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## **COLBY SIGNS SUFF RATIFICATION TODAY**

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**Amendment to U. S. Constitution Legalized With State**

**Dept. O. K.**

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**ANTIS WANT COURT DECISION**

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**May Attempt to Have Supreme Court Act on Legality of Tennessee's  
Ratification --- Women Planning Jollification Meeting Tonight.**

**Washington, Aug. 26.** -- The proclamation announcing officially that the

suffrage amendment to the constitution has been ratified was signed today by Secretary of State Colby.

### **Signed at 8 o'clock.**

The document was signed at 8 o'clock this morning at Mr. Colby's home when the certificate from Governor Roberts that the Tennessee legislature had ratified the amendment was received. Secretary Colby announced his action on his arrival at his office later.

### **Workers Disappointed.**

The announcement disappointed a group of suffrage workers who had gathered at the state department hoping to be present when Mr. Colby signed. Miss Alice Paul, chairman of the National Woman's party, was among them.

"We are confident that the signature of Secretary Colby completes the suffrage struggle in this country," she said. "The Woman's Party will not relax its vigilance, however, until it is satisfied that no further attempts will be made to wrest from the women of the United States the political equality which they have won."

### **Antis Active.**

Anti-suffragists who yesterday failed in their attempt to have the District

of Columbia supreme court issue an order to restrain Secretary Colby from proclaiming the amendment, said that efforts would be made to have the United States supreme court 'pass on the legality of Tennessee on the suffrage amendment jollification will be held tonight in a theater.

### **Colby Prepares Statement.**

Secretary Colby had prepared a statement regarding ratification of the suffrage amendment which he planned to read to the officials of the National Women's party had they accepted the Invitation. The officials and members of the National American Woman Suffrage association listened to it.

Secretary Colby's statement follows: "The certified record of the action of the legislature of the state of Tennessee on the suffrage amendment was received by mail this morning. Immediately on Its receipt the record was brought to my house. This was in compliance with my directions and in accordance with numerous requests for prompt action. I thereupon signed the certificate required of the secretary of state this morning at 8 o'clock In the presence of Mr. F. K. Nielson, the solicitor of the state department and Mr. Charles L. Cook, also of the state department. The seal of the United States has been duly affixed to the certificate and the suffrage amendment is now the 19<sup>th</sup> amendment of the constitution. It was decided not to accompany the simple ministerial action on my part with any

ceremony or setting. This secondary aspect of the subject has, regretfully, been the source of considerable contention as to who shall participate in it and who shall not. In as much as I am not interested in the aftermath of any of the frictions or collisions which may have been developed in the long struggle for the ratification of the amendment, I contented myself with the performance in the simplest manner of the duties devolved upon me under the law.

### **Congratulates Women.**

"I congratulate the women of the country upon the successful culmination of their efforts which have been sustained in the face of many discouragements and which have now conducted them to the achievement of that great object.

"The day marks the day of the opening of a great and new era in the political life of the nation. I confidently believe that every salutary, forward and upward force in our public life will receive fresh vigor and reinforcement from the enfranchisement of the women of the country.

"To the leaders of this great movement, I tender my sincere congratulations. To every one, from the president, who uttered the call to duty whenever the cause seemed to falter, to the humblest worker in this great reform, the praise not only of this generation, but of posterity will be freely given."

The proclamation recounts the process by which the new article 19 of the constitution was presented and ratified, naming the ratifying states, and continues:

**Signs Ratification.**

"Now therefore be it known, that I, Bainbridge Colby, secretary of state of the United States by virtue and in pursuance of Section 205 of the revised statutes of the United States, do hereby certify that the amendment aforesaid has become valid to all intents and purposes as a part of the constitution of the United States."