Illinois Equal Suffrage Association

Chicago, May 1, 1909.

Miss Laura Clay,
Lexington, Kentucky.
My dear Miss Clay:--

I have kept several of your communications to the Business Committee, to Miss Shaw, and myself, on my desk,awaiting a favorable opportunity to answer them. We have been having such exciting times in Illinois, and I have been in such a whilrwind of rush and work all the time, that I have answered the most important letters and left the others to wait.

I appreciate your work in Arizona, and your judgment as to what is the best plan there. It seems to me that, as you say, Miss Penfield would be a very good field worker in Arizona. She is a western girl, and I think that would be distinctly to her advantage. I do not know that it is necessary for us to vote on this question before Miss Shaw returns, but all that you have suggested with reference to Arizona seems very good to me.

I am very glad that you wrote so plainly your opinion about the South Dakota situation. I hope that I shall have the advice of all the members of the board before I start there Tuesday night. I feel great diffidence in attempting this very delicate task, and doubt my powers extremely to do the difficult work in hand. It seems to me to be a case where jealousy, stubbornness, poor judgment, and many other undesirable qualities have entered in; but I realize that, as I am nearer to the scene of battle than any of the other members of the board, and can command a few days' time (although Illinois needs every minute of it just now) I should obey the desire of the board, and at least go up to investigate conditions. I will do the very best I can, and make a special effort to induce the seceders to get back into the fold.

Mrs. McCulloch agrees with you, and with my view also, that these women would not have any standing whatever in the National Convention. They had far better spend their energy, if it is necessary for them to have a mass convention, in hustling for $1.00 memberships and delegates among the people that they wish to rule, rather than pulling off and sulking.

I am going to keep an open mind until I have heard all sides, and thoroughly investigate it, but the way I feel now is that if these women cannot be reconciled and work together and fight the opposition rather than themselves, we had better allow them to go their gait and

Illinois Equal Suffrage Association

Miss Clay. -2- 5-1-09.

remain disfranchised, if necessary, while we throw our strength into Washington, or some other place where conditions are more favorable.

I have not had a chance to hear from Mrs. Avery since I wrote her that I would leave Tuesday night, but I trust that she will send me all the details and all the advice that she can give and can forward from the rest of the board.

Our campaign in Illinois has been going with much greater spirit and zest than ever before. I think that we shall get our State Suffrage bill through the Senate next week, but I doubt if we can ever get anything through the House this year. It is divided into so many bitter factions, and is working in the interests of the worst instead of the best government. I was in Springfield two days this week, and Mrs. McCulloch and some other women will go next week. We kept two women down there three weeks before our special train and hearing, so we have done the most complete legislative work this year that we have ever done before, and there is tremendous interest among the women in the state. Every one is speaking of the strides which the movement has taken.

Wishing you great success in your work, and looking forward to meeting you at Seattle, I am,

Yours most cordially,

Ella S. Stewart

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.

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
Warren, Ohio

Recording Secretary, Alice Stone Blackwell, 6 Beacon Street, Boston, Mass.
Treasurer, Harriet Taylor Upton, Warren, Ohio.
Auditors: Laura Clay, 189 N. Mill St., Lexington, Ky. / Ella S. Stewart, 5464 Jefferson Ave., Chicago, Ill.

May 3/1909

Dear Miss Clay:-

Your letter of May 1 has been received, and we herewith hand you receipted bill.

We have referred the matter of the auditing of the books to Mrs. Stewart, and shall write you when we hear from her regarding it.

Mrs. Upton is in Elyria, Ohio, to-day, where she is speaking for the suffrage club, and this accounts for our replying to your letter in her place.

Very truly yours

N. A. W. S. A.
C.I.R.

P.S.- We have no record of a receipt from you for your convention expenses, amounting to $27.00. Will you kindly forward same at your convenience? We should like to have you itemize the account when sending receipted bill.

Swarthmore, Pa., May 3rd, 1909.

Dear Member of the Business Committee:-

I am this morning in receipt of a letter from Mrs. Stewart telling me that she leaves Chicago for South Dakota at 8 o'clock tomorrow, Tuesday, evening, May 4th. I am sending her a budget this morning and am also sending her a copy of Governor Vessey's letter to Miss Blackwell, both to Sioux Falls and a duplicate to Pierre.

I am in receipt of a letter from Miss Gregg and one from Mrs. Pettigrew, in both of which the statement was made thar it was understood that the National would back Mrs. Pettigrew in her expenses until the State could pay them, and they hope this arrangement can be made.

Mrs. Pettigrew writes,- "My collections a little more than paid the expenses on my last trip, but it might not always work out that way." I enclose copy of my reply to Mrs. Pettigrew, and carrying out my statement to her, I enclose a vote paper which I will ask you to return to me as soon as possible.

My own feeling is that these South Dakota women ought not to expect both salary and expenses in any sense to be guaranteed by the National. If we are willing to pay a woman for working for her own enfranchisement in her own State, even a modest salary, that surely ought to be sufficient. I believe that if they are any sort of workers, in the interest and excitement which belongs to a campaign, they will be able to at least average their expenses during their work in the field, and in my opinion they ought to be willing to use a little bit of the salary while they are getting started, until they can get under way.

It seems to be quite different with the work of Mrs. Johnson, the President of the Federation. She is to go among a set of women that have not heretofore been committed to suffrage in any way and it would be unwise for her to combine the request for their approval of suffrage measures and their entry into the suffrage work, with a request for money for the expenses involved in going to them.

Hoping to hear from you very soon on this point, I remain,

Cordially yours,

R. F. Avery
T.

COPY.

Swarthmore, Pa., May 3rd, 1909.

Mrs. Nina D. Pettigrew:-

Yours of the 29th is here with the explanation which I anticipated in connection with the bill sent to the National Treasury for expenses. I know you women are all doing your very best to keep up the interest and forward the suffrage work in South Dakota at this time of tribulation.

I trink you will be glad to know that we are sending Mrs. Ella S. Stewart one of the Members of the National Board, to endeavor to harmonize things in South Dakota.

It is the opinion of the National Officers that any decision that they can give in regard to the financing of the work there, or on any other point, must be given with the understand that it remains in force only until the convention at Seattle, July 1st. No board of officers can bind the Association beyond this annual convention, unless specially authorized to do so. The Officers are practically a unit in feeling that we cannot legally recognize a new State Organization in South Dakota. We will hope to be authorized by the convention to continue the salaries of certain workers, but that of course will be in the hands of the new board, to be elected at Seattle. There will probably be several changes in the personnel of the Board to be elected there.

I know that this news in regard to the National's position in connection with a proposed new organization will be very disappointing to you, but I hope that Mrs. Stewart's visit to South Dakota may bring about a better condition of affairs generally.

Miss Gregg's understanding in regard to your expenses seems to be the same as yours, but it is not my understanding of the situation at all. However, I am willing to send a vote at once to the general officers in regard to this, and shall do so to-day. I am glad to hear that the result of your first trip was the collection of sufficient money to cover the expenses involved. On looking over a letter of Miss Shaw's to you of March 8th, I find it very plain in regard to the expenses to be borne by the National, being the expenses involved in going to Pierre for the conference. Then, the salary was stated to begin upon completion of plans and your starting out on the work.

Cordially yours,
(Signed) Rachel Foster Avery.

The University of Chicago

May 4, 1909

Mrs Ella S. Stewart.

My dear Mrs Stewart:

I desire to thank you for the very valuable assistance which you rendered to me through the material I received from you.

The debate wasn't a great success, due mostly to the unfavorable condition

of the weather which prevented many people from attending. This tended to dampen the ardor of the contestants.

I am returning under separate cover, the copy of the "Extra Session of the California Legislature" as you requested. You will also find a copy of my first speech, enclosed within it.

Trusting that I may be of some assistance at some future time, I am

Very sincerely Yours,

L. C. McGuire.

615-4 Ellis Ave.,
Chicago.

Lexington, Ky. May 4, 1909.

Mrs. Kate H. Biggers,

Marlow, Oklo.

My dear Mrs. Biggers,

I am sorry to hear by your letter that you are not well. I trust this will find you much improved. I am glad to hear that the work for getting the petitions is going on so well. I understand that the petitions must be handed in by the twelfth of June so that you will not have to be long in suspense as to whether you succeed in getting them or not. I trust that you will let me know very promptly the result because if you succeed in getting them I shall to all I can to induce the National to help in the insuing campaign. The official train will leave Chicago on June the 25th. I would like to have full information before I leave home. I would advise also that you write full particulars to Reverend Anna Howard Shaw as soon as you know them. You had better not leave either of these letters to anyone else to write as you never can know whether they are written or not unless you do it yourself. While it may not be necessary to write before the canvass is completed, yet I am so much interested that I will take it as a favor if you will write me from time to time what progress you are making.

I am,

Very cordially yours,

Dict.

Lexington, Ky. May 4, 1909.

Dear Member of the Executive Committee,

The time for the National Convention at Seattle is so near that we ought to know who of the elected delegates from Kentucky are going and if possible also what visitors are going. The special official train will leave Chicago on June 25th at six twenty P. M., Burlington Route. I sent folders a few days ago containing full details to each one of the elected delegates and alternates. You will find the complete list on page six of our Kentucky annual report. I would be glad if those who intend to go would let me know as soon as they have made their decision. If any delegates have decided not to go I ought to be notified so that I may inform the alternates.

You will all be interested in the work of Miss Penfield in this state. After leaving Covington and Newport, where her work was quite successful, Miss Penfield came to Lexington and spent eleven days here as a center. She spoke very successfully before a meeting of the Equal Rights Association, a public meeting at Curry Hall and before the students at the State University, Transylvania University, the Bible College, Sayre College, Hamilton College, and Campbell Hagerman College. She visited Georgetown and spoke before the college there. She visited Nicholasville twice adding a number of members on the Enrolled Cards each time; making the Jessamine Equal Rights Association number eighteen with some of the old members still to hear from. I believe this Association will feel en-

couraged and permanent hereafter. Her visit to Versailles, where a parlor meeting was held at the residence of Mrs. Henrietta Chenault, resulted in securing six signers to the Enrollment Cards. At present there will be members of the Fayette Equal Rights Association, though I hope at some time to organize them into the Woodford Equal Rights Association. In Paris Mrs. William Myall kindly openad her parlor for a parlor meeting, about twenty ladies assembling and five ladies signed the Card. I hope this will prove a nucleus for a future Bourbon Equal Rights Association. Miss Penfield went to Louisville from Lexington where she made a very favorable impression, but I have not the exact number of additions of membership that were secured. Mrs. Alice White writes that she gave perfect satisfaction. From Louisville she went to Richmond and made a number of addresses at different points in the county including Berea. Mrs. Bennett thinks that she added in the neighborhood of seventy-five members on the Enrollment Cards. From thence she went to Ashland from which point I have not yet received an account. Her visit proves very conclusively that our people are ready to hear the gospel of equal rights; and our system of enrolling members given every sign of proving a very successful way of organizing our f friends so that their political efficiency may be possible. Our last official report to the National was five hundred and eighty five members. I beleive it is not too much to hope that this number may be doubled or even trebled before next January. Let us all work together with this hope and a determination to do our best.

The National has decided to wait until next December before presenting the Big Petition to Congress. This will give us ample time to push our work in getting signatures. The National lays very great stress on this Petition and I hope that Kentucky will do its fair share in rolling up signatures.

[May 4, 1909]

3.

I regret to say that on account of overwork in connection with her literary undertakings Mrs. Obenchain has felt compelled to resign her position as Press Chairman for a time. She hopes to be able to resume it in the future. I have her list of newspapers, but I do not see how it will be possible for me to do even a portion of the work which she has carried on to such great credit to our state. The marked success of Miss Penfield's tour in this part of our state, and the need of constant work in the newspaper field, makes me realize more and more our need of a field secretary. Miss Penfield as you knew is not long graduated from college and it seems to me we might be able to find some young woman unhampered by home cares who might take this sort of a place for permanent employment. We must not cease our search for a suitable person. Perhaps I should mention that after the further arrangement of Miss Penfield's route was placed in my hands I concluded that it would be too expensive to send her to western Kentucky, as only two places, Madisonville and Hickman, had indicated to Mrs. Roebuck that they wished her to come. I felt that I could better employ her time in the towns near Lexington. I very earnestly desire, however, that we should do at least a month's work in western Kentucky. It is almost like working in another state, the distances are so great. Please bear this thought in mind and make any suggestions that may occur to you. According to instructions at our last convention I have quite recently written to Mrs. Lucy A. Nield inquiring if it would be possible for her to give some of her time to our state work. I have not had time yet to receive an answer from her. I did not write before I went to Arizona because I learned she had gone to Chicago on a visit to her daughter, and therefore my letter was written quite lately.

Very Sincerely yours,

Dict.

Lexington, Ky. May 4, 1909.

Miss Caroline R. Reilly,

Warren, Ohio.

Dear Miss Reilly,

I have received your letter of May 3rd, in the postscript of which you ask for a receipt for my convention expenses, amounting to $27.00; and that I should itemize the account when sending receipted bill. Please refer to my letter of January 9th, 1909, addressed to Miss Minnie Hauser. You will see there that my expense account and some other money from a balance from a fifty dollar New York draft I asked to be put to certain pledges which I had made. I suppose the reason I sent no receipt was that there was no statement sent to me that these amounts had been credited as I requested. The items of my expenses are as follows:

Ticket to Buffalo from Richmond, Kentucky----------$12.95

Ticket from Buffalo to Lexington, Kentucky----------$11.95

Ticket from Lexington back to Richmond----------$1.00

Part payment for baggage and bus----------$1.10

Total----------$27.00.

I should receive credits as specified in the letter of January 9th, which have not yet been sent me. Make out the receipt, as you wish me to sign, together with the credits.

Very cordially yours,

Dict.

[May 5, 1909]

(COPY)

April 29th, '09.

Dear Mrs. Avery,

Thank you for your letter of the 25th. It finds me in the whirl of leaving for a University Extension trip through California. I go next week, and I am snowed under with my year's records which I must get in before I leave. I shall be busy all the way out, on my lectures.

I prize more than I can say Dr. Anna Shaw's confidence in my suffrage efforts, and, if you will make this request of me at some future date, I shall try to meet it. But I dare not take another feather's weight of work upon me this spring.

With all good wishes,

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) Frances Squire Potter

Kentucky Equal Rights Association

*"If Ye Abide in My Word *** Ye Shall Know the Truth, and the Truth Shall Make You Free."*

President, Miss Laura Clay, 189 N. Mill St., Lexington.
First Vice President, Mrs. Mary B. Clay, Richmond.
Second Vice President, Mrs. Mary C. Cramer, Lexington.
Third Vice President, Mrs. N. S. McLaughlin, Covington.

Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Mary C. Roark, Richmond
Recording Secretary, Mrs. Emma M. Roebuck, 112 W. Front St., Newport.
Treasurer, Mrs. Isabella H. Shepard, 31 E. Twelfth St., Covington.

938 No. 63d Street,
Philadelphia, Pa.
May 5, 1909.

Miss Laura Clay,
Lexington, Ky.

My dear Miss Laura:-

This is really the first time since Ashland that there has been time and place together in which to get off a good report of work to you. It will be of course unnecessary to go into details of work in Richmond as you have talked with Mrs. Bennett and Mrs. Clay there. On the whole I am pleased with what was accomplished, but, as with much of the work in Lexington, it is not possible to give accurate results. The evening of my arrival was the parlor meeting at Mrs. Clay's which led to an extra hearing before the girls of the Normal school. The teachers present at that meeting appeared to be especially interested, and they will probably talk among the girls.

(must go to meet my "advisor".)

The next night was the public meeting at the court-house. The audience was nearly half men, most of them rather young. Only about half a dozen enrolled. It was impossible to tell much about the effect of a public meeting, you know more than I about it, as you were there later.

In my opinion, the best work was that done at the schools, especially the Normal. Mrs. Bennett, of course, told you of the excellent audience, and the good attention, also of the number of enrollments.

Friday, May 7.

You see how this report comes in instalments.

A great number of the students enrolled, and more will do so as Mrs. Bennett was asked for more cards. The second talk at the Normal was on white slavery, as the teachers felt that the girls ought to be warned. The more I see of conditions like those at Richmond the more impressed I am with the necessity of having practical issues to present that will bring out the strength of woman's power for good

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2

Kentucky Equal Rights Association

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and the need of it.

The trip to Berea was ~~wa~~ not only a great pleasure but was profitable. A large number of students enrolled, and Mrs. Bennett arranged for a local treasurer. Mrs. Frost said that the students had never heard this subject before, so we were sowing seed in new places; and I think with real effect. Mrs. Frost considers that the mountain people need much training and enlightening yet before they are ready for this thing. They are still in the days of 100 years ago in many respects and of course the world was not ready then.

At Ashland I found divided ranks. The only workers are those already in office, and many whom Mrs White is anxious to influence are opposed to the present officers and won't come in under them, while they are determined to stay in to the constitutional limit of two years.

Miss White hoped that I would see the way clear to call an election and reorganize with others as leaders. That might have been possible if our meetings had been largely attended, but it was the week of the floods and bad weather, few came out, most of those were members, and so we did not get the ones most desired who would have made the change possible. Even then however I felt that with the present feeling among those who have done the work so far and were in office that it would be unwise, new officers might be no more able and these would be alienated. The regular yearly election had not been held, and Miss White's idea was for me to call this altho part time, and arrange matters then.

The president is a very poor presiding officer, a W.C.T.U. woman, not a leader in the town; another officer has raised enemies by trouble in the King's Daughters. But all are good suffragists and have accomplished much with the petitions. There is a tendency to bring all factional ~~bob~~ trouble in other organizations into the Suffrage association. I

[May 5, 1909]

Kentucky Equal Rights Association

*"If Ye Abide in My Word *** Ye Shall Know the Truth, and the Truth Shall Make You Free."*

felt that interference just now would aggravate that tendency, and advised Miss White to circulate enrollment cards in connection with the petitions and enlarge membership as a party as much as possible, thus broadening the lines and the people's conceptions of the association beyond their little divisions in other interests; just to let these officers hold over without talk of election so as to drop out of sight the present feelings; and at the end of their second term, which is the last consecutive term possible under their constitution, to arrange a public meeting with a speaker who will draw their entire membership, and after the address hold the election. They want to hold meetings so I also advised the same as at Louisville, as such lectures would appeal to all, and some no partizan feelings about refusing to work with this person or that. What they will do remains to be seen.

One meeting, at night, was held in Oakview in the M. E. church. The

night was threatening, there was a misunderstanding in the hour, ~~so~~ owing to the difference between fast and slow time, and the older people who came had most of them gone when we arrived. There were about twenty-five however, mostly young people, and all were mucl interested. We got no enrollments, and could not of course organize a branch there. This was Wednesday, the day of my arrival.

Thursday night we went down to Catletsburg where the local suffragists had arranged for the ~~Presbyterian~~ M.E. church. Again it rained a little and we were greeted by a small audience. About 6 or 8 enrolled. I was surprised and disappointed that none of the local members or officers were present, so we could not talk over the organization, and after the meeting it was too late to look them up. I was especially sorry for this remembering what you had said and would have gone over the next day but for an appointment at the high school in the morning, and the stormy weather all day. Catletsburg will have to be left to the

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Kentucky Equal Rights Association

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Ashland club to look after. Miss White plans to try to stimulate the local there to new life, she is going to prepare an address on her return from the Peace Conference and give it there and in other places where she hopes to organize.

Friday morning we went to the high school where I spoke for fifteen minutes to the usual closely attentive audience. Miss White places more value on this hearing than any as the young people will carry the discussion home.

That night was the meeting in Ashland at the Presbyterian church. As I have said, the weather all day was very bad indeed, but about thirty came out, most of them already members, and we got 11 enrollments. Ten were new names, and one was desirable as the return into the association of a young woman who had dropped out. Two men joined. This would have been the time for the election, but for

the reasons already given we did not hold it.

There are a number of local issues at Ashland in the way of sanitation and others that could be well used to demonstrate suffrage, but for this year at least it would be unwise. The club has not the proper leader in the president - Mrs Russell I believe the name is - and because of the factions any real work would be impossible. The best that can be done there at present is to push the petition and enrollments. Another year they can get a more representative and capable president and push on more definitely. I do not think that Miss White would make a good president, splendid as she is, and she, I believe feels the same, and would refuse it if offered.

Saturday noon Miss White left for Chicago and I went to Grayson where Miss White had arranged for a meeting, and for my entertainment by Mrs. Frank Powers, county president of the W. C. T. U. My two days there were strenuous but very pleasant. The public meeting was Saturday night at the court-house. A fair audience

[May 5, 1909]

Kentucky Equal Rights Association

*"If Ye Abide in My Word *** Ye Shall Know the Truth, and the Truth Shall Make You Free."*

was present, many young people, and listened attentively for over an hour. It was the first time the subject had ever been presented there at all, nobody had ever heard of it except as something dreadful, nor ever seen an active suffragist. No woman had ever spoken before in their new court house. Enclosed is a list of the enrollments; I had forgotten and left all my cards in Ashland. (Miss White will send the cards from there.) Mrs. Powers will act as president, get others who were wavering that night, call a meeting and organize.

Sunday I went to five services, Sunday School, Junior + Senior Epworth League, and church morning and evening. At the first three I was called on to speak and did very briefly. At Sunday school on the modern application of the lesson; at Junior League about Texas children and our little league; and at the Senior League on methods of

work. Nothing of suffrage. Mrs. Powers was anxious to have all this done to remove any prejudice and mis-taken ideas about what suffrage women are like. That I was a Sunday school teacher and district office of the Epworth League at home was a great recommendation.

Monday morning we went to the school where some advanced and normal work was being done, and I spoke rather at length. The principal did not believe because he had seen dirty politics in Denver, and it was all new to the students; so I went into the subject rather analytically and carefully as well as practically.

Mrs. Powers seemed pleased with what we accomplished. (She was Miss Julia Sansdorne.) She wanted me to say that she only took in a suffragist to please you and Miss White, but she did her best to open all doors to me and get hearings; now she hopes that I will come again. She did do splendid work, and the success is largely due to the openings she made and the advertising, etc. that she did. They will receive the next suffragist

[May 5, 1909]

Kentucky Equal Rights Association

*"If Ye Abide in My Word *** Ye Shall Know the Truth, and the Truth Shall Make You Free."*

there very well and give a good hearing. The start is made in Grayson, but my visit was really breaking new ground.

Monday I left for Philadelphia and reached here Tuesday morning, being met at the station by Mrs. Emery and my present hostess, Mrs. Otis K. Newell. I have not really begun work yet, the first meeting is tonight, and so can not tell anything about it. Yesterday I went to listen to a debate in the city council on the increased street-car fare, and saw them calmly turn down the petitions of citizens in the form of resolutions presented by different council-men. It was a very interesting object lesson in practical politics, even I could see the corporation wires.

I would write more but this is already lengthy and the National report is yet to go.

Address me, please, until June 20th care of Mrs. Avery, Swarthmore, Pa.

My Kentucky work was very pleasant, it has been excellent training for me, and aside from the suffrage point of view was full of good things for which I have you largely to thank. I sincerely hope that we may again be associated in the work, you have helped me many ways in getting points of view, methods, and other things, and I value the personal acquaintance and association very much.

Please remember me to Miss Neville and others.

With love and respect

Perle Penfield.

[May 5, 1909]

Financial Report.

Credit.

Apr. 3	Newport	1.25
" 6	Covington	1.25
" 6	Mrs. Giltner	.25
" 18	Fayette	5.
" 21	Louisville	2.25
" 26	Richmond	1.95
May 1	Ashland	5.
		16.95
		16.35
	Surplus	.60

Richmond should have given more money, but I told Mrs. Bennett to pay over $3.00 ~~31.00~~ to you which would square ~~any~~ account with Fayette and Richmond with me.

Miss White ~~also~~ gave $5.00 and said not to return any but apply it on expenses to Philadelphia and on.

Mrs. Giltner's .25 also was extra.

Financial Report [May 5, 1909]

Debit.

Apr. 6.	To Lexington R.R. fare		2.35
" 19	Expenses to Louisville		3.15
	bag & bus	.50	
	ticket {round trip}	2.65	
" 20	To Richmond		1.50
	ticket Lex.-Rich	1.00	
	bag. & bus	.50	
" 27	To Ashland		4.35
	ticket	3.85	
	bag & bus	50	
May 1-3	Grayson expenses		2.60
	rail-road fares	1.80	
	baggage	.55	
	porter	.25	
May 4.	Philadelphia-train		2.40
	baggage	50	
	meals	1.90	
			16.35

Swarthmore, Pa., May 5, 1909.

Dear Member of the Business Committee:-

During the last few months I have been thinking a good deal in regard to the Headquarters and its work. I know that the work there is conscientiously and well done and that it is work which is needed for the ~~propagation~~ propagation of sentiment to help sustain the organized work.

I am, however, convinced that our cause has grown within the last few years to a point where it is unfair to the organization representing it, to keep our National Headquarters any longer in a small town, comparatively unknown . I have finally reached the conclusion that the time has come when the organization must make plans for its Headquarters in either New York City or Washington.

When I took the active part which I did in ~~the~~ opening the Headquarters at Washington, my activity was due to two causes: The first was my belief that we ought to materialize the plan suggested by Rev. Anna Garlin Spencer to the General Officers at Buffalo. My second reason which made me more active in the matter than I should otherwise have been, was the fact that I had come to believe through the receipt of various letters from Mrs. Upton, that she felt that the time was approaching when she would wish to be relieved of the Headquarters work. After the Washington Headquarters had been opened, the first of January, I spent a day at Warren about the end of January and then I found that Mrs. Upton's reason for writing the letters in question had been that she felt that her work was not appreciated by the officers of the National Association and that she was discouraged in it on ~~that~~ this account. She also felt that the officers, themselves, were desirous of making a change which would take the work out of her hands. My own action in the matter had been dictated by the two reasons given above. At that time I felt that as long as Mrs. Upton desired to have charge of Headquarters work, I was entirely satisfied to have it in her hands and I so assured her, although I felt that ~~I~~ ~~that~~ I had, myself, been placed in a difficult position because I had acted in good faith upon the belief inspired by her own letters to me. After my visit to Warren I no longer expected the business of the Association to be gradually transferred to Washington, to which I had looked forward when I was so active in securing the Washington office.

Since the newly aroused sentiment and activity in suffrage circles in New York City and the beginning of the same kind of activity among a corresponding set of people in Philadelphia, I have become convinced that we are losing a great deal of the effect which we could secure from National Headquarters were they in either New York City or the National Capital, and I am about convinced that New York is the better place of the two.

I might not have come to an open expression of my conviction at this time, had it not been for the receipt of Miss Gordon's announcement of her desire not to run again for Corresponding Secretary. When we are making so important a change in the

[May 5, 1909]

personnel of our National Board as is involved in the election of a new Corresponding Secretary, it seems to me the best time to consider frankly and fully the whole interests of the organization. If in selecting a new Corresponding Secretary we are to have in mind a woman who can be at the National Headquarters, unless we are willing to look forward to other changes in this office in the near future, we must either find a woman who is free to move with the work, or we must consider that the work of the Headquarters is still to be stationed at Warren and find a woman who can be at Warren, or we must face the whole question involved in moving the Headquarters to a large city.

My own desire would be that if such a change were to be made, Mrs. Upton should remain the Treasurer of the Association.

I do not overlook the fact that we have in Elizabeth Hauser a very valuable Headquarters' worker and I doubt very much whether she would consent to follow the work when it involved leaving her own home. If Miss Hauser would consent to go to New York should it be decided that the Headquarters should go there, she would be my own nominee for Corresponding Secretary.

On May 3d, I received from Frances Squire Potter the enclosed letter in re the Call. I immediately telegraphed Miss Gordon to ask Dorothy Dix to write it since Miss Gordon had suggested that before she received my letter in regard to asking Prof. Potter to write it.

A letter and vote is just here from Mrs. Kelley, written ~~fxm~~ at Minneapolis. She says she has been spending a little time there with Prof. Potter and considers her a "great acquisition to our cause". Mrs. Kelley says also the interest in woman suffrage in Minneapolis is a burning one.

Cordially yours,

Encl.

Rachel Foster Avery

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.

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
Warren, Ohio

Recording Secretary, Alice Stone Blackwell, 6 Beacon Street, Boston, Mass.
Treasurer, Harriet Taylor Upton, Warren, Ohio.
Auditors: Laura Clay, 189 N. Mill St., Lexington, Ky.; Ella S. Stewart, 5464 Jefferson Ave., Chicago, Ill.

May 6/1909

Miss Laura Clay

Lexington Kentucky

My dear Miss Clay:-

We this morning received the enclosed letter from Mrs. Stewart, which explains itself. When you and she have decided what you wish to do in this matter, kindly let us know, that we may act according to your plans. Having lived in Chicago all my life, I feel safe in saying you could not help enjoying yourself there, especially now when the suffragists are so active.

I have referred your statement to Miss Minnie Hauser, and enclose receipt for your signature.

Sincerely

Caroline S Reilly

[May 6, 1909]

TRAINING SCHOOL FOR TEACHERS
LOWELL, MASSACHUSETTS

GERTRUDE EDMUND, PRINCIPAL

May 6. 1

Miss Laura Clay.
Lexington. Kentucky.

Dear Miss Clay:— I sent Miss Blackmer a few lines regarding the Lowell Tr. School. Our school is a city institution, and we train and appoint teachers for the city schools. The position of principal carries with it great responsibility, as no teacher can get into the day grammar & primary schools

[May 6, 1909]

2

TRAINING SCHOOL FOR TEACHERS

LOWELL, MASSACHUSETTS

GERTRUDE EDMUND, PRINCIPAL

1

who is not a graduate of the Tr. S.

We give a Competitive ex. to College and Normal School graduates, take the highest on the list, and if we graduate those who enter school they are entitled to permanent places in the primary, grammar, and high schools. We make these lists, primary, grammar and high, and send teachers out to substitute in order of rank.

The area System takes the appointment of teachers out of politics and gives the responsibility to the Tr. School.

[May 6, 1909]

3.

TRAINING SCHOOL FOR TEACHERS

LOWELL, MASSACHUSETTS

GERTRUDE EDMUND, PRINCIPAL

1

Our standard of admission and graduation is as high as that of any City System in the Country.

I have been one of the instructors in the N. Y. Univ. Summer School. Column I have been a lecturer for two years.

Miss Johnston is the principal of the Brooklyn (N. Y.) City Training School, She gets a salary of $3000. She trains the teachers for the Brooklyn Schools.

[May 6, 1909]

TRAINING SCHOOL FOR TEACHERS

LOWELL, MASSACHUSETTS

GERTRUDE EDMUND, PRINCIPAL

1

I have long had great respect and admiration for you. I was born an equal suffragist, and have done my best to educate people to believe in a real democracy.

Cordially yours,

Gertrude Edmund.

Lexington, Ky.

May 6th, 1909.

Dear Mrs. Avery,

I have just received your letter of May 3rd, with enclosures. I think you are technically right in insisting upon the proposition of Miss Shaw's, about the expenses of Mrs. Pettigrew; and if every thing were going smoothly I would not even suggest a modification. But I feel it is so essential to sacrifice much for harmony that I suggest that Mrs. Stewart's advice be asked and followed as to whether we shall or shall not allow for Mrs. Pettigrew's expenses. She and Miss Gregg both seem to have the same erroneous impression; and perhaps this friction between the two factions may make it harder to collect expenses the first months. You have made it so clear that our present action cannot bind longer than July 1st that I think there is little danger of guaranteeing expenses till that time. At the Convention, we should be sure to see that all the terms are correctly understood by all parties before action is begun.

I am deeply interested in Gov. Vessey's letter. I trust Mrs. Stewart may be able to see Mr. Hanton, of Watertown.

I note Gov. Vessey's hint that he does not think that the National's furnishing part of the money should entitle it to direct the campaign. I believe we should be very cautious about any appearance of interfering on that ground; or we shall raise such an opposition as the money will not counterbalance.

Cordially yours,

Do

I vote to leave the decision of this with Mrs. Stewart. There are local features which she will be in a position to weigh better than I/

I should not be afraid to vote to guarantee them till July Ist.

Yes; till July only.

May 7, 1909

Dear Miss Clay:

I think Mrs. Bolles is doing good work in New Mexico, and that it was quite worth while to get her started.

I inclose some clippings which I cut out of a New Mexico paper.

Mrs. Stewart was here yesterday. I was so glad that she came. I do hope she will be able to get the women together, and I really think she will. There seems a very good chance in this State

if we can only get the work put in some way or other.

I had an interview with a Mr. Meyer in Aberdeen last week in which he gave me some new and valuable ideas about getting the men into the work.

He is an experienced campaigner, is a clean popular man, and he offered to donate some time to the campaign. He is well-to-do, and will give his time and pay his expenses. He

May 7, 1909

thinks we shall be able to get a lot of men to do the same.

I think too the club women will become interested if they can only be assured that they are not to be dominated by the W.C.T.U.

But unless the National can give enough financial aid to back all the South Dakota women who are capable and willing to go into the field, I think they ought to take me out. There certainly must have been a misunderstanding between Miss Shaw and the State

 May 7, 1900

officers for she wired me, when I sent her Mrs. Dickler's telegram that all the other officers had requested my coming.

Now, so far as I can learn half of the officers were not consulted and knew nothing whatever about it, and I think this has been one of the causes of the deadlock.

I have said to Miss Shaw and to Mrs. Stewart that I thought I ought to be withdrawn, and I think if Mrs. Powell were put into the field instead it might make better feeling all round.

May 7, 1909

I am coming to believe that the women of each state will have to work out their own salvation, and I believe we make a mistake to try to make them conform to a set policy. They undoubtedly will blunder, but so do we.

I do hope some brilliant musical mind will evolve some campaign songs that are worth while.

Most Cordially,

Laura Gregg

312 S. Spring Ave
Sioux Falls. SD
May 7, '09.

Swarthmore, Pa., May 8, 1909.

Dear Member of the Official Board:-

I enclose you herewith the result of the vote sent out April 20th.

I enclose also a copy of the letter which I am sending to-day to all the South Dakota women who have joined in forming the proposed new association, and Miss Gregg.

I am also sending this budget to Mrs. Stewart in duplicate, so it will be sure to reach her some place.

Of the six votes cast there is a clear majority on one line on each question, but, of course, four votes is not an actual majority of the Official Board. In the absence, however, of the President and the impossibility of hearing from her, I suppose I should consider that four would compose the required majority.

Cordially yours,

T. L. Avery.

Encl.

International Woman Suffrage Alliance

President, Carrie Chapman Catt, 2 West 86th Street, New York, U. S. A.
1st Vice-President, Dr. jur. Anita Augspurg, Paul Strasse 25, Hamburg, Germany.
2nd Vice-President, Millicent Fawcett, 2 Gower St., London, England.
Secretary, Rachel Foster Avery, Swarthmore, Pa., U. S. A.

1st Assistant Secretary, Dr. Kathe Schirmacher, 53 Rue Notre Dame des Champs, Paris.
2nd Assistant Secretary, Martina Kramers, Kruiskade 92, Rotterdam, Holland.
Treasurer, Miss Rodger Cunliffe,
45 Albert Palace Mansions, Battersea Park, London, England.

Swarthmore, Pa., U. S. A.

.....

[May 8, 1909]

Result of vote sent out from Acting-President's Office April 20th, 1909.

-o-

1. Do you believe the General Officers are empowered to give an opinion as to whether the N.A.W.S.A. can finance during the coming campaign in South Dakota, the newly organized South Dakota Political Equality Association?

No -- Avery, Gordon, Blackwell, Clay
Yes -- Upton
Kelley --Not longer than until the Seattle Convention. After that everything will go as that Convention decides.
Stewart -- Not heard from.

2. Do you vote to give an assurance to the South Dakota Political Equality Association that the N.A.W.S.A. approves of the formation of this Association, in view of the impossibility of working with the other officers of the South Dakota Equal Suffrage Association?

No -- Avery, Gordon, Blackwell, Clay
Yes -- Upton
Kelley -- Not until we hear from Mrs. Stewart.
Stewart -- Not heard from.

3. Do you vote for the appropriation of twenty-five dollars per month on the expenses of Mrs. Johnson (President of the Federation of Clubs) in addition to the salary of seventy-five dollars per month already appropriated to her?

Yes -- Avery, Kelley, Upton, Clay
No -- Gordon
Blackwell -- Not voting
Stewart -- Not heard from.

(COPY)

Swarthmore, Pa., May 8th, 1909.

Dear Friend:-

I am in receipt of returns upon the vote sent out sometime ago by me on three points.

The first question was "Do you believe the General Officers are empowered to give an opinion as to whether the N.A.W.S.A. can finance during the coming campaign in South Dakota, the newly organized South Dakota Political Equality Association?", on which a majority of the Board voted no. I think this vote was due to the fact that we all feel that it is not within the power of the present Official Board to decide such an important question of polity beyond the date of the Seattle Convention, when it must come before the body of which we are simply the business representatives up to the time of the election.

The second question was "Do you vote to give an assurance to the South Dakota Political Equality Association that the N.A.W.S.A. approves of the formation of this association, in view of the impossibility of working with the other officers of the South Dakota Equal Suffrage Association?" On this, also, a majority of the Board voted no.

The third question was "Do you vote for the appropriation of twenty-five dollars per month on the expenses of Mrs. Johnson (President of the Federation of Clubs) in addition to the salary of seventy-five dollars per month already appropriated to her?" On this a majority of the Board voted yes, but with the understanding that this vote carries only up to the date of the Seattle Convention.

Of course, the votes on the first two questions involved are subject to the possibility of reconsideration after receiving Mrs. Stewart's report.

Personally, I realize all the difficulties that are facing you who, in South Dakota, hold to suffrage first, and as a principle. At the same time I must beg you to realize that in the consideration of this whole matter the National Officers must have in mind not only the present work in South Dakota but the best good of the cause throughout the nation, and must ask you to believe that their vote on your question is given conscientiously and with a deep desire to do justice to all parties.

I await with eager interest Mrs. Stewart's report on the situation in your state, and remain

Yours hopefully,

(Signed) Rachel Foster Avery.

National American Woman Suffrage Association

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

Lexington, Ky. May 8, 1909.

Dear Member of the Business Committee,

I am in receipt of Mrs. Avery's circular letter of May the 5th in regard to the possible moving of the National headquarters. Her letter indicates that it is time for us all to consider this question.

While I do not regard removing the headquarters as so desirable as some of the Board do, yet I am willing to admit the force of the arguments for taking them to a city. My choice would be to Washington. All those reasons which have made perhaps one half of our association desire to have our convention meet every second year in Washington point to the desirability of locating headquarters in Washington. The plan suggested by Reverend Anna Garland Spencer at Buffalo involves as a necessary part that the headquarters should be in Washington. My own experience while in Arizona proves that we need some center of influence there, not only in campaigns in territories, but it will undoubtedly be useful also in campaigns in states. There is no state association so distant and so small but what has its own center for influence in its Congressmen and Senators and their families in Washington, which each state can reach for itself in a manner which no other state can. It is not necessay, I suppose, for me to dwell upon what seems to me the logical propriety of Washington. But I feel impelled to mention thus early in the debate some objections to going to New York which appeal strongly to me. I remember hearing Mrs. Catt say, speaking of the suffrage campaign in Colorado, that while

[May 8, 1909]

the suffrage association there was small suffrage sentiment had permeated other state organizations so that the state was prepared for the favorable vote which it gave. This seems to be the necessary ideal for our National work. We must make the National Association a means for co-ordinating all the forces which lead to suffrage, and must do this in a National manner, without any undue influence from any one section or from any one class of political influences. Washington would place us in touch with all sections of the country, and would be as it were on neutral ground. On the other hand, after giving all due weight to the strength of the movement in New York, to its wealth and its influence, yet New York would represent distinctly one section of the country and one in many respects removed in its political and business interests from large portions of our country. Now ~~in putting headquarters in New York~~, unless we had the idea of placing the National in close touch and at the head of that very striking new movement in suffrage circles to which Mrs. Avery alludes by putting Headquarters in New York, I see no reason why that city should be considered as a possibility in this matter. So far from regarding it as an advantage to attempt to come into contact with this new movement in one section, however important, I consider it as a thing that ought to be avoided rather than sought. It seems inevitable that if our headquarters were placed in New York that the suffrage associations in the city and in the state, by their close proximity would have a material influence in directing the lines of work of the headquarters; and ~~I do not see how it could easily~~ it might be difficult to avoid their influencing the tone of thought which would mark the press articles and letters which would go forth from headquarters. Any such tendency, I need not remind you, would have a repellant effect upon all other sections whose interests, political and business, did not coincide with those of New York. Instead of nationalizing our work it would have a tendency to sectionalize it. New paragraph Again, I would consider it an unfortunate move, because we know that the strong

[May 8, 1909]

ferment in suffrage circles in New York has made more or less division among them; and has led to some experimental efforts among them for which I think the National should hold itself neutral. I believe that every state should be left free to follow out the bent of the leadership of its own people; and that the National should be in a position impartially to choose those lines which have been proved successful. Moreover, I do not know how it has impressed the rest of you, but, it seems to me that neither the suffragists in New York City nor those in the state have indicated any desire to be led by the National, either through the Board or through the Convention. On the contrary it has occured to me that they desire, and furthermore intend, to carry out their own projects in their own way. They feel the strength of their numbers, their talents, their opportunities and their wealth. They feel eager for action and are in no mood for being either restrained or guided by any outside influence. The National has been benefited too largely by their generosity in money matters and their loyalty in help of other sorts to disregard the fact that they desire the largest liberty in their own state affairs. We all know, too, that this same strong spirit of acitvity is pervading many of the states, and in most if not all of them, this spirit for independent action unrestrained by outside influence is marked. Par. In short, If we move headquarters at all I believe we should go to the National Capitol, to put ourselves in touch with political influences which center there, and to avail ourselves of the political influence which every state association possesses more or less.

In the second place, I think we ought to avoid going to a city where the sectional influence is so strong that it would be difficult for our National work to keep clear of it entirely, and where there would be constant temptation for the National to take part with one or the other of the factions that arise from time to time, or to make an effort in some way to

[May 8, 1909]

4.

guide the state policies.

Though there were some other points connected with the headquarters which Mrs. Avery touched upon, ~~but~~ as they depend somewhat on whether or not the headquarters shall be moved, I do not discuss them now. I will merely say that I think it is so undesirable to go to New York that rather than make such a move I would be altogether in favor of leaving the headqurarters at Warren.

Very cordially yours,

Dict.

Lexington, Ky., May 8, 1909.

Miss Caroline I. Reilly,

Warren, Ohio.

Dear Miss Reilly,

Your letter of May 6th with enclosures is at hand. I return the receipt you asked for. I observe that you have credited $32.00 to apply on the Kentucky pledge of $100.00 made in Buffalo. I had expected $30.00 of this to go to Oklahoma expenses as I had told Mrs. Upton that I would pay $30.00 a month for two months towards any excess over $60.00 a month for Oklahoma expenses. Mrs. Upton may have thought that the second payment for the excess over $60.00 was not needed. If this is the case it is all right to apply the $30.00 on the Kentucky pledge. You can ask her about it and if the second payment of $30.00 is required I will send that amount for that purpose as in the credit sent me you have applied it on the Kentucky pledge.

I return Mrs. Sterart's letter. If we could have looked over the books together immediately before starting to Seattle probably I could have managed to accept her very agreeable invitation and gone to Chicago a few days before June 25th. But as she starts so much earlier than the rest of the official party it would require my return home after auditing the books. Therefore this plan is impracticable. As this year is Mrs. Stewart's first year for auditing the books, and she probably would like to have time to get thoroughly acquainted with them, I suggest that the books be sent to her in Chicago before she leaves

and that she go over them. She can then leave them to be brought on in the official train and I will look over them on the train, or they can be sent to Seattle by express and we there can find opportunity to go over them together. If this does not suit Mrs. Stewart I think the books ought to be sent to me so I can have time to go over them and in Seattle we will look over them together. I make these suggestions because I know by experience that the labor is altogether too long to be squeezed in during the time we are at the convention. I shall be satisfied with either arrangement, but I would prefer them to be sent to Mrs. Stewart as they would thereby be on their way to Seattle, and if she chooses she can get Mrs. McCollough to aid her. Please inquire her wishes as soon as possible, for if the books are coming to me I wish them to be sent pretty promptly. I return her letter.

Very cordially yours,

Dict.
Encl.(2)

P. S. Please let me know exactly what amounts have been ~~from myself~~ self and others to the Kentucky pledge made at Buffalo and if any payment has been made on my individual pledge. I want to have these pledges settled up before we go to Seattle.

[May 10, 1909]

(COPY)

Aberdeen, S. Dakota, May 7, 1909.

Dear Mrs. Avery--

I received your message and letter Tues. noon and left at 6 that evening. I was trying to dodge up here between appointments, and that was why I was anxious to get off early. I find now, though, that distances are so great and trains so seldom, also because it seemed best to see some more people, that I shall have to cancel my appointment at Chenoa, May 13-14, and I have done so. I cannot finish the route Miss Gregg and I planned and get to Chicago till next Friday.

I got to Sioux Falls Wednesday noon. Miss Gregg spent the afternoon and evening with me and told me all she knew. It wasn't much different from what she had written - more details - but the main situation was as I had gathered. She felt very strongly that I should talk with more people than the four intimately concerned, and I decided that since it cost so much to come to the state the additional expense getting around to see a few more and getting a broader view was worth doing.

We found that I could catch Mrs. Ramsey and Mrs. Fitch as they were returning from a convention at Hudson. I ran down to Canton, where they changed, and rode with Mrs. Ramsey an hour to the point where Mrs. Fitch and I left for Hurley.

Mrs. Ramsey is Pres. of W.C.T.U., and she is the typical old-type - narrow - evasive and bigoted W.C.T.U. woman. I could see that the W.C.T.U. is the sun, moon, stars and universe with her. The time was short so I couldn't waste much on preliminaries. I asked her some plain questions, which she hated to answer, but evasive as she tried to be I got from her her feeling that "the campaign should be managed by S. Dak. women", that "they didn't want a star campaign as they had had previously", that "the W.C.T.U. had done the suffrage work and had the machinery," etc. etc. So I gave her a plain but friendly talk on the necessity of harmony; that this could in no sense be a local state campaign; its influence would help or hurt all otherstate struggles, etc.-- then I warned her of the precedent their attitude would set for other states in the relation of the Franchise Dept. and the N.S.A. I told her I thought she would hardly want to start a strife between these two great sister organizations - each of which had its own specific work to do - and let her know gently that I thought it was a case of butting in. I asked her (when she said the W.C.T.U. had the machinery) if she thought the Nat'l W.C.T.U. would be willing to finance their campaign. She couldn't say she hoped so -- she evaded. I told her I felt sure they would think a long time before they (the Nat'l W.C.T.U.) would undertake the work of the N.A.W.S.A.

I outlined my plan of settling the difficulty, i.e. organizing a committee representing every state organization of women - such as we had in Chicago - and then getting a chairman who has not been a party in any way to any of this past history.

[May 10, 1909]

Our time was up then and I told her I thought I could see her again Wed. But I knew her type. If you stop to treat with such, they fancy you have run up a white flag and they are arrogant.

The Fitches are all right. He is extremely interested and both of them have splendid political ideas of how the campaign should be managed. They would be lots of help if they were not so desperately poor, and she with three little children. Their paper will help tho' in that locality.

I had a long visit with Sen. Andrews. He is a fine fellow. He is worried and rather disgusted over this tempest in a teapot, and says if the women don't get together and work- now that the legislature has voted the amendment - they had better not come around again soon asking for the submission. We thought the broad representative committee of management, with leading men on also, was just the thing and suggested the woman whom he thought best fitted, Mrs. Ida Curtis of Aberdeen. She is wife of a senator who voted for it, and he said was the most attractive woman he met at Pierre. Miss Gregg had also mentioned her and I had planned to come up to see her.

I have spent the afternoon with her and gone over the whole thing and got her consent to serve as head of such a committee if they should unite on her and ask her to. She is perfectly fine -- about my age, formerly a teacher, fine looking, well poised, well dressed, sympathetic, and practical. I am egotistical about being able to pick the right people (if there is any choice) and I don't expect to find her equal.

She has no children and lives with her sister, so she can give the time. She would not take it unless there was something provided to start the work of organizing this committee - getting the printing, etc. out - and I think would want some salary to cover extra expenses. I told her the Nat'l was paying $50. a month and expenses to some. She thought that would be ample. She is the most ardent suffragist.

Now, you see, I have something definite and good to propose to Mrs. Pickler when I see her Sunday, and if she really cares to heal the breach, and to see the work prosper, I don't see how she can refuse. Mrs. Curtis won't go into the campaign under W.C.T.U. domination.

Sen. Andrews and the Fitches are dead against Mrs. Jeffries. Sen. Andrews said all the men at legislature hated her, she makes herself so abnoxious. I will see her and the other Pierre women Monday and Tues. All that I have seen, including Miss Gregg, think Mrs. Pettigrew is not an ideal woman for chairman of campaign committee - that she is better at field work.

I have spent a lot of time with all I have seen, and will with the others, on methods - our Chicago and Ill. methods, etc. It seems to me if I can only enthuse them to get to work, that they will forget their troubles.

Mrs. Curtis took samples of all our documents and my little booklet for raising money and was much interested. We ought to get such a woman for state president up here,

[May 10, 1909]

a young, untired, active person who wouldn't take an office and lie down in it. I called on one editor here this aft. with Mrs. Curtis (an Ill. man who has just been here a month). He is with us. Will call on the other in the morning and Mrs. Curtis is going to bring some club women to call to-morrow. I leave at 4:30 to-morrow for Faulkton. Will keep you posted as well as I can, but I have little time for writing. I took the train at 2:45 this morning. Sat up with the Fitches till train time. There was sleeper ~~thru~~ tho' and I slept till 10:30. Got here at noon.

Yours lovingly,

(Signed) Ella S. Stewart

Forgot to say that Sen. Andrews, the Fitches and Mrs. Curtis think they cannot get along without the National and are thoroughly disgusted with W.C.T.U. attitude of independence.

Swarthmore, Pa.,
May 10, 1909.

Dear Member of the Official Board:-

When Miss Shaw left for Europe she directed me to invite Professor Potter of Minnisota University to write the Call. When I heard from Professor Potter that she could not undertake it, having in the meantime learned from Miss Gordon that she thought she could get Dorothy Dix to do it, I telegraphed Miss Gordon immediately to invite Mrs. Gilmer to write the Call for us. As Mrs. Gilmer was in New York it took a little time to do this, and on Saturday, May 8th, I received a telegram from Miss Gordon saying that Mrs. Gilmer could not undertake it.

In the course of this correspondence about the Call Miss Gordon suggested that we make use of Mrs. Dargan's poem, "The March of the Mothers." I agree with Miss Gordon that the poem itself is a Call and have, therefore, used part of it and added just enough prose to balance the verse.

In order that we may have no further delay, instead of sending the one copy of the Call to one of you and having you send it in a sort of round robin trip, I am sending a copy to each and will beg that you give it your immediate consideration and send your suggestions to me at the earliest date possible. If you will also authorize me to finish the work, using all the suggestions that I can, I think I can have the Call out in time to reach Warren before the 20th in time for the next Progress, and of course will send it also to all the woman suffrage papers and such liberal papers as I know to be friendly to our cause. I will also send copies at once to each of the state presidents for distribution.

Cordially yours,

Rachel Foster Avery.

Encl.

N. B. - I think you will rejoice with me that this mail brings me nothing from South Dakota. Of course we will soon hear from Mrs. Stewart as to the result of her observations there.

It seems to me it would be well to supplement the Call by a statement in regard to the Exposition rates of fare and the special car arrangements from Chicago. Would you put this in the body of the Call or as a postcript and, if so, would you give Lucy Anthony's address as Railroad Chairman? The only address I had thought of putting in was the Corresponding Secretary's.

Lexington, Ky. May 11, 1909.

Mrs. Frank Powers,

Grayson, Ky.

Dear Mrs. Powers,

In the last few days I have received a letter from Miss Perle Penfield in which she relates your very great kindness to her and earnestness in opening all the avenues possible for her to have a good hearing in Grayson. I feel that all this kindness was the same as if it was shown to me and I thank you for it.

I found Miss Penfield a very pleasent and instructive speaker and I was particularly glad to be able to send as an attractive a person to your part of the state. She tells me that her addresses were the first that were ever made publicly in Grayson. I am gratified that you will be the president of the Grayson Equal Rights Association. I shall be glad to do anything I can to assist you in the work of the office. Under another cover I am sending some literature and publications that may be useful to you. The principle work that the state association desires to be done is to increase the membership by the use of the Enrollment Membership Cards. Miss Penfield said that Miss Laura White would supply you with these.

The National Association, of which our State Association is an auxiliary, is now engaged in getting up a Big Petition to Congress for equal suffrage of which some copies were sent to you some time ago. In some places our associations are making the circulation of the Petition

a means of finding out who are equal suffragists by conviction, and afterwards they return to those persons and try to secure them as signers of the Enrollment Cards. This method may be helpful to you. I send you a copy of the last annual report of the state E. R. A. on page twenty one of which you will find the state constitution, from which you can formulate a simpler local constitution if you desire one. I trust that you will be present at our next state convention, to which you will observe we have been invited by the Covington Equal Rights Association to hold in that city. Please extend my greeting to the members of the new Grayson Equal Rights Association, and believe me

Very sincerely yours,

Dict.

Lexington, Ky. May 11, 1909.

Miss Perle Penfield,

Swarthmore, Pa.

My dear Miss Penfield,

I was very glad to get your interesting letter with a full account of your work in Richmond and Ashland, it has been very satisfactory throughout. I have looked over your financial report and as I understand it the different local associations each paid their quota of your traveling expenses and the surplus of sixty cents was donated to apply on on expenses in Pennsylvania, that is that Kentucky's obligations have been fully paid. If I am mistaken and Kentucky still owes anything please let me know and I will promptly attend to it.

Mrs. Bennett was very much pleased at the number of accessions that were made in Madison County. She thinks they number close to seventy-five. In addition to the names that you know of in Lexington I have also received twelve from Hamilton College, and Miss Miller of Sayre College sent in her name also. I shall be quite interested to hear how you come on in Pennsylvania, and what are the methods approved in that state and would like to know your opinion as to the efficiency of them as compared to what we are doing in Kentucky.

Warfield Crenshaw has been visiting in Richmond ever since you left. I stayed only a day or two or the trip in which I met you as I went over to attend a meeting of the county superintendents of eastern

2.

Kentucky.

No mail has come for you except a printed letter from the press department at Warren enclosing two little leaflets which I enclose. Please remember me to Mrs. Avery, and believe me

Very cordially yours,

Dict.
Encl.

Lexington Ky. May 11, 1909.

Miss Grace Edmund,

Training School for Teachers,

Lowell, Mass.

Dear Miss Edmund,

I was gratified to receive your letter of May 6th, and I thank you for the information sent in that and the letter to Miss Blackwell which she forwarded to me.

The friends of Mrs. Roark, the widow of President R. N. Roark of the Eastern Normal School of Kentucky, are deeply interested in having her succeed permanently to the position held by her deceased husband. She has been appointed to the place until the meeting of the Regents in July and it is the earnest wish of her friends that her position shall be permanent. I am glad to receive details of the similar positions held by other women as such precedents are useful in her case.

I had the pleasure of meeting Miss Kate Edmund in Phoenix, Arizona and she and I had many a congenial conversation on the subject of woman suffrage. I am glad to know that you are sound in that faith and are using your influence to forward the cause.

Very truly yours,

Dict.

Telephone 1791 Haymarket

Office of

The Woman's Journal

No. ~~3 Park Street, Room 16~~
6 Beacon St., Room 1018.

Boston, Mass., May 11 1909

Dear Miss Clay

Alice has shown me your opinion in regard to proposal to move the headquarters from Warren. It exactly expresses my own view of the matter. I should greatly regret a move to either New York or Philadelphia; - New York, not only for the excellent reasons you name, but because the whole spirit and surroundings would be against us. The accession of a few rich and fashionable women, however valuable and encouraging, will only excite jealousy and chill enthusiasm among the "common people" and labor unions from whose support alone we have any present hope of success.

I should not object to moving the headquarters to Washington, because that is the national centre of political activity. Miss Anthony's success in enlisting national cooperation was due largely to her advantage in making that city her headquarters. She never could have effected it with a headquarters elsewhere. While I do

not regard 16th Amendment work as practical, except as a mode of agitation, & am heartily in sympathy with State work as the only practical method of attaining our ends, I should like to hold our annual meeting there every other year in any case.

I do not think it was wise to select Seattle in the month of July, as the place and time for our annual meeting, because it imposes too heavy an expense on a majority of those who would otherwise be delegates & ought to be delegates, and because the fact of the Exposition is very much against us — we being only a side show, & the newspapers being full of exposition news & interests. However that is settled & it may help the Washington State campaign.

I hear with regret that Miss Gordon proposes to resign. I hope she can be persuaded not to do so. She need not take any personal part in 16th Amendment work, but in Washington she can meet Southern people and Congressmen & do much to promote the work in her own section.

Yours Truly, Henry B Blackwell

Lexington, Ky. May 11, 1909.

Mrs. S. A. Charles,

San Pedro, Cal.

My dear Mrs. Charles,

I am always so glad to hear form you as I do sometimes indirectly through other friends of yours. I have to thank you for two rolls of marked newspapers which have reached me at two different times. I have enjoyed the marked passages very much and I am very glad that you still keep me in your memory, for I often think of you and of all the good work you did in Lexington and Frankfort. I am enclosing one of the new editions of our Kentucky leaflet.

I suppose that you have heard that Professor R. N. Roark died about a month ago. Mrs. Roark's friends are trying to secure her appointment to be his successor as president of the Normal School. I consider her as thoroughly competent and to be really the most useful and desirable person the Regents could get for the place. She has been appointed to the position until the meeting of the Regents in July, but after that time we have no indication whether or not she will be continued in the position.

In April we had Miss Perle Penfield with us for a month a young graduate of the Texas University, a Texas girl whom the National has employed as an organizer. She was in Lexington about ten days and she and I visited seferal of the surrounding towns. We held a parlor

meeting in Versailles in the house of Mrs. Henietta Chenault. Mrs. Josephine Henry was there and her sister Mrs. McBride. Mrs. Henry looked very well, is fleshier than I ever saw her. I was very glad indeed to see her, she joined in the suffrage discussion and seemed to be interested in Miss Penfield's speech. Mrs. McBride looks very natural too. I hear from Mrs. Farmer every now and then. She and Mr. Farmer seem to be very happy in St.Paul, though she always speaks affectionately of the old days in Kentucky and of her old friends here.

I should be so glad if you would write to me sometime. I am going out to Seattle this summer to the National Suffrage Convention. It would be delightful if you and your daughters could go to Seattle at the same time. Please remember me affectionately to Miss Laura and Miss Jennie, and believe me

Very cordially yours, [Laura Clay]

Dict.
Encl.

Lexington, Ky. May 11,1909.

Mr. T. W. Vinson,

Frankfort, Ky.

Dear Sir,

I thank you for the booklet of the Kentucky Educational Association, and the announcement of its meeting at Estill Springs in June. I regret that I shall not be able to attend the meeting as I am going to the National Woman Suffrage Association Convention to be held in Seattle, Washington. I enclose my check for one dollar in payment of the annual membership fee.

I am sending a little leaflet prepared by Mrs. Grenfell of Colorado in which you will see what she says of the advantages to the schools of school suffrage to women. I wish very much this subject could be discussed at the meeting at Estell Springs, and that the Kentucky Educational Association would pass a resolution asking our next legislature to grant the right of school suffrage to women. I am

Very truly yours,

Laura Clay

Dict.
Encl. (2)

[May 13, 1909?]

Covington Ky
124 Garrard st

Miss Laura Clay

Dear Miss Clay

At our last meeting Mrs McLaughlin mentioned the fact that you were seeking some one to fill Mrs Obenchain's place on Press work.

What does her work consist of? I sometimes have leisure which I might employ in work of that kind in my office. But I would not ask for it until I know the scope of the work.

Amount of time employed whether it must be original communications or clippings which are sent to the papers.

If Journals relating to the subject are furnished the

[May 13, 1907?]

one doing work &c

With best wishes
for success of the Suffrage
work I remain

Very Truly Yours
Louise Southgate

Swarthmore, Pa., May 13, 1909.

Dear Member of the Official Board:-

You have, of course, received a letter dated May 10th from Mrs. Upton in regard to making a saving of cost in connection with printing the minutes.

I have some hesitation in regard to her suggestion to shortening the reports from auxiliary states, and yet, in looking them over after receiving this letter, it does seem to me that there is quite a good deal that could be very well omitted.

I cannot approve of her suggestion of omitting entirely reports of standing committees when they show no advance over the past year's work, and yet I realize that it is an expense to print, particularly in some cases, practically the same report year after year. Cannot we find some middle course? Our report of this year will not necessarily be in the hands of those who saw last year's report, therefore to omit entirely the reports of some standing committees does not seem to me a satisfactory solution of our problem.

Since at Seattle the presidents of our auxiliary states are not to appear as such on the program, except in round-robin conferences, it certainly will not do to omit or even cut very greatly their printed reports. Perhaps the best we can do is to ask the Corresponding Secretary to notify them of the desire of the Official Board (should a majority of our Board feel that this <u>is</u> desirable)that they confine their reports very strictly to work accomplished since the close of their last report.

I realize that I have heard nothing from any member of the Board in comment upon Miss Clay's letter sent to each of us April 22d in re Arizona. You will all have noted the fact that Miss Clay feels that we should watch very carefully the turn of affairs in Arizona and that we should be on the ground early as soon as we know that the Statehood Bill is likely to pass Congress.

In regard to Miss Penfield, whom Miss Clay recommends as a good worker to be sent to Arizona early in September: Miss Penfield is here in Philadelphia now and I have talked with her in regard to her summer plans. She tells me that she is fully decided to go to the Convention in Seattle, and I understood from her that she is expecting to meet her mother there, although she does not know yet by what route her mother will go. This being the case, I think Miss Clay's plan as outlined on page four of her Official Board letter of April 22d, is very wise and I trust you are giving it your careful consideration.

I note that at the close of her letter Miss Clay mentions having made a copy of her letter for Miss Shaw that she might consider it as soon as she returns. I decided that this, among a number of other things, would best go to Miss Shaw in London that she might have them to study over on her return voyage, so I forwarded her copy to her.

Cordially yours,

R. F. Avery.

If you can send me your word in the Call so that it reaches me by 18, 19 or 20th. then address me at Pittsburg, care Mrs. M. C. Norwood, 218 N. Negley Ave.

Lexington, Ky. May 14, 1909.

Dr. Louise Southgate,
124 Garrard St.,
Covington, Ky.

Dear Dr. Southgate,

I am in receipt of your letter regarding the Press work. I really am unable to answer your questions completely for I have never done the Press work. When Mrs. Obenchain sent me her list of newspapers I wrote and asked her to give me some directions and some explanation of how she carried on the work, but she has never replied to that letter. She wrote me that she was over burdened with literary work and I suppose that the answer of such a letter would be tedious and she does not feel equal to it.

Miss Elizabeth J. Hauser at the headquarters, Warren, Ohio, is the National Chairman of Press work and she could give you information which I am unable to do. I know that press matter is sent out from Warren and that original communications are very much appreciated, but I am not able to tell you anything more than these general items. I hope to hear from you again after you have consulted Miss Hauser.

Did you hear Miss Penfield while she was in Kentucky? I have received a letter from Mrs. Avery, President of Pennsylvania, who writes that possibly she may be able to spare Miss Penfield to Kentucky again in June. I have written and am expecting in a day or two to

know postively whether she is to come or not. If she does I am hoping now to send her to the western part of the state where we have not as much organization as in the eastern section. Probably she will come into the state at Cincinnati and go thence to Louisville where she must go to make a start to the western part of the state. Do you know any persons in the towns between Cincinnati and Louisville to whom I could write and try to make appointments for Miss Penfield on the way from Cincinnati to Louisville? If you have any such addresses I would be grateful to receive them from you.

Very cordially yours,

Dict.

Lexington, Ky. May 14, 1909.

My dear Mrs. Hubbard,

I wrote you a short while ago that we could not send Miss Penfield to the western part of the state; but day before yesterday I received a letter from Mrs. Rachel Foster Avery in which she says that possibly Miss Penfield could come to Kentucky for three weeks in June, which she had expected to devote to Pennsylvania. If she comes I want her to spend the pricipal part of the time in west Kentucky. To mke this possible I should have to have a great deal of assistance in making her route from the few friends we have there for you know we are not well organized in your part of the state.

When Miss Penfield was here the different clubs took her for a number of days and made engagements for her at points near around. For instance, the Lexington Club had her for about eleven days in that time she spoke six times in the colleges and had two public meetings and she visited Nicholasville twice, Paris twice and Georgetown and Versailles. Now I know if you can help me you will do so, and if you are in good health and strength I know of no one who could be more effieient. I would like for you to take Miss Penfield several days and make as many engagements for her in Hickman and nearby towns as you can do conviently. Miss Penfield is perfectly capable of addressing a large public audience; but in many places we find it more practicable to arrange for a parlor meeting. This is very possible when a public

meeting would be too great an undertaking. We had parlor meetings both in Versailles and Paris, and found them very satisfactory. As for the expense in the matter where we have no organized club and where it is small as in Hickman we think it is best to leave it entirely to the local friends as to what part of the expenses they will contribute. The state will be responsible for the rest. We hope that Miss Penfield will be entertained wherever she goes.

Miss Penfield has been very successful as an organizer and we hope throughther efforts to biuld up our state organization in western Kentucky. If she comes I think she could be in Hickman about the middle of June though I cannot yet tell the exact dates. Will you please consider if you can take Miss Penfield in Hickman and make some other engagements for in the towns nearby. Mention how many days you could likely keep her employed.

Hoping to hear from you at your earliest convennnce, I am

Very cordially yours,

Dict.

Lexington, Ky. May 14, 1909.

Dear Mrs. Roebuck,

Yesterday morning I received a letter from Mrs. Racheal Avery of Pennsylvania where Miss Penfield is now working. Mrs. Avery says, for certain reasons which she states, that possibly she cannot keep Miss Penfield employed in June, and she offers the time in June up to the date for starting to Seattle to Kentucky if we can arrange a route for her. She asked a very prompt reply and therefore after consulting Mrs. Cramer I answered yesterday that Kentucky would take Miss Penfield provided that Miss Penfield would be expected to act as her own advance agent where we could not make appointments for her. I do not know that Mrs. Avery will send her on this condition; but as the time is short I am writing some letters while I await Mrs. Avery's decision.

As I had not time to consult the Executive Committee I expect to be responsible for any expense the state has to pay except what the Executive Committee may think it can afford to vote from the treasuary under the circumstances.

My idea is to put Miss Penfield in the western part of the state as much as possible, and from that route she must start from Louisville; but she may have to come into the state at Cattlesburg or at Cincinnati. Does Newport or Covington want her to stop at all?

2.

Do you know of any addresses on the L & N Route from Covington to Louisville?

I have the letters which you sent to me when Miss Penfield came. Can you send me a complete list of the persons to whom you wrote? Did you write to Hawesville? To Owensboro? To Henderson? To Paducah? Please answer as promptly as possible, and oblige

Very cordially yours,

Dict.

VOTES FOR WOMEN

Oklahoma Woman Suffrage Association

Officers:

President, Mrs. Kate H. Biggers, Marlow
First Vice-President, Mrs. Jence C. Feuquay, Chandler
Second Vice-President, Mrs. N. M. Carter, Guthrie
Treasurer, Mrs. Adelia C. Stephens, Oklahoma City
Recording Secretary, Mrs. Julia L. Woodworth, Oklahoma City
Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Julia Dunham, Oklahoma City
Auditors: Mrs. Almira Straughen, Chandler
Mrs. Ida Wood Norvell, Wynnewood

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Indian Women's Woman Suffrage Committee:

Chairman, Mrs. J. R. Harris, Chickasha
1st Vice-Chairman, Mrs. Narcissa Owen, Muskogee
2nd Vice-Chairman, Mrs. H. L. Cloud, Wellston
Treasurer, Mrs. A. K. McKellop, Muskogee
Recording Secretary, Mrs. Martha Phillips Atkinson, Chickasha
Auditors: Mrs. Mamie Porter Farnsworth, Muskogee
Mrs. John Brown, Chickasha

Chairmen Special Committees:

Legislation
Miss Margaret Rees
Guthrie

Press Work
Mrs. Lillie M. Allen
Colony

Church Work
Mrs. H. L. Cloud
Wellston

Congressional Petition
Mrs. M. A. Morrison
Cleveland

Initiative and Referendum Petition
Mrs. Adelia C. Stephens
Oklahoma City

Finance Committee
Dr. Ruth A Gay
Oklahoma City

Vice Chairman, Mrs. Anna Laskey
Oklahoma City

Special Correspondent
Geo. R. Stephens
Oklahoma City

Marlow, Okla. R. D. 2 May 14-1909

My dear Miss Clay:

Your very kind letter was received some days ago but as I had not heard from Dr. Gay for some time (I think I wrote you she had charge of the petition work while Mrs. Stephens is out of town) I wrote her asking her how things were coming on. My reply was not at all satisfactory. She simply stated that the petitions were coming in very slowly and she was feeling somewhat discouraged. She did not tell me anything heard from Mrs. Stephens or others with regard to their work. I notice some of the men's Initiative petitions are coming in slowly and they are urging more haste, and this it is quite natural to hold up a batch of petitions until all can be sent; so that is no reason for discouragement.

I will cheerfully write you as requested concerning

the petitions as quickly as possible after it is known. Will also write Miss Shaw.

Although I am much better than when I wrote you I am not at all well — my endurance is very limited — I seem to have no strength to spare.

Thanking you for your kind interest in the affairs of Oklahoma I am

Most sincerely yours
Kate H. Biggers

Sob. A.M.

Just received a letter from Dr. Gay which is much more encouraging. Says Mrs. Stephens is a splendid worker. Petitions are not coming as rapidly as she would like but thinks we will pull through

KENTUCKY
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
J. G. CRABBE, STATE SUPERINTENDENT
FRANKFORT

May 14, 1909.

Miss Laura Clay,

Lexington, Ky.

Dear Miss Clay :

I have your letter under date of May 11. I enclose herewith your certificate of membership to the Kentucky Educational Association.

I note what you say concerning the question of school suffrage for women. The program has already been made and printed. It is too late to include the subject of which you speak in the regular program. However, the Kentucky Federation of Womens' Clubs has been given one entire evening. Their program has not been made and by writing Mrs. Reiker at Harrodsburg or Mrs. Roark at Richmond, possibly you could have this subject included in their part of the program.

Very truly yours,

T. W. Vinson
Sec.

~~Superintendent.~~

CERTIFICATE OF MEMBERSHIP

THIS CERTIFIES THAT

Miss Laura Clay,

has paid ONE DOLLAR annual dues to the Kentucky Educational Association, and is entitled to membership therein from March 1st, 1909, to March 1st, 1910.

F. W. Simon Secretary

Present this Card for Admission at All Meetings.