

Women Demand the Vote Now as a War Measure

BY HORTENSE WARD

The United States government is today permitting German citizens, alien enemies, to take out citizenship papers and to vote in the July primaries, 1918, for the election of United States congressmen, but are denying to the loyal American women the right to participate in the government of this country.

Every German citizen in Texas who has never been declared his intentions can do so now, pay his poll tax and vote in 1918.

The suffrage victory in New York and the outspoken stand taken by President Wilson and the majority of his cabinet should at least be persuasive to those who still hesitate to accept equal suffrage. We know we have won; now we call upon all patriotic Americans to insist on suffrage here and now as a war measure. You need us and you need us now. The loyalty, courage and efficiency of the American woman can not be doubted. America needs that vote—needs it now. Every man knows suffrage is coming. The woman's vote is already a factor and can never again be overlooked. But think of the money and energy wasted in conducting

elections like the recent one in New York. In this day of economy, why not eliminate the waste!

America is fighting for democracy and yet at least half of her most loyal inhabitants have no voice in the government. We are doing our part as always, and will continue to do so. We are going to have a part in the government. But common sense and justice urge that congress pass the federal amendment now.

It has taken 70 years of work and much money to win 12 states. By federal amendment we'd have the other 36 in less than five years—economically and sanely. We call upon the men of this state to make this their cause. We have never failed you; you need our help, we need yours. Make every congressman realize that if he represents you he will vote for the amendment.

Your congressmen have refused to give this their serious consideration; they are waiting to hear from their electorate.

It is your duty to make them realize you favor suffrage for American women, NOW. The time for flowers, platitudes and flattery is past; we are fighting for democracy.