

## **Timeline of key dates of the Suffrage Movements (nationally, but particularly in Illinois)**

1776 – New Jersey legislation grants women the vote in its state constitution, but in 1807, New Jersey re-wrote the state constitution to deny women the vote.

1812 – Illinois becomes a territory, with suffrage for all white males over 21 who pay taxes and have lived in the territory for over a year.

1818 – Illinois joins the union, and the state constitution allows “white male inhabitants above the age of 21 years” the right to vote.

1844 – Illinois women form the first anti-slavery society, and the abolitionist cause begins to function as a training ground for the women’s rights movement

1848, Seneca Falls, NY, the first convention to discuss women’s rights is led by Lucretia Mott, Elizabeth Cady Stanton and others. The “Declaration of Sentiments and Resolutions” states the program of the women’s rights movement. Of note, there were 12 declarations related to freedom, and the only one to pass WITHOUT unanimous support said that “it is the duty of the women of this country to secure to themselves their sacred right to the elective franchise.” Even so, this “radical” idea for the era started to gain traction

1848 – Illinois’ second Constitution is drafted and still excludes women from voting.

1855 – First women’s suffrage meeting in Earlville (LaSalle County) at the home of Susan Hoxie Richardson, whose mother was a cousin of national suffrage leader Susan B. Anthony.  
[http://www.wspynews.com/news/local/the-weekend-story-looking-back-ahead-of-th-anniversary-of/article\\_bd7b1c4e-89e2-11e9-9347-cf691b7e4d46.html](http://www.wspynews.com/news/local/the-weekend-story-looking-back-ahead-of-th-anniversary-of/article_bd7b1c4e-89e2-11e9-9347-cf691b7e4d46.html)

1861 – Feb. 21 – Act is passed in Illinois allowing married women to own and sell their own property.

1868 – The Fifteenth Amendment to the US Constitution is ratified, expanding the voting rights to males of all races, regardless of “previous condition of servitude.”

1869 – Myra Bradwell was refused admission to the Illinois Bar and appeals to the US Supreme Court. In February, the first Midwest Suffrage Convention is held, during which the Illinois Woman Suffrage Association is formed and Illinois suffragist Mary Livermore is named president. In March, an Act is passed in Illinois that stated that “a married woman shall be entitled to receive, use and possess her own earnings.” In May, Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton led the founding of the National Woman Suffrage Association with the goal of achieving an amendment to the federal constitution. In November, the American Woman Suffrage Association was formed by Lucy Stone and Henry Blackwell and other conservative activists with the separate goal of working state by state to try to amend individual state constitutions.

1870 – Illinois Woman Suffrage Association holds its first annual convention in the state capitol of Springfield to coincide with the Illinois state constitutional convention that year. In May, a third constitution is drafted, expanding the electoral franchise to African American males, but still not women.

1871 – The U.S. House Judiciary Committee heard arguments that women should have gained the right to vote under the Fourteenth Amendment.

1872 – An Act is passed in Illinois to prohibit discrimination in employment because of sex, the first law of its kind in the nation. Also that year, Susan B. Anthony and 15 other women were arrested in New York for casting a ballot. Anthony was tried and fined \$100 and refused to pay it.

1873 – Statute passed recognizing women’s eligibility to hold SCHOOL offices. – See legislation at end of these notes

1874 – Ten women in Illinois were elected County Superintendents of Schools.

1889 – Hull House, one of the earliest settlement houses in the nation, was founded by Jane Addams and Ellen Gates Starr to serve poor immigrant families on Chicago’s West Side.

1890 – The American Woman Suffrage Association and the National Woman Suffrage Association merged to become the National American Woman Suffrage Association, pledging to wage state-by-state campaigns. In July of that year, Wyoming was admitted to the Union and was the first state since New Jersey to include women in voting.

1891 – Ellen Martin voted in the Lombard municipal election after discovered the town charter’s description of voters as “citizens.” The village swiftly moved to change its charter.

1892 – Myra Bradwell, Alta Hulett, Ada Kepley and others win a bill that bars discrimination in employment.

1894 – Illinois Supreme Court cases said women should be able to *vote for and serve as* University of Illinois trustees. In 1894, social welfare leader Lucy Flower ran for trustee and received more votes than anyone running for state office that year. She was the first woman elected to statewide office in Illinois.

1896 - Women of color who embraced social activism during this time included Mary Eliza Church Terrell, who helped establish the National Association of Colored Women in 1896, and Mary Fitzbutler Waring, a doctor and suffragist based out of Chicago who led the National Association of Colored Women’s Clubs.

1897 – Caroline Fairfield Corbin formed the Illinois Association *Opposed* to the Extension of Suffrage to Women. Among her arguments were that the idea of women voting sprang from socialism, and those Western States that were beginning to allow women to vote were so sparsely populated that their inclusion of women in voting should not be taken seriously in more populous states east of the Mississippi River.

<Continued on following page.>

1913 – The General Assembly expands the right to vote in presidential elections to women, making Illinois the first state to do so east of the Mississippi River. Argument: “Women vote for president and for all other officers in all elections on the same terms as men in Utah, Wyoming, Idaho and Colorado. Why not in Illinois?”

-----excerpt from <https://www.lib.niu.edu/2004/ih110604half.html> -----

During the 1913 session of the General Assembly, a bill was again introduced giving women the vote for Presidential electors and some local officials. With the help of first-term Speaker of the House, Democrat William McKinley, the bill was given to a favorable committee. McKinley told Trout he would only bring it up for a final vote if he could be convinced there was sentiment for the bill in the state. Trout opened the flood gates of her network, and while in Chicago over the weekend, McKinley received a phone call every 15 minutes day and night.

On returning to Springfield, he found a deluge of telegrams and letters from around the state all in favor of suffrage. By acting quietly and quickly Trout had caught the opposition off guard.

Passing the Senate first, the bill came up for a vote in the House on June 11, 1913. Trout and her troops counted heads and literally fetched needed men from their residences. Mrs. Trout actually guarded the door to the House chambers and urged members in favor not to leave before the vote, while also trying to prevent "anti" lobbyists from illegally being allowed onto the House floor. Getting the votes of all 25 first-term Progressives and the 3 Socialist Party members, the bill passed by a vote of 58. On June 26, 1913, Governor Dunne signed the bill into law. The bill was signed by labor leader Margaret Healy.



*The Rainy Day Suffrage Parade passes by the Chicago Public Library during the 1916 Republican National Convention.*

*Courtesy the Collection of the Historical Society of Oak Park and River Forest*

Women in Illinois could now vote for Presidential electors and for all local offices not specifically named in the Illinois Constitution. However, they still could not cast a vote for state representative, congressman, or governor; and they still had to use separate ballots and ballot boxes. But by virtue of this law, Illinois had become the first state east of the Mississippi to grant women the right to vote for President. National suffragist leader Carrie Chapman Catt wrote:

*"The effect of this victory upon the nation was astounding. When the first Illinois election took place in April, (1914) the press carried the headlines that 250,000 women had voted in Chicago. Illinois, with its large electoral vote of 29, proved the turning point beyond which politicians at last got a clear view of the fact that women were gaining genuine political power."*

Besides the passage of the Illinois Municipal Voting Act, 1913 was also a significant year in other facets of the women's suffrage movement. In Chicago, African American anti-lynching crusader Ida B. Wells-Barnett founded the Alpha Suffrage Club, the first such organization for women of color in Illinois. Although white women as a group were sometimes ambivalent about obtaining the franchise, African-American women were almost universally in favor of gaining the vote to help end their sexual exploitation, promote their educational opportunities, and protect those who were wage earners. On March 3, 1913, more than 5,000 suffragists paraded in Washington, D.C. When Wells tried to line up with her Illinois sisters, she was asked to go to the end of the line so as not to offend and alienate the Southern women marchers. Wells feigned agreement, but much to the shock of Trout, she joined the Illinois delegation once the parade started.

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ALSO IN 1913 - A suffrage parade of 5,000 women and 500 men draws 500,000 onlookers in New York City. Elsewhere, a march of the same size in Washington, D.C. led to a riot, and even though law enforcement was called in, 100 women protesters were hospitalized. The attack on the women turned public sentiment in favor of the suffrage movement. Leaders in the movement determined that continued protests were likely the fastest way to success.

1914 – Women could vote in elections, but not for certain offices (state representative, state senator and statewide offices other than U of I trustees) designated in the Illinois Constitution. But the Municipal Voting Act proved to be a landmark. Perhaps because (and thanks to the oddity that) women voters had to use **separate ballots and separate ballot boxes**, news reports quickly spread that there were tallies that indicated that 250,000 women had voted in Chicago.

1916 – At the Republican National Convention in Chicago, Charles E. Hughes was nominated for president, and 5,000 women marched in the rain demanding a suffrage plank in the party platform. That year, the National American Woman Suffrage Association's state chapters endorsed the "winning plan" to seek a federal amendment through Congress.

1919 – The US House voted 304-89 and the US Senate votes 56-25 (with just 2 votes to spare) to send the Nineteenth Amendment to the states for ratification.

June 10, 1919 – Illinois narrowly edged Michigan and Wisconsin to be the "first" to vote to ratify the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment. All three were considered tied for the honors of being first to ratify the amendment as all three states' votes fell on the same date.

Aug. 18, 2020 – Tennessee voted to approve the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment, the last of the 36 states needed to fully ratify the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment. On Aug. 24, Tennessee's governor certified the vote.

Aug. 26, 1920 – U.S. Secretary of State Bainbridge Colby issued a proclamation that officially declared the ratification of the 19th Amendment and made it part of the United States Constitution: “The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or any State on account of sex.”

1920 – The League of Women Voters was founded at the Victory Convention of the National American Woman Suffrage Association in Chicago in February. Six months later, in August, Tennessee became the 36<sup>th</sup> state to ratify the amendment. A young lawmaker reportedly cast the deciding vote after being admonished to do so by his mother.

## A Brief History of the Women's Suffrage Movement in Illinois

*October 7, 2018 – Compiled by Lori Osborne*

The Illinois women’s suffrage movement began in 1855 with the formation of the state’s first suffrage association in Earlville, a small town in LaSalle County west of Chicago. Suffrage conventions held in 1869 linked early Illinois suffrage activism to the national movement, and resulted in the formation of the first statewide suffrage organization, the Illinois Woman Suffrage Association (IWSA).

The national suffrage movement was sharply divided in the years following the Civil War over issues and strategies, including whether African-American men should be granted suffrage in the 15th Amendment. In addition, some suffrage activists believed that the way to attain suffrage was through a state-by-state approach and partial suffrage measures. Others pressed for a federal amendment granting full suffrage, emphasizing the vote as a woman’s constitutional right of citizenship. Reconciliation between the groups would not take place until the formation of the National American Woman Suffrage Association in 1890.

In 1891, the Illinois state legislature passed a law allowing women to vote for elective school offices. This renewed suffrage activism in the state. Under the leadership of Elizabeth Harbert, the IWSA adopted a new name, the Illinois Equal Suffrage Association (IESA), and transformed its mission as well from “political equality with men” to “political enfranchisement of women.” In 1894, the elite Chicago Woman’s Club established a separate organization to work for the vote, the Chicago Political Equality League (CPEL).

Between 1902 and 1910, CPEL and other Chicago activist-women mobilized around the charter reform movement, believing that a new municipal charter would give Chicago greater control over its internal affairs and enfranchise the city’s women. Although ultimately unsuccessful, the attempt to achieve municipal suffrage succeeded in mobilizing nearly one hundred Chicago women’s groups in support of suffrage. These include the Chicago Women’s Trade Union League, which encouraged support among

workers and immigrants, and the Alpha Suffrage Club, which activist Ida B. Wells-Barnett organized among African-American women.

After 1910, the IESA was determined to find a way to gain victory. Early in 1913, IESA established headquarters in Springfield in order to be close by as legislators considered new suffrage bills. They organized nearly every senatorial district in the state with local groups prepared to pressure the state legislature to vote yes on women's suffrage. And they mounted a successful public relations campaign, with auto tours and parades to spread support. Finally, aided by the recent election of many Progressive candidates in 1912, Illinois women won the vote with passage of the Presidential Suffrage Bill or "Illinois Law" in 1913.

With the passage of this law, Illinois became the first state east of the Mississippi to give women the right to vote. The legislation granted Illinois women the vote in federal and municipal elections not otherwise restricted in the Illinois constitution to men, and this included presidential electors. This meant that in 1916, Illinois women were effectively voting for President. Illinois activists—and their important victory in 1913—helped propel the national movement toward the ultimate goal: a federal amendment granting full suffrage to women which was attained in 1920.

**Compiled by Lori Osborne with help from the following sources:**

"Ahead of Their Time: A Brief History of Woman Suffrage in Illinois" by Mark Sorenson (Illinois Heritage, Nov-Dec 2004)

Celebrating 100 Years: Remembering the Past to Inform the Future - a publication of the League of Women Voters of Illinois in honor of the 100th Anniversary of women's suffrage in Illinois in 2013.

"Sidelights on Illinois Suffrage History" by Grace Wilbur Trout (Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society, July 1920)

**Additional sources:**

Research files for the 2013 anniversary and other materials, housed at the Evanston History Center

<https://www.lib.niu.edu/2004/ih110604half.html>

<http://www.encyclopedia.chicagohistory.org/pages/1217.html>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Julia\\_Lathrop](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Julia_Lathrop)

<https://www.thoughtco.com/womens-suffrage-activists-3530534> - Top 10 includes Ida B. Wells

<https://www.chicagotribune.com/news/ct-met-illinois-ratifies-19th-amendment-anniversary-20190606-story.html>

[https://www.huffpost.com/entry/womens-suffrage-in-chicag\\_n\\_1370959](https://www.huffpost.com/entry/womens-suffrage-in-chicag_n_1370959)

<https://www.nps.gov/articles/woman-suffrage-in-the-midwest.htm>

<https://suffragistmemorial.org/suffragists-in-illinois/>

<http://www.chicagomag.com/city-life/June-2019/100-Years-Ago-Illinois-Became-the-First-State-to-Ratify-Womens-Suffrage/>

<https://www.nprillinois.org/post/100th-anniversary-illinois-led-way-women-s-suffrage#stream/0>

<https://news.medill.northwestern.edu/chicago/frances-willard-and-the-fight-for-womens-suffrage/>

<https://www.scholastic.com/teachers/articles/teaching-content/chronology-woman-suffrage-movement-events/>

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/history/2019/06/03/women-color-were-cut-out-suffragist-story-historians-say-its-time-reckoning/>

### **Partial Listing of Suffrage-Movement Leaders in Illinois (and landmarks)**

Lottie Holman O'Neill Statue, in the second floor rotunda of the State Capitol. Ms. O'Neill was the first woman state representative in the 1920s. Rep. O'Neill would serve 38 years.

Ida B. Wells-Barnett House at 3624 S. King Drive, Chicago – and Ida B. Wells Drive at the southern end of the city's central business district leading to the Eisenhower Expressway. Ida B. Wells founded a suffrage organization devoted to represent women of color.

Alta C Hulett

Myra Bradwell

Grace Wilbur Trout of Chicago

Mary Ellen West

M. Fredrica Perry

Elizabeth Boynton Harbert

Mary Emma Holmes Residence in Galva in Henry County

MB Castle of Sandwich

Lucy Flower, first woman elected to statewide office as University of Illinois Trustee, and namesake of school on Chicago's West Side

Clara L. Peters of Watseka

Louise Rockwood Wardner of Cairo/Anna, President of the Illinois Industrial School for Girls

Frances E. Willard, President, Woman's Christian Temperance Movement

Julia Mills Dunn of Moline

Mary Ellen West, Knox County superintendent of schools, one of the first 10 elected in 1894

Susan Lawrence Dana of Springfield and the Dana-Thomas House



Mary Ann Bickerdyke, Civil War nurse, whose statue is at the Knox County Courthouse

Sarah Atwater Denman of Quincy and the Friends of Council Building, for a club devoted to women's study of "whatever is noble, beautiful, just and true."

Shurtleff Residence, Judge Edward David Shurtleff and Elizabeth Sisson Shurtleff, where suffrage leaders were invited to speak. Elizabeth stirred suffrage sentiment in Marengo. Despite her husband's leadership of the anti-prohibitionists, Judge Shurtleff championed the bill that would make Illinois the first state east of the Mississippi River to extend the voting franchise to women. Their residence was at 405 E Washington St., Marengo.

Willard House or "Rest Cottage" that became home of the National Women CTU, 1730 Chicago Ave, Evanston

Earlville and the home of the Susan Hoxie Richardson, whose mother was Susan B. Anthony's first cousin. Susan started the Earlville Suffrage Association in 1855. There is a monument in Earlville's Dodge Park.

Joseph Tilton Bowen Country Club – Waukegan

Jane Addams and Louise deKoven built as a country club retreat for residents of the Hull House, at 1911 Sheridan Rd., Waukegan.

Susan B. Anthony Hall at SIU Carbondale, originally for women students, then to house Air Force cadets in World War II, and later an administration building

"Susan B. Anthony Spoke Here Suffrage Plaque" at Main and Neil Streets in downtown Champaign

Anna's Trail, after Hardin County settler Anna Hobbs Bixby. "Dr. Anna" discovered a pasture weed that had caused a deadly milk disease and counseled communities on how to burn and eradicate the weed.

Cairo Public Library, Anna Safford, "the Angel of Cairo" donated in memory of her husband.

Peoria Women's Club Building

Ewing Manor, built by Hazel Buck Ewing and her husband David Ewing, in Bloomington. Hazel, a member of the National Woman's Party, picketed the White House during the 1917 suffrage campaign. The manor was at Emerson and Towanda Ave. in Bloomington and is now called the Ewing Cultural Center and was owned by the Illinois State University Foundation.

Florence Fifer Bohrer Home - Built for Gov. Joseph Fifer, whose political activity gave his daughter Florence the chance to pursue politics. Florence was the first woman elected to the Illinois Senate in 1924. Her "Florence Fifer Bohrer Club" would later form the nucleus of the McLean County League of Women Voters. It's at 909 N. McLean in Bloomington, and was reportedly a private residence.

[Additional figures and events from the Illinois suffrage movement history can be found in the "History of Woman Suffrage, Volume 3, Chapter XLIII - Illinois, Pages 559-593 \(By Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Susan B. Anthony, Matilda Joselyn Gage\)](#)

**Excerpts from the front page of the July 10, 1910 Chicago Sunday Tribune, which was devoted to previewing the multi-city three-day road rally and presentations that were planned to occur the following Monday through Wednesday in towns across northern Illinois, including what are now the exurbs of Chicago:**

Honk honk! Make way for the suffragettes, who will leave Chicago by automobile tomorrow on the initial tour of the purpose of converting all non-believers and of strengthening any who may be weakening toward the cause.

Alarm clocks will be set for 5 o'clock and families will be subjected to hurry calls from all directions, for mother is starting out to tell the citizens and voters along the north shore that the granting of equal suffrage to the women of the state is the most important duty they owe their country ...

**What to Wear an Important Problem**

They may say the clothes do not make the woman, but, all the same, they go a long way toward getting her the attention of the people she desires to reach. We must all look well on our journey. It is absolutely necessary that we make a good appearance. Little luggage is to be the watchword of this trip. It is not a pleasure jaunt nor yet a business trip. It is a tour of duty upon which we are about to launch. Let there be no surplus luggage with which to burden ourselves or the people along the line who will entertain us. I have given careful thought to the question of what we shall wear, and have decided that a shirt waist and short skirt, a cravenette coat or linen duster, a small hat and automobile veil, stout shoes, washable gloves, one thin wash frock, and a summer silk or foulard gown for the evenings will suffice. All of this can be gotten easily into a suit case, in addition to the toilet articles and a small handbag for other necessities will be ample.

**Just a few of the most famous women who came of age during the early 1900s before the ratification of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment**

Helen Keller, author, political activist and lecturer, and first blind/deaf person to earn Bachelor's degree, (and before Helen, her teacher, Anne Sullivan)

Eleanor Roosevelt, future first lady, Civil Rights leader and chief proponent for the United Nations

Agatha Christie, novelist

Amelia Earhart, aviator

Margaret Mead, cultural anthropologist, author, speaker

*Second*—Statements of the amount of money received, paid, loaned out and in hand, belonging to each township or fund under his control—the statement of each fund to be separate.

*Third*—Statements copied from his loan book (book C), showing all the facts in regard to loans which are required to be stated on the loan book.

All of which the county board shall thereupon examine and compare with the vouchers. And the said county board, or so many of them as may be present at the term of the court, shall be liable, individually, to the fund injured, and to the securities of said county superintendent, in case judgment be recovered of said securities, for all damages occasioned by a neglect of the duties, or any of them, required of them by this section: *Provided*, nothing herein contained shall be construed to exempt the securities of said county superintendent from any liability as such securities, but they shall still be liable to the fund injured, the same as if the county superintendents were not liable. [L. 1857, p. 296, § 93.]

**95. TRANSCRIPT OF SALES TO AUDITOR.]** § 95. The county superintendent shall, also, at the time aforesaid, transmit to the auditor of public accounts a full and exact transcript, from book B, of all the sales made subsequent to each report. The statement required to be presented to the county board shall be preserved and copied by the clerk of said court into a well bound book, kept for that purpose; and the list transmitted to the auditor shall be filed, copied and preserved in like manner. [L. 1857, p. 297, § 94.]

**96. PATENT FOR SCHOOL LANDS.]** § 96. Every purchaser of common school land shall be entitled to a patent from the state, conveying and assuring the title. Patents shall be made out by the auditor, from returns made to him by the county superintendent. They shall contain a description of the land granted, and shall be in the name of and signed by the governor, countersigned by the auditor, with the great seal of the state affixed thereto by the secretary of state, and shall operate to vest in the purchaser a perfect title in fee simple. When patents are executed as herein required, the auditor shall note on the list of sales the date of each patent, in such manner as to perpetuate the evidence of its date and delivery, and thereupon transmit the same to the county superintendent of the proper county, to be by him delivered to the patentee, his heirs or assigns, upon the return of the original certificate of purchase; which certificate, when when returned, shall be filed and preserved by the county superintendent; and all such patents, heretofore or hereafter so issued by the state for school lands, or duly certified copies thereof from any record legally made, shall, after the lapse of ten years from the date of such patent, and such sale having been acquiesced in for ten years by the inhabitants of the township in which the land so conveyed may be situated, be conclusive evidence as to the legality of the sale, and that the title to such land was, at the date of the patent, legally vested in the patentee. [L. 1857, p. 297, § 95.]

**97. COPIES TO SUPPLY LOSS OF ORIGINALS.]** § 97. Purchasers of common school lands, and their heirs and assigns, may obtain duplicate copies of their certificates of purchase and of patents, upon filing affidavit with the county superintendent in respect to certificates, and with the auditor in respect to patents, proving the loss or destruction of the originals; and such copies shall have all the force and effect of the originals. [L. 1857, p. 297, § 96.]

[§ 98, omitted; see Repealing act, ch. 131, § 5.]

AN ACT to authorize the election of women to school offices. [Approved April 3, 1873. In force July 1, 1873.]

**98. WOMEN ELIGIBLE TO SCHOOL OFFICE.]** § 1. *Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly*, That any woman, married or single, of the age of twenty-one years and upwards, and possessing the qualifications prescribed for men, shall be eligible to any office under the general or special school laws of this state.

**99. OATH AND BOND.]** § 2. That any woman elected or appointed to any office under the provisions of this act, before she enters upon the discharge of



the duties of the office, shall qualify and give bond as required by law, and such bond shall be binding upon her and her securities.

AN ACT to protect colored children in their rights to attend public schools. [Approved March 24, 1874. In force July 1, 1874.]

**100. NO EXCLUSION FOR COLOR.] § 1.** *Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly,* That all directors of schools, boards of education, or other school officers whose duty it now is, or may be hereafter, to provide, in their respective jurisdictions, schools for the education of all children between the ages of six and twenty-one years, are prohibited from excluding, directly or indirectly, any such child from such school on account of the color of such child.

**101. PENALTY.] § 2.** Any such school officer or officers as are mentioned in the foregoing section, or any other person, who shall exclude, or aid in the exclusion from the public schools any child who is entitled to the benefits of such school, on account of such child's color, shall be fined, upon conviction, in any sum not less than 5 nor more than \$100 each for every such offense.

**102. INTIMIDATION OF COLORED CHILD.] § 3.** Any person who shall, by threats, menace or intimidation, prevent any colored child entitled to attend a public school in this state from attending such school, shall, upon conviction, be fined in any sum not exceeding \$25.

#### COUNTY NORMAL SCHOOLS.

AN ACT to enable counties to establish county normal schools. [Approved and in force March 15, 1869. L. 1869, p. 158.]

**103. COUNTY MAY ESTABLISH—TAXES—APPROPRIATION.] § 1.** *Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly,* That in each county adopting township organization, the board of supervisors, and in other counties the county court,\* may establish a county normal school for the purpose of fitting teachers for the common schools. That they shall be authorized to levy taxes and appropriate moneys for the support of said schools, and also for the purchase of necessary grounds and buildings, furniture, apparatus, etc., and to hold and acquire, by gift or purchase, either from individuals or corporations, any real estate, buildings or other property, for the use of said schools, said taxes to be levied and collected as all other county taxes: *Provided*, that, in counties not under township organization, county courts shall not be authorized to proceed under the provisions of this act until the subject shall have been submitted to a vote of the people, at a general election, and it shall appear that a majority of all the votes cast on the subject, at said election, shall be in favor of the establishment of a county normal school. The ballots used in voting on this subject may read "for a county normal school," or "against a county normal school."

**104. MANAGEMENT VESTED IN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION.] § 2.** The management and control of said schools shall be in a county board of education, consisting of not less than five nor more than eight persons, of which board the chairman of the board of supervisors or the judge of the county court, as the case may be, and the county superintendent of schools, shall be, *ex-officio*, members. The other members shall be chosen by the board of supervisors or county court, and shall hold their offices for the term of three years. But at the first election one-third shall be chosen for one year, one-third for two years, and one-third for three years, and thereafter one-third shall be elected annually. Said elections shall be held at the annual meeting of the board of supervisors in September, or at the September term of the county court, as the case may be.

**105. ORGANIZATION, POWERS AND DUTIES OF BOARD.] § 3.** Said board of education shall have power to hire teachers, and to make and enforce all needful

\*NOTE. The county board is made successor to the county court in all county affairs. See "Counties," ch. 34, § 46, p. 310.

## Chapter 122.

[\*946]

## SCHOOLS.

## STATE SUPERINTENDENT.

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2. Oath—bond—depository of.
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54. Meetings—quorum.
55. School fund—apportionment.
56. Treasurer hold district funds subject to order.
57. Report of treasurer, biennial—contents—failure to make.
58. Township divided by county lines—report.
59. Treasurer's accounts—examination.
60. Donations, devise, etc., to schools, etc.—vest in trustees.
61. Property not needed—sell, when.
62. Real estate—conveyance to.
63. District funds—trustees custodians of—remove treasurer—sue bond.
64. Judgment—purchase land to satisfy.
65. Debts—trustees may settle.
66. Lands—lease or sell.
67. High school—petition for—election notice.
68. Election—canvass.
69. Affirmative vote—procedure to establish.
70. Board of directors—township as a district for high school.
71. Union high school.
72. High school—discontinuance—procedure.
73. Election canvass—trustees' procedure.
74. Trustees' prohibited interest in sale, etc.

shall choose from their own number such additional judges as may be necessary. In any township lying within the limits of a city, village or incorporated town, which has adopted the provisions of "An act regulating the holding of elections, and declaring the result thereof in cities, villages and incorporated towns in this State," approved June 19, 1885, the said election shall be held under the provisions of said act. In unincorporated townships the qualified voters present shall choose from amongst themselves the number of judges required to open and conduct said election.

**41. School elections—voter's qualification.** § 12. No person shall vote at any school election held under this act unless he possesses the qualification of a voter at a general election.

**41a. Suffrage to women—age—registration.** SEC. 1. *Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly,* Any woman of the age of twenty-one years and upwards, belonging to either of the classes mentioned in article 7 of the constitution of the State of Illinois, who shall have resided in this State one year, in the county ninety days, and in the election district thirty days preceding any election held for the purpose of choosing any officer of schools under the general or special school laws of this State, shall be entitled to vote at such election in the school district of which she shall at the time have been for thirty days a resident; *Provided,* any woman so desirous of voting at any such election shall have been registered in the same manner as is provided for the registration of male voters. [Act approved June 19, 1891. In force July 1, 1891. L. 1891, p. 135.]

**41b. General election—ballots in separate box.** § 2. Whenever the election of public school officers shall occur at the same election at which other public officers are elected, the ballot offered by any woman entitled to vote under this act shall not contain the name of any person to be voted for at such election except such officers of public schools, and such ballots shall all be deposited in a separate ballot box, but canvassed with other ballots cast for school officers at such election. [Act approved June 19, 1891. In force July 1, 1891. L. 1891, p. 135.]

**42. Election—polling time—general law applies.** § 13. The time and manner of opening, conducting and closing said election, and the several liabilities appertaining to the judges and clerks and to the voters, separately and collectively, and the manner of contesting said election, shall be the same as prescribed by the general election laws of this State, defining the manner of electing magistrates and constables, so far as applicable, subject to the provisions of this act; *Provided,* that said election may commence, if so specified in the notice, at any hour between the hours of eight (8) o'clock A. M. and one (1) o'clock P. M., and the judges may close such election at four (4) o'clock P. M.

**43. Election—postponement.** § 14. If upon any day appointed for the election of trustees of schools, the said trustees of schools or judges shall be of opinion that, on account of the small attendance of voters, the public good requires it, or if the majority of the voters present shall desire it, they shall postpone said election until the next Saturday, at the same place and hour; at which time and meeting

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ing jurisdiction thereof, at the suit of the State of Illinois, for the use of the county, township or fund injured; the amount of the judgment obtained in such suit shall, when collected, be paid to the proper officer for the benefit of the said county, township or fund injured.

**288. Appropriation — none to sect — penalty.** § 12. No county, city, town, township, school district or other public corporation shall ever make any appropriation, or pay from any school fund whatever, anything in aid of any church or sectarian purpose, or to help support or sustain any school, academy, seminary, college, university, or other literary or scientific institution controlled by any church or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of money, or other personal property, ever be made by any such corporation to any church or for any sectarian purpose; and any officer or other person having under his charge or direction school funds or property, who shall pervert the same in the manner forbidden in this section, shall be liable to indictment, and upon conviction thereof, shall be fined in a sum not less than double the value of the property so perverted, and imprisoned in the county jail not less than one (1) nor more than twelve (12) months, at the discretion of the court.

**289. Teacher or school officer's interest in sales of books, etc.** § 13. No teacher, state, county, township or district school officer shall be interested in the sale, proceeds or profits of any book, apparatus or furniture used, or to be used, in any school in this State, with which such officer or teacher may be connected; and for offending against the provisions of this section such teacher, state, county, township or district school officer shall be liable to indictment, and upon conviction shall be fined in a sum not less than twenty-five (25) dollars, nor more than five hundred (500) dollars and may be imprisoned in the county jail not less than one (1) month, nor more than twelve (12) months, at the discretion of the court.

**290. Colored children — exclusion or aiding therein.** § 14. Any school officer or officers, or any other person, who shall exclude or aid in the exclusion from the public schools of any child who is entitled to the benefits of such school, on account of such child's color, shall be fined, upon conviction, in any sum not less than five (5) dollars nor more than one hundred (100) dollars each, for every such offense.

#### ARTICLE XVI.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

**291. Court costs — school officers' non liability for.** SEC. 1. No justice of the peace, constable, clerk of any court, sheriff or coroner shall charge any costs in any suit where any school officer, school corporation or any agent of any school fund, suing for the recovery of the same, or any interest due thereon, is plaintiff and shall be unsuccessful in such suit; nor where the costs cannot be recovered from the defendant by reason of the insolvency of such defendant.

**292. Women eligible to school offices.** § 2. Any woman, married or single, of the age of twenty-one years and upwards, and pos-



sessing the qualifications prescribed for the office, shall be eligible to any office under the general or special school laws of this State.

**293. Women qualify as in other cases.** § 3. Any woman elected or appointed to any office under the provisions of this act, before she enters upon the discharge of the duties of the office, shall qualify and give the bond required by law, if a bond is required, and such bond shall be binding upon her and her securities.

**294. Colored children, exclusion from schools prohibited.** § 4. All boards of school directors, boards of education, or school officers, whose duty it now is, or may be hereafter, to provide in their respective jurisdictions, schools for the education of all children between the ages of six and twenty-one years, are prohibited from the excluding, directly or indirectly, any such child from such school on account of the color of such child.

**295. Preventing child's attendance.** § 5. Any person who shall, by threats, menace or intimidation, prevent any child entitled to attend a public school in this State from attending such school, shall, upon conviction, be fined in a sum not exceeding twenty-five (25) dollars.

**296. Notice of moneys paid to township treasurer.** § 6. It shall be the duty of the county treasurers, county superintendents of schools, township collectors, and all other persons paying moneys into hands of township school treasurers, for school purposes, on or before the 30th day of September of each year, to notify in writing the presidents of boards of school trustees, and the clerks of the boards of school directors, of the amount paid into the township treasurer's hands, and the date of payment.

**297. Cities, population less than 100,000, under special acts, annual report — failure herein.** § 7. This act shall not be so construed as to repeal or change, in any respect, any special acts in relation to schools in cities having less than 100,000 inhabitants or incorporated towns, townships or districts (except that in every such city, town, township or district the limit of taxation for educational and building purposes shall be the same as that fixed in section one, article eight of this act); and except that it shall be the duty of the several boards of education or other officers of any city or incorporated town, township or district, having in charge schools under the provision of any of said special acts, or of any ordinance of any city or incorporated town on or before the 15th day of July preceding each session of the general assembly of this State, or annually, if required so to do by the State superintendent of public instruction, to make out and render a statement of all such statistics and other information in regard to schools and the enumeration of persons, as is required to be communicated by township boards of trustees or directors, under the provisions of this act, or so much thereof as may be applicable to said city or incorporated town, to the county superintendent of the county where such city or incorporated town is situated, or of the county in which the larger part of such city or incorporated town is situated; nor shall it be lawful for the county superintendent, or any other officer or person, to pay over any portion of the common school fund to any local treasurer, school agent, clerk, board of education, or other officer or