

TENNESSEE APPROVES

17,000,000 U. S. Women Get Vote

SUFFRAGE AMENDMENT

SOUTHERN STATE FOR SUFFRAGE

49 TO 47

Leader of Antis Puts Opponents
In Position to Demand Recon-
sideration By Changing Vote.

17,000,000 WILL GET VOTE

Will Have Right to Cast Ballots
at November Election.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Aug. 18.—(P)—Tennessee today became the thirty-eighth state to ratify the Susan B. Anthony federal suffrage amendment. The constitutional change thus will become effective in time for the 17,000,000 women in the country to vote in the presidential election in November, unless the lower house of the Tennessee assembly rescinds its action of today in adopting the ratification resolution, 49 to 47.

Speaker Walker, leader of the anti-suffragists, put opponents in a position to demand reconsideration by changing his vote from nay to aye and moving to reconsider. The house adjourned until 10 o'clock tomorrow, when the speaker's motion will have the right of way. Suffrage and anti-suffrage forces tightened their lines this afternoon for the final fight, and both sides were claiming victory.

Suffragists confident. The suffragists, however, had the advantage of today's victory, and expressed confidence that Speaker Walker's motion would be voted down tomorrow. The next step then would be the certifying of the action to the secretary of state of the United States, who would issue a proclamation declaring the amendment ratified.

The Tennessee senate ratified the amendment last Friday by a vote of 23 to 4.

Suffrage leaders declare they will not slacken their efforts, as they desire to have at least one other state ratify before the November elections, as they expect a fight to be made against Tennessee's action because of the clause in the state constitution which prohibits any assembly from acting on an amendment not submitted before the members were elected. Both United States Solicitor General Frierson and the attorney general of Tennessee have declared this clause to be unconstitutional in the light of the recent decision of the supreme court in the Ohio referendum case.

Ends Intensive Drive. Ratification by the Tennessee legislature was the culmination of an intensive drive made by suffrage opponents to have the amendment made effective in time for the women of the country to vote in the presidential election in November. The drive was started when West Virginia became the thirty-fourth state to ratify early this year.

Washington was the thirty-fifth to ratify and on the same day it acted—March 22—Governor Townsend, of Delaware, called a special session of the legislature of that state to act on the amendment. The Delaware assembly met early in May and the senate quickly ratified, but action by the house was delayed. Finally, June 2, the legislature adjourned with the ratification resolution still in the house committee of the whole.

Present Appeals. Meantime the Louisiana legislature met and efforts were made to have it act favorably. President Wilson appealed to Governor Parker to recommend ratification, but the governor declined to do so. The ratification resolution was taken up late in May and was debated at intervals. Governor Cox, democratic presidential nominee, threw his influence on the side of the amendment, declaring that the democratic of the legislature owed it to their party to ratify the amendment. The legislature finally adjourned July 8, however, without acting.

While the Louisiana legislature was considering the question, appeals for planks favorable to suffrage were made to both the republican and democratic conventions and the republican convention was tickled by representatives of the woman's party.

The lineup of the democrats and republicans on the vote for ratification follows:

Democrats—Aye, 35; no, 34; absent, 1.
Republicans—Aye, 18; no, 22; absent, 7.

Ends Ancient Struggle. Ratification of the suffrage amendment to the constitution ends a struggle which began in this country before the colonies declared their independence. It will eventually enfranchise 25,000,000 women. Women's suffrage first raised its voice in America in Maryland in 1847, when

