

International Woman Suffrage Alliance

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- SWITZERLAND—Verband für Frauenstimmrecht,
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- THE UNITED STATES—National-American Woman Suffrage Association,
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- AUSTRIA—FRAU A. VON FURTH,
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- BOHEMIA—Secretary: MISS FRANTISKA PLAMINKOVA,
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London July 21. 1915.

My Dear Mrs Catt,

Many thanks for your interesting letter of June 30

Miss Macmillan has lately returned to London and

we had a Head Quarters Com^{tee} this morning. Consider

your letter especially the 3 alternative proposals

at the bottom of page 3, viz:-

1. Shall we as an Alliance withdraw from the Swedish

proposal and leave it to the Hague Peace Com^{tee}?

2. Shall we invite all the mem. provided they are

active?

3. Shall we hold ^{two} separate and distinct

Congresses?

With regard to No 1 Mrs Coit and I, as

at present informed, are strongly opposed

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See p 3.

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to the withdrawal of the Alliance from the Swedish proposal which has already received such a large measure of support from our affiliated countries. Miss Macmillan did not vote because she had not seen the full text of the Swedish proposal. I have now posted it to her and she will write to you separately.

With regard to No 2 Miss Corbett and I wish to write with the Hague Peace Conference but only on the basis that the I.W.S.A. call the Congress. This is fully reasons given in my letter to you of July 5. We should much like to have the benefit of your views on the subject after discussion with Miss Addams.

Miss Macmillan again (for the same reasons) did not vote.

With regard to No 3 Miss Corbett and I would only support this after every reasonable effort had been made for union and had failed. Miss Macmillan rather favoured the idea of two separate congresses, but she has no doubt with me about this herself.

It is as you say impossible to foretell the future. But we see no signs of disunion in our Suffrage organization. Our affiliates fees this time are ^{eight} ~~five~~ pounds what they were a year ago.

My impression is that W.S. is stronger in this country than it was was and I believe we shall have a very strong backing from public opinion when next we have a chance of demanding the enfranchisement of women. I entirely fail even now to

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in April³

guess the real cause of the coup d'état in our N.U. Council was when
11 members resigned. Miss Courtney & Miss Marshall had
resigned very several weeks earlier because they were disappointed
with some resolutions which were given in our Feb. Council. Miss
Rayden and Mrs. Swanwick (who were two of the resigning members)
had voted with me in March 8 against the N.U. sending
official representatives to the Peace Congress at the Hague.
In my opinion a great deal was due to nerves and
overwork.

The special Council in June 17.18. cleared the air and has
made things easier.

We should all very warmly welcome a visit from you if
you are able to get away after the November strike in
the U.S.A. is over.

Always affectionately yours

W. G. Swire

Mrs. Cook will write about the financial position of the I.W.S.A. There
is a balance of £786 at present.

The French edition is sold satisfactorily. We think it would
be a great pity to stop it.