

1807 Oak St.,
Jacksonville, Fla.
March, 15th, 1917.

My dear Mrs. Willson:-

We had a most interesting time with the Indian Committee of the U.S. yesterday, as your distinguished husband will tell you--and they gobbled me for a statement. I was reluctant to make it because it has been some time since I have done any active work in the Seminole cause, and my mind has been so full of local problems for the past two years that I found it difficult to pull my thoughts together to make a definite and accurate statement. I fear I got somewhat "mixed in my dates"--unintentionally--as to the legislation which the Florida Federation championed under my leadership as Chairman of Legislation--so I am writing to you to straighten me out-- as we all appeal to you for information and help on the Seminole question.

I was under the impression that it was the 1913 Bill that we got out your pamphlet to support, knowing that I was Chairman during that session and supported the bill which passed-- and was vetoed by the Governor. I find since looking up my records that it was the 1915 ~~bill~~ bill that we did the preliminary work for--and my term as Chairman expired before the session of the Legislature. However, these are minor points-- the main facts of my statement were accurate --as ~~the~~ the passage of the bill in 1913 during my Chairmanship--and I told of my letter to the Governor asking his reasons for vetoing it.

I have searched high and low for copies of the two bills--1913 and 1915, and cannot find them in any of my papers. I wonder if it would be possible for you to get copies of those two bills for me--particularly the 1913 Bill--since they wish to incorporate that in my testimony--and give me some of the facts as to its drafting, introduction, etc.

Also, what became of the 1915 Bill? You see our new State President was in the Chair, then-- and I was no longer Chairman--of Legislation-- having taken over the work of Jacksonville Woman's Club--and I only know that the Bill was lost. Please let me hear from you as soon as possible about it, since the Committee wants a copy of that 1913 Bill.

In looking through my papers this morning I found this very charmingly written article which was sent Mrs. Young, and which I tried to get into the Federation Magazine. Another article was published in the Magazine--and this one was returned to me--and I ~~signed~~

no do up my records

pigeon-holed it and forgot it. I think it one of the most forceful and appealing things that you have written on this subject. I devoutly hope you have a copy, and that it has been published or used--and that I have not committed an unforgivable crime in not returning it to you immediately upon its return to me from the Magazine. I tried to get it in the general pages of the Magazine, and not in the Florida edition--which I found came only to Florida-- and just at that time they thought they were giving Florida enough space, I suppose-- in the special pages they were giving us.

I so enjoyed meeting Mr. Willson--though I only exchanged a few words with him. How splendid it would have been could you have been with us yesterday!

I certainly hope this visit of the Indian Committee to Florida may bear fruit --and that something definite may be done at once.

Do you contemplate another Land Bill for this Session of the Legislature --or will you wait advice from the National Government, before deciding this point?

It would be most gratifying to me to see this victory not only because of my sympathy for these poor defrauded people, but also because it would be a personal victory for you--and a splendid reward for your years of devoted and brilliant service in this cause.

Please remember me most cordially to Mr. Willson--and with love for your dear self--hoping that you are much stronger this Winter, believe me,

Most Sincerely yours,

Minerva P. Jennings

I am writing so hurriedly--please forgive blunders--which the thinness of the paper will not permit me to erase.