federation of Women's Clubs. You remember she is also Cor. Sec. of the Ky. E.R. A., and the wife of the President of the Eastern Normal School of Ky.

I see I left several letters from you which need acknowledgment, though not answers. Yes, I think you answered Mrs. Lucy Hobart Day exactly right. I believe we could get great good out of Church work, if it is rightly conducted; and I think we have a practical and sensible woman now at the head of the Committee.

MISS ROSE BOWER. I would be glad to have Miss Bower employed, as I think

crease our National organizers. we ought to increase our number of National organizers. I do not think we ought to send her to Oklahoma, even with Dr. Woods' recommendation to do so. Dr. Woods is apt to take the merely professional view that a good speaker does good work no matter where she is placed. But I think it would be phenomenally good luck if a perfectly untrained speaker could go into a state where the social conditions were so opposite to anything she ever knew and not do more harm than could possibly do good. I want Oklahoma women for Oklahoma; or else our best and most prudent trained workers.

Mrs. Evans, of Oregon. For this reason I should not vote to send Mrs. Evans to Oklahoma, though I should be very glad to employ her in Oregon. Of the two, I would greatly prefer Mrs. C. C. Bradford for Oklahoma, as she knows the ground and is in touch with the people. But I hope we can do without any further outside help, if we look assiduously for more local help.

DR. SIEWERS' PROPOSITION. I remember something of this at the Convention; and I would like to have it carried out as you propose.

Miss Hauser writes to ask me if I wish to continue a subscription to the Political Equality Series for W. G. Welborn. Please tell her that I do not; and that I do not wish any subscription continued after the time it is paid for, as I sometimes subscribe for a particular purpose, and then even forget, as I had in this case, that I had subscribed at all.

Love to all in the office and with much to yourself,

Cordially yours,

(COPY)

June 28, 1907.

Dear Mrs. Biggers,

Your letter is just here and I want to say that I am always so glad to hear from you because you do write in such a clear definite way. I always know what you mean.

So glad Miss Gregg and Mrs. Boyer went to visit you and had the conference. Personally I think your plans are wise; that you ought to go on pledging the candidates under the present conditions. I should hope that you would pledge them for woman suffrage and not for the 16th. amendment, because the 16th. amendment coming from a new state like Oklahoma would not be very effective, although it is better than nothing.

I wish you had sent me eight or ten of the little circulars which you enclosed. I think they are the most attractive and practical things which I have ever seen. It seems to me when Mr. Haskell sees one of them, he will want to get into the list.

Yes, you are perfectly right in your understanding of the pledge of \$500 00 made at Chicago. Miss Gregg told me that she could pledge \$500 00 for Oklahoma, provided we were to continue the campaign there; and I talked with the Business Committee in regard to it. When she came to pledge from the floor, she pledged under those conditions. There cannot possibly be any misunderstanding in regard to this. I think too that the National will be perfectly willing to credit the \$100 00 which you put into these circulars on that \$500 00 pledge.

I am so glad that you think some of the local women can help do the pledging and I am delighted that Miss Gregg is going to stay and make the 3th. of July speech with Mr. Haskell. She makes a very good

[June 29, 1907]

speech and a nice appearance too. It is a good thing that she did not go home as she had planned to do. You say, "Of course we must be assured that the campaign is to go on under the initiative and referendum as those who have given us pledges have done so with that understanding." Many of our friends feel that we should stick to the Oklahoma campaign, perhaps under some different conditions than the present, but I think there is no thought of dropping it entirely. Dr. Woods influenced me somewhat by her asking me when I suggested that we might possibly drop it "Well, what have you better to do?"

I am returning the letter of Justice M.J. Kane and Mayor F.P. Stearns.

Glad that you and Mrs. Boyer found your Democratic candidate from your County all right. I am hurrying off this answer for I know you will be waiting and in the meantime, I am sending out the main points of your letter, together with a copy of this, to the Business Committee.

Very truly yours,

HTU-A

Harriet Taylor Upton

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June 28, 1907.

Dear Member of the Business Committee,

Miss Shaw has been completely overwhelmed with work since her return from the field, and as she starts out pretty soon, instead of writing this letter to her and having her forward it to you, which is the regular way, I am writing it directly myself. I have reported to you constantly in regard to the Oklahoma situation. A few weeks ago, Mrs. Boyer wrote to me, saying she and Miss Gregg thought they ought to abandon the regular field work and interview the candidates for the Legislature, getting them to pledge themselves for woman suffrage. This struck me as being something definite to do and I telegraphed Miss Shaw that I approved and asked her to write Miss Gregg and Mrs. Boyer in regard to it. Miss Shaw did not exactly approve of it and waited a few days, hoping to hear from me by letter, I think, when Miss Gregg sent word that Mr. Haskell was nominated for Governor on the Democratic ticket and that they thought the members of the Legislature belonged to his machine and that it was useless for them to go on with the pledging. Consequently, she had concluded that she better take her vacation at this time and come back to the work later. I therefore telegraphed her that if she and Mrs. Boyer agreed on this point that she better take her vacation now and then I informed Miss Shaw of what I had done.

I have today received a letter from Mrs. Biggers. It is

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so long that I will not copy it, but will give some salient points in it. Mrs. Boyer and Miss Gregg have been to Mrs. Biggers' and they have had a conference. They have found out that Mr. Haskell is not so opposed to them as they had thought and that there seemed hope for us even at the Haskell hands. They have therefore concluded that they will adopt their original plan and interview the delegates; that a number of local women can help with this, and Miss Gregg will stay in the Territory until after the 4th. of July, when she speaks on the same platform with Mr. Haskell.

These women are receiving letters from prominent politicians and men throughout the territory showing themselves to be in favor of our question. They have forwarded some of these to me. Among them is one from the Justice of the Supreme Court, Mr. Kane; another is from the Mayor of Shawnee, ^{Mr. Stearns} who is a candidate for Governor on the Republican ticket against Mr. Franz. Both express themselves in favor of suffrage. Mr. Stearns has the backing of the Republican labor union men. It is said now that the election will not occur before the last of August or the 1st. of September and consequently Mrs. Biggers thinks there will be plenty of time for them to make a canvas of the 75 legislative districts. She says it is generally conceded that the suffrage organization has had a great deal to do with the nomination of Owen, Hanratty and Kane and that therefore other candidates are showing them a certain degree of deference.

One of these women, -(I do not know which one, but I think Mrs. Boyer) has gotten out the most attractive catchy little circular, and sends me one of them. They must have gotten out a great many for they

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paid \$100 00 for them. The shape is a long strip of paper, about 2" wide and folded into six folds and has on the outside of it "Democratic Candidates on Woman Suffrage", and inside, L. Owen, who is a candidate for United States Senator, and what he says about woman suffrage; Pete Hanraty, candidate for Mine Inspector, with his endorsement; W.F. Field, candidate for Corporation Commissioner, with his endorsement; Callahan, candidate for Corporation Commissioner, with his endorsement; Nagle, candidate for United States Senator, and his endorsement. And then the resolution of the American Federation of Labor, adopted at Pittsburgh. One of the pages has Oklahoma Woman Suffrage Association, State Headquarters, Main St. &c. There are several places left vacant as if they expected that some one was going to write in names and sentiments. Mrs. Biggers refers to the pledge of \$500 00, which Miss Gregg made at Chicago, on the understanding that the work was to be continued in Oklahoma. They have expended \$100 00 on this leaflet and want that credited on their pledge. They seem to think that they can get more money in the territory and altogether Mrs. Biggers' letter seems very practical and as if they were really taking hold of some definite thing.

You will see by my answer to Mrs. Biggers that personally I believe in this campaign of interviewing and that we ought to continue the work there in a limited way. If they really can get the Oklahoma women after the Oklahoma men, I do not see why things are not in pretty good shape.

I also have a letter from Miss Gregg. She says she staid on at Mrs. Biggers' after Mrs. Boyer left to write her speech. She says she wants to be well prepared for such an important thing. She says that

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when Mr. Haskell ended his speech at the meeting of ratification of his nomination, he begged that both men and women would support him, and the way in which he did it was clearly a bid for the women's help. She thinks that Mr. Haskell recognizes, as did Mr. Cruce, that women had helped greatly in Mr. Owen's campaign.

You will remember Dr. Woods has had an engagement for a long time to speak at some 4th. of July meeting in another direction. I have forgotten what it is and do not want to look it up. But the Doctor is sick and Mrs. Boyer will take her place.

Very truly yours,

Harriet Taylor Upton

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June 29, 1907.

Dear Member of the Business Committee:-

A letter has just come from Mrs. Boyer enclosing an editorial from the Oklahoman. This editorial astonishes me very much. That paper has been quite hostile to us. But in speaking of Mr. Owen and his splendid canvas for Senator's place, the editorial says that the time has come when men can lay aside their prejudices and appeal for the things which they know to be right; that Mr. Owen did all he could to get women suffrage into the constitution, that he believes in it, that he fought for it, and that, although many strong men in the Territory did not believe in it, Mr. Owen was able to come out ahead of all others in the nominations. In others words, the editor seems to infer that in speaking for suffrage he showed his strong character in daring to do it, and in the second place, woman suffrage did not hurt but rather helped his canvas. This, to my mind, shows the kind of feeling which Miss Gregg and Mrs Boyer have both said and which Mr. and Mrs. Howe said existed in the Territory. That is, that woman suffrage was a power for accomplishing things.

Very truly yours,

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DEAR MEMBER OF THE BUSINESS COMMITTEE:-

I have a letter from Mrs. Elizabeth Craig, corresponding secretary of the Oregon W.S.A., written in pencil, in which she begs me to see the members of the B.C. and try to influence them to help the Oregon campaign with funds from the Treasury. She says they are not beggars nor paupers, that they pay their dues to the National, and feel justified in expecting help; that they are not responsible for the money wasted last year by the National workers; that Mrs. Duniway has planned the work very judiciously and systematically, etc., etc.; that the petitions will cost them \$500; great progress is being made in getting them signed; Mrs. Duniway paid for them with her own money (I suppose she means the printing), and "we must make it up to her, for she has put out as much suffrage money in the past as any of the National workers". Mrs. Craig then calls attention to the fact that she met me at Lily Dale on Woman's Day some years ago, when she made a speech which she says was very much appreciated by the crowd, but that the National officers were not very cordial to her, because she was from Texas. She says it is very much wiser for the National to comply with the request of the Oregon Association than to have all the correspondence published. She encloses three articles from the Oregonian---scurrilous things I call them---on "Why Women Were Beaten", "Letters From The People" and "Advance of Woman's Lot". In the "Letters From The People" the language is simply dreadful. Mrs. Duniway calls the national officers "Butt-in grass widows". In another place she says we refuse to help them, although we have \$10,000 in the National Treasury. I do not

July 22, 1907

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feel that I should answer this letter at all, and shall not unless instructed to do so. They write me, because I was not in the Oregon campaign and because I do not write to them, and I suppose I am their last hope.

I was just about to take another \$500. out of the memorial fund to keep the treasury going, when Mrs. Sperry sent \$100. on her pledge, and a few other people sent me some money, as you will see by the enclosed statement. However, Mrs. Boyer's expense account is just here and amounts to \$199.62. Her salary will be due the first day of August, so that sooner or later I shall have to take the money, for I do not know of anything else to do. I am hoping that some time we may be able to pay it back. I did not feel so badly about taking the first \$500., because Mrs. Coonley Ward assures me that she will, before the year is out, refund the \$500. which she diverted from the treasury. You may remember that Mrs. Wilmarth, of Chicago, promised Mrs. Coonley Ward that she would stand as one of the subscribers to the Susan B. Anthony Memorial Fund, but the time limit expired, and Mrs. Ward forgot to tell her that it had been extended, so Mrs. Wilmarth made other arrangements for her money. Mrs. Ward therefore felt that she was responsible for this, and as her mother had just given us \$500. she requested that it go to that fund for the present. They have only borrowed it from us, and I understand that Mrs. Ward and Mrs. Wilmarth intend to fix it up later.

Mrs. Boyer has written me a four-page single-space letter, giving an account of interviewing the candidates and their talk with Governor Frantz. She says Mr. Cobb is for us; that he is an aspirant for Congress from the 3d District, a Republican and a Pre-

July 22, 1907

--3--hibitionist, presiding elder in the Methodist Church, a Virginian and thereby in touch with the Southerners. She writes most encouragingly of Oklahoma, and says that her dates are almost full for July and August, speaking at picnics, labor-day meetings, etc. She also says she has settled the room question. The woman who rented the rear of her office has moved out, and she will occupy it as a sleeping room. I am hoping her conference with Miss Shaw at Tulsa will straighten out some of the Oklahoma tangle.

Cordially yours

HTU.-R.

Amos Taylor Weston
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Aug. 2, 1907.

Dear Miss Shaw and Miss Clay,

Mrs. Devoe has written me a long letter telling me about the conditions in Washington and asking whether the National is going to help her a little next year in organization preparatory to the convention. I have told her that that question would be considered when Miss Gordon, Mrs. Avery and Miss Shaw were at Headquarters. If Miss Clay has any special opinion in regard to Washington, will she please let us know in time for that conference?

The Dakota people have asked for a speaker for the state fair, and also for some organizing work. Although they asked for Miss Shaw, I replied that I did not think it would be at all possible for her to go, and as Mrs. Bradford and Miss Gregg were the two nearest, I wondered if either one of them would do. I also wrote both to Miss Gregg and Mrs. Bradford, asking if they could go provided we wanted them. I do not often ask two people at the same time, but Mrs. Bradford is so dilatory that I did not dare to wait to hear from her and then write Miss Gregg.

I have just received a letter from Miss Gregg in which she says she will be delighted to go to South Dakota in September if we want her to. She knows Mrs. Pickler and would like to work with her. She thinks there will be nothing in Oklahoma

CAUG 2, 1907

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until after Sept. 17th. and as they have knocked out the Initiative clause, she thinks that there will not be any special work there then. She thinks her time better be spent in the Indian Territory. She also thinks now the Republicans have sent Cannon to the State Convention that may be that is significant and the constitution will not be adopted at all. She thinks there will be plenty of time for her to go to South Dakota and to Iowa too before she will be needed in Oklahoma. As Miss Shaw and I looked at it from information received heretofore, we had thought there would not be time. However we will settle this probably on the 12th. when Miss Shaw arrives. Miss Clay better send any opinion she has in regard to this also.

Very truly yours,

HTU-A

Harriet Taylor Upton

Richmond, Ky.
Aug. 3rd, 1908.

My dear Mrs. Upton,

I have received three letters from you, which I answer in turn.

CALIFORNIA. As I wrote before, I am willing to return to California all of its money, except the \$500.00 from Mrs. Keith. I believe we have not managed gifts to the Memorial Fund in the best manner to keep the needs of the Asso. before its friends. We seem to be having more money than in reality comes to us. I hope this will be corrected at Buffalo. In the meanwhile we will have to do the best we can. I would rather money should not be credited to the Memorial Fund when it must go to a specific purpose, or to the state which sends it; and this is my wish about the California money. If they would be satisfied with our releasing them from their pledge for what we consider good and sufficient reasons, then the matter could be easily settled. If not, they have worked too faithfully for us to hold them tightly to their pledge; and I would favor counting it on their pledge, and returning it to their state. If we had the means, California is one of the states whose campaign I would be glad to see helped from the National treasury.

(THOMAS)-GARRETT FUND. I note what you say. I am as yet too unfamiliar with the power of direction of the officers of that fund to say any thing very definite of how it should be managed. At present, however, I see no insuperable objection to your borrowing from it on the terms you state. This is another matter which should be fully discussed and understood at Buffalo.

Ohio CONVENTION. I shall be pleased to come to the convention. I did not know that you intended not to run for the state presidency again. I fancy it will be a great disappointment to your state Association. If you want me to speak on any certain subject, let me know, and I will do my best to do it. Mention the number of minutes you wish me to occupy. I know of nothing now which will prevent my going; and I would like to attend an Ohio convention.

It may interest you to know that on Saturday afternoon, I served as election clerk in the school district of my country home, where I served for some years as trustee. The last Legislature passed a new school law, doing away with the old district government, and making the county the governing unit. Incidentally, it took away the small voting privileges of widows and spinsters; but women are eligible to be elected on the county board; and to be appointed election officers. I was appointed clerk by the Election commissioners; and determined to serve, so as to establish the precedent of women's serving. Precedent, like possession, is "nine points of the law". The Federation of Women's Clubs will continue its efforts to secure school suffrage for all women.

Cordially yours,

P.S. You ask if I object to Mrs. Boyer's knowing that I made the special donation you sent. I am indifferent about that. I only wanted you to be secure from an apparent inconsistency, which might cause you annoyance at some other time.

Richmond, Ky.

Aug. 3rd, 1907.

My dear Mrs. Upton,

I have just received your letter of the 2nd inst., and write at once so you will have my opinion on hand at the conference on the 12th.

MRS. DEVOE. I am decidedly of the opinion that we should do all we can to help to keep Mrs. Devoe in the field till she has thoroughly organized Washington. As I understand, Washington is one of the states which hopes to bring up a suffrage amendment before long; and one which seems as hopeful as any other. Having a president who is able to work in the field, and one whom the B.C. knows well enough to count upon exactly what she will do, I think we ought by all means to help to our utmost ability. I suppose we will all agree that when Washington does have a constitutional amendment they will not wish the B.C. to conduct the campaign. If Mrs. Duniway is still alive it is a foregone conclusion that she alone would make it impossible for the National to do so in peace. Therefore we ought to so prepare the way that we shall know into whose hands among the Washington people we could safely trust the campaign as the representative of the National. I suppose with one or two years of expectation of a campaign a Washington woman and a corps of assistants could be as successfully chosen from Washington as from other parts of the country. Perhaps not entirely from that one state, but at least a large enough proportion of the number to quell all antagonism on the score of introducing "foreigners". I received an interesting letter lately from Mrs. Avery, in which she expresses herself as well pleased with what Mrs. Devoe has done so far. While Mrs. Devoe may not have all the qualifications for the leader of a campaign which we desire, yet she pleases her own state people, and that is the main desideratum. If we are expecting a campaign at all, we know that two or three years is not too long to educate sentiment; and it may be that circumstances will prove that it is desirable that we shall take our convention there in 1909; and in that case, it would be advisable to organize some, and show the Western coast that the National is doing the best it can for that portion of the country, let Mrs. Duniway say what she will. I wish I might be at that conference, since so many important questions are to be discussed, which can not be most intelligently considered by correspondence alone. But as the whole B.C. is not to be called, perhaps it would be of no use for me to come. If you should think differently, however, let me know, and I will come.

Miss Gregg. I feel that Miss Shaw, having recently been in In. Ter., and, I suppose, having had a conference with Mrs. Boyer, has information on the situation in Oklahoma which I have not been able to glean from the papers. However, I see that the Republican Convention there has not made any opposition to the ratification of the constitution, and I do not doubt that the people are so anxious for statehood that they would accept an even more objectional one. If it is not turned down in Washington, I look upon it as sure to be established.

I think it is desirable to help S. Dakota, and Iowa, too, with a speaker, if we can. But I do not believe in sacrificing the interests of Oklahoma at this time for any other point; therefore, unless it is clear that Miss Gregg is not needed there just yet, I should object to her staying away and we ought to content ourselves with offering Mrs. Bradford to those

states. Beyond this general expression of opinion, I would rather not say anything more about Oklahoma, as I have no doubt Miss Shaw has information which might change my opinion, if I should hear it.

From your asking me to write a postal card lately, I imagine you think I feel it a burden to answer your letters. It was not my wish to convey that impression when I wrote of my harvest work. I mentioned it only because I felt that I was not at my best for forming an opinion on the important questions on which I was going to vote. In fact, there is seldom a time when I do not feel that the suffrage work is the nearest and dearest to me of anything else I have on hand.


Please give my regards to all the members of the conference and to all in the office, and with much love to yourself, I am

Yours,

National American Woman Suffrage Association

(Member National Council of Women and International Woman Suffrage Alliance)

President, Rev. Anna Howard Shaw, Moylan, Pa.
First Vice President, Rachel Foster Avery, Swarthmore, Pa.
Second Vice President, Florence Kelley,
105 East 22nd Street, New York City.
Corresponding Secretary, Kate M. Gordon,
1800 Prytania Street, New Orleans, La.


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NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
Warren, Ohio

Recording Secretary, Alice Stone Blackwell,
3 Park Street, Boston, Mass.
Treasurer, Harriet Taylor Upton, Warren, Ohio.
Auditors: { Laura Clay, 189 N. Mill St., Lexington, Ky.
Mary Simpson Sperry,
2100 Pacific Ave., San Francisco, Cal.

Aug. 20, 1908.

Dear Miss Clay,

Your letter of August 17th duly received. It is always a great comfort to hear from you because I know that in considering questions upon which we disagree you have no personal~~ity~~ about it at all, and if you do, as you say, sometimes lose your temper, it is never in the little nasty way as so many others do, namely, take-my-doll-rags-and-go-home spirit.

The enclosed letter to the Business Committee explains itself, of course. I think you are right in saying that I have no right to ask the questions which I asked, but at the same time I certainly must have some kind of authority for paying money which we have not got. I know that the spirit of the Committee was for \$60 to cover everything. I do not agree with you at all, although I have not said so in the Business Committee letter, about consulting Mrs. Biggers and Mrs. Boyer. In the first place Mrs. Biggers knows very little about the work. She is used as a figure-head. She is not to blame for this. She said in the beginning that she was not able or so situated as to be president and we pressed her into the service on the promise that Miss Gregg should do the work, then we followed that up with Mrs. Boyer. Mrs. Biggers has wanted to resign many times but we have not allowed it. She, of course, would vote and express herself exactly as Mrs. Boyer expresses herself. Mrs. Boyer, of course, would say continue the campaign. She promised Mrs. Biggers before she left the state last time that she would come back and it is

Clay # 2.

[Aug 20, 1908]

her only living. She could not help but be prejudiced. She certainly made me think that Harvey Lynch was of great importance because of the Labor organization. She depended on him for many things. The same was true of Hanraty, and when one fled from justice and the other became a drunkard, it did seem as if we had lost some strength. I therefore cannot agree with you when you say that Lynch made no difference. I think you have been very generous toward the Oklahoma work -- extremely generous.

Is it not splendid that you and I can disagree so honestly and so conscientiously about a matter and not have it affect us in any way. That is the way things should be.

Very cordially yours,

HTU-DAK

Hazel Taylor Upstr

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August 29/1908

Dear Miss Clay:-

Indeed, I did not think you lost your temper with me. One thing I do know is when you lose your temper, and for a person who has a good deal you keep it pretty well under control.

You certainly are very generous to send \$30.00 to be applied on the Oklahoma work, and I am sending receipt for the same. It will not be very long now before the question of Oklahoma will be settled at Buffalo. Somehow, it is a shears and scissors affair, and I cannot write about it without saying something on my side. You know I do not consider there is any campaign on in Oklahoma, just regular organizing and legislative work.

I note what you say about Miss Shaw's dates, and am going to work on them this afternoon, so will add a post-script giving you the information.

Cordially yours

Harriet Taylor Upton

HTU.-R.