



EQUAL SUFFRAGE EDITION

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PENSACOLA
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SECTION TWO

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THE ORGANIZATION OF PENSACOLA EQUAL SUFFRAGE ASSOCIATION

The Pensacola Equal Suffrage League was organized on the evening of March 23, in the council chamber of the city hall, Mayor A. Green but introducing the young national organizer and lecturer, Miss Lavinia Engle, of Washington, D. C.

The organization of the Pensacola Equal Suffrage League was the outcome of meetings held in the city for the purpose of creating interest in the movement to enfranchise women.

Pensacola women are among the most progressive of the South. Many of these women have been working for years along public lines, and have accomplished much for the growth of the city, both morally and physically.

But the ballot had hardly been considered by most of these women, as a valuable instrument that might be used in the various activities with which they were associated. Those who had considered the franchise at all had, in many instances, confused the movement for equal suffrage in the country with the militant movement in England.

But there were many women in Pensacola, some affiliated with club life, some not members of any woman's club, whose alert minds had "visioned a social justice," and who for the sake of the little children of this country, their own or some other woman's for the sake of civic righteousness, or for various other reasons, attended the meetings which were held weeks before the organization was effected.

Most of these women went to these meetings with the traditions of the old South back of them, they went interested but afraid. But their fear was not of themselves, not of the public, not of censure nor ridicule, but of aligning themselves with a movement at variance with their principles. These women were most of them conservative, opposed to force or violence along any line; holding the standards of womanhood very high, believing that a mother's first duty is to her child, and that above all things a woman should be a home lover and home maker.

result of which Miss Lavinia Engle, field secretary of the National Equal Suffrage Association, was induced to come to Pensacola and remained in the city for nearly two weeks.

The first meeting addressed by Miss Engle was held at the San Carlos hotel, Thursday, March 12, in the parlors of the Y. M. C. A., the young national organizer made a second address to an audience largely composed of men, and was introduced by Mr. Frank L. Mayes, editor of The Pensacola Journal. The splendid womanly character of this gifted young speaker, her fine intelligence and her wonderful insight into the questions of the day so impressed those who heard her on these two occasions that when the Universalist church threw open its doors to her on Sunday, March 15, there was a large and thoughtful audience present to hear her.

This meeting was held in the city hall and the chamber was crowded when Miss Engle by the mayor of the city to an audience at least half of whom were men. The young organizer and lecturer was listened to with the most marked attention and respect, and was constantly applauded by the men, not only during her address, when she made some telling points, but afterwards when the meeting having been thrown open, she answered questions put to her by those present, the majority of these questions being men. At this enthusiastic meeting officers were elected, about forty members enrolled, and a constitution submitted and adopted.

The organization is now rapidly growing, and has more than one hundred members.

The result of the visit of Mrs. Storer and Miss Engle to Pensacola has been instrumental in organizing an equal suffrage league in this city, but equally as important has been the effect of the addresses of these able women in the overturning of fallacies attributed to the suffrage movement, by persons not informed, and in awakening a desire for information. Many Pensacola women have been deeply interested in public questions for years, but have fought shy of woman suffrage from an erroneous impression that militancy must prevail in such a movement. As women come to realize, as they will when they educate themselves on these questions, that these methods do not prevail in America, and that militancy is not countenanced by the national association, the movement will spread as rapidly in the South as it has in the East and West.

The Southern women have only recently come to realize that woman's work must lie outside of the home as well as in the home, in order that the home may be protected. The Southern men do realize this, and will not withhold the ballot from the Southern women, if the Southern women want it. When the women of the south come to realize that their indifference affects, directly or indirectly, their home, their daughter, or their son, either through the schools, through sanitation, through civic righteousness, or some other phase of life, then will equal suffrage sweep the South, burning up old prejudices, and worn out garments of tradition, and the South will take its rightful place as a part of a progressive nation.

CELIA MYROVER ROBINSON.

SOUTHERN WOMEN AT THE HEAD OF PENSACOLA EQUAL SUFFRAGE LEAGUE



Miss Irma MacDavid.



Mrs. W. G. Barrow.



Miss Mary Winston Jones.



Miss Marguerite Ingraham.



Mrs. Fred Roeger.



Mrs. A. E. MacDavid.



Miss Celia Myrover Robinson.



Miss Maud Suter.



Miss Minnie Eloise Kehoe.

Upper left, Miss Irma MacDavid, recording secretary of the Pensacola Equal Suffrage League and advertising manager of the special edition; (2) upper center, Mrs. W. G. Barrow, vice-president; (3) upper right, Miss Mary Winston Jones, corresponding secretary; (4) left from center, Miss Marguerite Ingraham, treasurer; (5) center, Mrs. Fred Roeger, president; Pensacola Equal Suffrage League; right from center, Mrs. A. E. MacDavid, chairman finance committee and business manager of the special edition; (7) lower left, Miss Celia Myrover Robinson, editor woman's department of The Pensacola Journal; (8) Miss Suter, chairman program committee; (9) Miss Minnie Eloise Kehoe, member state legislative committee and chairman of the legislative committee of the Pensacola Equal Suffrage League.

SUFFRAGISTS WHO WILL SPEAK AT NATIONAL CONVENTION

The following account of plans for the convention, and a letter written by Mrs. Mary Ware Dennett, national secretary, to a member of the program committee, and telling why the speakers suggested for the various mass meetings were named, appeared in the Nashville Tennessean:

For the coming National Equal Suffrage League, which convenes in the city in November, there will be gathered for this occasion a number of prominent women socially and professionally, which no one event has ever before assembled in Nashville. Such women as Mrs. Pennybacker, president of the National Federation of Women's Clubs, Olive Shriner, Frau Anker of Norway, Miss Borg, Denmark, Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, Miss Jane Addams and a long list of names of equal prominence. An anticipation which takes precedent of any other is the fact that all who are interested in the movement and in vital questions hearing these leaders discuss the subject of equal suffrage.

Mrs. Mary Ware Dennett, national executive secretary, writes the member of the program committee in the city interesting reasons why the speakers suggested for the various mass meetings were especially named for the reasons which follow:

Senator Lee of Tennessee, for his strong stand on our question, and for the very great influence he would have in Congress and in Tennessee. Chief Justice Walter Clark, because of his very wide influence in North Carolina and throughout the south. George Creel, because of his wide presentation of suffrage results in the west, particularly in Colorado. Witter Bynner, because of his increasing number of suffrage articles, stories, poems, plays and speeches. Mrs. Timin, because she has recently organized the new Washington woman suffrage council to assist the work of our congressional committee. She is a remarkably able woman and an interesting speaker.

Miss Blackwell, on general principles. She was suggested, for that special evening because of her recent very clear analysis on the question of the national amendment.

Miss M. Carey Thomas because she is president of a great national suffrage organization affiliated with our association and has a broad viewpoint in regard to suffrage.

Mrs. Funk because she is a most able speaker and can present the national amendment in a most successful way.

Mrs. Catt and Olive Shriner for reasons every one knows already.

Dr. Shaw says that Frau Anker, of Norway, and Miss Borg, of Denmark, are exceedingly interesting women, and it would be a pleasure to honor them as international guests.

Mrs. Breckinridge because of her wonderful appealing power as an orator, and the special appeal she can make to southern women.

Mrs. Jacobs because of her increasing influence in not only her own state, but throughout the south.

Zona Gale because of her world wide reputation as an author, and her enthusiastic suffrage interest.

Miss Shaw says it will be exceedingly difficult to get good speakers from all the suffrage states.

Mrs. Munds is president of the Arizona association.

Ellen Moore, one of the leading members of the California Civic Association, immensely interested in the playground movement.

Mary C. C. Bradford is state superintendent of education of Colorado, also a member of our congressional committee.

Helen Backer is known to most of you as one of the leading Kansas women.

Ella Plag Young has been asked to speak at the two last conventions and has been obliged to decline each time because of the pressure of her own work. Dr. Shaw hopes very much she will find it possible to accept this time.

Adella Parker, of Seattle, was suggested by George Creel, who was here the other day. He says she is one of the most interesting women on the whole Pacific coast.

Miss Breckinridge suggested Miss Nicholas as one of the leaders in the recent municipal campaign in Chicago.

WHY?

By Dr. Mary A. Safford, State President of the Florida Equal Suffrage Associations.

Why should our legislators favor admitting to the voters of Florida an equal suffrage amendment to our state constitution?

We answer: Because governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed. Women are governed without their consent. Legislators should hasten to make the state just.

Because civic housekeeping needs the knowledge of the women who long have been trained to "keep houses." As Mrs. Foster says: "Men know best about everything excepting the things that women know best about." The practical knowledge of the trained housekeeper not less than that of the efficient business man should be utilized by the state for its own betterment, by giving the ballot to women.

Because there is not one good reason why Florida should be the last southern state to do justice to its women and there are many good reasons why it would be fine to have its great commonwealth lead the way toward the inevitable goal of true democracy.

Because it is poor political economy to compel women to leave their homes to work year after year to secure the ballot that should be given to them without their asking. Gentlemen, why all this waste? You admit that equal suffrage is inevitable. True, woman suffrage is as certain to prevail as the sun is sure to rise tomorrow, then why do you longer compel your sweethearts, wives and daughters, your mothers and your sisters to give precious time and strength in striving for the ballot which a few years hence all women will possess?

Why do you not endeavor to conserve their energy and your own for the great creative work of building better homes and a better state, by helping them to secure the vote as soon as possible?

We hope that you will use your influence toward calling the next convention of your organization in Pensacola, and assure you that we will be glad to have you make this office your headquarters while in the city.

Yours very truly,
JAMES F. PHILLIPS,
Secretary.
Orlando, Fla., Aug. 25, 1914.

Dear Sir:
The cordial invitation conveyed in your letter of the 11th inst., is much appreciated and in behalf of the State Suffrage Association I thank your Chamber of Commerce heartily.

The delay in answering has been due to illness on my part and the absence of workers during the summer. I agree with you that we should think of our state as a whole and would like permission to publish your letter or a part of it to help call attention to your part of the state.

Yours very truly,
MARY A. SAFFORD,
President.
Orlando, Fla., August 29, 1914.

Mrs. Mary A. Safford, President, Florida Equal Suffrage Ass'n., Orlando, Fla.

Yours very truly,
JAMES F. PHILLIPS,
Secretary.
Burt Lake, Mich., Aug. 25, 1914.

Dear Sir:
Your very cordial invitation in the name of the Pensacola Commercial Association was forwarded to me here. As you say Pensacola offers a most fitting place for a meeting of all Florida women interested in the suffrage cause. Personally I should be very glad to see the state association hold its annual meeting in your city which has manifested such a fostering and hospitable spirit towards our work. Your invitation has been forwarded to the members of our executive board for their consideration. Meanwhile I thank you in behalf of our league.

Cordially yours,
MISS FRANCES ANDERSON,
Corresponding Secretary Florida Equal Suffrage Association.

Dear Madam:
Your kind favor of August 26th, duly received, and I will be very glad, indeed, if you will have published any or all of my letter of the 11th.

For the Convention in December

The following correspondence is self-explanatory:

September 3, 1914.
Dear Miss Robinson:
For your information, I beg to hand you herewith copy of the letter which I sent to each member of the executive board of the Florida Equal Suffrage Association, together with replies received from Mrs. Mary A. Safford, and Miss Frances B. Anderson.
I am sending you these, as there may be some way in which you can make use of them.

Please return the file after it has served your purpose.

Yours very truly,
JAMES F. PHILLIPS,
Secretary.
August 11, 1914.
Rev. Mary A. Safford, Pres't,
Florida Equal Suffrage Ass'n.,
Orlando, Fla.
Dear Madam:
It gives us great pleasure to join the Pensacola league in an invitation to the Florida Equal Suffrage Association to hold its next annual convention in Pensacola.
It seems entirely fitting that the city which beheld the earliest settlement

on the North American Continent, the land where men first declared their right to equal opportunity, and to govern themselves according to the dictates of their consciences, should be selected as the meeting place of earnest women seeking a voice in the making of laws by which their children shall be governed.

While the purpose of a convention is to gather together delegates from the local leagues for the transaction of state wide business, there is usually some spare time between meetings for sight seeing and short pleasure trips. Every facility for the prompt handling of routine matters will be placed at your disposal, auditorium,

committee rooms, etc., and for the time you can spare for other purposes, many points of interest in and around the city are available. Fort San Carlos, erected by Don Andres de Arriols in 1696, near the site of the present Fort Barrancas; Fort Barrancas itself; the twelve inch guns and mortar battery at Fort Pickens; the Navy Yard, where the armored cruiser North Carolina will soon be stationed, and the aviation station, from which flights are made daily in the navy's flying boats.
Pensacola has been proclaimed one of the most beautiful bodies of water in the world, on which short trips to the sea buoy, the life saving

station, the bathing beach on Santa Rosa Island, or up the Sound, afford a way of passing a delightful afternoon.
The people of the peninsula, instead of being proud of the extent of our state, are inclined to look upon the citizens of West Florida as foreigners, and group Pensacola with Galveston, Houston and New Orleans. If they could only be persuaded to visit our section and see our flourishing crops and orchards, our splendid city, our beautiful waters and busy shipping, they would speak as boastfully of West Florida as we do of South Florida.
Please do not overlook this opportunity of paying us a visit. You will