

## NATIONAL-AMERICAN WOMAN SUFFRAGE ASSOCIATION

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2008 American Tract Society Building, New York

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ROCHESTER, N. Y.

Dec. 28, 1900

Dear Mrs. Catt

Yours of 26th is here this A. M. I do not know what to say about Dr. Wood. The trip you lay out for her seems good on paper - but when you remember she is not known - that no one who is not known can draw an audience in small-back-wood towns no larger than in the most cultivated parts - it look like paying money out of whole cloth - and getting very little for it! I don't know but you know alive women in Arkansas & Tennessee but I think Cunningham the President of Arkansas - will do just nothing to get up an audience. Mrs. Meriwether is just the same - but Mrs. Selden is the pres. in Tennessee now - may be she will do something. I should feel it a great deal better to put the woman pegging away in power - even it was wholly out of pocket - I believe in working when there is hope of getting an amendment!!

(2) \$75 - a month - above travelling expenses - is pay for a first class woman - one who is known - and she should be put under a good manager who would arrange meetings for her - open the way - so that her time would not be wasted. Where is Miss Clay to be? Couldn't she make a successful tour in Iowa - it doesn't matter whether they hold the Constitutional Convention or not - they want an amendment submitted - so in either case they want to keep the state alive - & that can be done only by holding meetings at every available point - and at every county seat - To - draw help from Iowa - to work in a wholly new field - is a poor policy - so it seems to me. But, now, that you have sent Dr. Wood to Oklahoma - I should let her work there till it was of no use - & then work her way back to Iowa - stopping at one or two places in Arkansas & Tennessee - & give Miss Clay as much as she will give her personal attention to. It is of no use to send a woman alone to work her way - as we used to do - when we didn't expect anything from the meetings - above just the expenses!! To pay \$75, over and above expenses - we cannot afford it - except in rare cases where we have meetings planned & worked up beforehand. As I have said before, Miss Clay knowing the ground so well could arrange meetings through Iowa - begin with a County Convention - or first she go to one place - & Dr. Wood to another - & then come together in a county convention - first stir up a county - with separate meetings - then focus them in at the county. Could not some of the known women join in this work - then three or four meetings - according to the number of speakers could be held - and so a good & thorough work done!!

thirty

[sic] There are all of the State Legislatures - should we not do something - to get some expression from them? What your plan? - Was it to get them to pass a resolution favoring a 16th Amendment or what. I want to begin something National in character - and let the states manage their own little affairs - like organizing - they have come to depend on the National Society to do their organizing work - we should stop it - and make them feel that they must earn the gift of help - by doing so much, for themselves first. I wouldn't go into a state that hadn't done a thing for itself - it doesn't pay - we undertook to help some 4 years ago now - and don't believe in letting go of her until we get what we started for - an amendment. I know what you say of hindrances - But they are everywhere - the moment we begin to work in earnest - and they will have to be met & overcome every where - So I think to stick to Iowa where we have started and gotten a good momentum - is the thing!! -

I shall never forgive myself for leaving California - without our help at the close of that campaign - We committed a great mistake - not to say crime - when we all left the state!! - Had we continued this work there we would have had suffrage in that state by this time - Do not let us make the same blunder in Iowa!

My vote will have to be for the employment of Dr. Wood - Try your experiment in Arkansas & Tennessee - If Ohio, Indiana & Illinois will employ & pay her - all well -!

There are thirty states with Legislatures in session - Two have passed - Alabama & Arkansas - We ought to make every one express itself upon the question of Woman Suffrage.

(3) Eastern	Middle	Southern	Middle Western	Pacific Western
Maine	Delaware	South Carolina	Nebraska	Colorado
New Hampshire	Pennsylvania	Texas	Kansas	Montana
Massachusetts	New Jersey	West Virginia	North Dakota	Idaho
Rhode Island	Connecticut	Missouri	Michigan	California
	New York	Arkansas	South Dakota	Oklahoma
	Vermont	Florida 1901)	Wisconsin	Wyoming
		April)	Illinois	Utah
		Louisiana	Indiana	Oregon
		Maryland	Iowa	Washington
		North Carolina		Arizona
		Tennessee		New Mexico
		Virginia		Nevada

Nearly every State meets - we surely -- should stir up every one of them - and how - is the question? Next winter not half as many Legislatures will be in session .

Put on a force that will clear up the odds and ends of 1900 work - and be ready to begin new. It is dreadful to have not only the old years but the old century's work to do after Jan. 1st 1901. What can I do help you do this is the question - You know you are to square up the books for 1900 - and begin the New Year & new century? All new-!! as a pin - With a happy New Year & happy New Century

Susan B. Anthony