

Wave the Banner

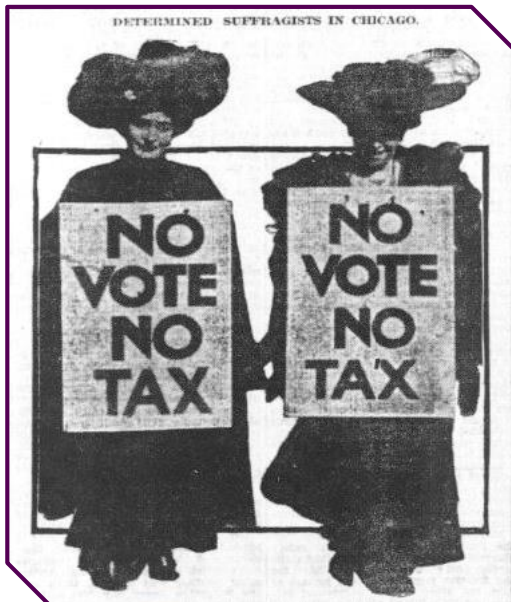
Written by Liz Almlie, Pierre, 2020.
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Historical Background

The Pickler House museum in Faulkton, where suffragists John and Alice Pickler lived, has a handmade cloth banner that on one side has the name of the local Women's Christian Temperance Union and the other side reads "Votes for Women." The W.C.T.U. supported women's suffrage as early as 1883. Alice Pickler was a state leader in the W.C.T.U. and the suffrage movement. Many suffragists brought campaign banners on parades and hung them at campaign events and meetings.

A parade brought national suffrage speakers from downtown Aberdeen to the state fair in 1890. The W.C.T.U. held a Votes for Women parade in Mitchell during its state convention in 1914. In 1918, during World War I, suffragists in Sioux Falls and Scotland organized floats in local parades. Sioux Falls' display was a map of all the states that had passed equal suffrage.

In 1910, Janet Cole and Hazel Philip of Ft. Pierre went to Chicago and wore placards reading "No Vote No Tax" in a public demonstration for suffrage (photo below). Suffragists argued that women should be able to vote so they could have a voice in how the government spent the taxes that women had to pay.



Topeka State Journal (KS) March 26, 1910.

Your Turn!

1. Draw, collage, sew, or digitally create a banner or poster that would have supported a historical suffrage campaign, or that commemorates the centennial of the passage of the 19th Amendment. Think about what phrases or images to use. Think about how to make it easy to read and understand from a distance. If you can, display your creation.
2. Attend a parade and observe the entries with political candidates or causes. Did they use signs or banners? Which were most effective?