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Date: Apr 14, 1917  
Description: Men's National Anti-Suffrage Association letter

Men's National Anti-Suffrage Association

Charles S. Fairchild, President  
Cazenovia, New York

Prof. M. W. Jacobus, Secretary  
Hartford, Conn.  
P. O. Box 2617  
Boston, Mass.

Henry B. Thompson, Treasurer  
320 Broadway, New York, N. Y.

Robert N. Turner, Executive Sec'y  
631 Tremont Bldg., Boston, Mass

April 14, 1917.

Mrs. Clarence Hale,  
227 Western Promenade  
Portland Maine.  
My dear Mrs. Hale:

I have your favor of Thursday. I have not had opportunity to consult with either Mrs. Hill or Mrs. Faxon, and as my time in the office today is extremely limited I venture to reply without such consultation.

In my judgment the issuing of such a letter as you propose would be wholly unwise. I have had considerable experience in political campaigning, but I have never campaigned against any people or set of people who were less to be trusted than the suffragists.

They will take absolutely unfair and unwarranted advantage of any opening. In my judgment, if they act in Maine as they have and do elsewhere, they would accept your proposition, thus shutting out the antis from further work, and would then proceed to work as energetically as before, but by other methods, simply closing up their publicly advertised headquarters.

Moreover, if any one of your women even so much as spoke to some person regarding the suffrage vote, they would call it a breaking of the agreement, and would make a great deal of publicity over it.

I am thoroughly convinced that from every point of view the making of such an agreement would be disastrous for our cause. There are many reasons in addition to those which I mention above. Our arguments always need publicity. To shut us away from such publicity means the defeat of our side.

Very truly yours,  
Robert N. Turner

RNT/AMB