

Savoy Apartments

Feb. 26, 1917.

My dear Mrs. Cunningham:-

Your letter disturbs me greatly for it makes me realize that with all the work that has been done in Texas the women are still without any sense of responsibility. What can we do to make them realize that there is something immoral about letting you and a few others slave away while they sit by and do nothing and won't even help finance your work? I am feeling penitent too and so I am enclosing my check for \$25.00 which I wish to have credited to the pledge of the Houston organization. They are making a great effort to get started and to make good their pledge and I want to help them to get on their feet.

The school opened this morning with 190 students and it is going ahead with great enthusiasm. It is a little too early to predict but I ~~beli~~ believe that it will be the best piece of work we have ever done in Houston.

I struck a snag this morning when Mrs. Wilson announced to me that the collection at the night meeting was to go to the National. I was sure that I had been otherwise informed and hastened to look up my correspondence with you. You will perhaps recall that you sent me excerpts from a letter you had received from Mrs. Catt. I looked this up and quote the following from it: "A public meeting should be held in connection with the School. We ask you to engage a suitable hall and to do all the preliminary press work for the meeting. We expect the pupils of the school to help work it up, although they will have little time as you will see. A model collection must be taken at this meeting and the collection may apply upon your expenses for the school."

I presented this letter to Mrs. Wilson in proof of the correctness of

my position but she hasn't yielded gracefully. I shall not yield at all as we took the school with this understanding and the National has never hurt itself helping Texas. I am writing all this to you not to bring these trifles to worry you but because I am sure the same question will arise in Dallas and if the school was offered to them on the same terms as it was to us you may think it wise to let them know in advance and stiffen them up a little. I think it is an afterthought. The schools are costing a lot of money, and they are a little afraid they may not be able to continue them and our teachers don't wish to be thrown out of their jobs so they are exerting themselves to turn as much money as possible into the National Treasury to insure the continuance of the schools. I say "they" but I mean Mrs Wilson because I have'nt spoken to the other ladies on the subject.

The school is extremely well conducted and ought to do a lot of good here. I am horribly disappointed that you aren't coming but your reasons seem adequate.

Faithfully

Elizabeth L. Linn