

**The New Britain Herald**

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**TENNESSEE PASSES SUFFRAGE WHEN LOWER  
HOUSE VOTES AYE BY SMALL MAJORITY**

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**Attempt Made to Reconsider By Change of Votes**

**17,000,000 WOMEN WILL BECOME VOTERS**

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**Susan B. Anthony Amendment Will Be Taken to Secretary of  
State in Washington.**

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**Nashville, Tenn., Aug. 18** -- Tennessee today became the 36<sup>th</sup> state to ratify the Susan B. Anthony federal suffrage amendment. The constitutional change thus will become effective in time for the 17,000,000 women of the country to vote in the presidential election in November, unless the lower house of the Tennessee assembly rescinds its action of today in adopting the ratification resolution 49 to 47.

Speaker Walker, leader to the anti-suffragists, put opponents in a position to demand reconsideration by changing his vote from nay to aye and moving to reconsider.

The house adjourned until 10 o'clock tomorrow, when the speaker's motion will have the right of way. Suffrage and anti-suffrage forces tightened their lines this afternoon for the final fight and both sides were claiming victory.

The suffragists, however, had the advantage of today's victory and expressed confidence that Speaker Walker's motion would be voted down

tomorrow. The next step in ratification then would be the certifying of the action of the Tennessee assembly to the secretary of state of the United States who, upon its receipt, would issue a proclamation declaring the amendment ratified.

The Tennessee senate ratified the amendment last Friday by a vote of 25 to 4.

Ratification by the Tennessee legislature was the culmination of an intensive drive made by suffrage proponents to have the amendment made effective in time for the women of the country to vote in the presidential election in November. This drive was started when West Virginia became the 34<sup>th</sup> state to ratify early this year.

Washington was the 35<sup>th</sup> state to ratify, and on the same day it acted --- March 22 --- Governor Townsend, of Delaware, called a special session of the legislature to act upon the amendment.

On June 2 the legislature adjourned with the ratification resolution still in the house committee of the whole despite pressure brought by President Wilson and leaders of both parties.

Meantime the Louisiana legislature met and efforts were made to have it act favorably. President Wilson and Governor Cox of Ohio both made appeals. The legislature adjourned on July 8 however, without acting.

Suffrage planks later were inserted in both democratic and republican national platforms.

The women tried to have Governor Clement of Vermont call a special session of the legislature. He refused. Senator Harding declined to interfere with the governor.

President Wilson then appealed to Governor Bickett of North Carolina and Governor Roberts of Tennessee to call special sessions of their legislatures and they consented. Solicitor General Frierson ruled that the supreme court decision on the Ohio referendum case set at naught a provision in the Tennessee constitution that a legislature could not act on a federal amendment unless the members were elected after the amendment was submitted.