

WOMEN'S RIGHTS
In Washington State
An Issue of the 80's

Historical Documents

1884 – 1915

Courtesy of the Secretary of State
Division of Archives

From "Journeys of the Past"
A collection of Facsimile documents
For Washington State History

SECTION 9 - WOMEN'S RIGHTS

During the 1880's, many Western states and territories began to debate the question of whether to allow women to practice the same political rights as men. Women of Washington Territory were granted these privileges by law in 1883, but four years later the Territorial Supreme Court ruled that it was unconstitutional for women to vote, hold public office, or serve on juries (Document No. 1).

One of the most intensely debated subjects of the Constitutional Convention of 1889 was the matter of votes for women, and the Convention received many petitions in favor of equal suffrage (Document No. 2). The delegates refused to take a stand on the issue, however, and referred the matter to the voters as a separate article. The proposed article was rejected by the voters (who were all male, of course), and efforts by women to participate in government were thwarted for several more years (Document No. 3).

Sentiment changed during the first decade of the new century, however, due in part to the spread of a national progressive movement which included various issues regarding elections and voting in general. Then, in 1908, Marion Hay assumed the office of governor of Washington State. He was much more receptive to the idea of votes for women than his predecessors had been, and worked closely with the Washington Equal Suffrage Association to secure more rights for women. Sensing the change of attitudes, the State Legislature proposed a constitutional amendment in 1909 that would allow women to vote. After a massive campaign by suffragates, the amendment was approved by the voters at a general election in November of 1910 (Document NO. 4).

Governor Hay received hundreds of letters from constituents expressing their views on this controversial issue (Document Nos. 5 and 6). As a leader in the equal rights movement, he was also invited to attend speaking engagements and conventions in other parts of the country (Document Nos. 7 and 8).

Hay's successor, Ernest Lister, was also a supporter of women's rights, and he, too, was asked to endorse the policies of various women's groups (Document No. 9). Lister became involved in the national campaign to make equal rights a Constitutional Amendment. He assisted Abigail Scott Duniway of Oregon and Emma Smith Devoe of Washington, leaders of the National Council of Women Voters, in writing a nationally distributed pamphlet which told how well suffrage had succeeded in Washington State (Document Nos. 10 and 11). Due to the efforts and support of citizens like those in Washington, Congress ratified the 19th Amendment, and by 1920, women throughout the nation were able to vote in all elections.

Women's Suffrage in Washington - Chronology

- 1854** A.A. Denny, a member of the First Washington Legislature, introduces a bill granting women the right to vote. It fails to pass by one vote.
- 1871** Susan B. Anthony visits Olympia and urges the Territorial Legislature to grant women's suffrage. She helps organize the Washington Territory Woman Suffrage Association. The day after she leaves the Legislature passes a law specifically denying women the right to vote.
- 1883** The Washington Territorial Legislature passes a law granting women the right to vote.
- 1884** The right of women to serve on grand juries is affirmed by the Washington Territorial Supreme Court (Rosencrantz vs. Territory).
- 1887** Women's suffrage laws are reversed by the Territorial Supreme Court (Harlan vs. Territory).
- 1888** The Territorial Legislature passes a new law granting women the right to vote.
- 1888** The 1888 women's suffrage law is reversed by the Territorial Supreme Court (Bloomer vs. Todd).
- 1889** Women petition the Washington State Constitutional Convention to have women's suffrage included in the new state constitution. It is presented to the voters as a separate amendment to the State Constitution and fails to pass.
- 1909** National American Woman Suffrage Association holds national convention at the Alaska Yukon Pacific Exposition in Seattle.
- 1910** Emma Smith DeVoe and May Arkwright Hutton lead campaigns for suffrage. An amendment to amend the Washington State Constitution to grant women's suffrage passes and becomes law.
- 1920** Women's suffrage becomes national law.

TEXT

Territory of Washington,
County of Spokane.

Nevada M. Bloomer,
vs. PLAINTIFF
John Todd, J. E. Gandy and
H.A. Clarke,
DEFENDANT

In the District Court of the Territory of Wash-
ington, and for the Fourth Judicial District
thereof, holding terms at Spokane Falls, Spokane
County, in said Territory.

The United States of America

To John Todd, J. E. Gandy and H. A. Clarke,

defendant: You are hereby required to appear in an action brought against you by

Nevada M. Bloomer,

plaintiff in the District Court of Washington Territory, and for the Fourth Judicial
District thereof, holding terms at Spokane Falls, Spokane County, in said Territory, to
answer the complaint of plaintiff, filed in Spokane county, within twenty days after the
service of this summons, exclusive of the day of service, if served within said county; if
not served within said county, but within said district, in thirty days; if served within
any other judicial district in the territory, in forty days; if served by publication within
sixty days after the date of the first publication of this summons, or the said plaintiff
will take judgment against you by default, according to the prayer of the complaint.

The cause and general nature of the action is to recover dam-
ages by the plaintiff in the sum of five thousand dollars by the
plaintiff against the defendants judges of election at an election
held in the fourth ward of the city of Spokane Falls, on the 3d day
of April, 1888, upon the ground that they acting as such judges re-
fused to receive her ballot or to permit her to vote at such elec-
tion.

WITNESS the Hon. L. B. Nash,
Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of Washington
Territory, and Judge of said Court and the Seal thereof af-
fixed this 17th day of April A. D. 188 8
D. A. Clement, Clerk,
By Chas. B. Johnston, Deputy,
Wm. M. Murray Plaintiff's Att'y.

QUESTIONS

1. Why is the plaintiff suing the election judges for \$5,000.00?
2. Did women have the right to vote in Washington Territory in 1888?
3. What was the outcome of this case?

SOURCE

Supreme Court
Clerk of the Territorial Supreme Court
Cause Files
1888

Territory of Washington, }
COUNTY OF SPOKANE. } ss.

Nevada M. Bloomer,
vs.
John Todd, J. E. Gandy and
H. A. Clarke.

PLAINTIFF

DEFENDANT

In the District Court of the Territory of Wash-
ington, and for the Fourth Judicial District
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The cause and general nature of the action is to recover damages by the plaintiff in the sum of five thousand dollars by the plaintiff against the defendants judges of election at an election held in the fourth ward of the city of Spokane Falls, on the 3d day of April, 1888, upon the ground that they acting as such judges refused to receive her ballot or to permit her to vote at such election.

WITNESS the Hon. L. B. Nash,
Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of Washington
Territory, and Judge of said Court and the Seal thereof af-
fixed this 17th day of April A. D., 1888

D. A. Clement, Clerk.

By Chas. B. Johnston, Deputy.

Wm. M. Murray, Plaintiff's Atty.

TEXT

PETITION

To The Honorable:

The President and Delegates representing the people of Washington in Constitutional Convention on July 4th, 1889, assembled for the purpose of forming a Constitution for the New State of Washington:

Your petitioners, the undersigned would respectfully petition: - That in the Constitution framed by your Honorable Body there be included such provisions as shall secure to women in the future State of Washington, the exercise of the right of suffrage to the same extent and upon the same basis as men.

Names:	Names:
Mrs. B.L. West Mrs. D.A. McIntish Mrs. A.E. Welton Mrs. Julia Massiliat Miss Mary A Pambrun Mrs. Blanche Richards Mrs. Emma Catherines	secretary Pres Vice Pres
Mrs S. Been	
Mrs. Bun Tuttle	
Asotin Aug. 12. 1889 Asotin Prarie Union W. C. T. U.	
	Wash. Tr

QUESTIONS

1. To what organization do these petitioners belong?
2. By what authority were men able to vote during the Territorial Period?
3. Was the request of this petition honored?

SOURCE

Secretary of State/Territory
 Records of the Constitutional Convention
 Subject Files - Women's Suffrage
 1889

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Your petitioners, the undersigned would respectfully petition:—That in the Constitution framed by your Honorable Body there be included such provisions as shall secure to women in the future State of Washington, the exercise of the right of suffrage to the same extent and upon the same basis as men.

Names:

Names:

Mr. B. S. Mack

Secretary

Miss A. M. Smith

Miss

Miss A. E. Wilton

Wm. Pres

Miss Julia Massick

Miss Mary A. Parrish

Miss Blanch Richards

Mrs. Emma C. Thomas

Mrs. S. Bean

Mrs. Ben Suttle

Asotin Aug. 12. 1889

Asotin Prairie Union

W. C. S. U.

Wash. Ter

TEXT

To the Governor of Washington:

We, the undersigned freeholders of Spokane County, State of Washington hereby certify that we are well acquainted with M. J. Wager that she is a reputable citizen of said county; that she is an elector of the State her of Washington, and we hereby recommend ~~him~~ her to the Governor as a proper person to receive appointment as Notary Public.

Dated at Spokane

this 2nd day of March 1906

1 C.H. Rogers	11 Lester P. Edge
2 H. Jaeger	12 A. U. Webber
3 W L Weld	13 B M Branford
4 H. O. Russell	14 Harry Rosenhaupt
5 H. P. Mitchill	15 Otto R. Daly
6 G. P. Muecahy	16 T. L. Rogers
7 H. A. Phillips	17 F Lurllwitz
8 A. H. Greyy	18 W. M. Burns
9 H E Schleyel	19 Emil Simon
10 Joseph McCarthy	20 W. R. Cooley

March 7, 1906

M. J. Wager

c/o Rogers & Rogers,

Spokane, Washington.

Dear Madam:

I return herewith your fee of \$10.00 for appointment as a notary public. Under the laws of this state, a woman is not an elector and is not eligible for appointment as a notary public.

Yours very truly,

Private Secretary.

QUESTIONS

1. What is meant by the term "freeholder"?
2. Why was it necessary that a notary public be able to vote?
3. What other positions and privileges depended on the right to vote?

SOURCE

State Governors

Mead Administration

Subject Files - Women's Rights

1906

To the Governor of Washington :

We, the undersigned freeholders of Spokane County, State of Washington, hereby certify that we are well acquainted with M. J. Wager that she is a reputable citizen of said county; that she is an elector of the State of Washington, and we hereby recommend ^{her} to the Governor as a proper person to receive appointment as Notary Public.

Dated at Spokane, this 2nd day of March 1906.

1. <u>A. H. Rogers</u>	11. <u>Lester P. Edge</u>
2. <u>Wm. Jaeger</u>	12. <u>A. U. Webber</u>
3. <u>W. L. Weld</u>	13. <u>B. M. Brumford</u>
4. <u>H. O. Russell</u>	14. <u>Henry Rosubach</u>
5. <u>A. P. Mitchell</u>	15. <u>Otto R. Dales</u>
6. <u>G. P. Muechler</u>	16. <u>T. L. Rogers</u>
7. <u>J. A. Phillips</u>	17. <u>G. Kullowich</u>
8. <u>A. W. Wager</u>	18. <u>W. M. Dyer</u>
9. <u>F. E. Schley</u>	19. <u>Emil Simon</u>
10. <u>Joseph McLarty</u>	20. <u>W. R. Cooley</u>

March 7, 1906.

M. J. Wager,
c/o Rogers & Rogers,
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I return herewith your fee of \$10.00 for appointment as a notary public. Under the laws of this state, a woman is not an elector and is not eligible for appointment as a notary public.

Yours very truly,

Private Secretary.

TEXT

LECTURES

SUNDAY, NOV. 6, 1910

AT THE NEW HALL OF
Stevens Dancing Academy
On Fourth, bet. Pike and Pine

AT 3 P. M. -- SUBJECT:
"THE ATONEMENT"
By PROF. J. N. McELVIN

AT 8 P. M. -- SUBJECT;
"Let Us Have Woman's
Suffrage"
By LAWYER A. J. SPECKERT

Given under the auspices of the Samuel Watson
Church of True Spiritualism, Incorporated

Before and after each lecture, solos and duets will be sung
by Seattle's two leading singers, D. Carlos McAllister and Miss
Ida Michaels.

At one o'clock the General Conference will take place. Sub-
ject: "WHO IS MY NEIGHBOR?"

Circles and Healing Tests at 4:15. Platform Tests at night.
Admission Free. Bring your friends. Come and join us in
the march of progression. We have similar services every Sunday.

QUESTIONS

1. Why would women's suffrage be endorsed by a religious group?
2. What is the significance of the date of this lecture?

SOURCE

State Governors
Hay Administration
Subject Files - Women's Rights
1910

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SUNDAY, NOV. 6, 1910

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On Fourth, bet. Pike and Pine

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TEXT

Woman's Christian Temperance Union

BURTON, WASH. Jan 5. 1911

To His Excellency the Governor of
Washington -

Honored Sir:

In regard to the convention on Jan 14th would like to ask, what plan or method of organization is proposed? Are the five women, one from each state, to be an executive comite to plan for the new organization? Or is there to be further representation thru women's societies already existing? If the latter would express my desire to represent the W.C.T.U. of Washington in virtue of my office as the State Franchise Supt. The idea of having an organization of dignity to which legislative comites could report in the endeavour of women citizens to work practically and efficiently for the uplift of the home is surely a credit to the author of said idea - Very Sincerely Yours

S.L.W. Clark

QUESTIONS

1. What was to be the purpose of the convention to be held on January 14th, 1911?
2. What does the author mean by the phrase "uplift of the home"? How does she feel that the Legislature can help the cause of women's rights?

SOURCE

State Governors
Hay Administration
Subject Files - Women's Rights
1911



MRS. S. L. W. CLARK,
NATIONAL SUPERINTENDENT
BURTON, WASH.

Woman's Christian Temperance Union
NATIONAL FRANCHISE DEPARTMENT

MRS. F. C. DAVIDSON,
ASSOCIATE
6214 27TH AVENUE N. E.
SEATTLE, WASH.

BURTON, WASH.,

Jan - 5. 1911

To His Excellency the Governor of
Washington -

Honored Sir:

In regard to the
convention on Jan 14th would like to ask, what
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If the latter would express my desire to rep-
resent the W.C.T.U. of Washington in virtue of
my office as the State Franchise Supt.

The idea of having an organization of dignity
to which legislative Comites could report
in the endeavour of women citizens to work
practically and efficiently for the uplift of the
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said idea -

Very sincerely yours
S. L. W. Clark

WOMEN'S RIGHTS - Document No. 6

TEXT

Sumas Wash March 1st 1911
To the Governor of Washington
Olympia Wash.

Dear Sir -

Womans suffrage has brought its evil. In order to cater to the female vote all manner of freak bills have been presented and some passed in all the female suffrage states. In this state the so called lazy husband bill if as reported is sure a blot on the fair name. I over heard young men discussing this law and the conclusion was unanimous the a young man had no inducement to engage in matrimony now. A law for the lazy man but none for the lazy extravagant woman - and support for a divorced woman no matter what entitled the man to a divorce. No self respecting woman would disgrace her family or her self by handing her husband over to the county. ~~Q~~ Only vicious woman will be benefitted. I hope you will turn this bill down. It will stop marriage and create run away husbands. It is class legislation. Respy

Adam Smith.

QUESTIONS

1. What was the content of the "lazy husband" bill? Did it become law?
2. Where did Mr. Smith obtain his information?
3. Why does he feel that giving women the right to vote has caused "all manner of freak bills"?

SOURCE

State Governors
Hay Administration
Subject Files - Women's Rights
1911

Sumas Wash March 1st 1911

To the Governor of Washington

Olympia, Wash.

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TEXT

VOTES FOR WOMEN

Women's Political Union

Headquarters and Shop
46 East Twenty-Ninth Street
New York

August 9, 1911

Hon. M. E. Hay,
Governor of State of Washington
Olympia, Washington.

Dear Governor Hay: -

We have just received a telegram, a copy of which I enclose, from Governor Shafroth of Colorado. Both from him and the Secretary of the Conference of Governors we gather that the conference will come to an end early on Sept. 16th. As this will give any one at Spring Lake several hours to reach New York, we trust that you will be able to take part in the meeting which we have now fixed for September 16th.

All the Executives who have telegraphed us from the west seem to desire to get away from New York as quickly as possible. For that reason we have decided to hold our great mass meeting Saturday evening, September 16th.

We trust that you will make every endeavor to be present as nothing would advance our cause so much here as statements to the advantage of woman suffrage from the Executives of the suffrage states. Anything coming from you would be of especial value because the political forces in New York recognize that the admission of Washington among the suffrage states a community of first class importance has adopted this great reform. Seattle is the largest city that has embraced woman suffrage. For this reason your words would carry exceptional weight, and then too, we of the east recognize that since the adoption of woman suffrage, although you have had it so short a time in the state of Washington, some very marked reforms in politics have been carried through.

Trusting that you will be present at the mass meeting, although it may require much of personal sacrifice, believe me,

Very respectfully yours,

Harriot Stanton Blatch

President Women's Political Union.

QUESTIONS

1. How had the political situation in Washington helped the advancement of the women's suffrage cause in the East?
2. To what famous person was the author related?

SOURCE

State Governors
Hay Administration
Subject Files - Women's Rights
1911

VOTES FOR WOMEN

OFFICERS
HARRIOT STANTON BLATCH
PRESIDENT
ELIZABETH ENLEWORTH COOK
VICE-PRESIDENT
MARION TOWNSEND
TREASURER
EUNICE DANA BRANNAN
CHAIRMAN FINANCE COMMITTEE
CAROLINE LEXDY
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

TELEPHONE, MADISON SQUARE 8048

Women's Political Union

Formerly Equality League of Self-Supporting Women

HEADQUARTERS AND SHOP
46 EAST TWENTY-NINTH STREET
NEW YORK

EXECUTIVE BOARD
NORA BLATCH DE FOREST
CLARA GRAYNE
FLORENCE KELLEY
ALICE J. G. PERKINS
BERTHA REMBAUGH
ELIZABETH SELDEN ROGERS
SARAH SPLINT

August 9, 1911.

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Governor of State of Washington
Olympia, Washington.

Dear Governor Hay:-

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Harriot Stanton Blatch

President Women's Political Union.

WOMEN'S RIGHTS - Document No. 8.

TEXT SUMMARY

A copy of a petition requesting the passage of Senate Bill 90 (1913), entitled The Iowa Red Light Injunction and Abatement Law. The purpose of this bill was to prohibit and force the closure of "places of lewdness, assignation, and prostitution". This petition is signed by members of various Seattle women's organizations, and urges the Legislature to adopt the bill as soon as possible. The petitioners claim that they represent a majority of women of the State in their support of the legislation.

The Abatement Act became law in March of 1913.

QUESTIONS

1. Why is there a concern that the signatures may be fraudulent?
2. What kinds of organizations do the petitioners represent?
3. According to the petitioners, how had the Bill already been "weakened"?
4. How did this act affect the rights of women in Washington?

SOURCE

State Governors
Hay Administration
Subject Files - Women's Rights
1913

The following is a mimeograph copy of an original petition which is in the hands of Dan Earle on the floor of the house, and which original petition bears the autograph signatures. The petition has been prepared since Saturday last, and while women in other parts of the state are just as thoroughly interested, manifestly, in the time available it was impossible to secure the actual signatures. In some such cases, the names have been affixed upon written authority, which written authority is also in the hands of Mr. Earle, and the distinction is clearly shown both on the original petition and upon this copy between the actual signatures, and those affixed by proxy. The women are decidedly in earnest concerning this bill, but do not want to leave the slightest possibility for suspicion of fraud or misrepresentation upon their part.

PETITION OR EXPRESSION OF DESIRE.

"We, the undersigned, by reason of our official positions in Womens' organizations, have been closely in touch with the strong, respectable, thinking women of the state, and know that a very large majority of them, after mature consideration are decidedly in favor of Senate Bill No. 90 (House Bill No. 142) 'The Iowa Red Light Injunction and Abatement Law' "

While we think it has already been weakened, and would much preferred to see it passed as originally drawn, yet we do not believe that it has been rendered wholly inoperative or useless by Senate Amendments and we sincerely trust it will be passed by the house without further weakening".

Adèle M. Fields, Washington Women's Legislative Committee,

Mrs. S. Jennings White, W.C.T.U., 210 24th So.

Mrs. Selia Morris, Treasurer Womens' Wilson-Marshall League, 2567 9th Ave. West.

Helen Moore Hubbell, State President of Mothers' Congress.

Mrs. Fred W. Bert Jr. Pres. Queen Anne Mothers and Teachers Club,
Vice President, Congress of Mothers, Seattle Br.
Treasurer, Social Agencies of Seattle.

Mrs. G.W. Furry, President of Womens' League of Queen Anne Cong. Ch.

Miss L.P. White, 210 24th Ave. So. Leschi Heights Imp. Club.

Mrs. Frances K. Headlee, 5525 15th Ave. N.E. North End Progressive Club

Mrs. Nettie E. Winger, Pres. Pennsylvania Study Club.

Adelaide L. Pollock, Pres. West Queen Anne Civic Center.

Ruth Strong Niederhauser,, 508 Garfield St.

Mrs. Wm. Belote Cor. Sec'y Seattle Suffrage Club 2323 E. Spring St.

Mrs. A. T. Lane, Pres. 3rd W.P. Church Missionary Society.

Leonia Windsor Browne, 330 New York Block.

Mrs. W. F. Thompson, Pres. No. End Progressive Club.

Mrs. Harry L. Glenn Vice President Suffrage Club.

Mrs. John Trumbull Broadway North, Seattle, Chairman Legislative
Committee Seattle Federation of Womens' Clubs

Mrs. Margaret C. Munns, Cor. Sec'y West Washington W.C.T.U.

Mrs. Mary L. Stillwell, Pres. Womens' Foreign Missionary Society Free
Methodist Church of Western Washington.

Mrs. Theresa H. Griswold, President Womens' Century Club.

Katharine Major Pres. King County Graduate Nurses Association

Mary W. Wade, Chairman Temperance Committee Tabernacle Baptist Ch.

Mrs. Jackson Silbaugh, National Lecturer W.C.T.U. Seattle, Wash.

Mrs. E. A. Shores, Phylanthropic Committee Plymouth Church.

Mrs. Ellery B. Gordon, Member King Co. Humane Society.

Mrs. Mary I. Bugler, Women's Democratic Club, King Co.

Mrs. Margaret B. Platt, Pres. Western Washington W.C.T.U.

Mrs. Mary E. Bettinger, Pres. West Side Improvement Club.

Helen M. Stevens, Editor Western Washington Outlook, and President
Womens' Home Consumers League.

Miss Maud McGough, President Seattle Womens Club.

Sophia C. Johns, State Chairman Committee on Welfare of Women and
Children, Daughters American Revolution. 1520 8th West.

TEXT

Spokane, Wash., April 13, 1914

Hon. Ernest Lister,
Governor,
Olympia, Wash.

Dear Sir and Governor:

Recognizing that the cause of Woman Suffrage is no longer an academic problem and that it has entered the field of practical politics, and that its speedy enactment into law is of vital importance to the country, the National Woman's Suffrage Association has set apart the first Saturday of May for a great public demonstration throughout the country, hoping in this way to set forth the just claim of women to political freedom, and to arouse a spirit of patriotic devotion in the hearts of all women.

In this spirit of loyalty to a true democracy, Mr. Governor, the undersigned committee, appointed for this purpose by the Good Government League of Spokane, appeals to you, in your official capacity as Governor of the state, to set aside and proclaim the first Saturday in May to be known as Woman's Independence Day.

Very Respectfully,
GOOD GOVERNMENT LEAGUE,
Spokane, Wash.

By Mrs. D.C. Coates, Secy
Mrs. L.C. Kramer
Mrs. Grant Coapland
Committee.

QUESTIONS

1. What was the purpose of the Good Government League?
2. How had the cause of women's suffrage progressed from "an academic problem" to the "field of practical politics"?
3. Did the Governor proclaim Woman's Independence Day?

SOURCE State Governors
Lister Administration
Subject Files - Women's Suffrage
1914

Spokane, Wash., April 13, 1914.

Hon. Ernest Lister,
Governor,
Olympia, Wash.

Dear Sir and Governor:

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Very Respectfully,

GOOD GOVERNMENT LEAGUE,
Spokane, Wash.

By

Mrs. W. C. Coates Secy
Mrs. L. C. Kramer
Mrs. Grant Copland
Committee.

WOMEN'S RIGHTS - Document No. 10

TEXT

STATE OF WASHINGTON
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR
OLYMPIA

January 28, 1915

Mr. Charley Subtell,
Gyran, Texas.

My dear Sir:-

I have at hand your letter of the 21st inst., asking an expression from me in relation to woman suffrage in this State.

Replying I desire to say that the women of the State of Washington have had the right to vote for something more than three years. I know of no one who favored giving Washington women the right to vote who today opposes it, and large numbers of those who originally opposed it are now in favor of it. The results in the State of Washington have certainly indicated that women assist, rather than otherwise, in public affairs, by having the ballot.

Sincerely yours.

Ernest Lister
Governor

QUESTIONS

1. Why were citizens from other states interested in the effect of women's suffrage in Washington?
2. How did Governor Lister's opinion compare with that of his constituents (see Document Nos. 6 and 8)?

SOURCE

State Governors
Lister Administration
Subject Files - Women's Suffrage
1915



STATE OF WASHINGTON
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR
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Sincerely yours,

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TEXT

*The National Council
of
Women Voters*

*National Headquarters
605 Perkins Bldg., Tacoma, Wash.
March 29, 1915.*

I.W. Ziegaus, Secretary to the Governor,
Olympia, Washington.

My dear Mr. Ziegaus:

Your letter concerning the leaflet Governor Lister so kindly promised to write for me has been received. Please tell the Governor I am glad he did not "veto" it.

My thought was to have each Governor of the Suffrage States, (twelve in number, and one from the Territory), tell us in about from fifty to seventy-five words how woman suffrage works in their respective states. Governor Lister's subject would be, "How woman suffrage works in Washington", and the Oregon Governor, "How woman suffrage works in Oregon", etc.

The leaflet was to have been compiled under the signature of Mrs. Lister and we were going to have them printed on good paper and sent broadcast over the country. Now, since Governor Lister writes so well on that topic, I believe if he would write a whole leaflet we could use it. Still, I desire very much to have the first idea carried out; that of shorter statements from all of the Governors.

I appreciate your kindness very much and will be very grateful to you if this can be gotten out soon.

Very respectfully,
Emma Smith DeVoe

QUESTIONS

1. What was the purpose of the leaflet proposed by Mrs. DeVoe and how were copies to be distributed?
2. Why was the national headquarters for the National Council of Women Voters located in the State of Washington?
3. Note the names of the states with full suffrage that are printed on the letterhead. How do their locations compare with the "political forces in the East" discussed in Document No. 7?

SOURCE

State Governors
Lister Administration
Subject Files - Women's Suffrage

President

MRS. EMMA SMITH DEVOE
605 Perkins Bldg., Tacoma, Wash.

Vice-President at Large
MISS JANE ADDAMS
Hull House, Chicago

Corresponding Secretary
MRS. LOWELL BELLETT
1025 40th Ave. N., Seattle, Washington

Recording Secretary
MRS. LEONA CARRE
1011 North 8th St., Boise, Idaho

Treasurer
DR. CORA SMITH KING
63 The Olympia, Washington, D. C.

Auditor
MRS. C. H. McMAHON
38 Caithness Apts., Salt Lake City

Vice-Presidents

WYOMING *Full Suffrage in 1869*
MRS. IDA HARRIS MONDELL
Newcastle

COLORADO *Full Suffrage in 1893*
MRS. MARY C. C. BRADFORD
State House, Denver

UTAH *Full Suffrage in 1896*
MRS. ROSE LEE SUTHERLAND
Salt Lake City

IDAHO *Full Suffrage in 1896*
MISS MARGARET S. ROBERTS
Boise

WASHINGTON *Full Suffrage in 1910*
MRS. VIRGINIA WILSON MASON
2501 N. Washington St., Tacoma

CALIFORNIA *Full Suffrage in 1911*
MRS. JOHN B. RAKER
Alturas

OREGON *Full Suffrage in 1912*
DR. VIOLA M. COE
841 Lovejoy St., Portland

ARIZONA *Full Suffrage in 1912*
MRS. FRANCES W. MUNDS
Prescott

KANSAS *Full Suffrage in 1912*
MRS. BERTHA FELT THOMPSON
Garden City

ALASKA *Full Suffrage in 1913*
MRS. CORNELIA T. HATCHER
Knik

ILLINOIS *Presidential and Municipal Suffrage in 1913*
MRS. SHERMAN M. BOOTH
Glencoe

Congressional Committee

DR. CORA SMITH KING, *Chairman*
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MRS. EDWARD KEATING, Colorado
MRS. GEORGE SUTHERLAND, Utah
MRS. FRED T. DUBOIS, Idaho
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MRS. MAUDE M. ANDERSON, Arizona
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MRS. HARRY LANE, Oregon
MRS. JAMES WICKERSHAM, Alaska
MRS. C. U. STONE, Illinois

Committee on Health and Legislation
DR. LUCY WAITE, *Chairman*,
Park Ridge, Ill.

Committee on History of Woman Suffrage

MRS. IDA HUSTED HARPER, *Chairman*
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Press Committee

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1416 F St., N. W., Washington, D. C.

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Chairman
443 West End Ave., New York City

Honorary President

MRS. ABIGAIL SCOTT DUNIWAY, 170 Ford St., Portland, Ore.

The National Council of Women Voters

Nonpartisan

Objects

To educate women voters in the exercise of their citizenship.

To secure legislation in Equal Suffrage States in the interests of men and women, of children and the home.

To aid in the further extension of Woman Suffrage in the United States.

National Headquarters

605 Perkins Bldg., Tacoma, Wash.

March 29, 1915.

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Olympia, Washington.

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