

, August 1, 1917.

Mr. J. L. Smith,
Amarillo,
Texas.

My Dear Sir:

Your letter of July 16th is before me, and I apologize for the long delay in replying which was entirely unavoidable.

You were entirely correct in addressing Mrs. Cunningham as President of the Texas Equal Suffrage Association. We regret very much that the many items that Mrs. Cunningham has given to the press throughout the state explaining this very matter have none of them come to your attention.

We entirely agree with you in your views respecting the young and misguided women "picketers" at the White House. Dr. Anna Howard Shaw, Honorary President, and Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, President, of the National American Woman Suffrage Association, headquarters in New York City, Mrs. Cunningham, and numerous conservative Suffragists all over our great country have remonstrated, pleaded and implored and petitioned these women to desist.

These women were at one time members of the National American Woman Suffrage Association, but their radical ways bringing remonstrance from Dr. Shaw and Mrs. Catt, offended these wilful ones, and they withdrew, forming what they called the Congressional Union, recently, I believe changed to the Woman's Party.

Rest assured they have no more sympathy with our conservative methods than have we with their foolish, annoying, and radical ones; in fact, they no more approve of us than we do of them. Be certain to make this plain in all with whom you discuss the subject.

Thanking you for your letter and the opportunity to make the matter plain, and hoping that you will come to us with future problems of a similar nature.

Sincerely yours,

July 16 - 1917

Mrs Minnie Fisher Cunningham
Galveston Tex

Dear Madam:

I observe from the daily press you appear to be at the head of the Texas Equal Suffrage Association. For several years I have been very decidedly in favor of woman voting, but my ^{interest} has been rather lessened by the conduct of the advocates of that cause in Washington City during the last six months.

To harass the President in times like these is nothing short of criminal, it seems to me. Its influence in Congress is bad for the cause; members not appearing will turn against them (I would under the circumstances) and vote against them, and I am wondering why the sensible women in the Association don't put a stop to the "picketing" of the White House.

Yours truly
J L Smith