

WOMEN'S PLAINTS STIR CONGRESSMEN

Hobson Tells Of Indignities Heaped On Suffrage Paraders.

CROWD SCANDALIZES CAPITAL BY CONDUCT

Women And Friends Will Appeal To New President To Investi- gate Police Department.

Washington, March 4. — Charges that the police of Washington did not properly protect yesterday's suffragist parade were made in the House early today by Representative Hobson of Alabama, who later declared that he purposed to ask for an investigation of the Police Department during the extra session of Congress.

Mr. Hobson told the House that the Congressional section of the parade, led by Representative Rucker of Colorado, comprised a score of Senators and Representatives who, starting at arm's length and four abreast, finally were crowded into single file by the crowding of the spectators and that the police "scoffed with the ruffians."

Members Are Aroused.

"I have been called over the telephone," said Mr. Hobson, "and told by a lady that her daughter was on one of the floats in the parade and that a ruffian climbed on the float and insulted her daughter."

"Her daughter ought to have been at home," interjected Representative Mann of Illinois, the Republican leader. The remark aroused a number of members.

"She had as much right there as anyone," shouted Representative Raker of California; "the gentleman ought to be ashamed of himself."

Will Go To President.

Before Woodrow Wilson has been President many hours he will have placed in his hands by the incensed suffragists a copy of the vigorous resolution of condemnation they adopted at their mass-meeting last night following their parade along Pennsylvania avenue. The resolution reads:

Resolved, That this meeting unqualifiedly censure and denounce the shameful conduct of the police during the suffrage pageant just ended, which denied to the marchers for suffrage their rights to parade freely and unmolested in the main streets of the Capital, and subjected them to frequent ribald insult from the crowds which all but overwhelmed them. To these insults the police in many cases listened without effort to repress, as they were but mildly interested when the marchers were compelled to go in single file. Such mismanagement would have been a disgrace in any city, but it is doubly and trebly a disgrace in the National Capital, which belongs to our citizens, men and women alike."

Expressed Disgust.

James Laidlaw of New York, president of the Men's National Association in Favor of Votes for Women, who was marshal of the men in yesterday's parade, expressed disgust to

terday's parade, expressed disgust today at the ineffective police protection given the women yesterday. His wife, one of the country's most prominent suffragists, was in the parade.

"Such inefficiency, such evident lack of real desire to curb the mob of hoodlums who heaped insults upon the women," he declared, "was a disgrace to the nation and this capital. In New York city the police never would have allowed a crowd to behave in such an unseemly manner. The Washington police force has made itself the shame and the laughing stock of the world. I hope the responsible officials are punished."

Not Enough Police.

Chief Sylvester of the Washington police declared today that the inability of his force to manage yesterday's spectators was not due to any willful neglect of duty by any of the men. He said he did the best he could with the small force at his command, consisting of 631 disciplined privates. In addition there were a large number of specials.

"I gave the suffragists the same protection that will be afforded the inaugural parade," he added. "What is needed is a larger force here."

A resolution for the investigation of the Washington police force because of the near-riots during the suffrage parade yesterday was offered in the Senate by Senator Jones and referred at once to a committee. Senator Nelson declared the scenes attending the suffrage parade constituted a "most disreputable affair, and a disgrace to the police force."

Both official and civic Washington is ablaze with indignation at the treatment of the women, which virtually scandalized the National Capital.

More Than 100 Hurt.

Had it not been for the opportune appearance of the cavalry in the height of the crush of yesterday it is very possible that a heavy toll of life might have been exacted. As it is there are more than 100 persons in the hospitals today who are suffering from broken bones and other injuries suffered in the crush of the uncontrollable mobs.

Even the anti-suffragists, who have combatted the "votes for women" crusade unremittingly, expressed indignation at the slights placed upon their sex in the procession of yesterday. They condemned the police preparations and evidently were prepared to support their sisters in the other camp in their demand that some explanation be made for the failure to provide the necessary protection.