

Savoy Apartment
Houston, Texas.
Feb. 16, 1917.

Dear Mrs. Cunningham:-

If the work in Austin is about over so that you can be spared I wish very much to have you here for the public meeting on Feb. 27 and to have you speak.

This is not just because I would like to have you but because I think it very important that you should be here if you are at all able to come.

school

Our instructors in the Suffrage ~~speakers~~ will be the only other speakers and I imagine that they are first rate Yankees. You know how these people resent having these northern women come down here to tell them how to do things and I think it is very important that there should be a Texas woman on the program. Secondly I think someone qualified to speak on the subject should report on the work in the Legislature, whatever the results may be, and you are the one to do this. Your speech can be as brief as you wish to make it but you must be here.

I don't like to promise anything for the Houston Suffrage organization because it has been so disappointing in the past, but I believe that if we can nourish it for the next few months it will be able to stand alone. I think the school will be a great help and I am eager to leave no stone unturned to make it a complete success. After all you have done and the strain you have been under I am sure you know that I would not ask you to come if I did not think it important.

I hope the Lattimore bill will pass but if it doesn't they can't keep us long out of our rights. With Ohio and North Dakota having Presidential suffrage the Federal amendment gets a big boost and I expect to see the women of every state in the U.S. enfranchised during the present administration. I may be too optimistic but I don't think so.

Let me hear from you as soon as you can as I wish to advertise your coming. We are really quite busy with plans for the next few months and I hope something worth while will come from them. Miss Shaw comes to us April 3rd.

in Galveston School
Can you do anything to stir up interest in the Suffrage ~~xxx~~
~~xxxx~~. I have written and they have had some publicity but no one has notified me that she is coming. I have written to every organization you gave me but not a word from any of ~~the~~ them. I don't wish this to be a Houston school but that is what I fear it will be unless something is stirred up soon.

Faithfully yours

Elizabeth F. Fair

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909 Congress Avenue,
February 19, 1917

Mrs. W. H. Fain,
Savoy Apts.,
Houston, Texas.

My Dear Mrs. Fain:

Your letter of February 16th to hand, (also post card,) and I would love to come to the Suffrage School for the whole meeting; think it would be for the good of Texas if I could, and I know it would be for the good of me if I could go home on Saturday night and spend Sunday as I have not been home since coming here on January first and am almost swamped in homesickness from time to time. No school miss ever had it worse. But the present state of our treasury says no trips of any kind for me just at present. Keeping Miss Engle and Miss Stearns in the field, and meeting the expenses of our legislative work and the headquarters, has just about strained our financial existence to its limit. I am sorry to have to give up the idea of coming to the School as I need it badly if I am to go on with Suffrage work in Texas.

As to the personnel of the speakers being entirely "Yankee," I believe Mrs. Cotnam is that rare and by-our-Legislature highly appreciated creature known as a "native Texan," hailing from Tyler and having two brothers who are residents there now; so it seems to me that would cover the situation. If I can possibly arrange the work here so I can leave it for Sunday, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, and raise the money to meet that and other expenses, I will be "among those present" at the School, but the outlook is not hopeful.

The sashes are in fine condition and go to you today, thirty-eight (38) of them, by Wells Fargo & Co. Express, collect.

Faithfully yours,

President.