

IS A PLANK IN THE LIBERAL PLATFORM

Democratic Principles Are Upheld

Mr. Ralph Smith made a stirring appeal for Woman's Suffrage at a public meeting in the King Edward High School, conducted under the auspices of the Progressive Equality League of Vancouver.

"Women are human beings and are entitled to vote," said the speaker. "It would be just as fair to let tall men vote and not short ones, as it is to exclude women. We adopted Woman's Suffrage in the Liberal Convention at Revelstoke because we uphold democratic principles. We did not adopt the plank to get votes. In fact we will lose a great many men's votes who are against it, and the women as yet have no vote."

Mr. Smith says that women have equal responsibilities with men, equal privileges and liabilities. All modern professions are open to them; and yet they are still considered incapable for voting. They are not physically strong as men, and hence are in greater need of the ballot. The strong and the rich can look after their interests without the aid of the State. It is the poor and weak who are most in need of the ballot.

Mr. Smith said he had little sympathy with the militants of England, because "they have created a prejudice which is turning many people against them." But it was impossible to get reforms in England without great agitation. There must be public agitation or the men will never grant suffrage.

The President of the Arizona Federation of Women's Clubs said, in a recent speech, "It requires courage to be a good statesman, and only nerve to be a good politician." To apply this formula to Suffrage—it requires only nerve to be a good anti-suffragist, but one really has to wonder where they get enough of it.

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