

ALICE PAUL

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BASIC BIOGRAPHY

Alice Paul (1885–1977) was raised by Quaker parents in New Jersey. Following her 1905 graduation from Swarthmore College, she traveled to England and engaged with a group of military suffragists led by Emmeline Pankhurst. Paul joined their group, was arrested several times and participated in hunger strikes in prison. She returned to study at the University of Pennsylvania (where she eventually earned a Ph.D.) and joined the National American Woman Suffrage Association (NAWSA). Along with Lucy Burns, she organized the 1913 Women's Suffrage March that preceded President Woodrow Wilson's inauguration. Later she broke ties with NAWSA and formed the National Woman's Party (NWP) in 1916. She and other suffragettes continued to be arrested and engage in hunger strikes. In 1919, the Nineteenth Amendment was passed by the U.S. Congress with the support of President Wilson. It became law on August 18, 1920, when ratified by the state of Tennessee. She spent the remainder of her life working for the Equal Rights Amendment, often called the Alice Paul Amendment.

KEY EVENTS

Election of 1912, Women's Suffrage March (March 3, 1913), Equal Rights Amendment

KEY PEOPLE

Alice Paul, Lucy Stone, Lucy Burns, Woodrow Wilson, Emmeline Pankhurst, Carrie Chapman Catt

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

American women began actively campaigning for suffrage in the 1840s. The 1848 Seneca Falls Declaration made the bold proclamation that "all men and women were created equal." In the early twentieth century, the National American Woman Suffrage Organization (NAWSA), led by Carrie Chapman Catt, advocated a state-by-state approach to women's suffrage. After initially worked in NAWSA, Paul split from the organization, organizing the National Woman's Party (NWP) in 1916. The day before Democrat Woodrow Wilson was to be inaugurated, Paul and Lucy Burns led a massive suffrage parade in Washington, D.C. featuring more than 7,000 marchers.

FUN FACT

In celebration of the one hundredth anniversary of women's suffrage, Alice Paul and other suffragist leaders will be featured on the new \$10 bills that will be issued by the U.S. Treasury Department in 2020. Learn more about this and other women featured on currency here: <http://americanhistory.si.edu/blog/suffragists-campaigns-currency>.



Alice Paul, full-length portrait, standing, facing left, raising glass with right hand, September 3, 1920, Library of Congress (97500088), <https://www.loc.gov/item/97500088/>

DOCUMENT ANALYSIS

- Make one copy of the Document for each pair of students.
- Divide students into pairs.
- Distribute one copy of the newspaper cover of *Woman's Journal and Suffrage News* from March 8, 1913, to each pair of students.
- Ask students to read the articles and answer the prompt questions together.

LEARNING ACTIVITY

- Ask each student to assume the role either of Woodrow Wilson or Alice Paul.
- Engage in a Twitter-style discussion of Paul's reactions to the march and Wilson's response to the march.

Teacher Tip: If students need to be in groups of three, consider adding a third person to the mix. This could be Lucy Stone, Carrie Chapman Catt, Theodore Roosevelt, or another contemporary figure.



Bain News Service, Mrs. W.L. Prendergast, Mrs. W.L. Colt, Doris Stevens, Alice Paul, c. 1910–1915, Library of Congress (LC-DIG-ggbain-19032), <http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/2014698963/>

LOCAL CONNECTION

You can visit Alice Paul's house, Paulsdale, along with the Barbara Haney Irvine Library and Alice Paul Archives in Mount Laurel, New Jersey. To learn more, go to <http://www.alicepaul.org>.

LEARN MORE

PRIMARY SOURCES

The National American Woman Suffrage Association Special Collections, Bryn Mawr College Library
<http://www.brynmawr.edu/library/exhibits/suffrage/nawsa.html>

Topics in *Chronicling America* – Alice Paul
Library of Congress
<https://www.loc.gov/rr/news/topics/alicePaul.html>

SECONDARY SOURCES

Alice Paul
National Women's History Museum
<https://www.womenshistory.org/education-resources/biographies/alice-paul>

Suffragists Organize: National Woman Suffrage Association
National Women's History Museum
<http://www.crusadeforthevote.org/hwsa-organize/>

WOMAN'S JOURNAL AND SUFFRAGE NEWS

VOL. XLIV. NO. 10

SATURDAY, MARCH 8, 1913

FIVE CENTS

PARADE STRUGGLES TO VICTORY DESPITE DISGRACEFUL SCENES

Nation Aroused by Open Insults to Women—Cause Wins Popular Sympathy—Congress Orders Investigation—Striking Object Lesson

Washington has been disgraced. Equal suffrage has scored a great victory. Thousands of indifferent women have been aroused. Influential men are incensed and the United States Senate demands an investigation of the treatment given the suffragists at the National Capital on Monday.

Ten thousand women from all over the country had planned a magnificent parade and pageant to take place in Washington on March 3. Artists, pageant leaders, designers, women of influence and renown were ready to give a wonderful and beautiful piece of suffrage work to the public that would through the National Capital for the inauguration festivities. The suffragists were ready; the whole procession started down Pennsylvania avenue, when the police protection, that had been promised, failed them, and a disgraceful scene followed. The crowd surged into the space which had been marked off for the parades, and the leaders of the suffrage movement were compelled to push their way through a mob of the worst element in Washington and vicinity. Women were spit upon, slapped in the face, tripped up, pelted with burning cigar stubs, and insulted by jeers and obscene language too vile to print or repeat.

The cause of all the trouble is apparent when the facts are known. The police authorities in Washington opposed every attempt to have a suffrage parade at all. Having been forbidden a place in the inaugural procession, the suffragists asked to have a procession of their own on March 3. They were finally told that they could have a procession but that it could not be on Pennsylvania avenue, but must be on a side street. At last they got permission to have the suffrage parade on the avenue, and asked that traffic be excluded from the street during the parade. For a long time this was denied, and only on Saturday were they successful.

Everything was at last arranged; it was a glorious day; ten thousand women were ready to do their part to make the parade beautiful to behold, to make it a credit to womanhood and to demonstrate the strength of the movement for their enfranchisement.

The police were determined, however, and they had their way. Their attempt to afford the marchers protection and keep the space of the avenue free for the suffrage procession was the finest sham. Police officers stood by with folded arms and grinned while the pelted women of the land were insulted and roughly abused by an ignorant and uncouth mob.

Miss Allen Paul and other suffragists were compelled to drive their automobiles down the avenue to separate the crowds so the suffragists with the banners and floats could pass. The police officials say their force was inadequate to handle the crowds, but it is noted that there was no disorder on the avenue during the inaugural procession. It is stated that federal troops were offered to the chief of police for the suffrage procession, but that he refused their aid.

At any rate, assistance was finally called from Fort Myer and mounted soldiers drove back the crowd so that a straggling line of marchers could pass through.

Not only were the suffragists bitterly disappointed in having the effect

(Continued on Page 78)



General Rosalie Jones in Pilgrim Costume; Miss Inez Millholland on White Stand Leading the Parade; One of the Scores of Imposing Floats; One View of the Procession

AMENDMENT WINS IN NEW JERSEY

Easy Victory in Assembly 46 to 5—Equal Suffrage Enthusiasm Runs High

The New Jersey Legislature passed the woman suffrage amendment in the Assembly last week by a vote of 46 to 5. The Senate had already voted favorably 14 to 8.

A large delegation of suffragists crowded the galleries, and when the overwhelming vote was announced there was a scene of great enthusiasm. Women stood in their seats and waved handkerchiefs and "votes for women" flags and cheered themselves hoarse.

Dr. Jekyll Becomes Mr. Hyde
Opposition was confined exclusively to the old sentimental arguments.

(Continued on Page 79)

MICHIGAN AGAIN CAMPAIGN STATE

Senate Passes Suffrage Amendment 26 to 5 and Battle Is Now On

Michigan is again a campaign State after a short lapse of four months. The amendment will go to the voters on April 7. The State-wide feeling that the women were defrauded of victory last fall will help the suffragists.

The final action of the Legislature was taken last week, when the Senate, by a vote of 26 to 5, passed the suffrage amendment, with a slight amendment to make the requirements for foreign-born women the same as those for male immigrants.

Governor Watches Debate

The debate in the Senate lasted an hour and a quarter, and was characterized by the persistent efforts of Senator Weadock and a few others to tarry on crippling amendments. Several suggestions, including the disabling of women for holding office or serving on juries, were voted down in quick succession.

Gov. Ferris was among the visitors who crowded the chamber and gallery. Mrs. Clara B. Arthur, Mrs. Thomas R. Henderson and Mrs. Wilbur Brotherton, of Detroit; Mrs. Jennie Law Hardy, of Tecumseh, and other State leaders were present, supported by a large delegation of Lansing suffragists.

The final stand of the opposition was made by Senator Murtha in the hope of putting off the submission till November, 1914, and this also failed.

Of the five who opposed the measure on the final roll-call, three were from Detroit.

A complete campaign of organization and education has been mapped out by the State Association. The

(Continued on Page 74)

1. Based on the title of the newspaper, what do you think was the point of view of the author?
2. How does the article on the left demonstrate a new approach than the articles on the right?
3. Why do you think that these pictures were selected? What messages do they convey?
4. What role did the police play in this march?
5. Make a comparison between this event and another related event in American history. Explain the similarities and differences.