

South Station
Boston

Jan 8, 1912

Dear Miss Clay:

Mrs. La Follette
has resigned, & a
successor must
be chosen at
the Board meeting
Jan. 13. Miss
Breckinridge writes
me that she is
very anxious to
have you choose
she will feel

I wish happier
There is no one I
should be so
glad to have
Selected, if you
is feel you can
& serve. At Louis.
will you said
you couldn't. Had
not you better
reconsider?
Drop me a
line to Nat.
Headquarters,
In haste but

Always affly,
D. Beckwith

Jan. 30th, 1912.

My dear Miss Balckwell,

I cannot readily express how much I am hurt by the ~~statement of~~ the attitude of some members of the Board towards the Journal of which you speak in your letter to the State Presidents. I hold that it is a usurpation of the rights of the convention, and a setting-up of individual judgment neither wise nor loyal to the Association.

But I am not writing this second enclosure to assure you of my sympathy, which I am confident you were already assured of. I want to make some other remarks upon the ~~situation~~ train of thought your letter has started in my mind, which I do not mean as advice or suggestion for your action; but only that you may understand how a friend who thinks carefully of your affairs may regard this crisis.

I wish when you visited us I had ascertained what you expected the future of the Journal to be when the victory for Woman Suffrage is practically won in this country. I have always assumed that in such a case you would feel that its mission was ended and that you would discontinue its publication. If I am wrong in this assumption my further remarks are irrelevant.

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Since you were with us ^{several} events have changed my point of view as to the advisability of your contemplating ever again assuming the financial responsibility of the Journal. The chief of these is something of which I talked a good deal to you, - and that is, the effect of the late victories in Washington and California upon the prospects of our cause. I thought they would have an immense influence upon public opinion. I am confirmed in this view every day; and the effect has been even greater

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than I looked for. If we should win a state east of the Mississippi,- Wisconsin, Ohio, New Hampshire,- or even one in the middle west, like Kansas, I believe our question would be taken up by the political parties and its further advancement removed from the efforts of the Suffrage Associations, and made a political issue. In that case a newspaper for its propoganda would also lose the greater part of its field for usefulness. The second thing which has impressed me ~~are~~ the brightening prospect of success in Ohio and New Hampshire. If either succeeds the flood of success is upon us. A victory in Sweden, England or any other foreign country would greatly add to this effect. Other things which ^{is} have influenced my view the endorsement of our movement by the Woman's Clubs and other conservative bodies to an unprecedented extent.; and the space given to suffrage by all sorts of publications. I can easily recall the time, only a little while ago, when the suffrage news I saw quoted in the secular papers was almost always from the W. Journal. It is even more frequently quoted now; and yet a very large number of the syffrage items are gathered from other sources. A third thing is the consolidation of all the suffrage organizations in New York State. Mrs. Dennett has written me that the Woman Suffrage Party seeks auxiliaryship with the National.

Now the combination of all these circumstances leads me to the opinion that the prophecy of several leading politicians that woman suffrage will be universal in the U.S. within ten years is a sound prediction. Suppose it should not be actually universal; yet if it succeeded in a large number of states the constituency of the Woman's Journal would become extremely limited. Am I not right in supposing that the Journal

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loses subscribers in every successful state? The belated states would probably be the Southern states, and they might find an organ published in New Orleans or Virginia more adapted to their needs.

The situation in New York state also has a strong bearing on the case. I suppose the consolidation of forces there indicates that the N.Y. Suffragists are rallying for a great state campaign. If so, they will feel or imagine that an organ right under their hands is a necessity. The strain upon you will become greater all the time. If New York should win suffrage, I think we would all agree that an Association newspaper organ was no longer a necessity.

Now the sum of what I want to say is that I think the end of the suffrage mission of the Woman's Journal is so nearly in sight that it ought to be reckoned with in all your plans for its future. I believe that ~~is~~ all ~~that~~ the combined efforts of your devotion and the N.A.W.S.A. ~~are~~ not more than sufficient to keep it afloat as an instrument for propaganda in the face of so much competition in its field from the secular press, ^{and} with the likelihood that our cause will soon be a part of the platforms supported by regular political organs. If this is the case, it is manifestly an unequal combat for you to try to take back the financial management of the Journal, with all the added difficulties which a change of management has entailed; and with a possible rival in the field launched by the National backed by the strong forces of the N.Y. suffragists. It has occurred to me, therefore, that it is not advisable for you to hold to the expectation of recalling the Journal and managing it yourself; but rather to turning your attention to how you can main-

tain it in its position as a memorial to the suffrage work of your mother and your father as long as it is needed; and then to exercise your own discretion as to when it has fulfilled that mission and may with dignity and consistency cease to be published. I believe you will have the power to discontinue it when you please, because you have the majority of the stock in your possession. I doubt whether it has ever seriously been contemplated by you that you would see the time when you thought its discontinuance would be advisable. I am sure I never thought of it at the Washington convention. But events have moved up rapidly since then. I do not mean at all that I think that time has yet come; but I do see that the time has come when it is to be thought of, and not its indefinite continuance. The Board has shown itself disregarding of the wishes of the Association in making such suggestions as ~~some~~ some of its members have; and I foresee that you will be vexed in perhaps many ways. Therefore, I have felt impelled to present the idea that it may be wise for you rather to consider how to keep a proper hold upon the Journal under its present management, with the idea that ~~if it becomes~~ the alternative is not resuming the financial management, but discontinuing it altogether. I believe your position as editor is impregnable; but whether with comfort to yourself you can indefinitely resist publishing it in New York I cannot say. If the Board obeys the instructions of the convention the matter is settled till next convention, which will not be earlier than next November. By that time you will know whether other states have joined the suffrage ranks, and you will be in a position to judge whether the line of argument I have made is in accordance with your judgment. Please remember that I am not offering advice; I merely want to

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tell you why, since I saw you in October, I have changed my mind considerably about the advisability of your ever recalling the financial management of the Journal. I am becoming every day more convinced that whilst the usefulness of the Journal for the next few years may be as great as ever, — even apparently greater, perhaps, — yet any election day may practically end its usefulness as a means of educating sentiment in favor of Woman's Suffrage. The years which I suppose remain for its present field of usefulness are entirely too short for you to take up the task of building up again an independent circulation. I believe your loyalty to the cause and to the memories so dear to you may be fully satisfied by devoting your thought to maintaining a recognized and responsible part in its management; and of retaining the power to cease its publication if it should by any chance seem no longer to be fulfilling the objects for which it was founded and ^{has} carried on its long and honorable career.

If I have been too free in my remarks, please forgive me, and believe me Always your affectionate friend,

*Dear Miss G. ...
requested ...*

3 Monadnock street, Dorchester, Mass.
January 19.1912.

Dear State President:-

Last week the National Suffrage Board met in New York. Among the subjects discussed was the Woman's Journal.

Some members of the Board expressed great dissatisfaction with the way in which the paper is edited. They said, as they have been saying for some time past, that the Journal is not good enough to make it worth while to try to increase its circulation.

I took this in good part - for it is fairer and better to criticise frankly - and our discussion of the matter was amicable. Some of the faults that they pointed out in the Journal I can see to be faults, and shall try to amend them. Some of their other criticisms I do not regard as well founded.

Since "Everybody is wiser than anybody", I am asking the State Presidents to give me their opinion (not for publication) on the following points:

1. Do you consider The Journal fairly satisfactory?
2. What features in it do you like?
3. What things about it do you dislike, and in what respects would you like to see it improved?

You will oblige me especially by answering the third question carefully ~~and fully~~ and fully.

I feel sure that the pessimistic view taken of the Journal by these members of the Board is not due to any personal ill will toward me. But I think their opinion is colored, perhaps unconsciously to themselves, by their very strong wish to have the paper moved to New York. They believe that if they had

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The Journal at Headquarters, both its literary and its business department could be immensely improved, and their minds are so filled with this idea that they see through blue spectacles everything which is done for the paper in Boston, by either Miss Ryan or ~~by~~ me, while they see everything that is or might be done for it in New York through rose-colored ones. In fact since the meeting of the National Board, they have written me that they do not think it wise for the Board to appropriate money to push The Journal unless I will consent to move it to New York.

The majority of the National Board have not taken this ground, nor has the Association at large.

Before the Washington Convention, the National Board expressed the wish to have the Journal become the organ of the Association, and asked me on what terms it could be arranged. I explained distinctly that the paper would have to stay in Boston, and the National Convention voted unanimously to agree to this. Both before the Louisville Convention and at Louisville I again stated distinctly that, whether the Headquarters went to Chicago or stayed in New York, The Journal would have to stay in Boston. Nevertheless the Convention elected me as editor without a dissenting vote, and ^{at} ~~at~~ the closing Executive Committee meeting, the National Executive Committee voted unanimously to renew last year's contract with The Journal. The Convention, if it chose, could have voted that The Journal must either move to New York or cease to be the National organ in which case The Journal would simply have ceased to be the National organ. Such action by the Convention would have been legitimate, though perhaps not wholly justifiable from an

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ethical ~~standpoint~~ standpoint. Since The Journal's big deficit is wholly due to the costly improvements introduced by the National (enlarging the paper, lowering the price, multiplying the pictures, etc) it would not have been quite fair for the National to get The Journal into a hole and then leave it there. But nothing of the sort was done, or even suggested in the Convention.

I doubt whether the dissatisfaction with the Journal is so general as these members of the Board think. But no one can be an impartial judge in his own case, and I may be mistaken. At any rate, whether the paper as now edited is good or bad, we should all be glad to have it made better. Therefore I shall be greatly obliged to you if you will answer my three questions and then pass this letter on to your State member of the National Executive Committee, in order that she may answer them too. I should like to receive suggestions from the whole committee as to desirable improvements. Please reply frankly, and do not be a bit afraid of hurting my feelings. I want your real opinion.

Sincerely yours,

Alice Stone Blackwell

189 N. Mill Street, Lexington, Ky.

Jan. 11th, 1912.

My dear Miss Blackwell,

Your kind letter of Jan. 8th is just at hand. I appreciate the desire you and Miss Breckinridge express to have me on the Board again. I regret exceedingly Mrs. La Follette's resignation; as I think the name of the wife of a Presidential candidate on our Board means a great deal to our cause politically.

In answer to your question: I would be willing to be elected provided the vote was unanimous for me, but not otherwise. I do not anticipate that it will be possible to get a unanimous vote for me; and I hope in that case my friends will not allow their feelings to be hurt in the least degree, as mine will not be and I should regret to be the means of injecting any pained personal feeling into the election.

As I wish to put this into the mail at once, I wish you a Happy New Year, and great success for the Journal.

Always affectionately your friend,

Lexington, Ky.

Jan. 30th, 1912.

My dear Miss Blackwell,

I received your letter of Jan. 19 yesterday; and I am replying carefully to your questions seriatim:

1. I consider the Journal eminently satisfactory.
2. I like the general appearance of the paper; the cartoons; the attractive presentation of the news on the first page; the editorials by A.S.B.; usually the other editorial contributions; Notes and News; the great variety and accuracy of news about all subjects which concern women particularly; the tone of moderation and fairness with which all subjects are discussed; and in general the excellent literary character of all articles approved in the paper.
3. The principal thing I have disliked are some of the articles which have been sent in from National Headquarters. They caused me considerable uneasiness, but it seemed that others remonstrated and there is a promise that no more of those dubious articles will ask for publication. I always object when any other propaganda than the right of woman suffrage or the equal rights of women assume a prominent place in the Journal. Not that I am necessarily opposed to these other questions; but one battle at a time seems to me wisdom, and I know agreement cannot be reached on these other points by the woman suffragists. In particular, speaking for my own section, I object to all ill-informed articles about conditions in the southern states; and to a spirit which sometimes finds expression in contributions to the Journal of making allusions to conditions in those states ~~farxtnixhukrnxaxaf~~ to "point a moral or adorn a tale"

with frequently little regard to accuracy and none at all to the effect such articles will have upon the spirit of the southern people towards the reform for which the Journal stands.

I feel there is so much to admire in the Journal and so little to criticize that I should not have thought of pointing out any thing which I suppose may be improved if the request was not made to do so.

I have no sympathy with the idea that the Journal will be improved by being brought more under the influence of the surroundings about Headquarters; I think the chances are fully equal that its tone would thereby be made less congenial to the public at large.

Very sincerely yours,

June 1, 1913

PUSH THE WOMAN'S JOURNAL

Dear Friends:-

The great success of the Suffrage Parade has delighted us all. The growing interest in the cause in every direction ought to lead to a corresponding growth in the circulation of the Woman's Journal. It will if all take hold and help. To this end I invite your cooperation.

There is special reason for putting forth effort during the next few months. As the Journal is now the organ of the National Association, I think its officers and members are entitled to know something about the difficulties with which the paper has had to contend.

In describing the difference of opinion which has arisen in the National Official Board in regard to the Journal's merits and usefulness, I want to say in advance that I think Mrs. Dennett and Miss Ashley have been actuated by good motives, and are doing what they honestly believe to be for the best interests of the cause.

Here are the facts of the case: Mrs. Dennett and Miss Ashley are much dissatisfied with the way in which the Woman's Journal is edited. Miss Shaw shares this feeling. They all think that the Journal should be moved to New York and should be "professionally edited." Miss Shaw is also strongly of the opinion that the Association should own the paper. They had meant to bring up this matter at Louisville. But the Louisville Convention was stormy, and they decided, apparently, that it would not be wise to introduce another element of discord at that time. So the question was not brought up, and the vote to renew the previous contract with the Journal was unanimous. According to this contract the paper was to continue to be published in Boston.

Soon after, Mrs. Dennett and Miss Ashley began to put pressure upon me to move the Journal to New York, and to make other changes. I had already made a good many changes at their request, and I expressed myself ready to try any further changes which the Board might desire (and for which it could raise the money), short of moving the paper to New York. But it soon became clear that our Headquarters officers would not be satisfied with any concession short of going to New York.

At an early meeting of the new Official Board, the Headquarters officers had been empowered to appoint an Advisory Committee on the Woman's Journal. They appointed Mrs. Mary Beard, Miss Eleanor Byrnes, Mrs. Henrietta Livermore, Mrs. Stanley McCormick and Miss C. Anita Whitney. Miss Eleanor Byrnes sent in a report "representing the opinions of a majority of those asked to suggest desirable changes in the Journal." These were the same opinions that the three officers at Headquarters had been expressing for some time. Among the criticisms were that the Journal "looks dull and unimportant," that its "news is not arranged with a sense of proportion - one gets a muddled impression;" that it "gives very little live, fresh news; on the other hand, it seldom has any first class articles", that "Miss Ryan's articles are not sufficiently well written or authoritative to be worthy of the Journal," and that the paper's policy is timid: "Readers want a paper which isn't afraid. The Journal seems afraid of everything and everybody - even of the anti suffragists. Most readers would rather be shocked and displeased occasionally than bored all the time."

Mrs. McCormick and Mrs. Livermore dissented from the complaint of timidity. Mrs. Beard made no criticism, but set forth the

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constructive plan recommended by the Advisory Committee, viz: that the Journal and as many other suffrage organs as possible be consolidated into a big magazine of the style of the Saturday Evening Post; that \$50,000 be raised by donations or by the sale of stock, and that high enough salaries be paid for editorial and business management to secure the best talent in the country. Each of the papers going into this combination was to have representation for the first year on the editorial board of the new magazine.

The proposal to move the Journal to New York and merge it into a new publication under wholly different control and management did not commend itself to me. Even if \$50,000 could be raised to start the new periodical, that sum would be only a drop in the bucket when it came to carrying on such a magazine as the Saturday Evening Post. The size of the Journal's present deficit is owing to the fact that the Association wished to lower the price and enlarge the paper without making provision in advance to meet the cost of these expensive improvements; and it seemed to me unwise to "plunge" further. Moreover, while I edited the Journal it would be edited with a fair degree of discretion, but after it passed into new hands, there was no telling what might happen.

To the objections made to the editorial conduct of the Journal, I replied that I thought there was force in some of the criticisms, but that taken as a whole they were too severe and too sweeping. I reminded the Board that, owing to the Association's poverty, Miss Ryan and I had each of us had to do several women's work on the paper - i.e. work which in most papers would be divided among several persons. I had done the editing gratis, had done it as well as I could under the circumstances, and if the result was not satisfactory the Board ought to give me more help. I pointed out that, if the money were forthcoming, the Journal could be improved to any extent, as to size, shape, variety of articles, an enlarged staff, etc., without removing it from Boston, and depriving it of my editorial oversight, which I regarded as of value to the paper.

This is the root of my objection to moving the Journal to New York. I could write editorials and send them on, but I could not exercise any supervision as to what should fill up the seven other pages of the paper.

Miss Jane Addams, who came upon the Board without bias either way, thinks that it would be unwise to move the Journal to New York, and she has also advised me strongly not to part with the ownership of the paper. Mrs. McCormick now favors the plan of trying to build up and improve the Journal in Boston.

As no one can be an impartial judge of his own work, I sent a circular letter to the State presidents asking for criticisms on the Journal. The answers showed that most of them thought well of the paper; and when criticisms were made, they were hardly ever the same as the criticisms made by the Advisory Committee appointed from Headquarters. A few said that they did not like Miss Ryan's articles, but a much larger proportion said they did.

Mrs. Beard and Miss Byrnes resigned from the Advisory Committee. The Headquarters officers still longed and planned for a big suffrage magazine in New York, and there was talk of securing this through an arrangement with the fashion magazine "Dress".

All through the year this difference of opinion about the Journal has made things uncomfortable. When the matter was discussed at the meeting of the National Board, Mrs. Dennett and

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Miss Ashley thought that the most pressing need was to improve the Journal's reading matter. I thought the most pressing need was to push its circulation. I pointed out that all around us we saw magazines with good reading matter going into bankruptcy because their business end was not skillfully pushed, and magazines with inferior reading matter (like the Ladies' Home Journal) succeeding financially because their business end was well pushed. Every other periodical that engages a business manager and expects him to push the circulation gives him an appropriation to do it with. Miss Ryan had never been given any, and had worked up our remarkable increase of circulation simply out of her own brains. She had now asked for an appropriation. Mrs. Dennett and Miss Ashley wanted an assistant editor who should divide her time between New York and Boston and should do the "making up" of the paper, i.e. the arranging of the articles on the pages. I approved of having an assistant editor, but wanted to do the making up myself. Finally a compromise was agreed upon, and voted unanimously. An assistant editor was to be chosen by Mrs. Dennett and Miss Ashley, and she was to make up the paper, get pictures, boil down news, secure desirable articles, etc. On the other hand, Miss Ryan was to have an appropriation with which to push the business end. The understanding was that the money was to be borrowed. As we had a legacy soon to be paid, this seemed feasible. Two days later Mrs. Dennett and Miss Ashley asked Miss Shaw to send out a vote to reconsider. They said that on reflection they did not think it was worth while to try to improve the paper or to push it unless I would promise to let it go to New York. They also declined to choose an assistant editor. After considerable writing back and forth, the motion to reconsider failed by one vote; but Miss Ryan was not provided with any money.

Then Mrs. Dennett and Miss Ashley asked the Board to take steps toward having the National Association drop the Woman's Journal as its organ unless it would go to New York. I objected to the method by which they wished to bring this about, as not in accordance with my understanding of the contract. (The question was whether the Association had to give me the required term of notice, or whether the Board could do so without a vote of the Association.) Mrs. Dennett and Miss Ashley withdrew their motion.

The Headquarters officers urged Miss Ryan not to give me any help in the way of getting pictures or getting the Journal to press, in order to prove to me and to everyone else that I was not capable of getting the paper out alone - to me by the overtaking of my strength and to our readers by the deterioration of the paper. But Miss Ryan said that as a matter of business the paper could not be allowed to deteriorate, and unless some other helper were provided to look after pictures, etc., she must do it.

Meanwhile the autumn and winter, the time of year when it is easiest to push a paper's circulation, were frittered away, and still Miss Ryan had no appropriation to work with, and she was having a great deal of trouble through what seemed to her unbusinesslike methods on the part of the National Treasurer. For instance, Miss Ryan had got a great many people to work for new subscribers by offering them a cash prize, practically a commission, since the money was to come out of the subscriptions. The cash for the subscriptions was sent to Miss Ryan, she sent it to Miss Ashley, and Miss Ashley was to send back the commission to those who had worked for it. Miss Ashley often delayed for months to do so, although the sums were small, not large amounts which the treasury might have been really unable to pay; and Miss Ryan was flooded with complaints from suffragists who said that they wanted to work for more new subscribers, but it took all the heart out of them and their clubs to have to wait so long. Other small bills were allowed to run on for many months, and the Journal's credit was destroyed.

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Finally Miss Ryan, after writing repeatedly to Miss Ashley and getting no answer, wrote to the Advisory Committee. When that Committee was first appointed, I had asked Miss Shaw whether it was to advise on the business end or the editorial end of the Journal, and she had answered "On both." So when Miss Ryan consulted me as to whether it would be proper for her to lay her difficulties before the Advisory Committee I told her I thought it would. Her letter was not written in an ill natured spirit, for she knew that the treasury was in straits and that the treasurer was having a hard time; but Miss Shaw and Miss Ashley were much displeased by Miss Ryan's taking her difficulties to the Advisory Committee, and ever since then, every thing that she has done has been a subject of criticism at Headquarters.

The March meeting of the National Board was cheered by the news of a gift of \$6000. from a generous friend who was much interested in the Journal. This paid off the most pressing debts of the Association and of the Journal. The same lady expressed the belief that the Journal could be made to pay, and that the money could be raised to tide it over the period before it could become self-supporting. (It should be explained here that papers do not expect to pay their expenses out of their subscriptions alone. They do it largely out of their advertising; and until the circulation of a National paper reaches 30,000, they cannot get much advertising. It is the intermediate period, before the circulation gets up to 30,000, that has to be tided over.)

At this meeting of the Board, the question of the Journal's receipts and expenses was threshed out. It was estimated that the annual deficit was about \$8,500. (An expert accountant employed by Mrs. McCormick to go over our books has since estimated it at about \$7748.) Miss Jane Addams declared that even with this deficit, the Association was getting its organ uncommonly cheap, as organs go. She has had experience with The Survey, the organ of the Charity Organization Society. She said that she thought Miss Ryan and I had done remarkably well, both with the business end and with the editorial end, considering how little help we had had and how numerous the difficulties had been, and she urged that a strong effort should be made to raise the money to carry the paper through. The meeting adjourned with that understanding.

though his investigation is not quite finished.

At a special meeting of the Official Board in April, Miss Sara A. Levein was engaged as assistant editor. Through a misapprehension on the part of some members of the Board, who had been led to suppose that Miss Ryan was not engaged as business manager but only as circulation manager and advertising solicitor, it was voted that Miss Levein should be business manager as well as assistant editor. Miss Ryan's contract with the Association describes her as business manager, and specifies that she is to perform the business manager's duties; and her engagement (which I hope and expect will be renewed) does not expire till June 30, 1912. The action of the Board in engaging another business manager was therefore quite irregular. But the intention of the majority of the Board had been not to supersede Miss Ryan, but to set her free from other work and enable her to give her whole time to pushing the circulation. Miss Ryan has therefore agreed to waive the terms of her contract, and will divide the work with Miss Levein. Miss Levein comes to us highly recommended, and I hope that she and Miss Ryan together will make a strong team.

Since Mrs. McCormick was chosen as an auditor of the Association, she has caused a model system of book-keeping to be introduced both at National Headquarters and at the Woman's Journal Office, which is expected to do away with the complications that have made trouble in the past. The way therefore seems to be cleared for a great expansion of the Journal's circulation and usefulness, if all our friends will take hold and help Miss Ryan carry out her plans.

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Miss Ryan means to exert herself to bring the circulation up to 30,000 between now and the National Convention. She is capable of doing a "great stunt", and I hope you will lend her your cooperation in every possible way. She has built up the Journal wonderfully in the last 18 months, and can keep on and carry it through if she has proper help. Her business talents, energy and resourcefulness are extraordinary; and what she has already done is an earnest of what she can do in the future. Her devotion to the Woman's Journal and to the cause has been whole-hearted. Even before the National Board had made overtures to the Journal to become the National organ, Miss Ryan had proposed to me to help me build up the paper. I told her frankly that I could not afford to pay her. She then volunteered to work for the Journal without pay until she had brought the paper up to a point where it could give her a salary.

Ever since she took hold of the paper she has toiled for it early and late, and she has taken only ten days vacation in two years. Since pictures were needed to make the street sales a success, and I was not able to get up pictures, she has secured them, though that is no part of the business manager's proper work. She has arranged the pictures, prepared attractive headlines to make the appearance of the paper more modern and interesting, read the proof of the advertisements, and during my summer vacations has read all the proof. Almost every Saturday she has personally sold the paper on the street. In short, she has lent a hand wherever it was needed.

Since last October the disagreements in the Board about the Journal, and the uncertainty and worry, have worn upon both her health and mine, and we have neither of us been able to do our best work in consequence. In addition to this the Association is owing me \$1,447.00, mostly for arrears on my secretary's salary. Of course this is due to the low state of the National treasury.

If the Journal can be put upon a firm financial foundation, the strain will be relieved on both sides. In case it is decided to retain the Journal as the National organ, the Headquarters officers will not feel so much distressed about it if it is no longer a drain on the treasury; and in case the Association prefers to drop the Journal as the National organ it can do so without the reproach that would attach to it if it got the paper into a hole and then left it there.

I would therefore urge that a special effort be made to push the circulation of the paper all along the line, because the summer is a hard time to get business and because we want to show as good results as possible at the National Convention in November. Every subscription counts, every cash contribution, every copy of the paper sold on the streets or at suffrage meetings. We need every possible kind of cooperation from those who believe that the Journal is valuable to the suffrage cause.

Alice Stone Blackwell.

3 Monadnock Street,
Dorchester, Mass.

3 Madnock street, Dorchester, Mass.

July 9. 1912.

Dear Friend-

The Official Board of the W. I. T. S. A. think it inevitable that a member of the Board should send out circular letters dealing with the relations between members of the Board and the Woman's Journal. Therefore, I will only say in regard to the recent letter from Mrs. Bennett and Miss Ashley that I should have much to say in reply to it, if the Board did not think it unadvisable that this discussion should be continued by the present method.

Sincerely yours,

Alice Stone Blackwell.

Lexington, Ky.

Oct. 28th, 1912.

My dear Miss Blackwell,

I have just received a letter from Miss Ryan, saying you asked how I would vote if I had a vote for president this year.

I feel so grateful to the Progressive party that I would vote for its candidate, except that my attachment to political traditions is so strong that I cannot reconcile myself to a third term. On that account, I really have not made up my mind, seeing I have no vote, whether or not I would overcome my attachment to tradition and vote for Mr. Roosevelt, or whether I would vote for Mr. Wilson. I imagine you will feel that I am very undecided for a staunch suffragist; but I always make up my mind slowly, and have not felt the need of making it up at all this time.

I enclose a clipping telling of our recent Ky. E. R. A. convention. The writer of the editorial is the editor, Mr. Desha Breckinridge, the husband of the new Ky. E. R. A. president.

Very cordially yours,