

Texas Woman Suffrage Association



Honorary President
Miss M. Eleanor Brackenridge
San Antonio

President
Mrs. Minnie Fisher Cunningham
Galveston

First Vice-President
Miss Kate Hunter
Palestine

Second Vice-President
Mrs. Lindley Miller Keasbey
"Inshallah," Austin

National Legislative Committeeman
Mrs Elizabeth Hearndon Potter
Tyler

Recording Secretary
Mrs. John Davis
3801 Holmes St., Dallas

Corresponding Secretary
Mrs. G. Scott Shannon
2327 Ave. M., Galveston

Headquarters:
3128 AVENUE O½
GALVESTON, TEXAS

Treasurer
Mrs. Anna E. Walker
3900 Ave. C., Austin

First Auditor
Mrs. Elizabeth Stribling Maury
San Antonio

Second Auditor
Mrs. M. P. Ostro
Houston

National Executive Committeeman
Miss Marion B. Fenwick
204 Pecan St., San Antonio

May 3rd, 1916.

Dear Member of the Executive Board:-

Acting on the authority vested in me by the Executive Board, at it's October meeting, I employed Miss Elizabeth Freeman of New York as Organizing Secretary of the Texas Woman Suffrage Association for a period of three or four months, it being considered optional with either the Texas Woman Suffrage Association or Miss Freeman to terminate this engagement at the end of the third month. The financial consideration was a salary of one hundred dollars per month and expenses, not only while working in Texas, but to and from New York.

At the beginning of the third month it became apparent that (owing to the failure of certain people and organizations to meet their pledges promptly, which pledged moneys were the chief source of financial support the Texas Woman Suffrage had or has) there would not be sufficient funds to pay Miss Freeman's salary and expenses for the fourth month.

After due consideration and no little worry, I deemed it best, acting for the Texas Woman Suffrage Association, to notify Miss Freeman of this state of affairs and terminate her engagement in Texas at the end of the third month. I did so, and instructed the Treasurer to issue vouchers to cover Miss Freeman's salary to the close of the third month, and to duplicate the expense account of her trip from New York to Texas, the understanding being that Miss Freeman's expenses were to be paid from and back to New York. Mrs. Walker did this and Miss Freeman has received and cashed these vouchers.

After these vouchers were issued the Texas Woman Suffrage Association had not enough money in it's treasury to pay it's stamp bill, and I was compelled to meet the necessary office expenses myself and trust to the future repayment of same by the Association.

Miss Freeman made the offer to work a fourth month in Texas on expenses only, and trust to the State Convention to raise money to pay her salary, but I declined this offer, because I not only did not wish to go to the Convention with an

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Executive Board #2.

indebtedness over us, but because I did not feel that I could or should be called on to put up the money for Miss Freeman's expenses in addition to financing the office.

Miss Freeman issued the ultimatum that she did not intend to be "Sent out of the state like a naughty child" and that the matter will have to be explained "Not only to the Convention but to the Newspapers", and the Executive Board of the Corsicana organization, namely Mrs. Townsend, 1st Vice-President, Mrs. Fox, 2nd Vice-President and Miss A. A. Stuart, Secretary, have taken up the matter and insisted that I "re-instate" Miss Freeman, and permit her to work that fourth month.

It is a matter of great regret with me, that Miss Freeman feels badly about this, and is not willing to let it rest on the business basis of her agreement to work three or four months. And I wish to say that I feel keenly the injustice of the Corsicana ladies' insistence that I assume a financial responsibility greater than I am able or willing to assume. But beyond those two statements I do not wish my personal views or feelings to enter into the matter at all, and I am issuing this letter, simply that you may be informed when the matter comes up for discussion, at the State Convention, in Dallas.

Permit me to take this occasion to thank you for the hearty co-operation and able assistance that you have given me in this years work, we go to the Convention with a record of splendid growth which the Executive Board has every right to rejoice in and be proud of.

Hoping to see you in Dallas, May 10th, I am,

Faithfully yours,

President.