

# **THE PRIVILEGE FOR WHICH WE STRUGGLED:**

**The Minnesota Woman  
Suffrage Movement,  
1870 - 1920**

# Who Votes?

- Constitution does not define eligibility: states rights
- Property-owning males (some free blacks)
- Early 1800s: all white men (NJ women until 1807)



# Origins



**Declaration of Sentiments, Seneca Falls, NY, 1848**

# Stanton & Anthony



1815-1902



1820-1906



NOTICE TO FATHERS  
WASH YOUR SHIRTS WITH SUD'S SOAP

HUSBAND'S WORKING HOURS 3 A.M. TO 12 P.M.  
MONDAY, WASHING DAY | FRIDAY, MARKETING  
TUESDAY, DARNING | SAT. WORK OF ANY SORT  
WED. HOUSE-CLEANING | SUN. MORE WORK  
THURS SCRUBBING

YES! MY OLD MAN IS A LAZY OLD WRETCH

WHEN WOMEN VOTE

WASHING DAY.



Anti-Suffrage Rhetoric



# Minnesota Origins

- **Statehood: 1858**
- **Early suffrage activity, 1870s**
- **School board suffrage, 1875**
- **2 women elected, 1876**
- **First statewide association: 1881**



Harriet Bishop, 1817-1883

# U.S. Successes

- Some legal gains
- Education & work expand
- WCTU founding, 1874(MN, 1877)
- NACW founding, 1896 (MN, 1914)
- Women voting in 4 western states:  
Wyoming(1869); Utah(1870);  
Colorado(1893); Idaho(1896).



Mary Church Terrell, 1863-1954



# New Leaders



Carrie Chapman Catt, 1859-1947



Anna Howard Shaw, 1847-1919

**"Nothing bigger can come to a human being  
than to love a great cause more than life itself."**



# NAWSA in Minnesota



# The Pankhursts



Emmeline Pankhurst, 1858-1928



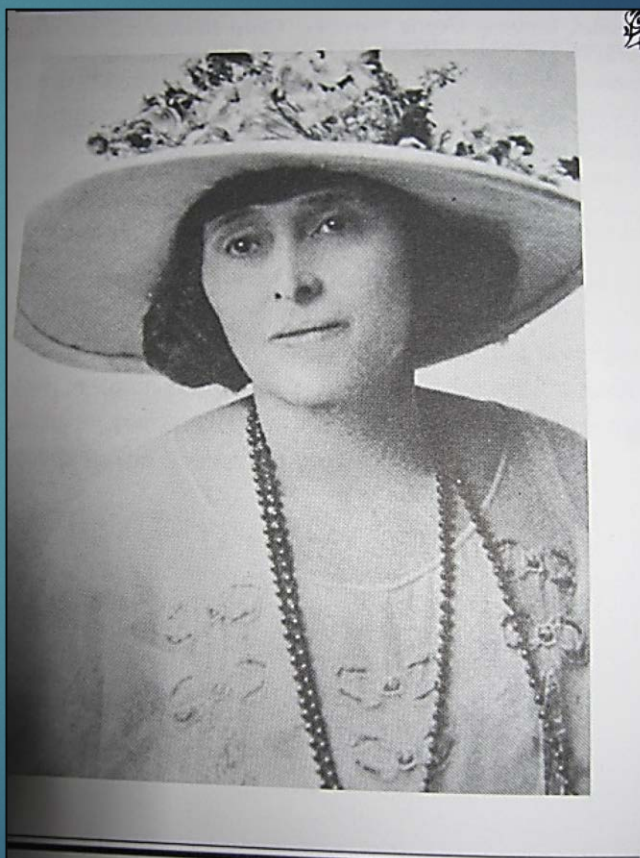
Christabel Pankhurst  
1880-1958



# New Leaders: Minnesota



Clara Hampson Ueland, 1860-1927  
Pres., MN W Suffrage Assoc. 1914-20



Nellie Griswold Francis, 1874-1969  
Pres., Everywoman Suffrage Club, 1914-1920

# Militancy in America

- Alice Paul returns 1910
- Suffrage parade, 1913
- Split from NAWSA, 1914
- Minn. Cong. Union, 1915



1885-1977



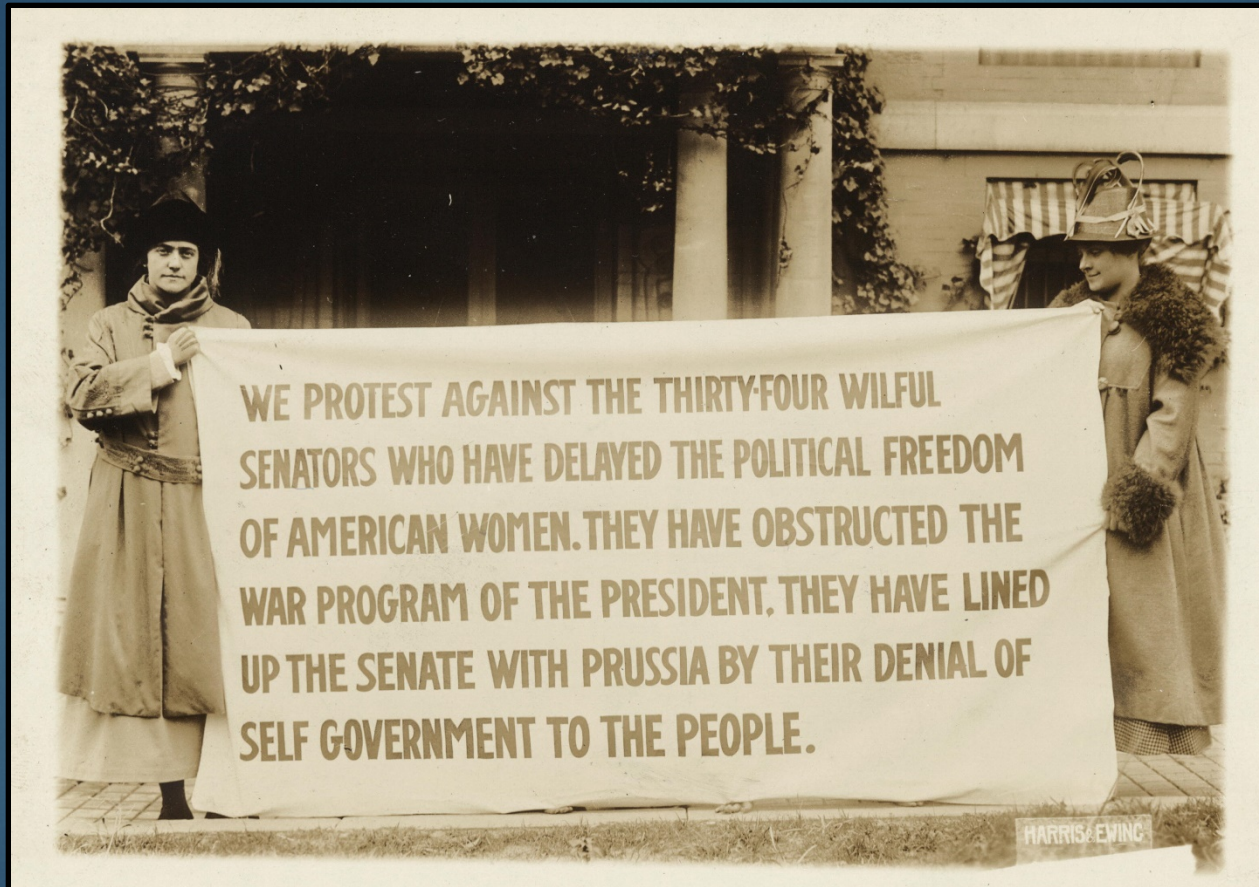
# Minnesota Nice

- Ueland balks at picketing
- Colvin & others picket
- Legislative votes fall short
- New presidential suffrage efforts



Sarah Tarleton Colvin, 1918

# Minnesota Pickets



Bertha Berglin Moller, 1888-unknown, (left), 1917



# Victory 1919

**“The moment the Senate vote was polled the corridors, the floors and galleries of both houses were in an uproar, hundreds of women cheered and laughed and waved the suffrage colors while in the rotunda a band swung into the strains of the Battle Hymn of the Republic . . . Mrs. Andreas Ueland, radiant and beautiful as always, was the center of congratulating men and women . . . ‘It is my happiest day,’ she said.”**

**Vivian Thorp**

# The 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment!



August 27, 1920



# New Voters



8th & Nicollet registration



Nov 1920 voting



# MN Suffrage Memorial







THE RIGHT OF CITIZENS OF THE UNITED STATES TO VOTE SHALL NOT BE DENIED OR ABRIDGED BY THE UNITED STATES OR BY ANY STATE ON ACCOUNT OF SEX  
 U.S. Constitution Amendment XIX  
 August 26, 1920



**PROGRESS AND PRIVILEGE**

Suffragists were the first group to protest at the White House in 1848 at a public meeting. Women who participated in the Philadelphia Centennial Movement and the National Woman's Party were also arrested. Many suffragists were arrested and imprisoned.

*Only Yellow Flowers will Bloom this Summer in the Yards of Suffragists.*

*"The yellow flowers will grow in suffragists' gardens this summer ... Mrs. Carl (Elizabeth) Simpson has a garden at Lake Minnetonka and here she grows ... and grows them about her home during the hot days when no one would venture to make a red speech. ... Mrs. M. O. (Elizabeth) Harmon is going to plant the flowers ... in Twinto and ... Mrs. (Anna) (Clara) Leland and intend to seeing that the Lake Calhoun district is not neglected."*

*Minneapolis Sunday Tribune, April 4, 1916*

**PROGRESS AND PRIVILEGE**

Suffragists who were arrested and sentenced to jail often went on hunger strikes to protest the government's refusal to grant them political prisoner status. Baytha Eugenia Miller and Sarah Tarleton Colvin, among other Minnesota women, served time in jail. Pins fashioned to resemble the door of a jail cell were given to imprisoned suffragists upon their release.

**PROGRESS AND PRIVILEGE**

Antislavery victory more than a year before, Amendment, Carrie Chapman Catt, president, Suffrage Association, proposed the formation of a network of the suffrage movement, a serving the nation through voter education. Minnesota suffragists register 1916.