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NATIONAL AMERICAN WOMAN SUFFRAGE ASSOCIATION  
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NATIONAL PRESS DEPARTMENT  
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RELEASE

April 28, 1920

NEWS SERVICE

IMMEDIATELY

Personnel of the Emergency Corps Bound for Connecticut  
to Wage Greatest Single Drive Ever Waged  
in Suffrage Cause

~~The Suffrage~~ Emergency Corps - the flying protest of the women of 47 states of the Union - will gather in New York city on the first of May on their way to try to convince the Governor of Connecticut that his delay in calling a special session of the Legislature to ratify the Federal Suffrage Amendment is crippling the woman strength of the whole nation in the coming presidential elections.

They say that of the 9,500,000 women left unenfranchised by Connecticut's delay, many are Republican and the ardent Republican women need them in the coming campaign; many are Democrats and the Democratic women leaders want their votes to be counted.

The Emergency Corps has already sent on some of its advance guard. All the eastern bound members will be in New York by May 2, when they will be entertained by Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, president of the National American Woman Suffrage Association, at a dinner at the McAlpin Hotel.

New York will furnish a regional director of the National League of Women Voters to the Emergency Corps in the person of Mrs. F. Louis Slade, known on both sides of the sea for her work in selecting the personnel of the woman's war work activities of the Y. M. C. A. Mrs. Slade is director of the Middle Atlantic States as Miss Ludington is of the northeastern section. New York will also be represented indirectly in the Emergency Corps through Mrs. Jerome M. Fittz, of Providence, formerly a New York educator, a member of the Interborough Association of Women Teachers, in whose political campaign she was very active. She is now press and publicity director of the Rhode Island Equal Suffrage Association. She was the originator of the famous "Fishers of Men"

campaign in Rhode Island, which organized men of the state in Rhode Island's presidential suffrage struggle and put that state on the map as the first far-eastern gain for woman suffrage in any large measure.

Massachusetts will send such a seasoned veteran in suffrage work as Mrs. Ida Porter Boyer, one of the old guard, known for her work as writer, lecturer and organizer, from Boston to New Orleans, where she was editor of the new Southern Citizen. She has fought through state campaigns in Oregon, Oklahoma, Ohio, Michigan, Louisiana, and is now one of the lecturers in the citizenship schools of the Boston League of Women Voters.

Mrs. Mary I. Wood of the New Hampshire Federation of Women's Clubs will also be of the New England contingent.

From the Rockies will come ex-Senator Helen Ring Robinson en route for the International Woman Suffrage Congress at Geneva, Switzerland, to which she is one of the twelve American women delegates. She will represent the next to the oldest woman suffrage state of the Union, Colorado. She can speak for the growth of Colorado under woman suffrage during the last twenty-seven years. Another woman who has been state senator is Mrs. Frances Munds of Cottonwood, Arizona, kin to Frances Willard, supporter of women's causes. The oldest suffrage state, Wyoming, will send Dr. Grace Raymond Hebard, a professor of sociology in the state university at Laramie; and from the neighboring state of Utah, which also gave territorial rights of franchise to its women in 1870, the wife of the president of the Utah University, Mrs. John T. Widtsoe, who will speak of Utah's long prosperity under women's emancipation.

Another western woman of more than national prominence who will go forth to manifest to Governor Holcomb that an emergency does exist which affects all the women of the nation and not just the women of a single state is Dr. Esther Pohl Lovejoy of the American Women's Hospitals. Dr. Lovejoy is also the president of the International Medical Women's Association, and will represent her state of Oregon, which she left during the war to serve the world in France under the Red Cross.

Other western women are: Mrs. M. J. Sweeley of Twin Falls, Idaho, president of the Idaho Federation of Women's Clubs; Mrs. Charles H. Brooks of Kansas, the first chairman of the National League of Women Voters; Mrs. Wallace Perham of Glendive, Montana, state president of the Federation of Women's Clubs; Mrs. Charles Dietrich of Hastings, Nebraska, chairman of the State League of Women Voters; Mrs. Robert Clendening of Fargo, North Dakota, long president of the North Dakota Woman Suffrage Association; Mrs. John R. Pyle of Huron, South Dakota, already appointed by her party a Republican presidential elector; Mrs. Edward P. Fick of Seattle, Washington; Mrs. A. B. Stroup of Albuquerque, New Mexico, and Mrs. Edward Seward Simons, famous club woman from South Pasadena, California.

From the middle tier of states Mrs. Walter McNab Miller of St. Louis, a former vice-president of the National American Woman Suffrage Association, will represent the women of Missouri; Mrs. Andreas Ueland of Minneapolis, president of the state League of Women Voters, will represent Minnesota. Mrs. James A. Devitt of Oscaloosa, who will speak for Iowa women, has just been elected delegate-at-large for Iowa to the Republican National Convention; Mrs. Grace Wilbur Trout of Chicago will speak for Illinois; Mrs. Ben Hooper of Milwaukee for Wisconsin. Mrs. Trout is president of the Ill. Suffrage Assn., Mrs. Hooper chairman of Wisconsin's League of W.V. These women are all voters by right of a grant of presidential suffrage from their state Legislatures. They will therefore be like the big majority of this Emergency Corps, those who work for the freedom of their sisters, not for their own.

From the south will come women who broke into state primaries and became women voters in Texas and Arkansas, because political leaders wanted their help. Mrs. Minnie Fisher Cunningham, the woman who did the biggest bit of work in whitening a state for suffrage, will speak for the women of the Lone Star State. "If we could make all of Texas white for suffrage, and record its ratification of the Federal Suffrage Amendment within the first few weeks after it was passed in Congress", she says, "we ought not to stop at a little thing like whitening Connecticut."

Georgia and Florida, two states which have made rapid progress in gaining municipal suffrage, will come with pity in their hearts for their voteless sisters. Atlanta women have more voting privileges than Connecticut women. In 16 Florida towns in 10 of its counties women may vote in municipal elections. Miss Annie Wright of Atlanta, the newly elected state chairman of the Georgia League of Women Voters, and Mrs. John Fuller of Orlando, Florida, will speak up from the farthest south.

From the neighboring Gulf states, Alabama will send that impressive speaker, Mrs. Solon Jacobs of Birmingham, and Mississippi will send Mrs. B. F. Saunders of Swan Lake. Six southern states, the only ones in the whole nation to take adverse action on the Federal Suffrage Amendment, - Alabama, Mississippi, Georgia, Virginia, South Carolina and Maryland, - are contributing strong women to put up their plea to the men of Connecticut. Maryland will be represented by Mrs. Charles E. Ellicott of Baltimore, one of the brave fighters for the cause; South Carolina by Mrs. Julian Salley, president of the South Carolina Equal Suffrage League; Virginia by Mrs. Edith Clark Cowles.

Two triumphant southern states, Kentucky and Tennessee, both presidential suffrage states, will send Mrs. Desha Breckinridge of Lexington, granddaughter of Henry Clay, and Mrs. Guilford Dudley of Nashville, vice-president of the National American Woman Suffrage Association, and one of the ablest women speakers of the Liberty Loan drives.

Among the young women leaders of the cause of women is Mrs. Philip Werlein of New Orleans, Louisiana, whose Legislature may even now beat Connecticut in the race to become "the perfect 36th". As between Democratic and Republican Legislatures the race is now poised between Connecticut and Vermont on the north, and Louisiana and North Carolina on the south.

Mrs. Werlein is a musician, who studied for opera under Jean de Reske, and is the head of the largest southern musical society, the New Orleans Philharmonic Society of 1,800 members. She is an author and lecturer, an active war worker, and was one of the campaigners in Louisiana's near-successful state referendum campaign for suffrage in 1918, when all of the counties outside of New Orleans voted yes to enfranchise Louisiana women.

But the most triumphant southerner to reach out a hand to help the women of the nation is Mrs. Ellis A. Yost of West Virginia, whose state won the most dramatic victory yet won for ratification of the Federal Suffrage Amendment.