

Woman's Journal And Suffrage News

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CONGRESS OPENS WITH SUFFRAGE MEASURES

**National Convention Finds Washington Alive with Activity—
Another Deputation to See President, Hearings Before
Congressional and Party Committees and Full
Program of Association Work Feature
Coming Week at Capital**

The first measures to be introduced in the new Congress this week were resolutions for a nation-wide amendment enfranchising women. When the House assembled Dec. 6 Representatives Mondell of Wyoming (Republican), Raker of California (Democrat) and London of New York (Socialist) presented identical resolutions for equal suffrage throughout the country. Dr. Anna Howard Shaw and a group of other suffrage leaders sat in the Speaker's gallery by invitation of Speaker Champ Clark and Mrs. Clark. The next day, when the Senate began to receive bills, Senator Sutherland of Utah (Republican) introduced the suffrage amendment for the Congressional Union and was followed by Senator Thomas of Colorado (Democrat), who introduced the same measure for the National American Woman Suffrage Association.

Suffrage activity in Washington broke all records this week and promises to be even greater next week, when delegates to the big annual convention of the National American Woman Suffrage Association will mass in the capital from Dec. 14 to 19. They will receive and welcome 500 delegates to the convention Dec. 14. On Dec. 15 a hearing on the federal amendment will be held before the Woman Suffrage Committee of the U. S. Senate, of which Senator Thomas is chairman. The date for a hearing before the House Judiciary Committee, of which Representative Webb of North Carolina is chairman, was uncertain as the Woman's Journal went to press, but it was expected to be held Dec. 11. The Democratic National Committee held a hearing on the question of a suffrage plank in their next platform, Dec. 7, and a similar hearing before the Republican National Committee will be held Dec. 14.

President Wilson, in his reception Dec. 6 of the envoys of the Congressional Union, gave an indication of a more sympathetic attitude regarding a national amendment than he has previously shown. It was the first time since the fall elections that the President has spoken on the question, and while he said that it was too late to consider including suffrage in his message, he declared that he hoped always to keep an open mind on the subject.

"All I can say with regard to what you are urging at present," said President Wilson, "is this: I hope I shall always have an open mind, and I shall certainly take the greatest pleasure in conferring in the most serious way with my colleagues at the other end of the city with regard to what is the right thing to do at this time concerning this great matter. I am always restrained, as some of you will remember, by the consciousness that I must speak for others as well as for myself so long as I occupy my present office and therefore I do not like to speak for others until I consult others and see what I am justified in saying."

The entire tenth floor at the New Willard Hotel will be given over to the convention of the National Association in Washington next

week, and all of the sessions of the convention will take place there.

The program for the convention is as follows:

Monday, December 13: There will be a meeting of the Board of Directors during the day, and a meeting of the Executive Council will be held at 8 p. m.

Tuesday, December 14: The annual Pre-convention Executive Council meeting will be held at 9 a. m.

The convention will be called to order at 11 a. m. After a greeting by the President, reports will

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WILSON PROMISES CAREFUL THOUGHT

President and New Congress Receive Big Delegation and Petition of 500,000

President Wilson and about a hundred members of the Sixty-fourth Congress received large delegations of suffragists from the Congressional Union last Monday after an impressive parade up Pennsylvania avenue.

The President's interview with 300 women in the East Room of the White House was the climax of a day's demonstration, which included the presentation of petitions to Representatives in Congress, speech-making on the steps of the Capitol, the introduction of the nation-wide suffrage amendment in the House, and the parade, in which 1,000 were in line.

The suffrage petition, 18,000 feet long, said to bear 500,000 names, largely of voters in the suffrage States, which was brought across the continent in an automobile by Mrs. Sara Bard Field of Oregon and Miss Frances Joliffe of California, was lost between Washington and Wilmington, Del., by the express company which had been entrusted with the last few miles of its long journey. The delegation had another petition with them, however, and although less pretentious, it was presented to Representative Mondell, of Wyoming, on the steps of the Capitol.

"Under free government," Mr. Mondell declared, "there can be

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WILL CONGRESS HEED?



Fredrikke S. Palmer.

DEMOCRATS HEAR SUFFRAGE APPEAL

National Committee Listens to Debate on Question of Plank in Coming Platform

The question of a suffrage plank in the next national platform of the Democratic Party was debated for an hour Dec. 7 before the one-day session of the National Democratic Committee.

The committee took no action, but the members appeared to enjoy the debate thoroughly, and applauded each speaker liberally.

There were four groups of women on the programme. Mrs. Antoinette Funk, of the Congressional Committee of the National American Woman Suffrage Association, asked for a plank in the platform. Miss Kate Gordon, president of the Southern States' Woman Suffrage Conference, asked for a hearing before the Democratic convention when it meets next June. Mrs. Sara Bard Field and Miss Frances Joliffe, the Congressional Union envoys, asked the Democrats to use their influence with members of Congress to have the suffrage amendment passed at this session, and Mrs. Arthur M. Dodge and Mrs.

MARGARET WILSON IS GLAD TO HELP

President's Daughter in Receiving Line With Well Known Suffrage Leaders

Miss Margaret Wilson made her first public appearance for the cause at a reception on Dec. 7 at the "Little White House." She stood in the reception line with Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont and Miss Alice Paul, shaking hands with the hundreds of women from all parts of the country who wanted to say "Thank you" to her and, through her, to her father.

"I am glad to be here. I am deeply and earnestly interested in the cause," she said over and over again.

Among the others in the receiving line were Mrs. Gifford Pinchot, Mrs. Preston P. Satterwhite, Mrs. Mark L. Bristol, Miss Jessie Ashley, Mrs. Harriot Stanton Blatch, Mrs. Charles Boughton Wood, Dr. Cora Smith King. A. J. George spoke for the anti-suffragists.

The national Democratic convention will be held in St. Louis June 14, just a week after the election on suffrage in Iowa.

32ND FEDERATION GOES ON RECORD

Louisiana Women's Clubs Pass Suffrage Resolution Without Dissenting Voice

The Louisiana State Federation of Women's Clubs, at its recent convention in Monroe, unanimously passed a resolution favoring equal suffrage.

As an illustration of how sentiment for votes for women is growing, a club member said: "Just think, but a couple of years ago, Louisiana Clubs were afraid to discuss the subject, and now we endorse the ballot for women without a dissenting voice."

The resolution declared that "the question of political equality of men and women is today a vital problem under discussion throughout the State of Louisiana," and "that the Louisiana State Federation of Women's Clubs gives the cause of political equality for men and women moral support by recording its earnest belief in the principles of political equality, regardless of sex."

Thirty-two State Federations of Women's Clubs have now endorsed equal suffrage.