

"Reproduced from the Collections of the Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, scanned from Watkinson Library, Trinity College, Hartford Studies Project – Transcription of letter from Carrie Chapman Catt, president of the National American Woman Suffrage Association, to Mrs. L. B. Fouse, Ex-President Kentucky Colored Women's Club, and Mrs. F. H. White, Principal, Patterson School and Committee of two hundred colored women, Lexington, Kentucky on May 2, 1919.

NATIONAL AMERICAN WOMAN SUFFRAGE ASSOCIATION.

May 2, 1919

To

Mrs. L. B. Fouse, Ex-President Kentucky Colored Women's Club,

Mrs. F. H. White, Principal, Patterson School and Committee of two hundred colored women

Lexington, Kentucky

My dear **Mesdames:**

During the convention of the National American Woman Suffrage Association, held the last week of March in St. Louis, I received your

telegram. I have selected from the list of names signed, the two which seem to have the most likely post office addresses and am sending a copy of this letter to Mrs. Fouse and to Mrs. White.

The National American Woman Suffrage Association has never made any recommendation nor endorsed any action which discriminated against Negroes in the matter of the vote and I was, therefore, surprised to have received your telegram, for some misrepresentation must have reached you.

The qualifications for the vote are questions for state action and not national. If, therefore, there shall, at any time, be a move of discrimination against colored women, you should appeal to the state and not to the national suffrage association for help.

In all northern states where women are enfranchised, Negro women and Negro men vote on equal terms with white women and white men.

Yours very truly,

Signed Carrie Chapman Catt

President

Pronunciation Guide

Mes·dames

/mä'däm/

plural form of Madame.

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