

SUFFRAGISTS ADJOURN THEIR STATE MEETING

Important Resolutions Adopted at Closing Session This Morning--Recommendations of Executive Committee.

(Concluded from Page One.)

been active for a year and twice paid dues to the state.

VIII. That we present again to the clubs of over fifty members making the greatest increase in membership during the year, "The History of Woman Suffrage," and to the club making the greatest percentage of gain during the year, "The Life and Work of Susan R. Anthony."

IX. That the local clubs offer prizes to high schools for the best essays in woman suffrage.

That the county societies give a competitive prize to the best of these.

Business Next Year.

X. That we accept the joint invitation of the Buffalo Political Equality Club and the Buffalo Chamber of Commerce to hold the next annual convention in their city, preceding the National convention.

XI. That the League of Self-Supporting Women of New York be invited to join the State Woman Suffrage Association on the payment of \$5 annually. In return the League shall be entitled to send a representative to the state convention, who shall enjoy the privileges of the floor. The state association shall pay the amount received from the League to the national association and such payment shall entitle the League to the same privileges in the national convention that it enjoys in the state.

XII. That the College Equal Suffrage League be invited to join the New York State Woman Suffrage Association on the payment of \$5 annually. In return the League shall be entitled to send a representative to the state convention who shall enjoy the privileges of the floor. The state association shall pay the \$5 received from the College League to the national association and such payment shall entitle the League to the same privileges in the national convention that it enjoys in the state.

XIII. That the Young People's League be invited to join the State Woman Suffrage Association on the payment of \$1 annually to the state convention. In return the League shall be entitled to send representatives to the state convention who shall enjoy the privileges of the floor. The state association shall pay the \$1 to the national association and such payment shall entitle the League to the same privileges in the national convention that it enjoys in the state.

XIV. It was voted that the News Letter be continued as the State Organ of the Association.

Last Evening's Session.

Another large audience assembled in the First Baptist church last evening for the last evening session of the State Suffrage Association. At this session the convention extended its outlook and took up subjects only indirectly connected with the primal ob-

ject of the association. Several of the speakers transported their hearers to Europe and discussed subjects that had a general rather than a specific relation to the suffrage movement.

One of the speakers on the program was Mrs. Henry Villard, daughter of William Lloyd Garrison, who delivered an address on "The Hague Conference." Mrs. Villard was the only American woman attending the conference and last evening was the first time that she had given a report of her experiences. Prof. Francis P. Nash of Hobart College gave a character sketch of an Italian woman, which gave a concrete example of what a noble woman can do. The last long address of the evening was delivered by Prof. Nathaniel Schmidt of Cornell University on "Vital Political Issues and the Suffrage Reform, with Finnish Illustrations," while Harriet May Mills, vice-president of the association, made a few remarks.

Owing to the lateness of some of the delegates returning from the reception at Lochland it was shortly after 8 o'clock when the meeting was called to order by Mrs. Crossett, the state president. The opening exercises consisted of an organ prelude by Miss Adelaide Fowle, a soprano solo by Mrs. A. A. Gannett, prayer by Rev. I. K. Devitt of the German Evangelical church, and a baritone solo by George Gillette. The first thing on the program was the essay which won the prize offered by the State Suffrage Association to the college students of the state last year. The essay was on "Woman's Ballot, a Needed Factor in Municipal Reform," and was delivered by the writer, Charles F. White of Cornell University. Mr. White's principal argument was that with the ballot in the hands of the women it would tend to purge municipal affairs of machine politics, graft and vice and would place municipal campaigns upon the basis of the fitness of the respective candidates and the issues at stake in place of party politics.

"The Hague Conference."

Special interest attended the address of Mrs. Henry Villard, not only because she is the daughter of William Lloyd Garrison, but also because she

was the only representative of the United States upon the deputation of the Women's International Council at The Hague. Last evening was the first time that she has made a formal statement of her experiences at The Hague. Before going to the Hague conference Mrs. Villard served as a member of the executive committee having charge of the arrangements for the National Arbitration and Peace Conference, which was held in Carnegie Hall, New York, from April 14th last to the 17th. She explained that she was indebted primarily to Mrs. May Wright Sewall and secondly to Lady Aberdeen for being privileged to become a member of the deputation of the Women's International Council, which convened last June at The Hague. This was made possible only by the failure of Mrs. St. John Gaffney to act upon her nomination by the United States Council as the representative of this country. Mrs. Villard said in part:

"I joined the ladies on June 13th at the Hotel Witte Brug, half way between Scheveaingen and The Hague, the headquarters chosen by them during their stay there. Our deputation consisted of eleven women besides myself, representing Scotland, Germany, Holland, Belgium, Switzerland, France, Canada, Hungary, and Denmark.

Opening of the Conference.

"The scene enacted in the Hall of the Knights in the Binnenhof, when the peace conference was formerly opened on June 14th, was without doubt, an historic one, yet only a moderate sized crowd watched the proceedings. The flag of Holland was displayed, but there was no cheering, no music, and there were almost no state carriages. The Queen took no part in all of this and the inspiration that her presence might have lent to the occasion was lacking. The silence that prevailed might have indicated that a state funeral was taking place. In addition to this somber state of things, the sky was forbidding, the air chilly, and the day ended in the customary downpour of rain. The glow of enthusiasm that sent the blood coursing through my veins at first gave place to an almost oppressive melancholy and



of hopes that seemed doomed to be crushed. The short opening exercises of the conference were soon over, the dignitaries came solemnly down the steps, entered their carriages and drove off. As the crowd of sight-seers had somewhat increased, I thought that I should surely hear the sound of human voices proclaiming heartfelt joy in an occasion of such moment as this. But, alas, all remained as before."

Mrs. Villard next spoke at considerable length concerning the address to the peace conference, which had brought the deputation of women together. She described how the women met M. Nelidoff, the president of the conference, on June 17th and his acceptance of the address. He promised to present it to the conference, which was afterwards done. The women of the council pledged themselves to the task of having children taught that, in all cases of complications arising between nations, such differences ought first of all to be submitted to a court of arbitration.

The Queen's Reception.

While at The Hague Mrs. Villard was received with the other women of the deputation by the Queen of Holland. She described the reception as follows:

"At nine o'clock, the hour named, we were at the beautiful Palace, together with the members of the Peace Conference, accompanied by ladies, about seven hundred in all. We were conducted to an ante-room where people came and went, and where we had to wait for one hour and a half until the Queen came to greet us. She spoke first with Mrs. Sanford, who stood at the head of our line, then with me, Mme. Chapponiere Chair, Mlle. Basile, the Baroness von Suttner and the Baroness de Neufville, who was received with us. Her Majesty only asked each one of us in turn, in English, 'Where do you come from?' We had to confess to great disappointment, because she made no reference to the cause so dear to our hearts, and really did not look as if she even sympathized with us. The Queen Mother was, on the contrary, most affable, but I did not

happen to be with the ladies when they were presented to her. The Soiree was a brilliant affair, but it seemed to me to lack enthusiasm and warmth. "With this function our labors came to an end, and we were then free to leave The Hague.

Impressions of the Conference.

"I, myself, like many others, at first thought of the Peace Conference as a sort of mass meeting at which everyone could speak, but it was nothing of the sort, for, as we soon learned, all the real work of the conference had to be done in committees and by personal visits. The difficulty in regard to a mutual understanding of things under discussion, was surely great enough at the first conference, but it was more than doubled at the second. No interpreters were allowed except as those officially employed could be such, the desire being to keep the outside world in utter ignorance of what was going on. So successful were they that one really could not find out anything about it at The Hague. In Paris and New York, however, I read a great deal about the conference, but whether true or not, I could not tell. Later on, however, less secrecy was observed. All that could be learned confirmed us in the belief that the conference was devoting its energies to the mitigation of the horrors of war and that the subject of peace was not even then under discussion. That only war was under discussion at the first Peace Congress, we know from a perusal of the book written by the late Mr. Frederick Hall, called 'The Peace Conference at The Hague.' It is excellent in the main, but certain passages in it towards the end, amazed and discomfited me. He said, 'Reference has already been made to the omission to denounce or even to emphasize the horrors of warfare. The attitude of the conference toward war in the abstract was eminently practical, and it should be most emphatically stated that it did not, even by implication, endorse the view that war is always and necessarily an evil or a wrong. It may be doubted whether a single member of the conference would

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y hesitate to indorse the eloquent words
e or James Martineau, that the reverence
d for human life is carried to an immoral
b. idolatry when it is held more sacred
rs than justice and right, and when the
m spectacle of blood becomes more hor-
rible than the sight of desolating ty-
rannies and triumphant hypocrisies.
We have, therefore, no more doubt that
st a war may be right, than that a police-
a man may be a security for justice, and
le we object to a fortress as little as to
re a handcuff.' Such so-called 'practical
be views' may easily explain the utter
be failure of this conference, as well as
al the previous one, to bring about
a 'peace on earth and good-will to
or men.' Let us recognize the fact, that
th 'desolating tyrannies and triumphant
as hypocrisies' are the direct product of
to bloodshed. Substitute Courts of Jus-
as tice for the mangling of human bodies,
be reason for frenzy, love for hate, and
be then behold the result!

of "Let me say in conclusion that I
re went to The Hague wondering whether
ut the peace question were of more im-
la portance to the progress of the world
ad than that of Woman Suffrage, but I
ut came away seeing clearly, that the
ll former is involved in the latter. I
as therefore, appeal to my country-women
ed to offer as their best contribution to
m the peace movement, moral force as
to opposed to physical, or brute force,
ar surely the most valuable one that they
ot can make, and of transcendent impor-
ly tance for the spiritual development of
rat the human race, the one surpassing the
er other as Heaven does earth."

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