

MAN'S PREJUDICE

In England, when it was proposed to do away with the political disabilities of Catholics, Jews and other Nonconformists, a number of Nonconformist ministers petitioned Parliament against the bill. They were rigid Protestants, and preferred to continue subject to their own political disabilities, rather than to see the Catholics relieved from theirs.

It is said that women have had no experience in electoral matters. When a boy becomes 21, he has had no experience; yet he is admitted at once to the suffrage. When his sister becomes 21, she has had exactly the same opportunities and the same lack of experience. Why should there be any discrimination?—Chief Justice Clark.

Without a word in it about suffrage, Miss Julia C. Lathrop's admirable report for the Federal Children's Bureau is one of the strongest arguments for woman's ballot ever printed. The fact that about 300,000 babies under a year old die annually in the United States—fully half of them from preventable causes—shows the great need of more attention to child conservation. In New Zealand, where women vote, government-trained nurses are sent around to all mothers to teach them how to keep babies healthy; and New Zealand's infant death rate is the lowest in the world.

WHAT THE WOMEN ARE DOING

Besides, men judges and men juries involve again the original difficulty. Being merely men, they do not understand when dirt is dirt. This regulation of the food supply, of all city housekeeping, particularly requires the knowledge of the specialist. There is only one specialist in this line, the housewife, born and bred with the domestic sense inherited from generations of housewives gone before. Who but a woman would have thought to require of hotel and restaurant kitchens

the use of wooden spoons instead of the iron ones that menaced the guests with ptomaine poisoning? That is one of the reforms instituted by Mrs. Cook, in Salt Lake City. It was Miss A. B. Wimple, the Tacoma Food Inspector, who noticed that screen doors opening inward carried all the flies in as customers pushed their way into the store. So she made every store hang its screen doors to open outward. And it took a woman in the first place to show the cities of the United States how to have clean food shops. The appointment of Mrs. Evans, at the demand of the women of Portland, to supervise the markets and stores of that city was the beginning of the work. As the first woman Food Inspector, who has blazed the trail in which all the others are walking, she drafted the food ordinance that her city adopted in 1907. These are its chief requirements:

"All prepared foods, cheese, cooked meats, honey, pickles, olives, sauerkraut, mince meat, bread, cakes, lard, butter, figs and dates must be kept under cover; meats, fish, or other food must not be exposed in open doors or windows; berries must be protected from the flies.

"All provisions must be raised at least two feet above the floor.

"Shops must be well lighted, ventilated, and free from offensive odors.

"Floors, shelves, counters, trays and utensils must be kept clean, and all vessels and machines must be washed immediately after using.

"Refrigerators must be kept clean and free from offensive odors.

"Shops must be closely screened during warm weather.

"There must be water and conveniences for washing the hands.

"Personal cleanliness must be exacted of employees and no soiled apparel allowed to hang in the shop.

"Smoking and expectorating in the shop must be prohibited, and signs to that effect exposed.

"Cellars must be clean, dry and ventilated.

"Back premises must be kept clean."

In Tacoma, Wash., Mrs. Overton G. Ellis, the wife of Judge Ellis and the