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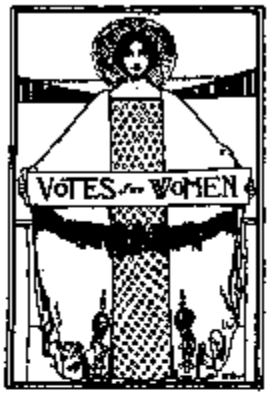

A LETTER TO THE FRIENDS OF WOMAN SUFFRAGE

A Letter to the Friends of Woman Suffrage

Dear Friends:

Because we are asking you to contribute money to support the state work for woman suffrage in Wisconsin, we want you to know how that money is to be spent.

It is, of course, impossible to make up an accurate budget for the Wisconsin Woman's Suffrage Association for the coming year. Unexpected expenses are constantly cropping up, as they are in housekeeping. Still, it is possible to give you a general idea of the kind of work we are planning and a rough estimate of its cost.

We have opened headquarters in Madison, a small office in the Washington building, which it is hoped will become a center of information and inspiration for suffrage work throughout the state. The rent of the room is $15 per month. If the work grows, we shall need larger quarters.

We have employed Miss Alice Curtis, at a salary of $100 per month, to take charge of headquarters and be executive officer of the state organization. Miss Curtis left a position on the faculty of the state normal school in Milwaukee to engage in suffrage work. She has had experience in Wisconsin and Illinois, is active and earnest, personally attractive, a good speaker and organizer. Write to her whenever you need help or advice.

At least one stenographer will be necessary and it is likely we shall need two. However, only one is arranged for in the budget, the estimated salary being $50 per month.

Some furnishings and equipment for the headquarters have been donated. An allowance of $100 is made for the purchase of the rest.

We have at the present time four standing committees—education, finance, legislation and press. All are doing splendid work. The work of the Association must be done largely through its committees. They must be given liberal support. One thou-

sand dollars for a year's work is not a liberal allowance for four active committees.

The expenses of officers for stationery, stamps, telephone, etc., are also a necessary expense of the Association. Estimate $200.

The telephone at headquarters represents a considerable expense because it includes so many long distance calls. Estimate for telephone and express, $200.

The expense of stationery and stamps at headquarters is necessarily large, since most of the business is done by correspondence. One thousand dollars for the year means less than $20 for each week.

We must publish and send out a large amount of literature, written especially to meet Wisconsin conditions. The allowance for literature is $1,000.00.

The estimate for the expenses of speakers is $500. The yearly dues for the National Suffrage Association are $50. The editing and publishing of The Wisconsin Citizen has been costing the Association $30 per month during the past year, and the expense of the coming year will probably be the same if The Citizen is continued on the present basis.

THE BUDGET.

Rent headquarters at Madison, $15 per month, 12 months,	$ 180
Salary executive officer, $100 per month, 12 months	1,200
Salary one stenographer, $50 per month, 12 months	600
Furnishings and equipment headquarters	100
Telephone for year, including long distance and express	200
Expenses, speakers	500
Stationery and stamps	1,000
Literature	1,000
Printing	500
The Citizen	360
Expenses four committees	1,000
Expenses officers	200
Dues National Suffrage Organization	50
Total	$6890

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With some exceptions, these estimates make no pretension of being accurate. Further they include only the most obvious expenses. Probably something should be added for those expenses which we cannot foresee.

This compilation will, however, give you an idea of the expenditure of any money which you raise for the suffrage cause in Wisconsin.

Seven thousand dollars is a small sum to raise in a state like Wisconsin with its seventy-one counties, its two and one-third million people, and its taxed valuation of nearly five billion dollars.

Seven thousand dollars is a small sum with which to finance a state campaign. Ask any politician what he thinks about running a state campaign on $7,000.

However, with $7,000 assured—and we hope for much more—we shall be able to prosecute a vigorous campaign of education and only education is necessary for Wisconsin women to have the ballot.

With the hope that the plans of the Executive Board, as here outlined, may meet your cordial approval, and earnestly bespeaking your continued interest and support for the great cause of woman suffrage and human progress, I am,

Faithfully yours,

Hedwa N. Jermans

State President
Wisconsin Woman's Suffrage Association.