

Call - cu!

NATIONAL AMERICAN WOMAN SUFFRAGE ASSOCIATION

BRANCH OF INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE ALLIANCE AND OF NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

HONORARY PRESIDENT
DR. ANNA HOWARD SHAW

PRESIDENT
MRS. CARRIE CHAPMAN CATT

3RD VICE-PRESIDENT
Miss ESTHER G. OGDEN

RECORDING SECRETARY
MRS THOMAS JEFFERSON SMITH
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY

1ST VICE-PRESIDENT
MRS WALTER McNAB MILLER

TREASURER
MRS. HENRY WADE ROGERS

1ST AUDITOR
Miss HELOISE MEYER
1626 RHODE ISLAND AVENUE, WASHINGTON, D. C.

2ND VICE-PRESIDENT
MRS. STANLEY McCORMICK

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY
MRS. FRANK J. SHULER

2ND AUDITOR
MRS. PATTIE RUFFNER JACOBS
ALTAMONT ROAD, BIRMINGHAM, ALA.

NATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE
PUBLISHING COMPANY, Inc.
171 MADISON AVENUE, NEW YORK

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
171 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK

CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN
MRS. MAUD WOOD PARK

PRESIDENT
Miss ESTHER G. OGDEN

TELEPHONE, 4818 MURRAY HILL

HEADQUARTERS
1626 RHODE ISLAND AVENUE, WASHINGTON, D. C.



November 13, 1917.

To Congressional Chairmen:

Copy to Presidents

The glad news has reached you that New York has won. I wonder if you realize that New York has as many members of Congress as all the full suffrage states put together, and then three more. Of course New York will give our movements a tremendous impetus. In my judgment, if our work is done as well as it should be, the Federal Amendment should pass in 1918 and it should be ratified in time for every woman in the country to vote for President in 1920. That result means organized effort and no slacking in every Congressional district in the land.

From time to time we have reminded you of the program which we have hoped to have carried out concerning the congressional campaign. I write now about one particular point. It was our hope that in every state, delegations either with or without publicity, as the women of the state thought wisest, would visit every congressman and every senator, presenting to them a goodly sized petition from men and from women, asking him to support and to push the Federal Amendment. We have received such fragmentary reports from the states, that it did not seem wise to print the leaflet "Perhaps" which we promised you for presentation to the congressmen at that time. Instead we will present you with these enclosed leaflets and flag flier. These are not very impressive in appearance but will do for the moment. We will supply you with enough of these for each Congressman and Senator which you may present in person or send through the mails with a letter, if in some instances your deputation has already made its visit.

In these visits to the congressmen, it is necessary to remind them of a few points.

(1) All over the world the suffrage is being extended to women by ACTS OF PARLIAMENT. (2) We are fighting for Democracy. Great Britain, Canada, Russia and France have pledged

to enfranchise their women because they too are fighting for Democracy. (3) The women of this country are going to do their utmost to loyally support the country in its time of stress, but there rankles deep in millions of their souls the grievance that while they are called upon to make tremendous sacrifices for Democracy abroad, they are denied it at home. (4) Other lands have granted suffrage as a war measure; we ask the same consideration. Why? Because after the war tremendous problems will be treated in the political campaigns of our country. Among them are the industrial adjustments made necessary by the loss of many men, women having taken their places; morals; infant mortality, immoral diseases; and perhaps greatest of all, the question of how to secure an enduring peace for the world.

If your petitions have fallen down in any district, I beg of you nevertheless to get a deputation of the most representative women and men and after having made an appointment with the congressman, to see that your hearing takes place.

I think the congressman will like it best if you do not give too much publicity before hand. Let the announcement be made AFTERWARDS as a piece of news. Do not fail to do that however as men are very sensitive when it comes to the question of winning or losing votes and they know that suffrage now commands a considerable political following. Go to the favorable ones as well as those opposed or noncommittal. Make it clear that you come to thank them for their previous help and ask their efforts to secure the immediate passage of the amendment.

There will be some districts in which you have little or no organization. In that event it would be advisable to send an officer for the purpose of organizing the delegation. An organizer could go ahead and do the work provided the officer came to lead the delegation. I beg of you to do your utmost to see that every Congressman and every Senator is visited.

Please let me know whether we can rely upon your visit to every Senator and Congressman and what plans you have made. I am writing to your president the plans for the hearings in Washington before your entire delegation.

Cordially yours,

Carrie Chapman Catt
President