WORLD CENTER FOR WOMEN'S ARCHIVES, Inc.

Temporary Headquarters

~~40 East 42d Street~~
240 West 11th Street
New York

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chairman
Mrs. Inez Haynes Irwin,
240 West 11th St.,
New York.

Vice-Chairman
Miss Emma Hirth,
600 Lexington Ave.,
New York.

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40 East 42d St.,
New York.

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April 26, 1937

My dear Miss Tarbell:

The Board of Directors of the World Center for Women's Archives hopes that you do not think - because you have had no recent report from us - that we have been idle. This letter is to inform you on our activities.

First of all, it is my sad duty to report the death of our beloved treasurer and invaluable helpmate, Mina M. Bruère. The Board has appointed Miss Anne Houstoun Sadler, Assistant Secretary of the Bank of Manhattan Company, to take her place.

After more than six months of preliminary work spent in planning and in drawing up satisfactory by-laws, we were incorporated in May 1936. From that time until February 1937 the Board of Directors met once a month.

During that period we persuaded the following 24 women to serve as sponsors: Judge Florence Allen, Mrs. Vincent Astor, Miss Alice Stone Blackwell, Mrs. Emily Newell Blair, Mrs. Harriet Stanton Blatch, Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, Miss Amelia Earhart, Mrs. Dorothy Canfield Fisher, Miss Fannie Hurst, Mrs. James Weldon Johnson, Mrs. Alexander Kohut, Mrs. Dorothy Thompson Lewis, Miss Georgia O'Keeffe, Miss Alice Paul, Miss Frances Perkins, Miss Josephine Roche, Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, Dr. Florence R. Sabin, Mrs. Margaret Sanger, Mrs. Ruth Hanna McCormick Simms, Mrs. Hannah G. Solomon, Miss Ida M. Tarbell, Miss Mary Van Kleeck and Miss Lillian Wald.

At the same time we enrolled 48 members, created wide spread interest among organizations and individuals, won considerable newspaper publicity, and perhaps most thrilling of all, secured promises of important archives whose delivery waits only on our permanent location. We stand in danger of losing these unless a home is found soon.

Because the Board of Directors is made up of busy women who could not devote to the work as much time as they would have liked, we decided, in lieu of a much needed Executive Secretary to employ the Organization Service Associates, an organization set up with the object of serving just such organizations as ours. This did not prove successful.

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About two months ago, the Board of Directors felt that the work would go more swiftly if, for the time being, it were delegated to a smaller committee. Thereafter, the Executive Committee, of which Miss Emma Hirth was Chairman, met weekly, devoting all of its time to trying to work out ways and means of raising money to carry on the work. As a first step, it drew up a plan of action together with an estimate of expenses. This plan, to be effective, requires an Executive Secretary, a money raiser, an office and other incidental expenses. The preliminary work which would require approximately 9 months is estimated to cost about $6,800 and the enlarged program to follow will need about $22,000 for the first year.

But now we have reached an impasse. In order for the World Center for Women's Archives to go on we must raise this money and we need help. Will you give it to us in any of these ways:

1. Will you contribute directly, no matter how small a sum?

2. Will you send us names of wealthy women who might be interested and who are able to contribute?

3. Will you tell us how these women can be reached - by letters of introduction to those you know or letters to others who have access to them?

4. Will you help us to get members?

We have done everything in our power. We know you are interested, as we are, in putting the World Center for Women's Archives on a firm basis. Without your help the movement must fail. Can we count on you?

Sincerely yours,

Ines Haynes Irwin

Ines Haynes Irwin
CHAIRMAN

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