

# 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 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



Swarthmore, Pa. Nov. 15, 1906.

Miss Laura Clay,

Lexington, Kentucky.

My dear Miss Clay:-

Your letter in regard to Miss Kearney is at hand and what I had to say I thought would better be written than telegraphed. I had not seen this circular of Miss Kearney's when I wrote you and as I sent you a copy of her letter, you will see that there was no suggestion of the form in which the meeting was to be called.

Now, it must appeal to you as to every fairminded woman that such a call could not be sanctioned by the National Suffrage Association. It is contrary to the spirit of our organization and I am very sure would create discord in the body itself if the officers were to sanction such a meeting called in this manner. Whatever may be our opinion of the effect of woman suffrage in the South and the need of white domination in the government, as a National Association we could not make a public call of that sort and expect the co-operation of all the country and it would re-act against ourselves by showing that we really don't believe in the justice of suffrage, but simply that certain classes or races should dominate the government. Of course, individual members of the Association are at perfect liberty to do as they see best in all such matters and I suppose as far as you are concerned as a suffragist you have the same privilege with every other member, but do you think it would be wise for you as a National officer to give your sanction to a meeting called in this way? What we may do as individuals, we may not do as officers of the Association.



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I think for Miss Kearney to go ahead and make such a call as this without consulting any of the suffragists of the southern states, yourself and others included, and that you should together decide on the best manner of work, is a bit of presumption, which is just like her and if the matter is left to her the call and the first meeting will be all there will be of it. I do think that such a conference would be a splendid thing if called under our Association and managed entirely by the southern women with you and Miss Gordon as National officers to direct it, but it doesn't seem to me to be wise for you or Miss Gordon to be prominently associated with the conference under such a call as this. The same result might be obtained if the meeting were called in a different way. Yet I do think there would be danger if Miss Kearney were to call this meeting and there were none of our levelheaded suffragists there to prevent any indiscreet or unwise action, such as forming a southern suffrage association separate and apart from the National Association. It is because I fear something of this sort that I am glad you have decided to go, yet I am also fearful that Miss Kearney will use your presence to advertise that she has the sanction of the National Association because of the presence of some of the National Board. To my mind it is an unfortunate thing whichever you decide to. Unfortunate if you go and unfortunate if you don't. I only wish we had taken the initiative in such a move as this, as probably we ought to have done sometime ago and would have done but for Oregon, which has absolutely consumed two years of our time and strength.

I am very sure if you decide to go that you will be able to hold the conference level to a wise policy of action, but I will have a chance to talk with you further in regard to this matter when I see you at your State Convention. I will write Miss A. M. Glenn, Ashland, in regard to the time of my arrival.

Faithfully yours,

*Anna H. Shaw*



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Swarthmore, Pa., Nov. 15, 1906..

Dear Member of the Business Committee:-

I am enclosing a copy of a letter received from Miss Belle Kearney on my return home last week. I immediately wrote Miss Clay asking her what she thought of Miss Kearney's plan so that I might have the opinion of a Southern woman before answering her, but it seems Miss Kearney didn't wait to hear from me but started out immediately to perfect the arrangements for a conference and issued a circular calling a meeting, a copy of which I enclose. I am also sending you a copy of my reply so that you may know the nature of the correspondence which has taken place between Miss Kearney and myself in regard to the matter. A letter from Miss Clay this morning in reply to mine says that she approves of the plan of a conference of Southern women and that she hopes to attend.

I would like to have your opinion as to what attitude you think our Association should take in regard to this Convention, whether we should send a representative or not. Personally, I hope Miss Clay will attend, because I feel that they will need someone there who has wisdom enough to keep them from making some rash movement if led by Miss Kearney. Of course, Miss Clay would not represent the National Association unless it is your wish that she should do so. It seems to me, however, that it would be impossible for our National Society to lend its assistance to the organization of any suffrage movement of this sort, the animus of which is so widely different from that of our Society. Please let me hear from you at once as to your opinion in regard to the attitude of our Society towards this conference.



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OKLAHOMA - I have received a telegram from Mrs. Bradford that she will start for Oklahoma the last of this month. Miss Gregg left Nebraska for Guthrie on the 14th. A letter received from Mrs. Boyer this morning contains a number of answers which have been returned to Mrs. Biggers from the various clubs. Mrs. Biggers wrote them in regard to holding a State Convention and the replies which Mrs. Boyer sent and which she says are a sample of those which are continually coming show an almost lapsed condition of nearly all of the clubs in the state. Certainly there is a spirit of indifference in Oklahoma which makes one feel almost as if the Nebraska situation was to be repeated as far as the indifference of the women themselves is concerned.

Mrs. R. O. Williams of Perkins writes "The president of our former club promised to come to my house last night to settle the matter whether or not we would take up the work again this fall, but she did not come. She refuses to go as a delegate or act as the president any longer. We have no leader in our club. That's what we lack here. We have plenty of believers in our town but they are too timid or afraid to come out and show their colors. I am more discouraged now than I have been at any time. You may wonder why I do not take hold and act as president. One reason is I don't feel qualified for the work and another is I am going to the Pacific coast in spring and it would not pay to take the place for so short a time. I made a proposition to the W. C. T. U. if they would work the suffrage department in their society, we would not start ours again but they wouldn't do it. You need not look for any delegates from here. I would like to be at the meeting the 15th and 16th but don't want to represent a dead club."

Another from Wynnewood writes, "The indifference of our women is our greatest obstacle. The arrangement made to hold the annual meeting in Oklahoma City is very convenient for me. I shall make an effort to attend. Oklahoma people



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are not ready to vote favorably on the question. There is too much prejudice." Another writes from McCloud, "Yours received and in reply will say that so far as I am concerned the time and place for the suffrage meeting as you have planned it is all right. We have no club any more at McCloud and so you will have to count us out." Another one writes, the name of her town isn't on it, "Our club simply would do nothing after I wrote you before. We can do nothing as a club now but when we get the election over and, of course, we will have prohibition, then we are going to work the suffrage question in the W. C. T. U. That will be our next issue. I would be glad to go to the Convention but I have a sick mother and niece", and so they run.

Mrs. Boyer writes, "The newspaper work is a hard task. It takes persistence. Don't know what is the matter with the people here. They are the most unresponsive lot in many respects. Perhaps it is because everything is so new to them that they cannot grasp conditions or ideas. Even self-government is a departure. I have about fifty papers on my list as favorable and all offered to put us on the exchange list, which is an advantage, but then fifty papers out of a possible five hundred or more isn't a drop in the bucket of future usefulness. I am working desperately to get at least four hundred. Every personal interview has been successful. A German whom I visited in Ferry was afraid he couldn't translate as his time was absorbed in getting out the paper. I saw his reason was sincere and so offered to send him short items. That was very satisfactory. Now that is one case where he would have written no and we would have lost him. Same way with a Bohemian publisher in this city."

She also writes, "You have sized up the situation finely. The work now at hand is convincing the members of the Constitutional Convention. The strongest influence that can be brought to bear upon them will be from their own home districts. We must try to locate women who are suffragists to do local work". This



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last point was made in regard to what I wrote her concerning the work of Miss Gregg and Dr. Woods that during the time of the Constitutional Convention it was utter folly to attempt to organize local clubs. The principal work must be to stir up existing clubs to correspond with delegates to the Convention and to try to get leading individual citizens where no club exists to do the same thing.

MISS CHASE - I have written Miss Chase that as there seems to be so much uncertainty as to when a vote will be taken in Vermont, if she has any extra time it might be well for her to hold parlor meetings in Montpelier and try to arouse some local interest in establishing a club, or if the Vermont people wish it, she might organize some local clubs in nearby neighborhoods. I am writing also asking her to urge the Vermont people to try to send delegates to the National Convention.

Faithfully yours,

*Anna H. Chase*



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Swartmore, Pa., Nov. 15, 1900.

My dear Miss Kearney:

When I received your letter in regard to the conference of Southern women, I felt that the movement was very timely and that as far as I was personally concerned I would be very glad to do anything I could to further it, but I also felt that before I could act I ought to consult some of the Southern women of our Suffrage Association, particularly the officers, for I thought that a convention to devise methods of conducting the suffrage movement in the South to appeal to the members of our society should at least have the sanction of the Southern women upon our official board. Of course, as National President I could take no action until I had consulted my whole official board, but before I did that I wished to know the opinion of those who had for many years worked in the South and had been the leaders of our movement there.

This morning I have received the circular letter which you have sent to the Southern women. It puts an entirely different phase upon the matter, because as a National Association it would be impossible for us to be allied with any movement which advocated the exclusion of any race or class from the right of suffrage. It would put us in a false position to make it seem to the world that our purpose in organizing the suffrage movement in the South is to secure the predominance of any one race over another.

I was very much surprised at receiving this circular to learn



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that you had called this conference without hearing from me as to the attitude of the National Suffrage Association in regard to such a movement, especially as a distinct movement of Southern women apart from the existing National Suffrage Association doesn't seem necessary since the South is so well represented upon our National Board by two such strong Southern women as Miss Laura Clay and Miss Kate Gordon. I wish you had waited to consult with these officers of our Association, who I am very sure would have been glad to cooperate with you along the lines which are in accord with the national character of such an organization as ours.

I am very glad that you are becoming interested in the suffrage work and I trust that you will be able to attend the National Convention in Chicago, which convenes Feb. 1907. I was much surprised not to see you at the National W.C.T.U. Convention in Hartford and that I didn't again meet you in Boston.

With kindest regards, I am

Very truly yours,

L. Anna H. Shaw



181 N. Mill St., Lexington, Ky.

Nov. 13th, 1906.

My dear Miss Shaw,

I enclose my vote on Mrs. Kelly's proposed leaflet.

I entirely approve the leaflet's being sent to Congressmen; and of course those would have to be distributed free. 2000 would be ample for this. Any others ought to be sold for enough to re-imburse the expense. If Mrs. Upton thinks she can sell ten thousand it would be wise to buy them. Otherwise I do not approve of the expense; and I think newer articles may come out which we would like to have. If the North American Review finds that the numbers which have suffrage articles meet with a wide sale the editor will be encouraged to print such articles. If he does not, other editors will probably do so. It seems to me better to have fresh articles rather than old leaflets which hang on for years before they are all disposed of.

I answer yours of Nov. 5th under heads.

Mrs. Churchill. I think you are right about Mrs. Churchill. In fact, I am coming to the conclusion that we ought to encourage home workers rather than sending any outsiders into a state. Can not we employ in some way that young woman whom Dr. Woods liked so much in Oklahoma? I am not going to write much on this point, because I hope I may have a talk with you at our Ky. Convention.

~~immediate action~~. I note what you say under this head. I endorse all you have done as described in your letter; and I am fully disposed to do as you ask,--"that the Business Committee will stand by me so far as they are able to accept my judgment of the best things to be



done". I think "in the multitude of counsellors there is wisdom ", but I know, also, that prompt action is often imperative.

Please let Mrs.A.M.Glenn, Ashland, Ky., know the day and train on which you will arrive in Ashland. They expect you the 20th, and would like to know the hour of your arrival, if possible.

Hoping to see you soon, I am

Very cordially yours,



181 N. Mill St., Lexington, Ky.

Nov. 12th, 1906.

My dear Miss Shaw,

I have just returned from Richmond, and while there both Mrs. Bennett and I received the letter I enclose from Miss Kearney. On my return I find your letter relating to the same subject. My sisters and I and Mrs. Roark, in whose judgment I have confidence, thought Miss Kearney's move a valuable one, and I had decided to accept the invitation. This we thought when we looked upon the conference as gotten up by southern women apart from the N.A.A.S.P.A. Now that I know Miss Kearney asks your consent, it seems to me that would throw the responsibility for the success of the meeting and any criticism for its object upon the National; and whether we are prepared for that or not I have not ~~time~~ had time yet to consider. However, as caution is always in order, my advice would be that you should tell Miss Kearney you were not willing to give an official consent without correspondence with the Business Committee which would take so much time that it would defeat her object in getting in action before Jan. I do not quite understand her sending out such letters as I enclose, ~~after asking your consent~~ *without hearing from you* after asking your consent as if her action depended upon it.

Independently of the National, such an uprising as the invitation indicates would be valuable, I think. But if the National is to be responsible it I am of the opinion that it should have been undertaken only under the auspices and care of our accredited agents, whether our officers or others. I am wholly indisposed to allow even the best of friends to to launch schemes according to their own notions and then hold the National responsible for them. I had intended to accept Miss Kearney's invita-



tion this very evening, as it seems to require promptness. But her appeal to you puts somewhat different aspect upon the conference; and I shall wait to hear from you again before I send my answer to Miss Kearney. Therefore, either write to me again at once, or even telegraph at my expense, if you think it desirable.

I will answer other letters just received from you ~~xxxxxx~~ later.

Cordilly yours,



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Swarthmore, Pa., Nov. 17, 1906.

Dear President:-

In the absence of our National Corresponding Secretary, Miss Kate M. Gordon, at her request and that of the National President, I am acting as her proxy.

In preparing the program of the 1907 Convention at Chicago, Feb. 14th to 19th, inclusive, I find that we are going to be even more pressed for time for the business than we usually are. Our Convention will have but five week days, which would usually give us ten sessions for business. Unfortunately before our Committee secured the hall in which we are to meet, it had been rented to other parties for Saturday afternoon, Feb. 16th. This cuts off one afternoon session. We think it appropriate upon the birthday of Miss Anthony, Feb. 15th, at this first Convention since she left us, to give the afternoon session to the consideration of a plan for an appropriate memorial to her great work. This takes away from business a second afternoon session. In view of the campaign for Municipal Suffrage now going on in Chicago, your Program Committee has decided to devote part of the first afternoon session immediately following the addresses of welcome to a symposium on the subject of Municipal Suffrage.

We shall, therefore, have only five morning and two afternoon sessions for all our regular business, - Reports of General Officers, Oregon Campaign, Headquarters, State Presidents' Reports and those of Standing and Special Committees, Raising of Money, Election of Officers and Consideration of the Resolutions.

Because of this, I am compelled to all of all those concerned, yourself among the number, the favor of the sacrifice of some portion of the time belonging to your report - time which were it possible would gladly be given in full



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by the Program Committee.

Under the new ruling as to the time given to each state report, it is impossible for me to say now to just how many minutes each state has a right. This will not be known until the National Treasurer closes her books December 31st but I write you now in advance to tell you frankly the whole situation. You will know the membership of your own State Association and will be able to calculate, according to the new ruling above referred to, what your own time will be and can tell me the proportion of it you are willing to yield out of consideration for the Program Committee and the difficulty which they encounter in arranging the business of this Convention.

It is especially requested that all reports shall deal strictly with work done since the last National Convention.

Formerly when a State President was absent from the Convention and when, as sometimes happens, no regular report from that state had been received, the time was given to a delegate to make a little speech. Because of the shortness of our business time at the approaching Convention, the Business Committee in informally considering this subject at its late meeting in Warren decided that only reports shall be given.

I am very glad after my long absence from home and work to be once more in the harness even though unofficially. Our Corresponding Secretary, Miss Gordon, is expected home about the first of December and will, of course, resume her own part of the work. It is, however, understood that I shall continue to act as Chairman of the Program Committee in making preparations for the approaching Convention.

Trusting to have a prompt response to this letter and looking forward with pleasure to meeting you in Chicago, I am

Cordially yours,

*Rachel Foster Avery*



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Swarthmore, Pa., Nov. 9, 1906.

Dear Member of the Business Committee:-

Those of you who were at Warren will remember that Mrs. Kelley said that on reading the article in the "North American Review" of September 21st, written by Mrs. Ida Houston Harper on the subject "Suffrage, a Right", she immediately wrote the editors of the "North American Review", asking what they would charge to make it into a pamphlet for our Association if we desired it. Those of you who have read the article, also the editorial in the following month will realize the value of each of them, and that coming from the source it does it will carry very great weight.

I fully agree with Mrs. Kelley that it would be a good plan for us to secure these leaflets and I, therefore, enclose a copy of the letter, which she received from the editor of the magazine, and a vote asking you to return your replies as soon as possible in order that Mrs. Kelley may have plenty of time in which to act. I am also enclosing a copy of Mrs. Kelley's letter to me so you may know just what her plan in regard to it is. The plan strikes me as a very desirable one and I sincerely trust that if you all agree with it, we may find it possible to carry it out.

Faithfully yours,

*Anna H. Shaw*



C Nov 9, 1906

( COPY )

Second Letter from Miss Chase.

Montpelier, Vt., Nov. 5, 1906.

Dear Miss Shaw:

I have worked like a Trojan, Sunday even, so could not spare time to write to you. Mr. Shaw, who introduced the bill in the House, was very anxious to have a hearing before the Senate. Mrs. George's coming scared the women so they sent for Miss Blackwell, would have sent for you if they had known where you were. They sent for Miss Blackwell before I came. The hearing is Tuesday evening, Nov. 6th. Miss Blackwell will come and perhaps Mrs. Park. Mr. Shaw brings women from the southern part of the State. Senator Taylor, Chairman of the Judiciary Com. says the only objection is that the women do not want to vote. He said if the women would attend in large numbers, it would do more than anything else to carry the bill. I called on all the ministers to announce the hearing in church yesterday and urge the women to go. All but one gladly agreed to do so. The one who refused, believes in the bill, but dislikes announcing such matters from the pulpit, said he would talk to the women personally. The reading circles all meet tomorrow, and it will be announced there. The notice will be in the papers to-night and to-morrow. Leading ladies in Montpelier are going to try to rally the women out by telephone and every way possible. I am going to tear round town, calling on people. If the room is not packed with women, it will not be our fault. I spent a good part of Sunday writing letters to friends all over the State urging them to write to Senator Taylor. I want him deluged



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with letters.

The editors were lovely, are going to print the editorial in the North Am. Review in to-day's paper on editorial page, simply ask cost of setting up type, less than five dollars for both papers. Both papers used to be hateful, have not said an unkind word this time. I am going to screw up my courage to ask them to write editorials in favor for to-morrow's paper.

Only one person I have met seems to have any faith to believe we can carry the Senate, but we are going to make the fight of our lives.

Hoping for victory,

(signed) Mary N. Chase.



[Nov. 7, 1906]

(COPY)

Moorestown, N. J.,  
Oct. 29, 1906.

My dear Dr. Shaw,

It is in my heart to help the woman suffrage cause quite definitely. I would like to call a conference of Southern women, interested in securing the ballot, to meet in Memphis, Tenn., in Dec., to discuss the question of appearing before legislatures, &c. Have I your consent to this move? Please answer at once. Address me at Moorestown, New Jersey, care of Jno. B. Leeds. I shall be here until Friday. After that, letters will be forwarded. I shall be in the South a good deal this winter after the 15 of Nov. I hope to revive the Miss. Woman Suffrage Ass'n. Let me hear from you. Please sign, officially, the consent you will give to my calling this Southern Conference. Is Kate Gordon still in Europe? What is your home address?

Yours cordially,

(signed) Belle Kearney.



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Swarthmore, Pa., Nov. 7, 1906.

Miss Laura Clay,

Lexington, Kentucky.

My dear Miss Clay:-

I have just received a letter from Belle Kearney, a copy of which I enclose. I wish you would tell me what you think about it. Now, Belle Kearney is a brilliant woman but not at all reliable, and I don't know whether you would like to have her call such a conference or not. My own opinion is that if such a conference is called, it should be done under the direction of Miss Gordon and yourself and that you two should be the moving spirits in it. I really think it would be a good thing to do, but I think it should come from you rather than from Belle Kearney. Now, will you let me know by return mail your own opinion on the subject so that I may answer Miss Kearney?

Faithfully yours,

*Anna H. Shaw*



[Nov. 5, 1906]

(COPY)

Montpelier, Vt., Nov. 2, 1906.

Dear Miss Shaw:

I went at once to see dear Mrs. Foster, a lovely old lady and as interested as ever in the cause. It seems Mrs. George stayed only two days or so. Her visit did us more good than harm, I should judge from what I hear. One report is that they advised her not to speak before the Senate and to leave the town. The other report, which the chaplain of the House thinks is correct, is that she got angry because it was commonly reported that the liquor element got her here and left without trying to get a hearing. She did see the chairman of the committee and perhaps others but according to the chaplain did not make any impression or do us any harm. The chaplain does not state how he stands, but appears very friendly. He thinks the Senate will carry it, but others are very doubtful. The President of the Senate used to be a bitter opponent. I believe I must work in a very quiet way. I would not for the world have them know that the National sent me here. I am sure it would not be best for me to ask for a hearing. Two Montpelier women made bright speeches before the House, did great good I hear. The Vermonters are peculiar. They mightily dislike outside interference, as they call it, so I shall need to be cautious. The suffrage friends here know me and trust me. No session until Monday afternoon. Nearly all have gone home. One ardent friend of the cause takes his meals where I do, but has gone home to spend Sunday. Mrs. Foster thought there probably would not be time to get literature here, but I believe I will order some. We are going to try to get that splendid editorial in the North American Review into the Montpelier papers Monday as they will all be back then. I will hunt up some more friends to-morrow.

Hoping we may be cheered by a victory here, I am

Faithfully yours,

(signed) Mary N. Chase.

One woman who spoke was from Colorado, was visiting friends here. A lot of women went to the public hearing.



[Nov. 9, 1906]

( COPY )

Nov. 8th, 06.

Dear Miss Shaw,

As soon as I saw Mrs. Harper's article in "The North American Review", I was seized with a desire to send a copy of it to every member of the present Congress and the incoming Congress. Since I have seen the editorial in the subsequent North American, I am more than ever desirous of doing this, but I want that editorial bound up with it.

This would make the whole expense (postage included) about \$200.00 I think.

My idea would be to have it reach the present members about Jan. 15th; and hold it over for the new members a year, until they take their seats. Please let me know your opinion as soon as you conveniently can, so that I can get the Business Comm. vote, without loss of time, and order the reprints as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely

(signed) Florence Kelley.



Nov. 9, 1906

( C O P Y )

November 2, 1906.

Miss Florence Kelly, Vice Pres.,  
National American Woman's Suffrage Association,  
105 East 22nd Street,  
New York City, New York.

Dear Madam:-

Securing an estimate from our printers has caused a little delay in answering your letter asking for our price for reprints of Mrs. Ida Houston Harper's article in "The North American Review", September 21st.

We beg to quote you as follows: For 2,000 pamphlets, 16 pages with 4 page cover like "The North American Review", price will be \$97.89; for 10,000 copies the price would be \$211.92.

Trusting that this will be satisfactory, we remain,

Very truly yours,

The North American Review.

ADC/AS.



# 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.  
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Chairman Press Committee, ELENORA M. BABCOCK, Dunkirk, N. Y.

OFFICE OF  
THE PRESIDENT

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS, WARREN, OHIO



Swarthmore, Pa., Nov. 30, 1906.

Dear Member of the Business Committee:-

I am sorry to be obliged to send you another letter so soon and I fully sympathize with Mrs. Kelley in her objection to too much detail being sent out to the Business Committee and I am going to try to keep from sending anything which is not absolutely essential to your correct understanding of our work.

CALL - Just now there are a great many things coming up, which must be settled, and one is who shall write the call to the next National Convention?

MRS. GRENDEL - I have just received a telegram from Mrs. Grendel, who is at present in Boston, that she is unable to go to Oklahoma, so that eliminates her altogether.

This morning's mail brought an assortment of letters from Dr. Woods and Mrs. Boyer and Mrs. Biggers, also a letter from Mrs. Munds, of Arizona.

OKLAHOMA MANAGER - In each one of the letters from Oklahoma, there comes what I have been expecting for some time a demand to know who of the National women in the field is the final Court of Appeal when any question of difference arises. Mrs. Biggers says, "Who is to be next in authority to me here in Guthrie at the National headquarters?" and Dr. Woods asks, "Am I to take my orders from Mrs. Boyer or Miss Gregg in the absence of Mrs. Biggers?" From Mrs. Boyer's letter I judge that some questions have arisen in which there was a difference of opinion and there really has been no authority back of Mrs. Biggers to settle it. Mrs. Biggers adds, "I am absolutely unable to manage a campaign" and, of course, we know this is true. She has not had the least bit of experience and it is essential that there should be some final Court of Appeal at the headquarters.



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If my plan had been followed out, nothing of that kind would have arisen yet, for as I have told you two or three times I think, my plan was that Dr. Woods should not go to Guthrie but should remain in the southern part of the state, working with the clubs; that after she had secured headquarters and stirred up the Guthrie Club, Miss Gregg should go into the field, working up interest among the existing clubs to send letters and to secure interviews with the delegates to the Constitutional Convention, the same sort of work in the northern part of the state among the existing clubs as Dr. Woods would follow in the southern part of the state and in accessible portions of Indian Territory; while Mrs. Boyer would attend to the press work and Mrs. Bradford the management of the interviews with the delegates. But questions would arise, which would not belong properly to any one of these different departments of the work but involve several of them, in which case I thought we should always hold Mrs. Biggers responsible for the decision, but of course, if she is not on hand all the time, that is impossible. As a matter of fact, there should be a manager on the ground, that manager should be from the territory itself, falling in that it should be one of our own National officers. My own thought in regard to it as conditions are at present is this - that Mrs. Boyer, who is always permanently at headquarters and is rather level headed and in perfect harmony with Mrs. Biggers in the work, should be the leading one of our women and if there is no objection, I will write to Mrs. Biggers that the National Association will be perfectly satisfied with any disputed point which is decided by her and Mrs. Boyer in harmony. If this plan doesn't meet with your approval, be kind enough to say so.

MRS. BOYER - I will enclose extracts from Mrs. Boyer's letter and in regard to these I would say that, of course, Mrs. Boyer being a newspaper woman ~~MARKED BY MRS. BOYER~~ places a great deal of stress upon and confidence in the attitude of the press but notwithstanding in Oregon the country press was almost practically favorable to our measure, you see what the result was, and while it is desirable to have the press on our side, I believe it matters very little unless we secure the leading politicians on our side also. Given a choice between the two, I'd take the



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politicians. Now it is absolutely impossible for us to meet the opponents on their own ground by paying for space in country newspapers. I feel that all such money would be practically wasted and we have nothing in our treasury with which to make anything like an equal contest with the opponents, so that I feel quite sure we will have to leave the <sup>paid</sup> matter part of printing to them and only secure what we can gratuitously through Mrs. Boyer's influence.

Now in regard to the number of workers who should be in Guthrie, it seems to me that the suggestion made to have Indian women and farmer women from the state and have them carefully selected would be better than any number of outside women for purposes of interviewing. As Mrs. Grenfel cannot go to assist Mrs. Bradford, I am writing for Mrs. Meredith's friend. I am doing this, not because I think it is necessary, but because most of the rest of you do. The point that weighs with me in the thought of her going is that it may be wise a little later for Mrs. Bradford to go to Arizona, then this lady could be left behind to interview the Oklahoma delegates with the Oklahoma women. It seems to me that one Colorado woman accompanying the Oklahoma women in their interviews so as to be on the spot to answer any objections which might be raised in regard to the attitude of women in enfranchised states is just as well as to have two or three such women there, that is, if she is a good interviewer. If the women are not good interviewers, then the fewer there are the better, and I don't know anything about Mrs. Meredith's friend.

ARIZONA - I enclose a copy of Mrs. Mund's letter and you will be able to judge of the Arizona situation. My own attitude toward Arizona is that it would be a wise thing to send Dr. Woods immediately to that territory, for I think she could accomplish more there than she can working with the clubs in Oklahoma. Let her look over the situation carefully, then if she thinks it wise for Mrs. Bradford or some other Colorado woman to go to Arizona and work with the legislature, let the Colorado woman follow her and both Dr. Woods and the Colorado woman work until they learn what the legislature will do. It may seem to some of you and to some of the



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other women that we are continually changing our mind in regard to the different workers and the place in which they should work. It is not so much that we are changing our minds as that the conditions are changing and we are obliged to meet these conditions with our few workers and our small amount of money.

Mrs. Kelley has voted in favor of Dr. Woods going to Arizona, but asks if it would not interfere with the promise which we made to Illinois that she should go there for a month. I do not think the two conditions will conflict, because she was not to go to Illinois until after the National Convention and by that time we will know about what they are going to do in Arizona, and as the Illinois work is not imperative as to date, they might be willing to wait until March or April for Dr. Woods. Her work will either be through in Arizona by that time, or else it will have grown so that other women will be there and she could be spared if the Illinois women were not willing to take Miss Chase or some other person in her stead. I have, therefore, written Dr. Woods to know if she is willing to go to Arizona and if she is, to be in readiness to start at once, for if we are to do anything with the legislature this winter, she should be there as soon as possible. It may be that Dr. Woods would not be willing to go to Arizona. If she is not, then the question arises, what shall be done? Shall we send Miss Chase there or shall we have Mrs. Bradford go immediately and send some other Colorado woman to Oklahoma? If we are to have a woman from Colorado whom we do not know, she would better be associated with Mrs. Boyer and some of our own women in Oklahoma rather than be sent independently to Arizona and that is why I would prefer sending Mrs. Bradford to Arizona, if Dr. Woods is not willing to go, rather than any other Colorado woman, particularly as the Arizona people knew her and she has been there before and understands the conditions better than a stranger would, while she has never been in Oklahoma and another woman would do just as well as she there. This is all very complicated but the paucity of workers and means drives us to it. I will register a vow right here, however, that I never will again have anything to do with the management of a campaign when I am not on the



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spot. No other president of our Association has ever attempted this work at arm's length and no one would who had really good common sense.

OKLAHOMA ANNUAL MEETING - Mrs. Boyer writes of the Oklahoma Annual Meeting:

"The Annual meeting was very small, but it really was enthusiastic. The Oklahoma City Club means to raise one hundred dollars as a campaign fund. The original idea was to assess each of the 85 members one dollar, and Mrs. Laskey promised to make up the balance. At the Annual Meeting, sixty-eight dollars were pledged, and so it looks as though the entire sum would be speedily raised. Your letter was read. The TIMES-JOURNAL published it in full in the Sunday paper. The club members present promised to enlist women from the various districts to write letters to their respective delegates, asking that suffrage be conferred on the women of Oklahoma. Each club delegate promised one hundred letters.

"You will note that Mrs. Woodworth was not re-elected. She has been suggested as Franchise Sup't of the W.C.T.U. and if appointed to that position, she will work for suffrage through the Unions.

"The Suffrage movement seems to be inextricably interwoven with the W.C.T.U. It is impossible to disassociate them. Mrs. Woodworth seems to work more acceptably with the Unions than with the Equal Suffragists so she may do very good work as Franchise Sup't.

"Am more encouraged about the press than at first. The replies are coming in, but it takes persistency. We should have started the press work months ago. Am a little dubious about the Enid WAVE. Mrs. Bailey brought it to me. It contains one and a half columns that sounds suspiciously like Anti stuff. If they get ahead of us by sending paid matter, before we have coaxed our list, and partially compromised editors, we shall be in hard luck. Few country editors will publish free matter, when paid is sent them. I have answered every point in the Enid Wave, and now await the publication. If the sundowner won't publish the reply, why we'll just send it to a rival editor and state the facts.

"Several days ago I heard this bit of political gossip; The Republicans connived the Democratic landslide in the recent election, and were purposely inactive during the campaign, in order to throw the odium and future criticism of all the disappointments in the Constitution, on the Democrats who frame the document. There is bound to be much dissatisfaction, and it will all re-act to the benefit of the Republicans. The contest will be very close in the next election. The Indian vote is expected to figure then and will be Republican. Am wondering what success our friends are finding<sup>in</sup> Guthrie. Likewise I wish you were here."

The defeat of Mrs. Woodworth for Vice-President, of course, will anger her, but that we cannot help. In Dr. Woods' letter and in Mrs. Biggers' also, they tell of various schemes made by the political parties and one newspaper report says there is a million dollars ready to be used in influencing the boundary lines and other questions which will come up in connection with the Constitutional Convention, that money will be pretty generally used to secure anything that is needed.



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Now, of course, we all know that this is true and because it is true, it is no use for us to try to head off any political scheme other than to do our best to interview the delegates and influence the leaders in the quietest and best way we can. Personally, it always amuses me to have any of our women assume that they are able to outwit or deceive as to our real purpose or to influence against their own desires any of these political schemers. I am quite sure not one of us ever did do much a thing or will ever be able to do it. In this campaign as in all others, we will have to do straightforward, honest work, do the best we can to bring the justice of our cause before the delegates, create as little antagonism as possible, then pocket our defeat if necessary and come home and start in again.

The following quotation is from the Oklahoma paper of the 27th inst: "The suffrage committee is composed of fifteen members, and the members of this committee will have a good many visits from the various women's clubs throughout the state. The views of the members of this committee on the matter of women's suffrage are not well known, this committee having been overlooked in the scramble incidental to landing some of the seemingly more important committees."

I am sorry to have been obliged to send so long a letter.

Faithfully yours,

*Anna H. Shaw*



181 N. Mill St., Lexington, Ky.

Nov. 30th, 1906.

My dear Miss Shaw,

I am just in receipt of yours of the 28th. Certainly I am in favor of a letter of sympathy to the suffragists of England; and equally apposed to any word of reprobation of any act of a foreign government. We all recollect the proverb which warns against coming between "the bark and the tree". Judging by myself, I think the English suffragists <sup>would resent some of the sentences in your form of letter. I am marking</sup> ~~would~~ <sup>coming from foreigners.</sup> what I object to in the form; and without these expressions I shall be glad to have my name signed to the proposed letter. If they are not stricken out, however, I do not wish my name signed, even if the majority of the Business Committee votes to send the letter.

Mrs. COLBY'S LETTER. I believe we all realize that it is impossible to keep Mrs. Colby in a practical and common-sense path. Therefore, I reflect with relief that this is not "our" fight", but that we can leave it to the Oregon people to manage it themselves. We are now out of the state, and pledged not to come into it again till we are invited; so Mrs. Duniway need not look to us to straighten out this tangle.

MISS KEARNEY. I HAVE JUST RECEIVED A NOTE FROM Miss Kearney, saying, "We shall have to go on with ~~our~~ <sup>our</sup> Memphis conference. It cannot be deferred".

I wrote a day or two ago that I would go, but she seems not yet to have received it. I shall do my best to make the conference useful in building up the southern auxiliaries.

I have just had a letter from Luara White, of Ashland, in which she says you delighted every one, and that the Chautauqua managers have asked the W.C.



T.U. to get you to lecture next year; and have promised to give you a place on Sunday, the day they try to have their best speakers. She says they have got nine new members; and are in a state of great satisfaction generally.

Cordially yours,



Nov. 30, 1906

Prescott, Ariz.

Nov. 23, 1906.

( C O P Y )

My dear Miss Shaw:-

Your letter of yesterday was a delightful surprise for I had been revolving in my mind the propriety of making a direct appeal to you for help for Arizona. I wrote Mrs. Upton some time before election that I thought it useless to attempt anything in the suffrage work, not because I was afraid of joint statehood, for it was known all along that Arizona would vote it down by a large majority; but I never in my wildest dream could have pictured the result of the election as so conducive to the success of the suffrage cause. Indeed, the election was a surprise to everyone, but chiefly to the "gang" that ran the "machine". The aforesaid "machine" has received a bad wrench, and it will be some time before the damage can be repaired, and in the meantime, I think we can get in some good work.

Arizona is democratic by a large majority, but this year the people have been after the saloon men and the gambling element, who you know are always with the dominant party, and there has been a complete change in the political aspect. They elected the democratic delegate to Congress by the usual large majority, but the legislature consists of seven republicans to five democrats in the council and eight republicans to sixteen democrats in the assembly. With a republican governor, this gives the republicans the control of the legislature a thing which has never happened before in Arizona politics. As I said before, the people are up in arms against the saloon and gambling men, and bills are to be introduced in the next legislature, raising the saloon license to several times the present amount also to prohibit gambling entirely and forbidding women to sing in saloons or frequent them. These bills will give the saloon men enough to do to fight so that they will not have so much time and money to fight us. From what I have heard at the present time, it looks to me as though these bills are to be backed solidly by the republicans in the



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legislature, but in Manrixa County they have just gotten through with a fearful warfare against the saloons and have elected a solid democratic delegation to the legislature headed by Eugene Brady O'Neill brother to the famous Bucky. There are four assemblymen and one councilman. O'Neill is an ardent woman suffragist and I believe will control his men in the lower house. He is teeth and nail against the saloons and defied them during his campaign and proclaimed from the housetops that he didn't want their votes, and he was elected by twelve hundred majority. The democratic councilman from Gila Co. is G. W. P. Hunt a strong woman suffragist. There are six democrats in the lower house that I think can be depended upon to vote our way and if we can induce the republicans to carry it through solidly, will give us fourteen votes in the assembly and nine in the Council. Of course we will have to be very careful about letting the bill take in a republican aspect before we get it through the lower house. Governor Kibby was in the council four years ago and voted for our bill, but I cannot say that he is an ardent supporter of the measure. He is a shrewd politician above all things and if he can be made to believe that it would strengthen the republican party in the Territory, he will put the bill through for us. There is no doubt in my mind that the governor will be all right.

Now I think I have discussed the principal points of the situation and I am sorry I had to make such a long letter. Please come yourself, Miss Shaw, and I should like Mrs. Bradford also for she made a splendid impression while here two years ago. Do you think we should pass petitions to present to the legislature. I have thought we should, and will commence the work at once if you think best.

Please don't let this opportunity pass, for it is one that may not occur again in a life time.

I am going to write some letters in a few days and will soon know something definite about the attitude of the different legislators on the suffrage question.

Sincerely,

Frances W. Munds (signed)



( C O P Y )

Chicago November 26, 1906.

Dear Dr. Shaw,\*

I am glad to hear that the National Suffrage Association is to hold its Convention in Chicago in February. The days will be busy ones for you I realize, but I trust that you will be able to give some time during your stay in the city to a visit to the University of Chicago, where you already have a large number of friends. The Woman's Union, a large general organization of women of the University, would be especially gratified to have you as their guest at such time as would suit your convenience.

With assurances of warm regard, I am

Very sincerely yours,

(signed) Marion Talbot

In framing my acceptance, I am telling Dean Talbot that the afternoon of the 16th is to be given to excursions to her house and the Chicago University by the Convention and hinting as delicately as I can that it might be pleasant to include the Convention in this invitation. I hope she will do this, for I think it will be helpful to have the Chicago University women give a reception to the delegates.

I suppose you all know that the evening of Saturday, the 16th, the Chicago Woman's Club gives the Convention a reception in their club rooms, which are in the same building in which our Convention is to be held.



# National American Woman Suffrage Association

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OFFICE OF  
THE PRESIDENT

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS, WARREN, OHIO



Swarthmore, Pa., Nov. 24, 1906.

Dear Member of the Business Committee:-

I have just reached home from the Maryland and Kentucky Conventions and find a large quantity of mail awaiting me and as I am obliged to leave on Monday morning to be gone through Monday and Tuesday attending the New Jersey Suffrage Convention, I shall only take up the parts of these letters, which it is necessary you should receive at once, and first in regard to

OKLAHOMA - Miss Gregg writes that rent is very high in the city of Guthrie, that everybody is rushing there at present, not only the delegates to the Convention but lobbyists, stenographers and all classes of people who want to influence the framing of the new Constitution, so that it is exceedingly difficult to secure rooms. She has secured one for herself at a cost of Ten Dollars a month. This is a small room but she seems to think will do quite well for her. She has also secured, or she had the option when she wrote me and said she must accept it that day or give it up and so she thought she would accept it, of two rooms for headquarters, located about eight or nine blocks from the City Hall where the Convention is to be held and about an equal distance from the post office, but she says that buildings near the post office and the City Hall are largely occupied by saloons, brothels, gambling dens and cheap restaurants and that it is not at all a desirable place for headquarters and even if it were, it would be difficult to secure them. So I suppose she has engaged the two rooms to which she referred. They were to be each Twelve Dollars a month. That will make Twenty-five Dollars a month for the headquarters.

I have instructed her to engage one other room for Mrs. Boyer, if Mrs. Boyer wishes her to do so, and as Miss Gregg will be out of town a good deal



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of the time and she said herself that she thought rooms would be so scarce that two would have to occupy the same room, I have suggested that she should take Mrs. Bradford in with her and as she will be away from the city a good deal of the time, this will practically leave Mrs. Bradford alone in the room much of the time. Then they will have to do the best they can in securing a room for Mrs. Biggers or any other Colorado woman who may come to help in the work later. These little local things, of course, cannot be definitely settled from this end of the line. They will have to do the very best they can.

MRS. BRADFORD - As I think I wrote you before, Mrs. Bradford will leave Colorado the last of November for Oklahoma, arriving the first day of December and I suppose she will go right to work. I have not yet heard from Miss Grenfel.

MRS. BIGGERS - Mrs. Boyer writes that she thinks it is very important that Mrs. Biggers should be in Guthrie as much as possible for several reasons, one being that having lived in Indian Territory so long she has a good deal of influence with conditions there and another being that "she makes such a dignified impression on people and is really very tactful, that she is the best one we can bring to bear on the Indian Territory delegates. The trouble is that it is hard for her to leave home, but I believe she will come to us for a part of each week at least." Now the difficulty with her being there a part of each week and then going home is that she may be at home just at the very time an emergency arises and the thought has come to me that it might be well for us to suggest to her that we would employ or pay for a helper in her home to look after her house and her home responsibilities during her absence, if she would spend nearly all of the month of December in Guthrie. I don't know just how this proposition might strike her or you, but I have written to Mrs. Boyer asking her if she thought we could make any such proposition to Mrs. Biggers and have her feel all right about it. In the meantime I am asking you so that after I hear from Mrs. Boyers, I need not wait to consult you but will have your replies ready so that I can act immediately.



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I wrote to Mrs. Biggers asking her to go in company with Dr. Woods to call upon Chief Potter, the leading Indian Chief, who it is said has a great influence over the delegates. This it seems they did and Mrs. Boyer writes the result of their visit as follows:

"Chief Potter, whom they were very desirous to see, was not at home; he is with the Senatorial investigating committee now traveling through the territory. They saw some of the club members and stirred them up a little bit; they saw Judge Thomas, who is not in favor of striking out the word "male" in the new Constitution, but will work mightily for the submission of a separate clause. Then, they went to see Col. Owen, - Col. Owen is ~~just~~ part Indian, very polished and a fine orator, one of the finest, I believe, in the territories. He says we can count on him, not only to talk for us but use his influence. He will try to eliminate the word "male" that will be the burden of his song, with the delegates he can influence.

"Belva Lockwood is now at Muskogee and will be there for several days. She is looking after the interests of her clients who are all Cherokees. Belva Lockwood is very much revered by the Indians of that tribe. She has secured claims for them and they highly esteem her just dealings with them. Probably there is no woman who can influence the Cherokees as can Mrs. Lockwood. Mrs. Biggers went to see her, and she will write letters and also try to see the principal Cherokees. She will do what she can with some of the other Indians, also. Now, these are the particular points gleaned on the Muskogee trip. Dr. Woods, of course, will give you all of the details."

I never thought the time would come when I would rejoice in Belva Lockwood but certainly if she has any influence with the Indians and can help us out there, I am very glad she is on the ground. Mrs. Boyer writes that Chief Potter is opposed to woman suffrage and I have written her that if Mrs. Lockwood is still in Indian Territory and she can get in touch with her to try to get Mrs. Lockwood to do what she can with Chief Potter. Mrs. Boyer also adds:

"The principal candidate for Chief Clerk is Mr. Russell, - the editor I called on at South McAlester, he is the man who told me that he had been a woman suffragist ever since he was a boy and his mother, a widow, was obliged to pay more taxes than any one in their vicinity and never had a word to say in their expenditure.

"Mr. Berry, the delegate from Pawnee, had a woman suffrage plank in his platform."

She also says that she is getting hold of more and more of the papers and that the press work is improving generally. There are several other letters in regard to Oklahoma work, but these are the most important points and in writing you, I don't think it is necessary to mention the details so much as to give you a clear view of the situation.



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ARIZONA - Another point has just arisen. I wrote to Mrs. Munds of Arizona, but have not yet had any reply, asking her in regard to the status of the governor of the territory toward woman suffrage, because since they have voted for separate statehood, it might be some years before they come into the Union and now would be our time to work with the Legislature and get suffrage in the territory before it became a state, and if we could have some very good evidence that the governor is favorable and would not veto the bill, then I think it would be wise for us to begin to work there immediately, and so I consulted Mrs. Munds in regard to the conditions. It seems that in the meantime, Mrs. Munds has written to Mrs. Upton and Mrs. Upton has consulted with Miss Clay and myself, who are the members with her of the sub-committee of the Business Committee on campaigns. In this letter, Mrs. Munds says the Republicans are now in power and that she feels "upon consulting with the Republicans in her district that there is a good chance for us to get suffrage through the Legislature this winter. Governor Kirby was a member of the Council four years ago when the suffrage bill was passed and he voted for it". Of course, a man may vote for a measure when he is a member of the Legislature and when he has been appointed ~~xxxxxx~~ to ~~xxxxxx~~ the position of governor may vote against it, providing his party influences him in that direction. Still it does look encouraging and Mrs. Munds writes in this letter to Mrs. Upton that she thinks Dr. Woods and Mrs. Bradford ought to go with her to the present Legislature, that she hopes the National will not lose this opportunity for it is one that will probably not occur again since there will undoubtedly be a return to the Democratic ranks in two years.

Now then this opens up a new problem for us for it certainly does seem to me that if there is any possibility of securing the passage of a suffrage amendment while Arizona is a territory, then we ought to take advantage of it. I think Dr. Woods could be spared from the work in Oklahoma to go to Arizona at once, because she is out in the field, the State Convention of Oklahoma is past, and the principal work there is not to organize clubs but to work directly on the delegates,



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and we have all agreed that it is much better to have Colorado women do this work than to have any other women there and since we are not to have Dr. Woods in Guthrie but out in the field, it might be wise to send her right to Arizona. This would take one of the field workers away from Oklahoma, but the question with me just now is whether we need both of them in that kind of work for the next few weeks.

If Mrs. Grenfel cannot go to Oklahoma, shall I send at once for the Colorado woman whom Mrs. Meredith suggested? I wrote Mrs. Bradford sometime ago asking her about her but Mrs. Bradford has not replied. I wish you would let me know at once whether you think we would better send Dr. Woods to Arizona, and also send for this friend of Mrs. Meredith to go to Oklahoma. It might be now that Mr. Adams was defeated in Colorado that Mrs. Meredith could go with Dr. Woods to Arizona, but it strikes me that it wouldn't be a good plan to send both Dr. Woods and Mrs. Bradford down to Arizona without having a little more information and that it would be better for Dr. Woods to go and look over the field. Then, if she thought it would be well to have Mrs. Bradford come, Mrs. Bradford could go on and some other Colorado woman could come and interview the delegates in Guthrie, because it might be as well to have two Colorado women interview them as to have one do it ever more than once. These are points which you will have to answer immediately for they are to be of any advantage, because they must be acted upon right away.

MISS CHASE - A letter from Miss Chase says the vote in Vermont went against us in the Senate, 17 to 12. This, of course, is as most of us expected it would go, still it is disappointing. Nevertheless, taking the vote in both the Upper and the Lower House, we had 142 for us, while there were only 42 against us, and yet I suppose the Anti-Suffragists will call it a tremendous defeat.

INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE ALLIANCE



1906, Nov 24

INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE ALLIANCE

Handwritten notes and signatures at the top of the page, including names like Susan B. Anthony, Carrie Chapman Catt, and others, along with dates and locations.

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MISS CHASE also wrote that Mrs. Wood of the Federation of Women's Clubs is willing to do the legislative work for the Suffrage Association in New Hampshire and that Miss Chase thinks she can get away from the state to go into the National work early in December. Now then, what is it your opinion should be done with Miss Chase? Shall we send her to Oklahoma in the place of Dr. Woods or shall we try to place her somewhere else? Personally, I am opposed to sending anybody else to Oklahoma except some Colorado woman or man who will bring direct personal influence to bear upon the Convention, for I think the less we stir up the state the better until after the decision in the Constitutional Convention upon our measure. The month of December I consider a very bad month for organizing anywhere and I doubt very much the wisdom of sending Miss Chase into any of the unorganized states until after the Christmas holidays, but this is a question for you to decide and if we decide to send her out the question is where shall she go?

In reply to my letter asking Miss Chase about Mr. Sain, the editor whose letters Mrs. Upton copied and sent to the Business Committee, she says:

"Mr. Sain came to my meeting at North Bend, was exceedingly nice and complimentary. Mrs. D.- must have been poisoning his mind, I guess. He certainly cannot think I damaged the cause much in his section as we carried both Coos and Curry counties, altho the "Antie" flooded them with their literature and even had men traveling on the boats, handing it out right and left. I rather liked the man the little I saw of him, tho he impressed me as erratic and not well balanced. I noticed the people spoke of him in a disparaging way, did not think his word carried much weight. I think he is a true suffragist but probably he has got into the toils of Mrs. D- How can that woman be such a traitor to the cause she espouses?"

I had heard from other people that Mr. Sain was a sort of peculiar person and while he had very many good ideas was considered rather unbalanced, and I



60924, 1906

# INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE ALLIANCE

Honorary President, SUSAN B. ANTHONY, Rochester, N. Y.  
President, CAROL CHAPMAN, 202 W. 28th St., New York, U. S. A.  
Vice-President, DR. J. ANITA KROPP, 100 W. 28th St., New York, U. S. A.  
Secretary, RACHEL FOSTER, 100 W. 28th St., New York, U. S. A.  
Treasurer, MISS ROBERT COOPER, 100 W. 28th St., New York, U. S. A.  
Honorary Secretary, DR. KATHA SCHMIDT, 100 W. 28th St., New York, U. S. A.  
Honorary Treasurer, DR. KATHA SCHMIDT, 100 W. 28th St., New York, U. S. A.  
Honorary Secretary, DR. KATHA SCHMIDT, 100 W. 28th St., New York, U. S. A.  
Honorary Treasurer, DR. KATHA SCHMIDT, 100 W. 28th St., New York, U. S. A.

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certainly should judge so from his letters for nobody who was not a fool or a knave would write such letters berating a body of women the way he did us without seemingly knowing anything about what he was talking about. Certainly he showed very little knowledge of the subject upon which he was talking. I had received some letters of a like character from him through Mrs. Boyer but I did not think it was worth while sending them out. We are all so busy that I don't think it is worth while to take notice of an attack of this sort, which certainly on the very face of it shows either an utter disregard of truth or an absolute lack of information.

It might enlighten you as to what he means when he is anxious none of those who worked in Oregon before should return, and that the campaign is man's work to tell you that he had previously written saying he could have carried it this time if he had managed it, and that if we put it into his hands the next time he will do so, and ask nothing until the campaign is ended when he will want us to give him \$45,000, - all this in the face of the fact that on Election Day he wrote me he did not think he had made a single vote by all his work with his paper.

MISS KEARNEY - I have a letter from Miss Kearney in reply to mine, a copy of which I sent you. She says, "When I was in Boston, Mr. Henry Blackwell asked me to call this conference of Southern women as Chairman of Presidential Suffrage. Rather as Chairman of the Committee, he felt that he had the right to empower me to take this step". In reply I have written her, "I think you may have misunderstood Mr. Blackwell as to the kind of call you should make for your conference, for neither Mr. Blackwell as Chairman of a Committee nor I as President nor any other officer of the National Woman Suffrage Association would have any authority to authorize anyone to call a conference on lines which are out of harmony with the Association which we represent and this call of yours is certainly not in accord with the attitude of the National Association on this question. What we might advise as



Nov. 24, 1906

INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE ALLIANCE

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individuals is one thing and what we empower others to do as officers of an Association is another. I think Mr. Blackwell will agree with me in this and that probably he did not intend as Chairman of Presidential Suffrage to authorize you to make your call in just the way you did. As an individual you have a perfect right to do just as you think is wise and best and as individuals any member of our Association has a perfect right to give advice or assistance in any way they may choose, but as officers of the Association, we cannot pledge it along any lines which are not in accord with the fundamental principles of the organization."

I then further wrote her that I hoped she would not confine the efforts of the conference to Presidential Suffrage alone but to all lines of suffrage and particularly those which would be most useful and helpful in the South, which are largely local rather than national. I am glad to say Miss Clay will attend this Convention. We talked it over together when I was with her in Kentucky this week and we both thought it was a good plan for her to be present. We know how level headed Miss Clay is and that she would be a very great help in keeping the convention from doing some erratic thing, which would probably be the case if Miss Kearney were to control it. I wish, however, that this convention had been called by Miss Gordon and Miss Clay something after the manner of the Mississippi Valley Convention many years ago, which met in Des Moines, Iowa. This was called in connection with the State Convention of Iowa and endorsed by the organized suffragists in that part of the country and it was very helpful. I think if this Southern Conference had been called in a similar manner, it might really have accomplished something, but as it is called by a woman who is in no way associated with our suffrage work and who is known more generally as a temperance worker than a suffragist and without the co-operation of the organized suffragists of the South, I fear it will be very small and accomplish very



[Nov. 24, 1906]

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little, when I really think much good could have been done had the convention been called by a number of leading Southern women. I wish Miss Kearney had taken counsel with our Southern officers and the Presidents of the Southern State Suffrage Associations and made a united effort in connection with them, for I believe the time is ripe for some such movement as this. I greatly regret that Miss Gordon is absent from the country because she would have been a great power in such a meeting.

Faithfully yours,

Anna H. Shaw.



NOV 28, 1906

RESULT OF VOTE SENT OUT FROM PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

November 9, 1906.

1. Are you in favor of the leaflet proposed by Mrs. Kelley, reprinted from "The North American Review"?

2. If so, are you in favor of 2,000 pamphlets at a price of \$97.89?

3. Are you in favor of 10,000 copies, price \$211.92?

|           | 1.   | 2.                       | 3.                  |
|-----------|------|--------------------------|---------------------|
| Shaw      | Yes. | Yes.                     | No.                 |
| Kelley    | Yes. | Yes.                     | No.                 |
| Avery     | Yes  | Yes                      | No                  |
| Blackwell | No   | Rather 2,000 than 10,000 |                     |
| Upton     | Yes  | No                       | Yes                 |
| Clay      | Yes  | Yes                      | As Mrs. Upton votes |
| Jeffreys  | Yes  |                          | Yes                 |



# 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 Prytanla 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 JEFFREY MYERS, 375 East 12th St., N., Portland, Ore.

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

OFFICE OF  
THE PRESIDENT

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS, WARREN, OHIO



Swarthmore, Pa., Nov. 28, 1906.

Dear Member of the Business Committee:-

I think the time has come when we as the National Board should send some message expressing sympathy and interest with the suffragists of England in their recent unjust and brutal persecution and I would like to have the authority of the Board to do so. If, however, in your opinion such action would be unwise, I wish you would say so and if the majority of you vote that no message shall be sent, I wish to state that I shall send a personal letter as an individual in case I may not do so as President of the Association. I cannot picture our old leaders sitting with folded hands, calmly and silently watching such a struggle, without expressing some word of sympathy or appreciation in their brave fight or uttering a word of condemnation of the outrages practiced upon them, and I feel quite sure that if the truth could be known our whole Association would stand back of us in any expression of sympathy we might utter.

I enclose a form of a letter to the suffragists, which if you approve I will send; otherwise, if you will make any suggestions I will be very glad to incorporate them. Will you kindly reply as soon as possible as this message I think has already been delayed too long!

I also send a copy of a letter sent out by Mrs. Colby and some of the suffragists of Portland, Oregon. It is just such a letter as I should think Mrs. Colby would send. I don't know how she could expect people to co-operate with a Committee, the very names of which they are ignorant, and I fear the only thing it will do will be to arouse the antagonism of Mrs. Duniway still more, and I wouldn't mind that so much if I really thought there were strong enough women in Mrs. Colby's group to do any real or effective work. It only seems to complicate the situation, that is if it is possible to make it more complicated than it already is.

Faithfully yours,

*Anna H. Shaw*



181 N.Mill St., Lexington, Ky.

Nov.29th, 1906.

My dear Miss Shaw,

I have just received your letter of the 24th inst., and answer under heads.

OKLAHOMA.Iapprove the instructions you have given about rent/

MRS.BIGGERS.I am entirely in favor of the proposition to furnish Mrs.Biggers with a helper at home, so she can devote her time to the suffrage work at this time. I think the proposition could be made to her without giving the least offence, as it is reasonable and necessary. I am very strongly of the opinion that we should employ always the home workers in preference to outsiders in campaigns; and the home workers cannot always donate their time. I feel the news from Oklahoma is encouraging.

ARIZONA. When Mrs.Upton wrote me of Mrs.Munds' letter I answered that I was in favor of telegraphing Mrs.Bradford to go to Arizona rather than to Oklahoma. But from your letter I think it is best for Dr.Woods to go; and my vote is by all means to send one of them, with the explanation to Mrs.Munds that we could not spare both. About the other Colorado woman:- I am going to give you my proxy to vote about her, for you may get information that will make you wish to act promptly.

MRS. MEREDITH.I think you mixed the names of Mrs. Bradford and Mrs. Meredith in your letter; and that you intended to ask if we should send Mrs. Meredith to assist Dr.Woods in Arizona. I am so much in favor of working in Arizona that I am in favor of sending Dr.Woods what help we can/in the event she thinks she needs it, after looking over the field.

MISS CHASE.I think her work in Vermont has been satisfactory. If she can



not go with profit to Oklahoma( and I am willing to wait for that till further developments) I would like to have her go to Indiana and see if she cannot get these two clubs there to unite in a state association to report at Chicago. I think that might be done before Christmas, and after that she could go on organizing in the state, till we needed her elsewhere; I believe the prospect of the convention in Chicago will be an incentive to them; and such an organization certainly is desirable just as soon as possible. However, I am not set upon this particular field; but am willing to be guided by other considerations. I do think, though, we ought to keep our organizers at work every practicable week.

./MISS KEARNEY. I have written that I would come, if she holds to calling the conference. I shall certainly do all I can to make the conference a means of reusing a greater interest in the southern states.

Wishing you a happy Thanksgiving. I am

Very cordially yours,



Copy.

[Nov. 19, 1906]

181 N. Mill St., Lexington, Ky.

Nov. 12th, 1906.

My dear Miss Shaw,

I have just returned from Richmond, and while there both Mrs. Bennett and I received the letter I enclose from Miss Kearney. On my return I find your letter relating to the same subject. My sisters and I and Mrs. Roark, in whose judgment I have confidence, thought Miss Kearney's move a valuable one, and I had decided to accept the invitation. This we thought when we looked upon the conference as gotten up by southern women apart from the N.A.W.S.A. Now that I know Miss Kearney asks your consent, it seems to me that would throw the responsibility for the success of the meeting and any criticism for its object upon the National; and whether we are prepared for that or not I have not had time yet to consider. However, as caution is always in order, my advice would be that you should tell Miss Kearney you were not willing to give an official consent without correspondence with the Business Committee, which would take so much time that it would defeat her object in getting in action before Jan. I do not quite understand her sending out such letters as I enclose <sup>without hearing from you.</sup> after asking your consent as if her action depended upon it.

Independently of the National, such an uprising as the invitation indicates would be valuable, I think. But if the National is to be responsible for it I am of the opinion that it should have been undertaken only under the auspices and care of our accredited agents, whether our officers or others. I am wholly indisposed to allow even the best of friends to launch schemes according to their own notions and then hold the National responsible for them. I had intended to accept Miss Kearney's invitation this very evening, as it seems to require promptness. But her appeal to you puts a somewhat different aspect upon the conference; and I shall wait to hear from you again before I send my answer to Miss Kearney. Therefore, either write to me again at once, or even telegraph at my expense, if you think it desirable.

I will answer other letters just received from you later.

Cordially yours,

Laura Clay.



[Nov. 14, 1906]

( C O P Y )

Waterbury Ctr., Vt., Nov. 11, 1906.

Dear Miss Shaw:-

I came here to spend Sunday with a friend, return to Montpelier Tuesday. We are still on the rack, no idea when the vote will be taken. The editor of the Montpelier Argus has written an editorial in favor, the first time, I am sure, that a Montpelier paper ever came out editorially for us. I asked him to do it, but hardly dare hope he would. The other paper had an excellent report of the hearing. Judge Wendell Phillips Stafford, a man of great influence in the State, has sent a letter to the Chairman of the Judiciary Com. in behalf of the bill, so I have heard. I have asked the chairman by letter to read it to the members of the Senate. I have written to people all over the State to send in letters and get others too. The chairman ought to be deluged with letters, if all respond. A number have, I know, as they have written to me. A lot of the Montpelier people will write to the chairman and also their own senators. They say the House is exceptionally bright this year and the Senate rather stupid. It will about break our hearts if it fails to pass. I go to Montpelier Tuesday.

Hoping the agony will soon be over, I am

Faithfully yours,

(signed) Mary N. Chase.



Nov. 14, 1906

( COPY )

Montpelier, Vt., Nov. 7, 1906.

Dear Miss Shaw:-

Nothing definite yet. The committee has not reported unless it did this afternoon. We had a splendid hearing, all went one way. Five or six men spoke, all in favor. Some of the men told me that the speeches of the ladies made a great impression. The room was packed with women, and they gave hearty applause. Few seem to have any hope the bill will pass in the Senate. Senator Van Patten of Burlington perhaps the most influential senator here, is a good suffragist and will do all he can.

Hoping for the best,

(signed) Mary N. Chase.



# National American Woman Suffrage Association

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OFFICE OF  
THE PRESIDENT

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS, WARREN, OHIO



Swarthmore, Pa., Nov. 14, 1906.

Dear Member of the Business Committee:-

I am copying portions of a letter which I have received from Miss Pease. The letter is a very long one and I will not have it all copied but such portions of it as I think will be of interest to you. The condition in Oregon to my mind is absolutely hopeless as long as Mrs. Duneway is at the helm and the best thing that we can do is to gather up our goods and chattels and wait until such time as there is some hope to accomplish something, which to my mind doesn't exist as long as Mrs. Duneway is permitted to have anything whatever to do with the association or the association's work. I do not need to comment on the letter but the fact that after all that has been done in Oregon the women should elect Mrs. Duneway as the president, regardless of the abuse she has given the work and the workers, but simply because she is utterly incapable of leading anything under the heavens. Why she couldn't even be trusted to put her own documents into an envelope when we were there. Everything had to be done over after her. She did very little but whatever she did had to be done over again.

In regard to what Miss Pease says of a spy telling the Anti of everything we did in headquarters, I haven't the least doubt of it and didn't have when we were in Oregon that Mrs. Duneway went immediately from our headquarters and told to the opposition everything that she knew we were doing or expected to do. She told me once there was a secret spy who took everything to the opponents and I haven't the least doubt of it and that the spy was talking to me, but whether that is



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true or not, the greatest defeat that woman suffrage has had in Oregon was not at the polls last spring but in the election of Mrs. Dunsen as president. We will have to be exceedingly careful in our treatment of her, because you give her an inch and she'll take an ell. If she has the least bit of encouragement, she will extend it to any length and swear to any statement that comes into her head, and it seems to me that the only thing we can do is silently to acquiesce in what has been done by the Oregon people and keep our own counsel so that she doesn't become too well informed in regard to what our plans are and are not in other states, but I am not going to waste my time in talking about it. The whole thing is so utterly contemptible that it isn't worth while getting disturbed over it.

Faithfully yours  
Anna A. Sawyer



Nov. 14, 1906

( COPY )

Mt. Tabor. Nov. 4, 1906.

Miss Anna Shaw,

#7443 Devon St., Mt. Airy,

Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Misses Shaw and Anthony:-

We held "our State Election" (Farce) yesterday. The enclosed articles will give you a faint idea of it. But! Oh! the vile, slanderous language that was used by our "Greatly Honored President"! Bah! I never admired Mrs. Colby before, but, God Bless Her! she was a lady to the core. She never flied or said one harmful or unladylike thing in reply to Mrs. Duniway's vile attack.

I have learned through Mrs. Duniway and from other sources that while you ladies were here, she surrounded you with her spies. I have tried to get this so I could send you the proof of the statements but have not been able to get it so far, will some day. Dr. Jeffrey Myers will tell you my statements are true.

Mrs. D. purpose was to keep track of all your plans and then give them out to the business men of Portland. I heard Miss Gordon remark "The Anties know about our plans almost as soon as we do". The last meeting we held before Miss Gordon left, she asked to have it a closed meeting, but even this was of no value because the enemy was informed.

Mrs. D. told me that she would not let the National win in this State and that she went out and worked up a sentiment against you ladies among the



[Nov. 14, 1906]

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leading business men of the city. I tried to get her to make this statement before witnesses but did not succeed she was too sharp to get into a trap, but she is getting herself there very fast.

What shall I do with the petitions containing signatures in my possession? Shall I continue to hold and receive the petitions or turn them over to Mrs. Duniway, as there is no one else left to-day in the O. E. S. A.

Mrs. D. gathered up a whole regiment of poor, old, crippled, half-witted, Oregon, males and brought them and their dollars in to vote them; she was afraid she could not get out enough of her female relatives and her male relatives were ashamed or afraid to present themselves so she robbed the graves of these men to obtain her election.

Now, dear Miss Shaw, I write this to you about Mrs. E. & Dr. P. because one of them is to take Dr. Myers' place on the National Board (or so Mrs. D. has planned) and I wished to warn you of the consequences which will be that Mrs. D. will be always in touch with your work and they will be constantly wanting help financially for Oregon. Any money will be wasted that is sent to the O. E. S. A. as long as Mrs. D. is an officer.

Secretary Dunbar says we have until the first of January 1908 to get our petitions signed. I believe I wrote this to you in the letter I sent to you to Warren, O. Mrs. D. says "Those petitions shall not be sent into Dunbar until the last minutes, so if I fail to get enough signatures any other association starting up will not have a chance."

Is there any chance that the present O. E. S. A. will cease to be auxiliary to the National, so that the moral element of the state could start a society and be recognized by you? How can this state of affairs be brought about best?



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If this can be done and there can be a good fund raised by the people of Oregon will you women be willing to return in 1908 to help us. Now, we do not mean by the moral element the W. C. T. U. but such women as Mrs. Dye, Waldo, Myers, etc.

There will be a committee meeting this afternoon to discuss ways and means and I will write the results later. We do not mean to give up the ship to Mrs. D. entirely.

The typewriter, etc. will be sent to Mrs. Upton as ordered.

Please, Miss Shaw do not think I wish to suggest or dictate in this letter. I am only trying to give you facts as I understand them, so that you will be prepared to do what you think is best.

I believe a letter of encouragement to the committees in our state from you would have a good effect in so much as it would create a still more friendly feeling for the National among them.

Yours sincerely,

(signed) Myrtle E. Pease.