

executive board of the Illinois Equal Suffrage Association, which is the State branch of the National Woman Suffrage Association, had voted not to pass the resolution of the National Association—worded in favor of Federal legislation but non-committal as to which Amendment—and had forwarded to National headquarters the following statement:

Resolved, On account of the misunderstanding between the Congressional Committee of the National American Woman Suffrage Association and the Congressional Union and in the interest of the whole suffrage movement, as well as in the interest of fair play for which we all stand, the Illinois Equal Suffrage Association cannot indorse any resolutions to be sent to Congress on May 2, but will co-operate in the great national demonstration on that day.

Because of this action, Miss Jane Addams—who in the absence of Dr. Shaw in Europe is acting President of the National Association—and Mrs. Joseph T. Bowen, also an officer of the National Association, did not march in the Chicago parade. On the evening of the parade, without official action of the State Board, the President and the chairman of the press committee of the Illinois State Association sent a telegram to Congress urging the passage of legislation “that will bring complete liberty to the women.” This message was apparently accepted as an olive branch by all factions.



In New York City there was a general mass meeting with local meetings in various outlying sections during the day, and in the evening Mayor Mitchel, Miss Katharine B. Davis and Senator Shafroth addressed a great audience in Carnegie Hall. Sixty-five other cities and towns in New York State celebrated, too. Boston had a parade of thousands, Philadelphia, a parade and mass meeting. Pittsburgh, St. Paul, St. Louis and many hundreds of other cities and towns held similar demonstrations—all to culminate on May 9 in the big parade in Washington and the mass-meeting on the steps of the Capitol from which one delegate is to be sent to each Senator and Congressman to ask his vote for woman suffrage. [See current volume, page 303.]



#### Mrs. Fels and the Joseph Fels Fund.

In accordance with previous announcement made, Mrs. Mary Fels, widow of Joseph Fels, before sailing for England has written concerning her plans as follows to the Joseph Fels Fund Commission:

Philadelphia, April 15.

The time has come when you would naturally expect a formal statement of what I shall do toward a renewal of my husband's agreement with you and the Singletaxers of the United States. I am sorry to disappoint you, but can not say just yet what I shall

be able to do, except that after a few months I hope to meet all your present expectations and carry out my husband's part in contracts made and plans laid. I mean that I will continue his \$2,000 a month to July 1, when I should be able to report more definitely as to the future. I hope, I may say expect, by that time to see my way clear to renewing our offer to match dollar for dollar all the money contributed by the Singletaxers of the United States, up to some such limit as \$25,000 per annum.

The delay is due in part to settling the estate; but also it is my desire to comprehend, personally, the policy, plans and personnel, not only of the United States Commission, but of similar groups and commissions working toward the same end in England, Denmark, Germany, France, Spain, and other countries, where Mr. Fels was giving support to our cause, his and yours and mine. It seems right to me to look over the whole field, then, to resume the work everywhere at about the same time with a clear, personal knowledge of the movement in all its parts and as a unit. And I may then have a suggestion for all the commissions for some loose sort of co-ordination and active interchange of ideas and experience.

There is another reason for my wishing to begin by getting into close touch with all parts of the movement. I do not want to give money alone; I want to give myself to this cause of justice, as my husband gave himself. It was a happiness to him to work for it; it will be a happiness to me. And if I give personal service thus, it may put me in a position to plead for personal service from others also; and not as a duty either, but as a happiness.

That, as I understand it, is why you of the Commission are so urgent in your appeals for a large number of small contributions of a dollar or less. You want the contributors. From my heart, I approve that policy. It is human; it is democratic; it is good politics. If every man and every woman—if every giver of a dime would give himself or herself also; if each self-giver would then go out and get others; and having their dimes and dollars, would send them on to get yet others in the same spirit, we would soon have this country girdled with living chains of living people all devoted happily to a happy cause.

I shall sail for England on April 28. I am going there to work. While I am working there, you will be working here to continue the movement started spontaneously by the contributors to “match their own dollars as Joseph Fels did.” The results already achieved indicate that it may succeed. If it does, it will indeed be a monument to Joseph Fels, for that was his spirit.

I should be glad to be reduced to merely one of many equal contributors and workers in our cause; equal, not in amounts of money, but in the heart we all put into our work. In a word, I would like to match you all, but especially the humble givers, not only dollar for dollar, but man for man, woman for woman.

MARY FELS.



Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt was made a member of the Joseph Fels Fund Commission at the meeting of that body on April 15.