

ace to the purity of every boy and girl and a humiliation to every decent woman. Women are giving their money, and lives, to the founding and maintaining of refuge homes, and every kind of rescue work, but it will be of little avail as long as the vicious interests are protected by a man-elected government. One good vote is worth five rescue homes!

Thus I realized woman's invidious position, socially and morally. Now, her protection industrially. There is a close link here with the moral issue, and statistics show that a large percentage of "fallen" women come to their sorry predicament from real want. We know that a government can pass a Minimum Wage Bill quickly enough if it wants to, which means if there are votes to be won or lost. Naturally, it is not going to sit up late legislating for a voteless sex.

The law of supply and demand must always affect wages to a great extent, but I think we have had enough of these department stores where we buy rubbish at big prices, served by a girl on a starvation wage. If women don't know these things, they ought to know them; and not be bamboozled by foolish talk about their sex having to forego their privileges if they want to be "equal" to men. What privileges? We have no privileges at law—much the reverse. We have no taxation privileges. We may be offered a seat in a car, which is an act often cited as a high attainment in a man, but a seat in a tram car is poor compensation for inadequate legislation.

This question of Woman Suffrage goes far deeper than the common idea that it is a mere clamor for "equality" with men. I condemn most strongly those too numerous women who for fear of being thought unfeminine or some such nonsense, decry the idea of the vote. It means that they bow their heads to the White Slave traffic, when their own daughters may yet be victims; that they are content with the law which gives them no rights over

their own children; the law which classes them with criminals and lunatics.

I say to these women that it is because I love my home and because I am a mother that I join that band of women who demand, by the right of the franchise, that the home shall be safer and purer, and laws that shall be protection and not menace to them and their children.

E. M. C.

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