

## Minutes of the Kansas Equal Suffrage Association at the fifth annual meeting

### Section 1, Pages 1 - 30

The Kansas Equal Suffrage Association held its fifth annual meeting in Emporia Kansas from November 13-15, 1888. The pamphlet includes the minutes of the convention, an address by the president Laura Johns, listings of officers of the state and local organizations. It contains information about the activities of district, county, and local branches of the organization. Susan B. Anthony attended the meeting. With the support of both the Kansas Equal Suffrage Association and the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, a Council of Women was formed during this meeting. The constitution of this organization is included in the pamphlet. Mrs. C. H. Cushing of Leavenworth was elected president.

Creator: Kansas Equal Suffrage Association (1884-1913)

Date: Bulk November 13, 1888-November 15, 1888

Callnumber: K 324.3 k13eq

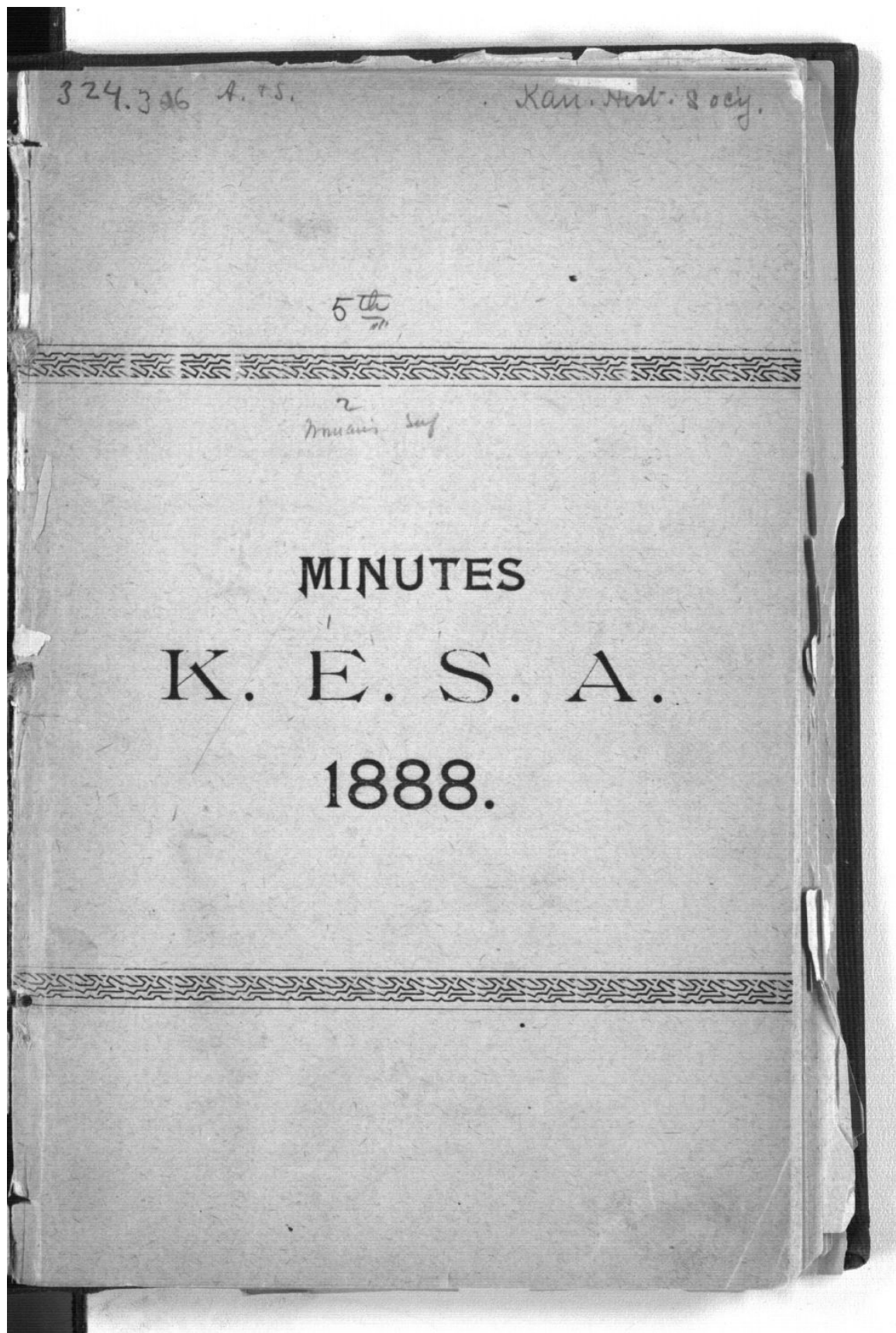
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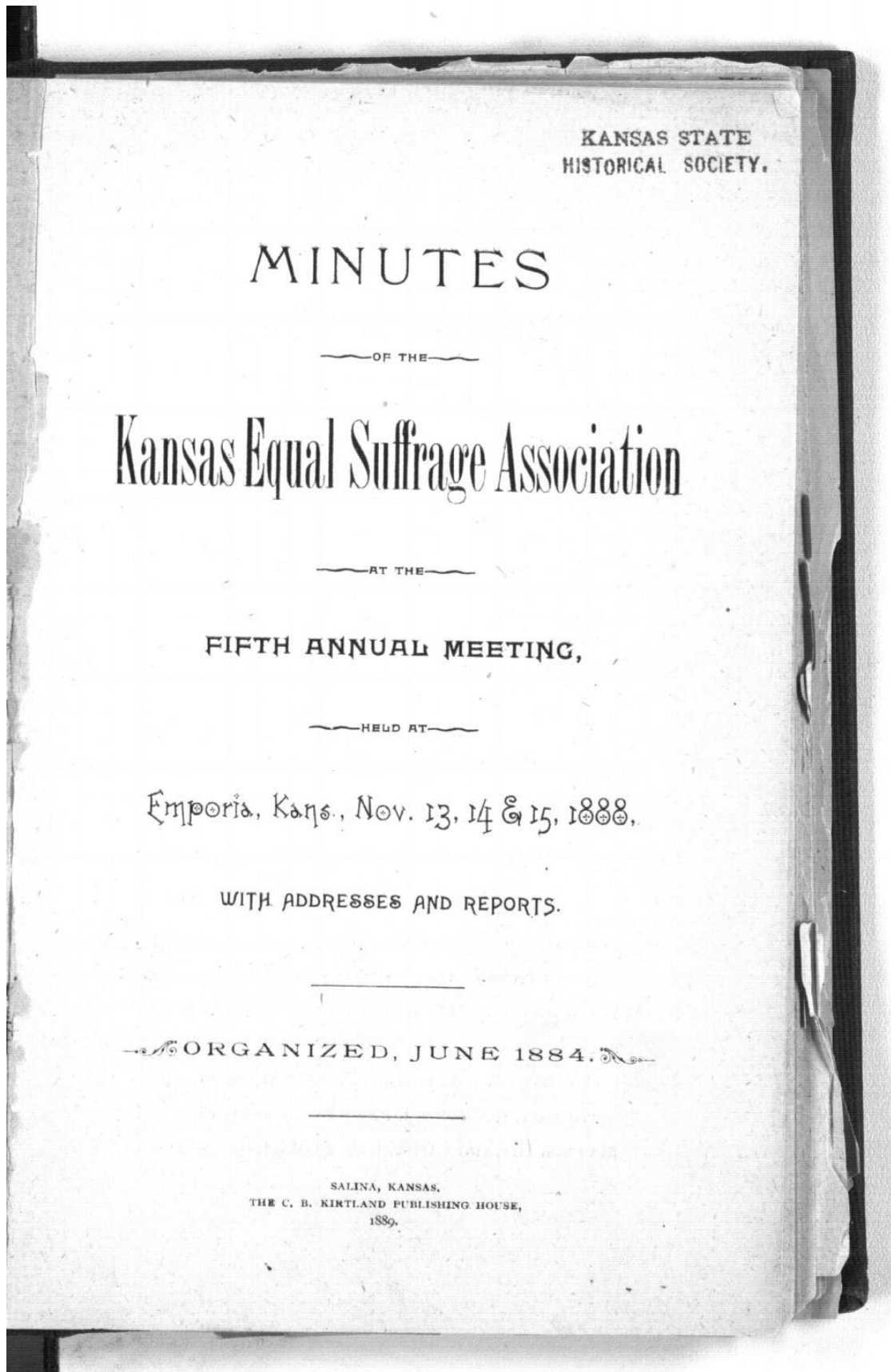
KANSAS  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

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### Officers of 1888-9.

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PRESIDENT,

MRS. LAURA M. JOHNS, Salina.

VICE-PRESIDENT AT LARGE,

MRS. ANNA C. WAIT, Lincoln.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY,

MRS. LIZZIE HOPKINS, Salina.

RECORDING SECRETARY,

DR. NANNIE STEPHENS, Wichita.

TREASURER,

MRS. MARTIA L. BERRY, Cawker City.

VICE-PRESIDENTS:

FIRST DISTRICT—MRS. RUTH F. DURGAN, Atchison.

SECOND DISTRICT—DR. SARAH C. HALL, Fort Scott.

THIRD DISTRICT—MRS. CARRIE STEARNS SMITH, Girard.

FOURTH DISTRICT—MRS. E. W. PINKSTON, Cedar Point.

FIFTH DISTRICT—MRS. MECCA HOFFMAN, Enterprise.

SIXTH DISTRICT—MRS. J. PERRINE, Cawker City.

SEVENTH DISTRICT—MRS. J. W. EDWARDS, Newton.

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### Directory of County Organizations.

COUNTY.	POST OFFICE.		
Anderson .....	.....	{ Pres. .... Cor. Sec. ....	
Bourbon .....	Fort Scott .....	{ Pres.—Dr. Sarah C. Hall. Cor. Sec.—Mrs. Annie E. Houghton.	
Crawford .....	Girard .....	{ Pres.—Mrs. Carrie Stearns Smith. Cor. Sec. ....	
Harper .....	Attica .....	{ Pres.—Mrs. C. L. Denton. Anthony .....	{ Cor. Sec.—Mrs. Edith Gaines.
Jackson .....	Holton .....	{ Pres.—Mrs. Ella W. Brown. Cor. Sec. ....	
Jefferson .....	Oskaloosa .....	{ Pres.—Mrs. Dr. Cooper. Nortonville .....	{ Cor. Sec.—Miss Mattie Haynes.
Linn .....	Pleasanton. ....	{ Pres.—Mrs. Clara L. Brewster. Cor. Sec.—Mr. D. A. Crocker.	
Marion .....	Peabody .....	{ Pres.—Mrs. W. H. Morgan. Cor. Sec.—Mrs. Nellie T. Butterfield.	
McPherson .....	McPherson .....	{ Pres.—Mrs. Edith Emmett. Cor. Sec. ....	
Mitchell .....	Beloit .....	{ Pres.—Mrs. E. Hart. Cor. Sec.—Mrs. A. M. Munro.	

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#### Directory of Auxiliaries.

POST OFFICE.	PRESIDENT.	COR. SECRETARY.
Anthony .....	Mrs. Carrie Buckingham	Mrs. Edith Gaines .....
Anthony .....	" Mattie J. Whitman.	" R. E. Parr .....
Attica .....	" C. L. Denton .....	Mrs. Nettie Cook .....
Attica .....	" M. E. Bowen .....	" Mattie Richardson ..
Attica .....	" B. M. Lober .....	" C. J. Yocum .....
Allamead .....	" Ella W. Kye .....	" Marion K. Gladman ..
Attica .....	" Thankful Willard ..	" Dora Taylor .....
Atchison .....	" Ruth F. Durgan .....	Miss Augusta Knower ..
Burlington .....	" F. L. Watrons .....	Mrs. E. B. C. Everett ..
Boicourt .....	Mr. Louis Hetzer .....	Miss Shaffer .....
Belle Plaine .....	Mrs. McMillan .....	
Beloit .....	" Josie Patten .....	Mrs. M. L. Newbanks ..
Berlin .....	" S. L. Stoner .....	Mr. Will Isom .....
Berlin .....	Mr. F. Oliver .....	Miss Ida Neal .....
Clay Center .....	Mrs. Abbie Ryerson ..	Mrs. Hattie Minor .....
Cawker City .....	" Martia L. Berry .....	
Cimarron .....	" Fannie E. Lemmert ..	Mrs. G. W. Foughty ..
Chetopa .....	" M. J. Kellerman .....	Miss Ada Shields .....
Circleville .....	" C. L. Brown .....	Mrs. H. C. Newman .....
Council Grove .....	" E. D. McCullum .....	" Ferguson .....
Colony .....	" Clara J. Burke .....	" Sarah Elliott .....
Dodge City .....	" S. E. Strawn .....	
Emporia .....	Dr. F. M. W. Jackson ..	Mrs. J. H. Slocum .....
Fort Scott .....	Mrs. Annie D. Swenson ..	Miss Genevieve L. Hawley
Farlinville .....	" Ollie Campbell .....	Mr. H. E. Dewey .....
Florence .....	" Nellie T. Butterfield ..	
Fulton .....	" J. Bishop .....	Miss Green .....
Freeport .....	" M. E. White .....	" Lizzie Cooper .....
Great Bend .....	Mrs. Mattie G. Baldwin ..	Mrs. Belle Chamberlain ..
Garden City .....	" E. Merriam .....	
Greeley .....	" Grant .....	Mrs. Anna Champe .....
Glenlock .....	" J. Caldwell .....	" Mary Lingo .....
Girard .....	" Medley .....	" Carrie Stearns Smith ..
Garnett .....	" Millie Young .....	Miss Maud Ridgway .....
Garnett .....	" Robert Miller .....	" Minnie Cannady .....
Garnett .....	" Sallie Robinson .....	Mr. Holly .....

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Greeley.....	"	Isabella Sutton.....	"	J. C. Ruth.....
Goodrich.....	"	A. P. Hamilton.....	Mrs. Anna Williamson ..	
Harper.....	"	Elda A. Jones.....	Minerva C. Reynolds ..	
Hutchinson.....	"	Anna W. Houk.....	Miss Fannie E. Oaks ..	
Halstead.....	"	C. L. Swan.....	Mrs. Emma Turner.....	
Holton.....	Dr. Emily W. Spencer ..	"	Ella W. Brown.....	
Hepler.....	Mrs. H. P. Miner.....	"	Emmett.....	
Hiattville.....	"	Frank Hiatt.....	"	McAllester.....
Hiawatha.....	"	W. Wilder.....	"	Clark.....
Holton.....	"	Belle Pomeroy.....	"	Jennie Dickson.....
Harper.....	"	Nannie Maple.....	"	Margaret Currens.....
Independence.....	"	E. A. Elder.....	"	G. Adams.....
Inyo.....	Dr. Sarah Wisner.....	"	Margaret J. Greek.....	
Jamestown.....	"	Sarah E. McCall.....	Mrs. Martha L. Bush.....	
Kincaid.....	Capt. Porter.....	"	Flora Marsh.....	
Kinsley.....	Mrs. Tillie Hine.....	"	Lucie M. Noble.....	
Kenia.....	"	M. A. Smith.....	"	Rosa Porter.....
Lawrence.....	Miss Sarah Brown.....			
Leavenworth.....	Dr. Eliza K. Morgan.....			
Lincoln.....	Mrs. Anna C. Wait.....	Olive J. Lott.....		
Lone Elm.....	Miss Sadie Moore.....	Mr. Chas. Caldwell.....		
La Cygne.....	Mrs. Spence.....	"	Will Irwin.....	
Larned.....	Dr. J. W. Spaulding.....	Mrs. Sarah J. Rush.....		
Montgomery.....	Mrs. Inda Fleming.....	"	Mary Fleming.....	
Mound City.....		Miss Frances Lee.....		
McPherson.....	Mrs. S. G. Kerr.....	Mrs. Sarah G. Mayes.....		
Moline.....	"	S. B. Davis.....	"	Nora A. Good.....
Marmeton.....	"	Sarah Fortney.....	"	Mary E. Cobb.....
Mapleton.....	Dr. S. H. Braden.....	"	C. A. Wilson.....	
Manhattan.....	Mrs. Nannie S. Green.....			
North Cedar.....	"	Ellen Calvin.....	Mr. Joseph Torrence.....	
Newton.....	"	Lizzie F. Evans.....	Mrs. J. W. Edwards.....	
Olathe.....	"	C. A. Stephens.....	Miss Allie Myers.....	
Paola.....	"	C. A. Hobson.....	"	Margaret Anthony.....
Pleasanton.....	"	R. W. Blue.....	Mrs. Clara Brewster.....	
Redfield.....	Mr. Fielder.....	"	McCollum.....	
Sabetha.....	Mrs. Flora P. Hogbin.....	"	L. S. Mickey.....	
Sherlock.....	"	Anna E. Sedlatzick.....		
Syracuse.....	"	H. D. Nott.....	Mrs. E. B. Barber.....	
Selma, Anderson co.....	"	Pinneo.....	Miss Mary Harvey.....	
Salina.....	"	Lizzie Hopkins.....	Mrs. May Bellville Brown.....	
Topeka.....	"	Laura M. Garretson.....	"	N. W. Lyon.....
Trading Post.....	Mr. James Frisbie.....	"	Ettie Smith.....	
Uniontown.....	Mrs. Barbara Ramsey.....	Miss Nina Unglesby.....		
Valley Falls.....	"	A. M. Cowan.....	Mrs. R. E. Van Meter.....	
Winfield.....	"	C. H. Greer.....		
Wichita.....	Dr. Nannie Stephens.....	Mr. T. F. McMechan.....		
Welda.....	Miss Mattie Brown.....	Hon. F. J. Sawhill.....		
Wetmore.....	Mrs. Phebe Anderson.....	Miss Catherine Thomas.....		
Winchester.....	"	Ella Wilhelm.....	"	Irene Coulter.....

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### MINUTES.

#### OPENING SESSION.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1888.

At 3 o'clock P. M. the fifth annual meeting of the Kansas Equal Suffrage Association was called to order by the President, Mrs. Laura M. Johns, in the Congregational church of Emporia. After a few cheery words of greeting, Mrs. Johns mentioned the resignation and removal to California of the Recording Secretary, Mrs. M. M. Bowman, elected at the last annual meeting, and the election by the Executive Committee of Prof. W. H. Carruth, and his resignation and recent departure for Cambridge, leaving the Convention without a Recording Secretary. The President then appointed Mrs. May Belleville Brown, of Salina, Secretary pro tem., and proceeded with the further organization of the Convention.

The Committees were appointed as follows:

On Credentials—Mrs. Martia L. Berry, Mrs. Annie Scott, and Dr. Nannie Stephens.

On Resolutions—Mrs. Jennie M. Kellogg, Mrs. Fanny H. Rastall, Mrs. L. V. Watkins, Mrs. Mecca Hoffman, Mrs. Nellie T. Butterfield, Mrs. May Belleville Brown, Mrs. Anna B. Fisher, Mrs. Anna C. Wait, and Mrs. C. L. Denton.

On Plan of Work—Dr. Sarah C. Hall, Mrs. Lizzie Hopkins, Mrs. Anna B. Hile, Mrs. Mecca Hoffman, Mrs. Robinson, and Mrs. J. W. Edwards.

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On Revision of By-Laws—Dr. F. M. W. Jackson, Mrs. Anna C. Wait, Mrs. J. H. Slocum, and Mrs. E. W. Pinkston.

On Auditing—Dr. Sarah C. Hall, and Mrs. H. A. Birchmore.

Pending the report of committee on Credentials the President introduced Miss Susan B. Anthony, who was most warmly received, and her remarks enthusiastically applauded. Mr. J. B. Johns was then introduced, and made a witty address.

The Convention was then seated by districts. Miss Anthony was called to the Chair and introduced the President, who proceeded to deliver her annual address.

Mrs. Annie Scott then made a partial report of the Credential committee, which was accepted and the committee continued.

Convention adjourned to meet at 7:30 P. M.

### EVENING SESSION.

Organ voluntary by Miss Mary Bailey of Emporia. Invocation by Rev. Milligan. Address of Welcome by Mrs. Jennie M. Kellogg of Emporia, and response by Dr. Sarah C. Hall of Fort Scott. Mrs. Clara B. Colby of Beatrice, Neb., editor Woman's Tribune, was then introduced and made a most interesting address, after which Miss Anthony spoke to an attentive and interested audience for an hour.

### SECOND DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

WEDNESDAY, 9:30 A. M.

Meeting called to order promptly by the President. Invocation by Mrs. Anna B. Fisher of Atchison.

More delegates and members having arrived and wishing to take their seats, the committee on Credentials was called upon to make a partial report. Report accepted and the



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committee continued. The Secretary read the report of the Executive Committee, which, after considerable discussion, was approved.

The President then read a letter from Miss Amanda Way, explaining that she was detained at home by sickness and regretting her inability to be present. Mrs. Clara B. Colby spoke of the Woman's Tribune and urged all the friends of the movement to give hearty support to this paper. Mrs. Johns then read the following letter from Sec'y. Adams of the State Historical Society, and spoke earnestly of our indebtedness to Col. Adams, and of his labor in collecting returns of elections and collecting reports of elections and putting this valuable information into enduring form—all this being a labor of love for the cause:

KANSAS  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

TOPEKA, KANSAS, November 13, 1888.

*My Dear Mrs. Johns:*—I cannot attend your meeting to personally report upon the printing of the pamphlet with the work of which our committee was charged. The pamphlet has just been issued from the press, and my daughter will take a package to the convention. It has been printed under an arrangement with the publishers, Messrs. Crane & Co., intended to compensate the publishers for their work and involve no one else pecuniarily. Any excess from sales beyond this will be donated to the Kansas Equal Suffrage Association by those who prepared the pamphlet for publication. This has been volunteered by Prof. Carruth who assisted me in the work, and I cheerfully concede the same.

I hope the circulation of the pamphlet may do some good, and whatever may be done by the ladies of your association to promote its distribution will be gratefully appreciated by me, as I am sure it will be by Prof. Carruth, who is absent from the State, but who will probably write you on this subject.

Please to accept my apology, and I beg that you will ask for me the same of Mrs. Rastall and Mrs. Butterfield, the other members of the committee, for procrastination, and other short comings on my part, in relation to this pamphlet.

Yours sincerely,

F. G. ADAMS.

Miss Zu. Adams then presented the claims and merits of the book "Municipal Suffrage in Kansas," prepared by Col.

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Adams and Prof. Carruth, and mentioned that it was on sale in the room and invited all to examine it.

After the reading of various auxilliary, county and district reports, convention adjourned to 2:30 P. M.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION.

Session opened by singing "The Break of Day," led by J. B. Johns. Invocation by Mrs. Davis of Atchison. Mrs. Fanny H. Rastall, Pres. Kansas W. C. T. U. was on the program to present "The Industrial School for Girls," but she not having arrived the discussion of this subject was postponed, and Mrs. C. B. Cushing, President of the "Home of the Friendless," Leavenworth, was introduced and opened the discussion on the question of petitioning that women be appointed members of our State Board of Trustees of Charitable Institutions. During this interesting and animated discussion, the Rev. Annie H. Shaw of Evanston, Ill., and Mrs. Fanny H. Rastall of Argentine, Ks., entered the room and were immediately called to the platform and presented to the Convention, and most warmly received. They spoke a few words of greeting, Miss Shaw remarking that she had just come from Miss Rachel Foster's wedding where she had assisted in tying the knot, and she brought Mrs. Rachel Foster Avery's kindest greetings to the Convention.

Miss Brown of Lawrence, Mrs. J. P. St. John, Mrs. Johns, Miss Anthony and others spoke of the usefulness of women upon Boards in charge of Charitable Institutions, and Mrs. Rastall offered the following resolution:

*Resolved*, that we send a representative petition from this Convention asking the Legislature to so amend the law creating a State Board of Trustees of Charitable Institutions as to make it require that at least two of its members shall be women.

Resolution carried by a unanimous vote.

The committee on Resolutions, Mrs. Jennie M. Kellogg, Chairman, then reported as follows:



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I. *Resolved*, that we ask the next Legislature of Kansas to submit an amendment to strike the word "male" out of Sec. 1, Art. V, of the State Constitution.

This resolution brought out an animated and very earnest discussion, which occupied several hours. A great power of argument was brought to bear in favor of its adoption. Miss Anthony opposed it as she had done in the previous annual meetings, and taking that position is in accord with the feeling on this subject, of nearly all the pioneer suffragists. Mrs. C. B. Hoffman of Enterprise, Mrs. Colby, Mrs. Rastall, Mrs. Watkins, Dr. Stephens, Mrs. J. P. St. John and others spoke in favor of the resolution; Mrs. Slocum, Mrs. Pinkston, Mrs. Johns and others against. Miss Anthony moved to amend by adding the words: "providing the Republicans make this amendment a party measure." After some discussion Miss Anthony withdrew her motion.

The resolution was then adopted by a small majority, and the Convention proceeded to discuss and adopt the following resolutions:

II. *Resolved*, That we are profoundly grateful to all the various organizations—educational, religious and political—for the recognition which they have accorded to women in their platforms and declarations of principles.

III. *Resolved*, That our special thanks are due to the Republicans of Kansas for the almost strict party vote by which the Legislature of 1886 and 1887 extended to women the right of municipal suffrage: And,

*Further Resolved*, That we confidently look to them in the near future, to complete their good work by coining into law our full demand for perfect equality of rights to women.

IV. *Resolved*, That the women of Kansas tender their deepest sympathy to their sisters in Washington Territory in the matter of the decision of their Supreme Court depriving them of the exercise of their vested right of suffrage. And

*Resolved*, That we most emphatically denounce as unjust and unconstitutional this unprecedented action, denying the

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power of a territorial legislature to prescribe the qualifications of electors.

V. *Resolved*, That while we regret the action of the Methodist Episcopal General Conference of 1888 excluding the women lay delegates from participation in the deliberations of that body, we extend our thanks to the large minority who bravely stood and contended for their admission, and realize that a decided victory was secured through their efforts which before long will result in a complete victory.

VI. *Resolved*, That we believe that in order to secure the most complete political rights for women, it behooves us to urge upon them the duty of exercising to the fullest extent the rights of school and municipal suffrage already possessed by them.

VII. *Resolved*, That we favor the making of a test case to decide the question whether or not women are legally entitled to vote for county superintendents of public instruction in the State of Kansas under our present laws. And our Executive committee is hereby instructed to provide for such test case and its prosecution to a final determination in Supreme Court.

The following resolution came from the floor and afforded considerable amusement:

*Resolved*, That to be consistent with their political action, affiliating themselves with the republican ministers in the prohibition party, the men and the women of the Methodist Episcopal church throughout the country should secede and organize themselves into new societies in which perfect equality for women should be maintained.

Miss Shaw made a pointed speech opposing such a resolution to the effect that while it condemned the opposers of the cause, it did not recognize the friends of the women in the conference who worked hard in their favor.

On motion this resolution was tabled.

### THE MINORITY REPORT.

We, the undersigned members of the committee on resolutions, beg leave to submit to the favorable consideration of



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the convention the following resolution in addition to those recommended by the majority report:

*Resolved*, That the Kansas Equal Suffrage association appreciates the unequivocal position of the union labor party in favor of Equal Suffrage, and hereby thanks said party for its efforts in behalf of equal rights for all.

MRS. MECCA HOFFMAN,  
MRS. M. E. POWELL.

The chairman begged leave to explain that the committee in resolution No. II had endeavored to extend the thanks of the association to all bodies giving favorable recognition to the movement toward woman's enfranchisement. As no one moved to substitute, no action was taken.

Convention adjourned.

### EVENING SESSION.

\* This evening an overflow meeting was arranged to be held at the Court House and was addressed by Mrs. Watkins, Miss Shaw and Miss Anthony.

At the Congregational church the exercises began with a very beautiful organ solo by Prof. Pinney of the State Normal School. Invocation by Rev. J. H. Byers.

Miss S. A. Brown of Lawrence, addressed the meeting on the subject of municipal suffrage. She said it was a good thing because it was right, and that women needed it for education. The most dangerous thing, she thought, was irresponsible influence. It makes women dangerous. With the ballot comes responsibility and removes this evil.

Mrs. Carrie L. Dehton of Attica presented the suffrage question from a Bible standpoint.

"Very few people who think the Bible teaches the subordination of women have any idea of the paucity of Bible argument in that line. They have heard something about Eve being first in transgressing; that one Paul has said wives should obey their husbands, and upon this they have built up a theory

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that has degraded women and brought untold misery upon the entire race. The fact that women have accepted this theory proves its demoralizing influence, and these profound reasoners triumphantly exclaim: "The Bible teaches this!" "

Hon. C. B. Hoffman of Enterprise spoke on the fundamental principles of government, and the growth of the power of the weaker sex. Women, he said, were endowed with the same inalienable rights of men. Equals do not govern, they consult, they agree. He would like to see women given the ballot because they are better than men.

The Rev. Anna H. Shaw was then introduced and was received with rounds of applause. She began by saying she "had no new argument to produce. It was the same old story. The opponents of the cause were annihilated every fall and in the spring they came forth and blossomed anew with as much regularity as the flowers, and with the same regularity were again disposed of."

For a full hour this bright, vivacious, winning speaker held the interested attention of her large audience.

At 10 o'clock the meeting adjourned to convene at 9:30 on Thursday morning.

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### THIRD DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

THURSDAY, 9:30 A. M.

Meeting called to order by the President. Invocation by Rev. Annie Shaw. The Secretary read the report of the Executive Committee, which was approved, and then followed reports of auxiliaries.

The Treasurer then made the following report, which was approved:



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By Amt. on hand.....	\$ 28.36.
By Amt. recd. Oct. 13, '87-Oct. 31, '88.....	731.53.
To Amt. disbrs'd Oct. 15, '87-Oct. 27, '88.....	\$649.00.
To Amt. on hand.....	110.89.
	<hr/>
	\$759.89.    \$759.89.

Respectfully submitted,

MARTIA L. BERRY, Treas.

Emporia, Kas., Oct. 13, 1888.

Mrs. Nellie T. Butterfield, chairman Printing Committee, made the following report which was approved:

Of the minutes of the first, second, third and fourth annual meetings of the state associations we have printed 500 copies of 128 pages each, at a cost of \$115.

The advertising on a few of the first and last pages amounted to \$37.50.

Of the little hand books, containing constitutions, etc., 1500 copies were printed at a cost of \$42.

10,000 receipts in 100 books of 100 receipts each, and 5,000 orders in 100 books of 50 orders each were printed at a cost of \$32.50.

Have expended this year in printing \$189.50.

Report of the Auditing Committee was called for and was read and approved as follows:

Your committee begs leave to submit the following:

We desire to express to the K. E. S. A., its officers and members, our highest appreciation of the business ability evidenced by our Treasurer, Mrs. Martia L. Berry. For accuracy, her books are unsurpassed, and in method perfect. That all may know the extent of the work done by Mrs. Berry, we wish to say that by the method pursued, there can no error remain undetected. First, all moneys are entered on the receipt book; Second, on individual account; Third, on cash book. By this we readily perceive the time expended and care bestowed on the work. Could our wish prevail, we would have her continue at her post, and we say: "Well done, thou good and faithful servant of the Kansas Equal Suffrage Association."

MRS. HARRIET ABBOTT BIRCHMORE.

DR. SARAH C. HALL.

The following letter from the secretary of the Historical Society is of interest as bearing on the points discussed;

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TOPEKA, KANS., NOV. 13th, 1888.

*Mrs. Laura M. Johns, President K. E. S. A., Emporia, Kans.*

*My Dear Madame:*—I have your favor urging my attendance at your convention. I regret that important engagements prevent my compliance. I was greatly interested in the addresses and practical discussions of the convention last year.

I have no doubt you will again discuss the same questions, especially that relating to a proposed amendment to our State constitution enlarging the suffrage of women. Whether the submission of such an amendment would be prudent at this time I should say depends upon the amount of educating work which your association, and its auxiliaries throughout the state, are prepared to do within the years pending its submission. The Kansas municipal suffrage law, and what has grown out of it the two years past, in the attendance of women at the polls, and the local agitation in the cities of the State, has undoubtedly done more to educate the people on the subject than had been done in all the previous years of the existence of Kansas as a voting State.

Now, it seems to me to be the duty of your organization and its auxiliaries to actively continue this educating work, especially among the women of the State. What has been done has familiarized women with caucus work, with attendance at primary elections and as participants in the proceedings of mass meetings. This work they have acceptably done for two years in our municipalities. The men of our State concede the right, and expect the women to so participate in the preparation for elections at which they are allowed to vote. Now let them participate in the party primaries pending the other elections where they claim the right to vote but are yet prohibited. If it be admitted, as it is on all hands, that it is proper for women to discuss questions and candidates prior to elections where they are allowed to vote, certainly it is no presumption for them to give their advice to their proxies who are to vote for them at other elections.

The time has passed, at least in Kansas, when men whose opinions and sentiments are worthy of consideration, will repel women from working as advisors and counselors in political affairs. We have the example too, in the late national canvass of one of the great political parties inviting the participation of women in the work of a national committee, and of others as canvassers in the field, and debaters of questions of the day on political platforms. And this party was the successful party, the same party which gave municipal suffrage to the women of Kansas.

It must be through much aggressive, political work on the part of many of the women of Kansas in all our elections that a majority of the present voters of the State are to become convinced that women want to vote, and that justice to them, and the public good generally demand that our constitution should grant them the privilege.

Yours very respectfully,

F. G. ADAMS.

Dr. Nannie Stephens moved to reconsider the vote of yesterday upon the adoption of the resolution to strike the word

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*male* out of Sec. 1 of Art. 5 of the Constitution. This motion opened to debate the original motion and the discussion was more earnest and animated than before. Miss Shaw spoke earnestly in favor of reconsideration and her argument was strong and convincing. Miss Anthony spoke at some length of the injury that would be likely to come to the cause by too precipitate action now. Mrs. Johns felt that the time had not yet arrived for asking the submission of the amendment. Others spoke at considerable length, and it was evident that the "submissionists" were weakening and the motion to reconsider carried by 31 to 7, and the resolution to ask the submission of the amendment was lost.

This discussion occupied the time up to 12 o'clock, and the election of officers was not yet begun. It was moved and carried that the remainder of the morning program be postponed to afternoon session.

It was moved and carried that the convention now adjourn to 1:30 P. M., for the organization of the Kansas Council of Women.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION.

Mrs. Johns called the convention to order at 1:30 P. M. Invocation by Mrs. C. B. Cushing. Rev. Anna H. Shaw was then called to the chair and proceeded to relate that this meeting of representatives from Kansas organizations of women had been called by Mrs. Laura M. Johns, President K. E. S. A., and Mrs. Fannie H. Rastall, President Kansas W. C. T. U., for the purpose of organizing a Council of Women. Miss Shaw set forth the object and need of such an organization, and then the committee on credentials reported the delegates. The following officers were elected: President, Mrs. C. H. Cushing, Leavenworth; Vice President, Mrs. L. W. Hanna, Emporia; Auditor, Mrs. J. L. Hunting, Leavenworth; Treasurer, Mrs. Graves, Emporia; Secretary, Miss Mary Abarr, Topeka.

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The Preamble and Articles I and II set forth in a measure the plans of the council.

#### PREAMBLE.

We, women of the State of Kansas, sincerely believing that the best good of our homes and State will be advanced by our greater unity of thought, sympathy and purpose, and that an organized movement of women will best conserve the highest good of the family and the State, do hereby band ourselves together in a confederation of workers committed to the overthrow of all forms of ignorance and injustice, and to the application of the golden rule to society, custom and law.

That we may more successfully prosecute the work, we adopt the following

#### CONSTITUTION.

##### ARTICLE I.

*Name*—This federation shall be called the Kansas Council of Woman.

##### ARTICLE II.

*General Policy*—This council is organized in the interest of no one propaganda, and has no power over its auxiliaries beyond that of suggestion and sympathy; therefore, no society voting to belong to this council shall thereby render itself liable to be interfered with in respect to its complete organic unity, independence, or methods of work, or be committed to any principle or method of any other society, or to any utterance or act of the council itself beyond compliance with the terms of this constitution.

The council adjourned to meet in Leavenworth next May, during the meeting of the Social Science club.

The Convention then proceeded to the election of officers.

The President called for the final report of the Credential Committee, and requested that delegates and members should return to their seats as arranged by districts. The roll call showed the following officers, delegates and members present:



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#### FIRST DISTRICT.

Atchison county, Mrs. Ruth Durgan, Miss Augusta Knower, Mrs. Anna B. Fisher, Mrs. C. A. S. Davis; Jefferson county, Mrs. Anna B. Hile, Mrs. M. Robinson; Leavenworth county, Mrs. J. L. Hunting, Mrs. C. H. Cushing.

#### SECOND DISTRICT.

Wyandotte county, Mrs. F. H. Rastall; Linn county, Mrs. L. V. Watkins; Bourbon county, Dr. S. C. Hall, Mrs. H. H. Hendrixson, Mrs. Sarah E. Hiat; Johnson county, Mrs. J. P. St. John; Douglas county, Mrs. Sarah A. Brown, Mrs. Anna L. Diggs.

#### THIRD DISTRICT.

Crawford county, Mrs. Carrie S. Smith; Montgomery county, Dr. R. S. Tenny; Morris county, Mrs. H. Stivers.

#### FOURTH DISTRICT.

Lyon county, Mrs. Dr. Frances Jackson, Mrs. J. H. Slocum, Mrs. Hattie Graves, Mrs. Annie E. Scott, Mrs. J. M. Kellogg, Mrs. Nellie C. Dunlap, Mrs. Mary I. Perley, Rev. J. H. Byers, Mrs. J. M. Buck, Mrs. E. J. Tyler, Mrs. Dr. Gardiner; Shawnee county, Mrs. N. W. Lyon, Mrs. Lucia O. Case, Mrs. H. A. Birchmore; Chase county, Mrs. M. E. Powell, Mrs. E. W. Pinkston, Mrs. E. V. Schriver, Mrs. Minnie D. Morgan; Coffee county, Mrs. Carrie S. Smith, Mrs. E. C. B. Evart; Marion county, Mrs. Nellie T. Butterfield.

#### FIFTH DISTRICT.

Saline county, Mrs. Lizzie Hopkins, Mrs. May B. Brown, Mrs. Laura M. Johns, J. B. Johns; Dickinson county, Mrs. Mecca Hoffman, Hon. C. B. Hoffman; Washington county, Mrs. Ella Powell.

#### SIXTH DISTRICT.

Lincoln county, Mrs. H. A. Strickeye, Mrs. Anna C. Wait; Mitchell county, Mrs. Martia L. Berry.

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### SEVENTH DISTRICT.

Harvey county, Mrs. C. C. Prentis, Mrs. J. W. Edwards; Sedgwick county, Dr. Nannie Stephens; Harper county, Mrs. Caroline L. Denton.

Every district represented and twenty-two counties.

Mrs. Johns now appointed tellers, called Miss Shaw to the chair and retired. The informal ballot was taken for President, resulting as follows: Whole number of votes cast 51, of which Mrs. Johns received 50 and Mrs. Durgan 1. On motion the informal ballot was made the formal, and the secretary instructed to cast the vote of the convention for Mrs. Laura M. Johns for President. The chair appointed Mrs. Durgan to escort Mrs. Johns to the chair as President of the Kansas E. S. A., to which position she was elected for the third time. Rounds of applause greeted the President as she appeared upon the platform, and were renewed when she had finished her expressions of thanks for the honor due her, and begged for a continuation of the charity with which her previous efforts had been received.

The next ballot was taken for Vice-President and resulted in the unanimous election of Mrs. Anna C. Wait of Lincoln, who has served this organization as President or Vice-President since it was six months old.

The informal ballot was again taken and resulted in the election of Mrs. Lizzie Hopkins, Salina, Corresponding Secretary, and Dr. Nannie Stephens of Wichita, Recording Secretary. These officers were introduced to the convention and spoke of their gratitude for the honor done and confidence bestowed.

The informal ballot resulted in 49 votes for Mrs. Martia L. Berry. She was escorted to the platform by Mr. J. B. Johns. The President introduced this most able and faithful officer with evident pleasure, and Mrs. Berry addressed the convention in a humorous strain that set everybody smiling, and then went to her table and began the work of another official year.



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The election of District Presidents resulted as follows:

First District—Mrs. Ruth F. Durgan, Atchison.

Third District—Mrs. Carrie Stearns Smith, Girard.

Fourth District—Mrs. E. W. Pinkston, Cedar Point.

Fifth District—Mrs. Mecca Hoffman, Enterprise.

Sixth District—Mrs. Judge Pratt, Norton.

Seventh District—Mrs. J. W. Edwards, Newton.

The Second District elects its own President. It is the only district in the State in which the organization has arrived at that degree of perfection.

Delegates elected to the National Convention are Mrs. Carrie Cowen, Mrs. H. A. Birchmore, Mrs. Ruth F. Durgan and Mrs. I. E. Perley. Alternates: Mrs. Anna L. Diggs, Mrs. M. F. Bradford, Miss Sarah A. Brown and Mrs. Carrie S. Smith.

Mrs. Rastall told of the embryo Industrial School for Girls, established by the W. C. T. U. at Beloit. Great interest was manifested in this school and in the work of securing an appropriation for its establishment in a suitable building and its support.

The following resolution was adopted:

*Resolved*, That the K. E. S. A. hail with delight the prospect of a union between the American and National Suffrage Association, believing that such a union would contribute to the success of our principles in the State work.

Committee on By-Laws reported; Rev. F. M. W. Jackson, chairman. Report adopted as follows:

*Resolved*, That Sec. 1 of Article II of By-Laws shall be amended so as to read. Delegates are to be chosen by ballot in the ratio of one to each fifteen paying members at the first regular meeting in September, and their names reported at once to the Corresponding Secretary. They shall be furnished &c., &c.

*Resolved*, That to Sec. IV shall be added these words: *the Treasurer shall give bonds in the sum of one thousand*

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*dollars for the faithful discharge of the duties of that office, with sureties to be approved by the President and Corresponding Secretary.*

*Resolved, That to Article VIII shall be added the words: and representation shall be based upon the report sent in at the close of the fiscal year.*

Committee on Plan of Work reported as follows: Adopted.

I. As there are about 9000 colored electors in the State of Kansas and but two Equal Suffrage organizations amongst them, therefore, we recommend the appointment of committees in the local auxiliaries to organize amongst the colored people.

II. That members of this Association make it a point of attending political caucuses of whatever party they affiliate with, and that they induce other women to do likewise.

III. That the Legislature be petitioned to amend the law conferring municipal suffrage upon women, so as to provide that women may vote upon city bonds for other than school purposes.

IV. That auxiliaries call the attention of the school teachers of the State to the suffrage question, at the monthly and annual Teachers' Institute, in whatever manner they deem most effective, and that they provide for the distribution of suffrage literature therein.

V. We recommend the continued study of the Constitution and city ordinances; also that each auxiliary keep its book in a neat, business like manner.

VI. That the K. E. S. A. petition the Legislature to appropriate a sufficient sum of money to establish an Industrial and Reform School for girls in Kansas.

VII. We recommend auxiliaries to use the ode cards prepared by the Valley Falls E. S. A.

VIII. We also recommend that auxiliaries utilize home talent in sending speakers through the country for purposes of organization and strengthening suffrage sentiment.

SARAH C. HALL, M. D., Chairman.

Convention adjourned to 7:30 P. M.

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#### EVENING SESSION.

Miss Bailey rendered a beautiful organ solo. Invocation by Rev. Walker.

Mrs. Anna L. Diggs, of Lawrence, was the first speaker. She gave an amusing account of trying in the late election to vote for county and State superintendents of public instruction. She said it was a source of great humiliation to her to know the trivial manner in which the ballot is regarded by those who have the right of franchise. Some men she knew sold their votes for money consideration, others for policy or hope of political preferment. It was also a source of humiliation to her to know of the bets made on the election.

Mrs. L. V. Watkins, of Boicourt, was then introduced and made a bright, pleasing speech. She related her experience in voting for county and State superintendents of public instruction. Her vote was accepted and counted, the only case of the kind in the State.

The Rev. Anna Shaw addressed the meeting in her usual happy manner, that always reminds her hearers of a clear spring, bubbling, sparkling, running over, spreading joy and gladness all around.

The President, learning that Senator Plumb was in the room, called him to the platform. He responded by coming promptly forward and addressing the convention for an hour. Senator Plumb declared himself as not inimical to the movement toward the enfranchisement of women, but wants to hear more about what the outcome of it will be in things that will help legislation and benefit humanity, before he advocates it heartily.

Attorney General-elect Kellogg was next called on for a brief speech. He said he voted for the constitutional amendment. He thought women of Kansas as well fitted to vote as the men, for they had had the same opportunities to inform themselves as the men had, and he saw no reason why they should not be allowed to exercise the right of franchise. As

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far as his experience went, he said his wife had as good a brain as he had and he did not know but what she had a better one.

Dr. Tenney, of Independence, told an interesting story of her experience in early days in school elections.

Miss Susan B. Anthony was the final speaker of the evening, giving finish, rounding up and filling out the sentiments expressed by the others and giving many timely suggestions and criticisms for the onward march.

Mrs. Anna C. Wait then offered the following resolutions :

*Resolved*, That the Kansas Equal Suffrage Association tenders its sincerest thanks to the citizens of Emporia for the cordial reception accorded to its delegates and members, and for the royal hospitality of their homes so generously opened for the entertainment of the members during this convention.

Also to the Emporia Auxiliary for its urgent invitation to the K. E. S. A. to hold its fifth annual meeting in this city, and for the able and highly satisfactory manner in which all the local arrangements have been made and carried out.

Also to the press of Emporia for uniform kindness and courtesy, and fair reports of the convention proceedings, and especially to the Capital for sending an able lady reporter, and to her for her complete and interesting reports.

Finally, for all and to all who have in any manner or degree contributed to the success of this meeting, we reiterate our thanks; and shall carry away to our several homes, and hold and cherish ever feelings of the most kindly remembrance.

The President then declared the fifth annual meeting of the K. E. S. A. adjourned.

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### Executive Sessions.

#### FIRST COMMITTEE MEETING.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13TH.

Committee called to order at 9 A. M. by the President.  
Lacked one member of number sufficient to make a quorum.

#### SECOND COMMITTEE MEETING.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14TH.

The meeting called to order at 9 A. M. by the President.  
The following members were present: Mrs. Laura M. Johns, President; Mrs. Anna C. Wait, Vice President; Dr. Nannie Stephens, Cor. Secretary; Mrs. Martia L. Berry, Treasurer; Dr. S. C. Hall, President Second District; Mrs. Mecca Hoffman, President Fifth District; Mrs. Jennie L. Kellogg, President Fourth District.

Voted to recommend to the Convention that the History of the K. E. S. A. be sold at ten cents per copy; in quantities of a dozen or more, at five cents per copy.

Voted to recommend to the Convention that the annual dues of members of auxiliaries be placed uniformly at fifty cents.

Voted to recommend that the K. E. S. A. be represented in the Kansas Council of Women.

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It was moved that the Treasurer and Corresponding Secretary receive a compensation of fifty dollars per year. Carried.  
The meeting adjourned.

### THIRD COMMITTEE MEETING.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15TH.

The meeting opened at 9 o'clock A. M.

Mrs. Berry moved that a State organizer be appointed. After considerable discussion of ways and means to pay a State organizer, the motion was lost.

It was moved and carried that a committee be appointed to look into the matter of incorporating the K. E. S. A. The Chair appointed to serve on this committee, Mrs. Jennie L. Kellogg and Mrs. Martia L. Berry.

Moved that Mrs. Humphrey's paper on "Women of Kansas," read at Social Science Club meeting at Atchison, be printed in form of leaflet, by K. E. S. A. Carried.

Moved that three-fourths of State membership fees taken in at conventions, shall be used for support of such conventions. Carried.

On motion a committee was appointed to consider the proposition of Mrs. Carrie Stearns Smiths, in regard to using her projected paper as our state organ.

After due consideration committee reported the plan as impracticable at this time. Report adopted. Voted to retain the use of Kansas Department in Woman's Tribune for state organ.

Moved and carried that matter of Treasurer's bonds be referred to committee on Revision of By-Laws.

On motion meeting adjourned.



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### President's Annual Address.

The present age demands results. What consequences has your doctrine, or your institution, or your reform hitherto worked out? or what earnest have you of what it will work out? asks the public, before it believes your doctrine, supports your constitution, or aids in your reform.

The questions put to-day to the workers in our movement are: What are the results of the partial enfranchisement of women, and what will be the results of their full enfranchisement? and upon the answer to the first question they predicate the answer to the second.

To the first I am moved to say that nowhere has the enfranchisement of women resulted in any harm to women, or to government, morally or materially. The great revolution is begun, and we have so easily entered upon the new order of things that no perceptible jog has been made in the governmental machinery, so natural and altogether proper are the new conditions, as far as they have been reached. Of Municipal Suffrage in England, Gladstone said the results were all good and nothing evil. After nineteen years of that experiment England has extended County Suffrage to women.

In Kansas, good has resulted from woman's partial enfranchisement in the improved character of municipal elections; in the better order at the polls and in the better quality of men elected to office in the *majority* of the cities of the State. And better even than all this, and as the indulging principle and first cause of all the good resultant, women have been stirred, under the educating influence of the possession of the ballot, as never before to thought upon the questions of the day, touching the vital interests of all living under our government.

And there can be furnished no better antidote to the intellectual inertia and smallnesses, the follies and vices of women, than the pursuit of the ballot and its consequent possession and use. Their

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lives and interests are thereby broadened and deepened, and to live is for them, and to the world, better worth while.

But this brings us to the lower ground of expediency, when we would fain make our demand upon the higher ground that our enfranchisement is *right*. Nevertheless, here we must stand long and serve, because, alas, for poor human nature! the argument of expediency reaches and sways more minds than does the argument of absolute right; and because the sense of the righteousness of any movement, and of this in particular, is often arrived at by way of the argument of expediency. History furnishes instances of the fact that the presentation of the abstract right of a matter has not proved the most potent factor in rousing the popular interest and securing general support. Our late war presents such an instance. In that case the setting forth of the outgrowth of the violation of an abstract principle, was the potent forensic weapon in moving the masses.

The abstract right of our forefathers to self-government while it was the basis principle, the granite foundation of their claim, was not, after all, the great motive power which stirred finally, and most vigorously the masses of the people and roused them to determined action.

The prime causes of the war of the revolution and the separation of the Colonies from the mother country, were largely commercial in their character. The sugar act, the stamp tax, the quartering act, and even before these, real grievances had existed in the attempt of England to repress textile manufacturers.

I remember that as a child I was very indignant when I learned that manufacture of hats by the American Colonists had been prohibited, because England wanted to do the hat-making herself—not in order that America might be benefited, but that England might be enriched, and that the Colonies might be kept in more nearly entire dependence on the Crown.

I comprehended just enough of this then to connect it with the braiding of straw hats by women, and felt personally aggrieved and quite ready for another revolution, and am in quite a revolutionary state of mind in these maturer years, because I recognize a similarity in conditions of the men of the Colonies who couldn't vote for the protection of their industries and interests, and of the women of to-day whose industries and interests are at the mercy of legislation in which women have no voice.

And the age is demanding results. The commercial spirit of the world is saying to us "What have you to offer?" The politician is asking "to which party will women give their strength, if we give them the ballot? and how many offices will they take?" The finan-

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cier and the manufacturer are inquiring as to what effect woman's enfranchisement will have upon wages and upon the industries? And the moralists are asking "what moral help will woman's ballot bring?"—always the commercial spirit;—something to trade for. Not the question "is it *right*," but "what will the world get for it?" and until we have something to trade for our liberty I fancy we'll remain in political thralldom.

Much educational influence had been exerted to teach that human freedom was abstractly right; but it was not the weight of the sense of the right of these ex-chattels to political liberty, but an overwhelming sense of the need of their votes, that toppled down the opposition thereto, and moved the powers that were to put the ballot into the hands of negroes.

And so, unless indeed we can educate the minds of legislators to the height of seeing that woman's enfranchisement is a logical sequence, and must come in the progress of civilization, and is necessary to the stability and perpetuity of the republic, it is likely to follow that after we have disseminated suffrage sentiment until the public mind has become familiar enough with the idea of woman's equal right to self-government, and then grown broad enough to welcome this new gospel, some party in need of our votes will call us to the polls in the hope of trading our enfranchisement to us for rescue to the party; and when that great occasion comes it will require a great party and a greater issue to bind women into a body sufficiently large to make the trade; and to my mind, the vast chain of organization of women being rapidly made, and to which we shall add a strong link in the organization of the Kansas Council, is the swiftest and most forceful possible movement in the direction of thus concentrating our strength.

#### THE K. E. S. A. IS NON-PARTISAN.

And this brings me to speak of our attitude as an organization, toward political parties. Whatever may be the individual preferences of the leaders of the National Woman Suffrage Association, to which we are auxiliary, or the officers of the Kansas Equal Suffrage Association, *our organization is non-partisan*; and I have hitherto regarded it as necessary that it should be strictly non-partisan, just as I have believed that it must remain non-sectarian, so that no one of any faith, political or religious, shall be shut out from our work. It must be secular enough to admit useful people outside of any sect. Our work must be made as popular as the class to be enfranchised is large. I believe that this attitude toward sects will be necessary to the day of our enfranchisement; but not as it

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now is will our relation to party remain. The time is not yet ripe perhaps, but the years will not be many to go over our heads before we shall feel the necessity of declaring our allegiance to a party, and it is possible that to this we'll be compelled to come before we secure an amendment to the constitution of the State, striking the word "male" out of Sec. 1 of Art. 5.

### THE NEXT STEP.

We are frequently questioned as to what we intend to work for this year? "What legislation do we intend to ask for?"—and to answer "nothing" to the latter, is to the ardent suffragist generally unsatisfactory, and evidently dampening to enthusiasm. To say that we will bend our energies to the work of educating public sentiment, doesn't seem to be specific enough to arouse that activity which is much to be desired. The ghost of that amendment done to death in '67 haunts our camp. Hundreds of Kansas suffrages are saying "What wait we for?"—and what indeed! Will the chances for success be better when we have waited longer for immigration to bring us a larger foreign population to vote against our enfranchisement? Will the tide turn in our favor when our cities are grown greater? Does the east show that freedom thrives best in States grown old and rich and conservative?

Suffragists are waiting for the logic of events to point to the hour to ask for the submission of the amendment to the popular vote; and enemies of the cause are waiting for woman's exercise of the municipal ballot and the antagonisms therein often necessarily produced, to furnish the lacking argument against the amendment.

Last year, in our October convention, we discussed the propriety of asking the incoming Legislature to submit an amendment striking out the word "male" in Sec. 1, Art. 5 of the Constitution; and these discussions were invited, not because we were determined to take this step, but that thought might be awakened, and that all eyes might be watchful of the arrival of the favorable hour.

Your executive committee has not seen fit, during this year, to take any action in the direction of asking for the submission of the amendment, nor is there now, in our estimation, anything to be seen in the events of the year, or the political situation, to commend this winter as the time for taking this step.

Furthermore, there is the probability of the calling of a constitutional convention by the newly elected Legislature. In which event, the decision as to the time of our attack upon that obnoxious section of Art. 5 will be taken out of our hands, and the fight will be on, and