

suffrage is very keen.

I presume this will reach you addressed simply to Lexington, I neglected to get it from you the day you were leaving. With kindest regards I am

Cordially

Wm. M. Gordon

1800 Prytania St

March 28<sup>th</sup> '98

[Mar. 28, 1898]

My dear Miss Clay:

I cannot let this formal note of thanks from the Club go unattended with a few lines from me. How did you enjoy your North bound trip? I hope more comfortably than the one to H. O.

Well, the Convention has at last passed.



a suffrage bill and Louisiana again disgraced through her politicians. Bruns made a valiant fight against it and was faithful to our cause to the end. The constitutionality of the bill is questioned on all sides and I certainly hope Louisiana will be thrown out & forced to honorably settle the question.

There have been a great many letters to all parts of the State preparatory to organizing, & hope we will be successful. Our Ora Clark, has felt the benefit of your & Mr. Catts' presence in our midst as we have had her very devoted persons act as become members in the last few weeks & the interest in



Equal Rights Association.

New Orleans, La. March 28<sup>th</sup> 1898

Miss Laura Clay,

My dear Miss Clay:

At the regular meeting of the Era Club held Saturday March 19<sup>th</sup> a unanimous vote of thanks was tendered you for your valuable services to the Women of Louisiana in their effort to secure suffrage.

Very truly yours

Kate M. Gordon

Cor. Le'g Era Club

1800 Dryland St.







# National American Woman Suffrage Association

## Member National Council of Women

Honorary President, SUSAN B. ANTHONY, 17 Madison Street, Rochester, N. Y.

President, CARRIE CHAPMAN CATT,  
160 Bay 31st St., Bensonhurst, N. Y.  
Vice-President-at-Large, REV. ANNA H. SHAW,  
7443 Devon Street, Mt. Airy, Philadelphia, Pa.  
Corresponding Secretary, KATE M. GORDON,  
1800 Prytania Street, New Orleans, La.

Recording Secretary, ALICE STONE BLACKWELL,  
8 Park Street, Boston, Mass.  
Treasurer, HARRIET TAYLOR UPTON,  
Warren, Ohio.  
Auditors } LAURA CLAY, Lexington, Ky.  
          } MARY J. COGGESHALL,  
                                554 Seventh Street, Des Moines, Iowa.

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS,  
WARREN, OHIO.

NATIONAL PRESS COMMITTEE, ELNORA BABCOCK, DUNKIRK, N. Y.

OFFICE OF THE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY, 1800 PRYTANIA ST., NEW ORLEANS, LA.

July 16th., 1904.

Dear Member of the Business Committee:

It was my intention to follow the good example set by our Treasurer and report my experiences with the National Democratic Committee, immediately on my return from St. Louis Monday. But alas I have suffered so dreadfully with a tooth, that I have not been able to do any thing but attend to the correspondence requiring immediate attention.

Some of you may not know, that my presence in St. Louis was the result of a very peremptory telegram from the Czar at Headquarters, received on the 3rd., of July, which read "Go to St. Louis, hearing on the sixth, Hackstaff address 3710 Olive Street". I naturally thought the hearing was an assured fact and that something important had developed from a southern point of view, making my presence of service, and wired back I would leave Monday night the Glorious Fourth. I did not know what an Ananias our Treasurer was till I arrived in St. Louis, and found that the hearing was a possibility that the next twenty-four hours would reveal.

I found that Mrs. Hackstaff had done every thing under the circumstances that any one could do, but it would depend entirely on the pleasure of the Resolutions Committee whether or not their valuable time could be spared to give a hearing to a Committee from an Association, the identity of whose membership leaves a doubt as to whether or not they are people. She had interviewed Folk and had had several interviews with Martin who as Sergeant at Arms of the Convention, was as influential a person as she could hope to reach. He had promised to present the Resolution and there the matter rested till the Committee would be appointed. On the Morning of the sixth, Mrs. Werth, Mrs. Hackstaff and I went to the Jefferson Hotel the H'quarters to see if we could reach any of the delegates and get personal influence from within the ranks at work for a hearing, but the confusion everywhere was dreadful and reminded one more of a lot a chickens running around with their heads off, than any comparison I can think of. Finally we concluded to give up trying to see any of the delegations, and wait developments in an atmosphere not charged and over-charged with tobacco smoke and tobacco spit.

Tickets to the Convention were selling at Twenty and twenty-five dollars, so of course had no idea of getting into the show, but when proceedings were about twenty minutes old, a ticket speculator offered me his last one for a dollar, and I wound up by sharing the box with the potentates of the Convention, no less personages than Mrs. Perry Belmont, Mrs. Lewis Nixon, and other lights of New York political fame. When the Committee on Resolutions had been appointed at the close of John Sharp Williams' address I joined the patient waiting pair, and returned to the Convention Hall and after learning where the Committee were to assemble, Mrs. H/ took her stand at the door and sent in by the Sergeant at Arms, another request for a hearing as in that way she could be absolutely sure that the request had been presented. The Committee met only to adjourn till seven o'clock at Southern Hotel, and then departed to meet again at



*represented above*  
the hotel at seven o'clock. When we found the place where the Committee were holding their sessions we found that the National American Association were not the only people with a desire to be heard, and the hall was filled with a crowd of patient weary looking people awaiting the pleasure of the Committee. Mrs. Hackstaff asked me what we had better do, and as we had no friend at court to whom to appeal, I suggested we go down to the office and write a note to the Chairman, tell him we were awaiting the action of the Committee in reference to our request for a hearing and inclosed our visiting cards. That is the reason we were heard, in the parlance of the boys we were "Johnny on the Spot" and it was "up to the Committee" in bare bald fact, to either give us a few minutes or put themselves on record as actually refusing to recognise our right to petition. There was no opportunity for them to take refuge on the score of not having had the request presented.

After a wait of probably threequarters of an hour or more we were called in and found our old enemy Daniels of Virginia the Chairman. He received ~~was~~ us with the greatest courtesy, and informed us we had been granted fifteen minutes. Mrs. Hackstaff then spoke for five minutes on the justice of our request, and made a very good address and was applauded when through. The remaining ten minutes were at my disposal, and I said that intelligent men and women no longer argued against the justice of our claim to the right of suffrage, the opposition we had to encounter now came from the wisdom of its expediency. And from this standpoint I asked the attention of the Committee. I then referred to the address of John Sharp Williams, and said that if the distinguished speakers utterances in regard to the Resolution in the Republican Platform to cut down ~~with~~ Southern representation, was really the entering wedge for a new reconstruction period etc., represented the majority opinion of the Democratic Party then it was their duty to try and offset such a condition, and the remedy at hand which was the only permanent and at the same time honorable solution of the problem, was the enfranchisement of the educated tax-paying women of the South. I then referred to a bit of unwritten history at the time of the Suffrage Convention in Louisiana to show this was no vagary on the part of suffrage women, and how seriously it was considered as the only solution by the grater part of the committee until the party whip was cracked. I told how the lack of development in the negro race, made anything like a taxpaying qualification actually prohibitive and showed that the present regulation was acting as a stimulus to the negro to educate the pickaninnies, while the poor white children were being sacrificed to child labor. I appealed in the name of the dire prophecies which the Democrats predicted as a result of the Crumpacker Resolution, for the introduction into their platform of our Resolution which in the Southern States could be made to apply with the educated tax-paying qualifications.

We were politely listened to and then our womanly influence was completely forgotten. My experience in St. Louis leads me to believe that our manner of procedure in the past, in securing a hearing before these National Conventions, *a hearing* and that a systematic work ought to be inaugurated in each State to secure proper recognition for our right to a hearing. To appear as we do as a kind of mendicant on their generosity is to say the least galling to any who have experienced it. I will therefore try to formulate some plan of action and discuss it at the next Bus. Com. meeting, and see if we cannot substitute an organized effort for the haphazard methods of the past.

I suppose there will be some offence taken by Mrs. Miltke as she was not at all consulted in the affair. Mrs. Werth says she never responds in any wise to communications and the organization is virtually dead under her control. It does seem an awful pity that in a City like St. Louis we have no working organization. Mrs. Hackstaff is to be congratulated on her work, a stranger in a stranger place, she certainly worked to a disadvantage.

It is my pleasure to report that while in St. Louis, Mrs. Werth entertained me, as her contribution to the C

ause.

*Kate M. Gordon*



# National American Woman Suffrage Association.

[Gordon]

## MEMBER NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN.

Honorary President, SUSAN E. ANTHONY, 17 Madison Street, Rochester, N. Y.

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National Press Committee, ELNORA M. BABCOCK, Dunkirk, N. Y.

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS, WARREN, OHIO.



OFFICE OF THE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY, NEW ORLEANS, LA.

November 22nd., 1904.

Dear Club Member of the Business Committee:

I believe we will all feel on reading Mrs. Catt 's letter' that a great deal she has to say on the Western situation influencing Oregon conditions is very true and quite as much may be accomplished, (in case the Territories and California peter out ; in a few months , by concentrating Guil and Laura in the State; but is there not the Oregon side to consider. The Convention voted to go there , with the idea that it would be the launching of a campaign, and a distinct promise has been held out that the Nationals would send an organizer. Mrs. Duniway is no longer the president and from all accounts Mrs. Coe is a very able and desirable head to the movement. He assumed the presidency on the strict understanding we were to help, and if we now fail then will not Mrs. Duniway be in a position to claim with some measure of right, bad faith on the part of the Nationals.

While Miss Chase may not be just our choice , she is the only one available and she would be under Mrs. Coe's direction and not Mrs. Duniway! I received a letter the other day from Mrs. Coggeshall and in her judgment , she speaks of Miss Chase's qualities as "powerless" and hopes the Nationals would keep their hands off of her, as she had accomplished wonders . Now even if Miss Chase did not accomplish all we would like accomplished in Oregon, would it not be better to spend a few hundred dollars than to have the Association in Oregon formed with no little difficulty and deposing Mrs. Duniway , placed in a position where Mrs. Duniway's wicked old tongue , can say "I told you so."



National American Woman Suffrage Association

In addition, Dr. Jeffries met while in St. Louis, Mrs. Harper,

and I received from Dr. Jeffries a very disheartened note, for she had gathered from what Mrs. Harper had had to say that the Nationals had no ~~any~~ serious intention of sending an organizer into Oregon, because they did not believe the signatures could be secured. I wrote Mrs Dr. Jeffries that Mrs. Harper spoke unofficially and that she was a pessimist always, and not to allow her opinion to count, as we did not intend to send an organizer as soon as we could secure the right one. Now if we write putting off the arrival of an organizer till the Arizona and Oklahoma question is settled, until Gail is free or not free in California will she not have reason to believe Mrs. Harper.

I believe we owe it to the organization in Oregon to send an organizer according to promise, or at least submit the question to Mrs. Coe and let her assume the responsibility of deciding. I imagine from what I saw reported in an Oregon paper, that she has a good deal of spirit. It seems some preacher at the W. C. T. U. had scored Woman Suffrage and particularly the women of Colorado. She telegraphed Peabody got a refutation of what had been said, and literally made the man crawl.

Wheeling. I have just received Miss Shaws letter, and the Wheeling situation is not quite correctly reported. The Wheeling people are to pay my expenses to and fro, what I wanted the Nationals to stand for was what it would cost me to go, in reimbursing me for the money I could and do make when at home. In writing to Dr. Jones I said I would give my services and if the League could do so later they could donate to the National what they had made good to me. I have not heard from Dr. Jones and it may be that now that Mrs. Bradford can go to Wheeling a they will not want me.

Southern situation. I think more or less you have all thought I was a crank on the educated tax-paying woman as a solution of the southern



National American Woman Suffrage Association  
problem. But could you read the editorial on the cutting down of  
southern representation you would know that the influence of the  
threat of the Crumpacker resolution, was being seriously considered.  
The Times-Democrat, and you all know its attitude on the question as  
absolutely unfair, came out on Sunday with an editorial in which acknowl-  
edging that it has been unalterably and hatively and pronouncedly  
opposed to woman suffrage but recent events have led the T-D to modify  
its views and to recommend the extension of the suffrage to women es-  
pecially fitted for it. This flop is only the beginning of the end and  
while the recent municipal defeat is made the excuse for the conversion  
the Crumpacker resolution is the real cause. More than this in every  
quarter, led by the T-D is a demand for a new Constitution, and the  
next Legislature will no doubt grant it. Now without showing our hand  
our play is to try and work the pushing of the Crumpacker Resolution.  
Several years ago I had Mr Blackwell take it up with Senator Hoar and  
I will write him and find out whether he kept the letters, I do not  
remember his advice, but I believe he considered if an opportune moment  
arrived it could be worked to the advantage of woman suffrage in the  
South. Of course I must never figure as advocating the Crumpacker  
resolution, but from my end will educate on the line that no fear need  
be contemplated while the educated tax-paying woman is at hand as a sub-  
stitute. Put on your thinking caps and see how we can aid Mr. Zeiffer  
of Ohio who is pledged to introduce the measure.  
I forgot to say that Mrs. Colby has gone to Wisconsin to return to  
Oregon later.  
I am sorry to say that the Charities and Corrections Conference has been  
changed from the 29th of June to the 17th of July. Do you think it  
wise for us to have our dates advanced to the 29th, because the nearer  
we concentrate the dates of the Medical and Charities Conventions, the  
better for our attendance. I will ask Miss Shaw to send out a vote on  
this change.  
Dr. Brass asked the other day to be remembered to all our suffrage friends  
Cordially, A. G.  
In reading this over I do not think I have made my purpose clear. My idea  
is it would be better to even waste a little money in Oregon than to dis-  
courage the new Association's Officers or by giving Abigail a chance under  
the word that Laura and Gail might be called on later to launch.







quest because I believe no Southern  
woman brings more weight than  
yourself - not alone of family but  
of experience as well. I consider  
it important with present condi-  
tions existing in the South to not  
only have one representative on  
the Board but two - to crush in  
the bud as it were anything savoring  
of sympathy for the negro's disfranchising.  
I do not know what the Convention  
may vote to do in regard to the  
office of Corresponding Secretary - but  
I do feel strongly tempted to send  
in my resignation also - as the  
work of the office as well as the  
local rebuilding of sentiment  
actually keeps my nose to the  
grindstone. In the respect of  
building up sentiment locally I  
feel that our position is different  
from most of the workers. H. O.







members of the Convention - what  
is wanted is effective service + a  
yearly change means that one  
member of the Board remain  
a figure head. For it takes  
about a year before a member  
truly grasps the situation. I be-  
lieve that idea of a change  
originated in the mind of that  
malcontent Miss Hay in her  
effort to push herself on the  
Board. Even if I do not resign  
I feel no stone will be left un-  
turned by Miss Hay to have me  
defeated and she may succeed  
in which event the Board would  
be left wholly without a representa-  
tive from the South - little short  
of a calamity from our point  
of view. You will be very diffi-  
cult of defeat for I can assure  
you this woman has tried her







wiser for you to remain on  
the Board, I am with  
very best wishes for the  
New Year

Cordially + fraternally  
Kate M. Gordon.



# National American Woman Suffrage Association.

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National Press Committee, ELENORA M. BABCOCK, Dunkirk, N. Y.

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS, WARREN, OHIO.

OFFICE OF THE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY, NEW ORLEANS, LA.



March 4, 1905.

My dear State Presidents:-

It may be that this letter will reach some of the States which have already reported their willingness to secure at least one page of advertising matter in our Program. In that event, this letter is not intended for them, but for those Presidents who have not replied definitely to me on the subject.

Will you each try to secure the desired advertising? Let us make of this venture a financial success and relieve the Association of much of the traveling expenses connected with the trip. This reminds me to suggest that the Railroads are very liberal advertisers. In many instances, passes could be secured which could be sold for the benefit of the Program fund. At any rate, see that you are active in this matter, in the next few weeks, and if possible let me have an early report from you on the situation.

Very cordially yours,

*Kate M. Gordon*

Cor. Sec'y. *msa*

P.S. The District of Columbia has the exclusive advertising privilege for Yeast Powders, the Royal Baking Company having paid \$40.00 for the outside page. So none of the rest of us must accept any advertisements for Yeast Powders.



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105 East 22nd Street, New York City.

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Auditors: { LAURA CLAY, Lexington, Ky.  
DR. ANNICE JEFFREY MYERS, 375 East 12th St., N., Portland, Ore.

Chairman Press Committee, ELNORA M. BABCOCK, Dunkirk, N. Y.

OFFICE OF  
THE PRESIDENT

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS, WARREN, OHIO



Warren, Barnstable Co., Mass., Sept. 15th, '05.

Dear Member of the Business Committee,-

Because of her unsettled address, Mr<sup>s</sup>.

Ida Porter Boyer has declined to accept the Chairmanship of the Letter Writers' Committee, and Mrs. Upton suggested the name of Mrs. J. P. Oliphant, of Cincinnati, Ohio, as Chairman. She says that Mrs. Oliphant was for many years a member of the Toledo Woman Suffrage Association, prior to her marriage. She is a successful newspaper woman, is very bright, uses a type-writer, and is in every way a desirable person for that position. Mrs. Oliphant is confined to her home very closely, because she has two or three small children, but she is very desirous of doing some kind of work that can be done from her home, and she has told Mrs. Upton that she was ready to do anything that she possibly could and this certainly a kind of work which can readily be done from her home by a willing person. I shall enclose a note on the subject in this letter, and if any of you have other names to suggest, of course do so, but the time is so short between this and the next National Convention, please make your nominations at once so that they may be voted upon immediately.

Mrs. Upton nominates as second choice, Miss Amelia Cameron, of New York; third, Mrs. Mary Quinby Philbrick, of Epsom, N. H.

In a letter sent out to the Business Committee a short time since, by Miss Blackwell, she speaks about having written to Mrs. Boyer about using her Letter Writers' Committee in connection with the attack made on the newspaper known as "Lucifer," and then she asks if it is just the thing for a member of the Board to make a request of this sort of the Committee, without first consulting the Business Committee. I do not know whether you have written Miss.



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#2, B. C.

Blackwell your opinion or not, but if you have not, I am going to ask you to vote upon it, so that we may have a record of the opinion of the Board to govern not only Miss Blackwell, but all the rest of us.

I would like also to ask if you do not think it would be a good thing plan in the future to decide what shall be the scope of the Letter Writers' Committee, and upon what subjects the Committee should send out letters. If we have a wise committee it would be perfectly safe to trust it to their discretion, but it may not always be wise. Do you think the scope of the work of the Committee should be confined entirely to Suffrage, or might it be extended to some other matters? If it is to be confined wholly to Suffrage, then I think the Committee should be instructed upon that point as soon as formed, in order that there may be no misunderstanding afterward.

A letter from Miss Gregg to Mrs. Upton states that Miss Clay seems to be willing to remain in Portland. It certainly is a very great source of gratitude to me to have her do so, as I know it will be to every member of the Board. I have today written Miss Clay asking her the conditions upon which she will remain, and as soon as I hear from her I will submit the question to the Board. There is one point, however, which I would like to state now. Just before I left Portland, when Miss Clay decided to remain to look after the collection of the names to the petitions, she said that a typewriter would be a very great help to her. I told her that inasmuch as the headquarters would have to have a machine anyhow, to go ahead and rent one until I could submit a vote for the purchase to the Board. This she did, and paid \$5.00 for the rent of it for a month. When the Board voted to purchase it this money was applied on the purchase price. She also secured \$25.00 advertising on it in "Progress." When the Treasurer sent her the \$5.00 which she had paid on the rent, she returned the money, saying that she had rented the machine before the vote on the matter was taken, so she felt that it was a personal matter and that she ought to pay for it. Now, certainly, since Miss Clay was doing the work for the



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#3, B. C.

Association and not even receiving her board, we ought to insist upon her receiving the \$5.00 back again on the machine, for it was not a personal matter. She would not have rented it at all if she had not been doing the Association's work, and the simple fact that it was rented prior to the vote of the Committee for its purchase, certainly does not at all make it right for her to pay the money. She will have plenty of chance to use it in the campaign while she is in the State.

MRS. CATT.

I do not know whether I have told you before or not, that Mrs. Catt has written me that according to the request of the Business Committee she wrote Mrs. Page and asked her to use her influence with Mrs. Shaw to permit Mrs. Park to go to Oregon during the campaign, and leave the Massachusetts work; but Mrs. Page writes that she thinks it would be utterly useless to make any such request of Mrs. Shaw, because she feels that the Massachusetts work has been neglected too much, and that Mrs. Shaw's state of health is such that it would not be wise to worry her. Of course, we will have to submit to the decision if Mrs. Park herself concurs in it, but it seems like a narrow policy to prevent Mrs. Park's splendid work which she might do for Oregon simply for what she can possibly do for Massachusetts. It seems to me that any one ought to see that a victory in Oregon would do more for Massachusetts than ten years of the very best work that could be done there, - but of course we can do nothing further about it. I am only hoping that Miss Gordon's mother's health will improve so much that just as soon as the National Convention is over Miss Gordon will feel that she can go to Oregon and take charge of the Portland work; I think if she could put three months in there, with what help we could give her, we could carry the city, and if we did that we could carry the State.

I have received a letter from Mrs. Catt in which she states that it will be absolutely impossible for her to go to Portland for the speaking, as we had hoped she might during the last two months of the campaign. She says



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#4, B. C.

that she might have endured the office work, but that it is simply impossible for her at present to do field work, that there is something about speaking that makes her ill and good for nothing the next day and that she simply must stop until she gets over it. Of course, her letter was a very great disappointment to me, but her health is to us, and to her as well, the very first consideration, and if she thinks that speaking is the very worst thing that she could do, then she certainly should not do it, but I must confess that it filled me with very great disappointment.

MISS GORDON.

Miss Gordon will let us know as soon as she gets time the result of her consultation with the Colorado people and the hope of getting speakers there, and who was their choice,- also if they would do anything to help keep one of their own state speakers in the field.

Faithfully yours,

*Anna H. Shaw*

P. S.

Telegram has just been received from Miss Laughlin, saying- "Will go to Oregon so as to arrive by September 30th."



# National American Woman Suffrage Association

MEMBER NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Honorary President, Susan B. Anthony,  
17 Madison Street, Rochester, N. Y.

President, Rev. Anna Howard Shaw,  
7443 Devon Street, Mt. Airy, Philadelphia, Pa.

Vice President at Large, Florence Kelley,  
105 East 22nd Street, New York City.

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Auditors: { Laura Clay, Lexington, Ky.  
          { Dr. Annice F. Jeffreys, Portland, Ore.



XX  
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS, WARREN, OHIO.  
XX

New Orleans, June 30, 1906.

Dear Member of the Business Committee:-

I have just received from Mrs. Evans of Portland newspaper clippings of the election returns and the final report given the majority against us, as 10,173. The total vote was as follows:- For 36,902 --- Against 47,075.

Now among these clippings is one with enormous headlines, "Affidavit Votes Flooded the State" " FIGURES SHOW THAT OVER TEN THOUSAND VOTES WERE SWORN IN AT RECENT ELECTIONS". The opening paragraph is as follows:- "One of the surprising features of the recent election was the immense number of affidavit votes cast throughout the State. The total can only be estimated, but the figures at hand justify the statement that it was in excess of 10,000. It may have been 12000 or 14000. Only statistics of the exact number of citizens of each county who registered and did not vote could settle the point and these figures cannot be obtained."

In the proviso of the election laws of Oregon, which permits the swearing in of unregistered voters by six property owners living in the precinct, lay the power for a corrupt opposition to defeat us. I am of the belief that our amendment carried, and the 10,000 majority against is to be found among the 12,000 or 14,000 affidavit voters many of whom were minors, others disqualified by residence and colonized to defeat us.

Our first duty is to realize that all the education in the world will not bring us victory unless where we suspect fraud to vigorously follow with prosecution. We must expect in future campaigns to be prepared to challenge voters and to keep watchers in the polls. All this means command of money, we have never been able to secure, where we depend upon little personal contributions in reply to a specific appeal for certain kinds of work and often while the campaign is in progress.

This leads me to suggest that we discourage every effort for a memorial to Miss Anthony unless it take a practical form, and that the Association endorse with its influence the securing as a memorial, a campaign fund of at least \$100,000, preferably more, whose purpose would be to work for a square count and to secure changes in the election laws of States where loopholes are left for the purposes of fraud. More than this I believe the next ten years will be years of great activity in our Cause and we must be prepared with the sinews of war to be ready for every emergency. There certainly must be a thousand men and women in these United States interested enough to pledge \$100 to secure such a fund, if consecrated to campaign purposes. This contribution to in no wise conflict with the annual contributions for the running expenses of the work. I promise if this form of memorial be adopted to secure at least



c June 30, 1906

#2BC

five such contributors.

PIN:- The ignorance prevailing in regard to the progress of our work astonishes me more and more. I think I can safely state that not one person in a hundred in the United States know that women vote in four States. With Idaho bordering on Oregon, few indeed were the persons I met who knew that women voted in Idaho. The wearing of pins or buttons by men and women to identify them with some organization is the mania of our age. Our workers should be willing to wear, for the sake of advertising us, and Association badge, which should be of a character to challenge attention. Not a far-fetched mythological character, which requires an explanation to make the relation to equal rights evident. I therefore suggest that at the coming State Conventions we submit for acceptance or rejection the adoption of a small enamelled flag with the four stars in the field. The flag particularly attracts the attention of men and affords a pleasant way of introducing our subject. For instance three men asked me while returning home via the Canadian Pacific, whether a very little ribbon flag, which I had cut down from the one I wore on election day, was worn because I was an American. I immediately replied that unfortunately is not the American Flag, that is a free flag. And then enlightened them accordingly. Both Oregon and Washington are in favor of the Adoption of the flag for our National pin.

ANALYSIS OF THE VOTE:- Wherever our watchers kept a tally of the vote it was very generally shown that the labor vote went heavily in our favor. We judge this from the fact that the early morning vote and the late afternoon vote was in our favor. On the other hand the Prohibition vote was against us, and quite a percentage of the Socialists were faithless to their principles. I think under the circumstances that a resolution of appreciation on the part of the Business Committee would be a graceful thing to send to the Oregon Federation of Labor as well as to the National as an acknowledgement of Mr. Gompers helpfulness. I think a letter to the National Prohibitionists and Socialists, inquiring into the situation might be a politic thing to do.

MISS PEASE:- At Miss Shaw's urgent request I remained in Portland to take the necessary steps to launch the new campaign as well as to keep a control in the National's hands. The very women we relied upon as a safe one to trust, Mrs. Abbie French, proved herself a disorganizer rather than a helper. After everything had been arranged for Miss Pease to act as the link between the National and the State, the National responsible for policy but the State bearing the expense, Mrs. French butted in and upset all the plans, and Mrs. Colby finally succeeded in her desire for the position in rousing a veritable State's Rights fight. In the dilemma I engaged Miss Pease to act as the National's representative, pending the action finally taken by the State, at \$75 a month. It would have been suicidal for us to drop all the work, while over a hundred Committees throughout the State were willing and anxious to launch a new campaign. I have had no news from Miss Pease. She is to send out a letter to the Committees instructing them to secure in their precincts a certain number of petition signatures. She is to supply fortnightly copy to the papers of the State in order to keep up the exchanges, and if permanently retained will be able to institute Parlor Meetings as the best educational medium in our next



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campaign. I left Dr. Pohl and Mrs. Evans to look after the local situation. They are both friends of Mrs. Duniway, and can control her very readily. Let me say right here that I feel our Business Committee has reckoned too little on Mrs. Duniway's enormous influence for good. While she has enemies, the faction in the suffrage Association against her, are in many respects equally as objectionable, and they certainly do not command the social influence which Mrs. Duniway does control. More than this the old lady is breaking very rapidly and we must be very careful to give no offence in her decline.

I am anxious to receive the report of the Committee in charge of the Petitions in Portland, and who were to report East Tuesday. A newspaper article from Mrs. Duniway doing up the Anti Suffrage Manager Reed, states that 2500 had been secured in ten days in Portland.

SUGGESTIONS:- I will leave during the week for a European trip and in all probability will not return until the first of December. I therefore suggest that in the Business Committee meeting to be held this fall, that you consider the absolute necessity for some systematic work on parlor meeting lines to be carried out among the working girls in Oregon. I think Miss Barnum should be consulted and her organization work in the interests of the Union ~~XXXXXX~~ consulted. I have written a Mrs. Ballou in Portland and asked her if she could develop this line.

The necessity for short practical articles and large type in our literature. Silly as it may seem the most effective argument of the Anti woman suffragists, was the Jury duty which women had to assume as the penalty paid for the privilege of having the suffrage. Women who believed the suffrage was their right were terrified at the idea that it involved this duty.

I want to further suggest that in the work of the States before the Legislatures, we suggest that they ask for the ballot to be given to the teachers. Of course it will raise at once the question of class legislation. But it affords such a splendid field for agitation and among a class who need to be roused. I found, that to dwell upon the thought that the teachers were the State's most valuable asset, and then the folly of their remaining silent while every old ragtailed bobtailed man in the community could vote, was very productive in creating sentiment. Miss Dinnick who is the leading woman teacher in Portland suggested that we try and get some suffrage editorials into the KNE educational journals. I would think we might get some valuable information of how to proceed to secure this channel of information through Miss Haley.

PROGRESS:- I hope in making Progress our campaign Journal in Oregon we will be able to use cartoons. I will see Dorothy Dix and ask her to see Homer Davenport and ask him to supply us with some. He is an Oregon man, and as "Made in Oregon" is their slogan there his work will be doubly acceptable.

I do not think it very probable that I will attend the Copenhagen Meeting. Any of you who wish to correspond with me can reach me through the care of the American Express Co. London.

Cordially yours,

Kate M. Gordon



# National American Woman Suffrage Association

President, REV. ANNA HOWARD SHAW,  
7443 Devon Street, Mt. Airy, Philadelphia, Pa.

Vice-President-at-Large, FLORENCE KELLEY,  
105 East 22d Street, New York City.

Corresponding Secretary, KATE M. GORDON,  
Warren, Ohio.

Recording Secretary, ALICE STONE BLACKWELL, 3 Park Street, Boston, Mass.

Treasurer, HARRIET TAYLOR UPTON, Warren, Ohio.

Auditors: } LAURA CLAY, Lexington, Ky.  
} DR. ANNICE JEFFREY MYERS, 375 East 12th St., N., Portland, Ore.



Dear Madam:

For many years, at every session of Congress, there has been introduced and referred to the appropriate Committee a joint resolution providing for submitting to the State legislatures an amendment to the Constitution of the United States allowing women to vote. Hitherto this joint resolution has never received the necessary vote of two-thirds of the members of both Houses of Congress.

It is our belief that one of the reasons for past failure lies in the neglect of women, in the different States, to ask candidates for election to Congress, before the elections, whether or not they will vote for the submission of this amendment.

Members of Congress who pass through the campaign without being made aware of the desire of their constituents for the submission of this amendment, cannot reasonably be expected to interest themselves in it simply by reason of a Congressional Committee hearing, courteously granted, as a matter of form, to its advocates.

In order that candidates for election to Congress, next November, may be informed of the widespread desire for the enfranchisement of women, the undersigned Committee asks not only suffrage clubs, but all women's clubs, to interrogate candidates of all parties, in their respective districts, as to the candidates' intentions with regard to the joint resolution providing for submitting to the legislatures of the States an amendment to the Constitution of the United States allowing women to vote.

If you care to participate in this effort on a national scale to secure the submission of this 18th amendment to the Constitution, will you bring the matter to the attention of your club at the first appropriate opportunity? Or, if your club excludes from its work all effort to promote legislation, will you not, simply as a citizen, interrogate the candidates for election to Congress in the district in which you live?

In every case, whether favorable, unfavorable, evasive, or not forthcoming, the answer of the candidates should be made public in the newspapers in the district and also forwarded to the undersigned.

Hoping that you will kindly apprise us of whatever action you may take, and wishing that it may be prompt and helpful, we remain,  
Yours respectfully,

Sept. 15th, 1906.

KATE M. GORDON, Secretary  
ANNICE JEFFREY MYERS  
FLORENCE KELLEY

Committee on Congressional Legislation.  
Headquarters National American Woman Suffrage Association,  
Warren, Ohio.



# National American Woman Suffrage Association

MEMBER NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Honorary President, Susan B. Anthony,  
17 Madison Street, Rochester, N. Y.

President, Rev. Anna Howard Shaw,  
7443 Devon Street, Mt. Airy, Philadelphia, Pa.

Vice President at Large, Florence Kelley,  
105 East 22nd Street, New York City.



Corresponding Secretary, Kate M. Gordon,  
1800 Prytania Street, New Orleans, La.

Recording Secretary, Alice Stone Blackwell, 3 Park Street, Boston, Mass.

Treasurer, Harriet Taylor Upton, Warren, Ohio.

Auditors: { Laura Clay, Lexington, Ky.  
          { Dr. Annice F. Jeffreys, Portland, Ore.

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS, WARREN, OHIO.

( Copy )

September 1st, 1906.

Mrs. ....

.....

Dear Mrs. ....

At every session of Congress there is introduced and referred to the appropriate committee, a bill providing for submitting to the people an amendment to the Constitution giving to women the power to vote. Hitherto, this proposed amendment has never been favorably reported by any committee.

It is the belief of the undersigned that one reason for past failure lies in the neglect of women, in the different states, to ask candidates for election to Congress, before the elections, whether or not they will vote for the submission of such an amendment.

Members of Congress who pass through the experience of the campaign without being made aware of the desire of their constituents for the submission of such an amendment, cannot reasonable be expected to interest themselves in it simply by reason of a Congressional hearing, courteously granted, *pro forma*, to its advocates.

In order that candidates for election next November may be fully informed of the extent of the present active desire for the enfranchisement of women, the undersigned committee asks all clubs of women to interrogate candidates, of all parties, in their respective



Sept 1, 1906

districts, as to the candidates' intentions with regard to the bill which will again be introduced providing for submitting to the vote of the people an amendment to the Constitution, giving to women the power to vote.

If you are willing to participate in this national effort to secure the submission of this 16th amendment to the Constitution, will you bring the matter to the attention of your club at the first appropriate opportunity?

Or, if your club excludes from its work all effort to promote legislation, will you not, simply as a citizen, interrogate the candidates for election to Congress in the district in which you live?

In every case, candidates should be informed that their replies, whether favorable, unfavorable or evasive, will be published. If no reply from any given candidate is received, this fact will be published.

Hoping for a prompt reply and active help, we remain,

Yours sincerely,

( Signed ) Kate M. Gordon,

Annice Jeffrey Myers,

Florence Kelley.

Committee on Congressional Legislation.