

By E. Cora Hind

**Do We Want
A Woman's Party
No! No!** Toronto dwellers
feel capable of doing
it is running the

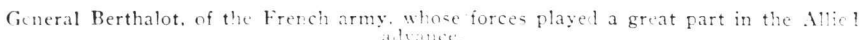
Possibly it is the fogs off the bay or per-adventure it is because Toronto is not on a continental line of railway and is therefore sidetracked from through lines of thought; whatever the reason Toronto lacks a sense of humor and it follows as a natural consequence, Toronto equally lacks a sense of proportion and takes itself far too seriously. This does not mean that there are not plenty of brainy people in Toronto, and plenty of individuals with a sense of humor but it does mean that Toronto as a city, when it takes an idea into its civic head or into the head of any gathering of its citizens, thinks it

Already this ill-digested and in many features unjust and absurd platform, is being circulated and women and women's organizations all over Canada asked to subscribe to it. It is to be hoped that no single organization in the west will give it heed for a single instant.

What need is there for a "woman's party" in Canada? Was it not one of the bright hopes of the enfranchisement of women that they would help to loosen the stranglehold of "party politics" on the life of Canada? Would there be any hope of doing that by starting another party? I trow not. Again, the war, and the industrial conditions arising out of the war are bound to create many antagonisms between men and women, is there need to add to them and accentuate them by dragging them into the realm of politics? A "woman's party" presupposes a return to the "party" form of government and ultimately to the "woman's party" being returned to power and governing the country. That is the aim of all political parties. For long, long years, those of



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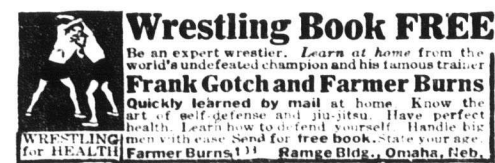
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can speak for the whole of Canada, whereas it speaks only for itself and possibly old Ontario, certainly not for the newer portions of that great province.

Ask any unfortunate man or woman who has had occasion to attend the annual meeting of any nationally organized body in Toronto, it makes no earthly difference whether it is the National W.C.T.U., the Dominion Swine Breeders' Association, the Red Cross, the Sovereign Grace Lodge of Masons, the Dominion Association of Civil Engineers, the National Council of Women, or the Canadian Wool Growers' Association, they with one accord, but in the appropriate language of their various organizations, anathematize Toronto for its desire to "hog" all the offices and "run the whole show," and "tell the rest of Canada what it shall and shall not do."

[illegible]

the "old guard" who fought for votes for women, fought for them on the ground that one sex alone had no right to make the laws to govern the other sex. Would it be any more just or equitable for a "woman's party" in power to make laws for men than it has been for men to make laws for women? Is not the very ground of equality that government shall be of men and women together for men and women? Men and women together make up the people and is not democracy, for which our men are dying by the thousands on the battlefields of Europe, the government of the people, by the people for the people?

By all that we hold dear let every woman of the west rise up to fight the curse of "party" be it "woman's party" or "men's party" and let men and women get together, calmly, soberly, thoughtfully, yet bravely and strive for the basis of government, for a platform that is the best one that will make for the upbuilding of the nation on this half of the North American continent, which will give the masses of the people a better chance, where they can be heard, and a more extensive participation in the government.

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