

THE WOMEN'S PAGE

WHAT WOMEN WANT OF FATHER TIME

This Is Likely to Be a Most Momentous Year, in the Opinion of Leading Suffrage Workers, and Their Sex May Get Most of Its Rights

WHAT do women want of Father Time, in the year of 1913? Please don't say, "Votes and money." There is room enough, on this broad platform of the world, to put in bids for plenty of other items, from true love to perpetual youth, together with smaller, less desirable, a perfect complexion, a better husband than the woman next door, a small family, a higher education, four new dresses, no mothers-in-law and the last word.

Think of yourself, not as the only woman in the world, but as only a woman in a large number of others who, right now, are wishing so hard that you can almost hear them, and working so hard that the world must hear them, for several supreme gifts that Time alone can bring after a while. The real question is whether 1913 is to be the year.

Will it be the year, as Rev. Caroline Bartlett Crane hopes, when the ten states that have given woman votes shall prove sufficient lamps lighting the way to universal suffrage for the sex? Will it be the year, as Mrs. Lucy B. Johnson, wife of Kansas' chief justice, hopes, when woman shall everywhere take an active interest in affairs outside the home, now that the men have left her so little to care for in the home? Will it be the year, as we all hope, when woman can enter the labor market on terms of equality with men? The year is here. Those who ask may receive.

THE Rev. Dr. Crane, of Kalamazoo, Mich., is one of the most prominent feminine ministers in America, and is known from one end of the country to the other for her sanitary inspections and civic housecleanings. She believes that 1913 will go down in history as the turning point in the campaign for women's rights. She contends that American women will show, to a far greater extent than ever before, their abilities as civic housekeepers, lawmakers and voters, and that their influence cannot help but have its effect on the entire nation.

Doctor Crane's careful study of the subject has convinced her that a brighter era for her sex will dawn on New Year's day.

"This cannot help but be the banner year for the modern and progressive women of the United States," she says. "The franchise in Michigan, Kansas, Oregon and Arizona, thus setting four states to the half dozen that were already in the ranks of equal suffrage.

"This in itself speaks volumes for the New Year. The women of these ten states will be given opportunities far greater than ever before in the history of our country to show what a valuable asset they really are. There is not a doubt that they will take advantage of these new-found privileges. Their influence cannot but spread to the other states and show that the woman citizen is no longer a joke—that she is as necessary in the larger housekeeping of the community as she is in her own home.

"But it is particularly in the newly enfranchised states that wonderful strides of advancement will be made by womankind, for the entire complexion of the thought of the women in those sections will undergo material changes. This evolution is a matter of growth incident to all such victories.

"CURING CHARITY" DOOMED

"Another thing that promises much for the woman of the future is the growing tendency among us to overcome the so-called 'curing charity.' We are getting down to the true basis of philanthropic work. This is particularly evident in matters of civic and community improvement. Preventive work is now the keynote. Women are no longer content to patch up in the relief and reforms they undertake; they have now learned to get at the root of the matter.

"There is not a shadow of a doubt that, in the coming year, women will broaden noticeably their activities in the various professions and with their ability to inaugurate preventive work, they will show their value as community housekeepers. The fitness of women for the ballot will be demonstrated in every state in the Union within the next twelve months; the foundation work for new victories will be laid in some of these states. It is impossible to stop this tide of democracy; it is irresistible.

Mrs. Johnston doesn't wish, at this stage of woman's affairs in politics, she expects. And she ought to know what to expect, for she was president of the Kansas Woman's Suffrage Association, the leader of the successful fight in the campaign in which her husband was re-elected to serve his twenty-ninth year on the state supreme bench. Here is the woman politician talking, learned by marriage and practical by experience.

"The victory in our state was not remarkable. It was only what we expected. It was just a natural promotion, for we have had school suffrage for fifty years and municipal suffrage for twenty-five years, and we had prohibition sentiment back of us. So the battle was not a hard-fought one.

"It seems to me that we are pretty well past the wishing stage. We are at the level now of confident expectation. I believe the new year is to mark a change in the status of women throughout the country, for with women voters in ten states, the influence of the sex will be felt. Women everywhere have to educate the men as to their necessities, or beg for men's indorsement for needed bills. The men will continue to serve their own interests, but help now. The educational campaign is over. This same influence will be felt in the other states into the equal-suffrage fold. Political parties will be glad to indorse the women to get their support.

"Men have recognized that the placing of this intellectual burden on women is a good thing for the sex and the race, and that the legislature of every state, when they legislate, will be more dignified for woman's participation in the lawmaking power. Men, when they legislate, think now that if they do one another down if things don't go to suit them. They would not dream of doing anything if these men of their fellow-legislators were women.

"It is only natural that women in this modern age should take an interest in the affairs of the community and the state, for the men have taken their old-time industries, such as sewing, weaving, spinning and preserving, out of the home and turned them into so many industrial fields.

"An immense amount of good to Christianity can-



Mrs. Huntley Russell, of Grand Rapids, Mich., whose work for suffrage won her husband election to Congress



Mrs. Jackson Hidden, of Portland, Oregon, who worked for 28 years to secure equal suffrage in her state



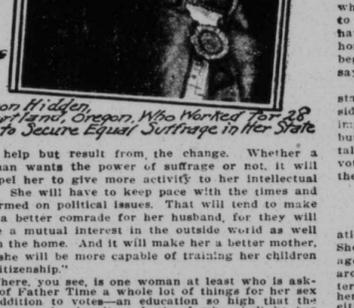
Dr. Caroline Bartlett Crane, Minister, Sanitary Expert and Suffragist



Mrs. William Johnston, the Chief Justice of Kansas and the Suffrage Association of that State



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not help but result from the change. Whether a woman wants the power of suffrage or not, it will compel her to give more actively to her intellectual self. She will have to keep pace with the times and informed on political issues. That will tend to make her a better comrade for her husband, for they will have a mutual interest in the outside world as well as in the home. And it will make her a better mother, for she will be more capable of training her children to citizenship.

There, you see, is one woman at least who is asking of Father Time a whole lot of things for her sex in addition to votes—an education so high that the colleges can't give it; a husband who shall be her companion in true intellectuality; if she has to raise her own level to reach him, and if she has to be a better citizen because, in the time to come, she shall be a better mother.

A woman of that kind, who in her own person has already proved what Mrs. Johnston expects, is Mrs. Huntley Russell, of Grand Rapids, one of the wealthiest women in Michigan. Her husband was land commissioner; he lost his election to congress, people said, because his wife was a suffragist, and he lost by 100 votes. Mrs. Russell concluded that, if only 100 votes stood between his popularity and that of suffrage, she ought to be able to turn the scale in any fair fight. She was the daughter and an heiress of former Congressman Comstock, and politics was her home atmosphere. She went right out in the recent campaign and fought for suffrage from end to end of her state. She won the state fight for women's rights, and she looked what she regards as "the brightest auguries almost every walk of life. Men are realizing that they

need the help of the women not only in the home, but in the management of civic affairs and in the professions. The women know far better than the men the needs of the girls in the factories and mills; they know better who is responsible for unhealthy conditions in tenement houses; the mothers are the best judges of the schools and the playgrounds.

"I do not think that there is a doubt that the influence of women will begin to be felt from this time forward. Not that the women are more capable now than they ever were, but it has taken them all these years to educate the men as to their usefulness. And the men have found that they need the women just as much in the housekeeping of the city and state as in the housekeeping of the home where their children are reared."

MORE PROMISING THAN EVER

All these wishes, which look so much like longings for the extension of suffrage on their surface, but really mean the remedying of the evils Mrs. Hidden perceives underneath, have a better chance of coming true in 1913 than ever before. They are the seeds of suffrage, as they were also its forerunners. As for suffrage, that means to all these ends, it remains a matter of separate, yard gains toward the goal. How one of those struggles toward is looked to for the coming year may be seen in the words of Mrs. Charles Frederick Firth, the suffragist leader of Covington, Ky. She is confident that the new year will be the real year for the new woman. She intends to test her belief by instituting an equal-suffrage fight in Kentucky this year, assisting Miss Clay, the state president, who is a daughter of Cassius Clay, the war-time ambassador to Russia.

"We will have the first opportunity this year of giving our men an object lesson in voting, and we will show them how capable women can exercise the franchise, for we were given school suffrage at the last election. We are going the step further in asking for our full rights. This is a fight in which every woman in the Union should be interested, for Kentucky, back in 1858, was the first to grant the right of suffrage to women. It was a school suffrage, but strange to say, it only gave the ballot to widows who had children at school. That was a curious law indeed; in all probability, the other mothers protested, and the law was repealed. Later, another school franchise was granted, but it was repealed, and now we have the final law. It has an educational clause which I thoroughly approve, and gives the voting right to those women only who can read and write.

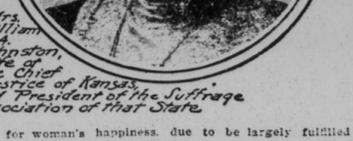
"The women of dear old Kentucky are not selfish, and we expect to give our support to the women in the other states who, like ourselves, will provide enthusiasm to the needs and the rights of their sex. I think the coming year I think there are few women in the states that have not already the right of franchise that will not be the scenes of interesting campaigns.



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FROM VERMONT TO OREGON

The president of the Oregon Equal Suffrage Association, Mrs. Jackson Hidden, is a veteran of the war. She organized the movement in Vermont thirty years ago, and she has been fighting ever since. To her, around the great central right of suffrage there cluster innumerable needs, wants, hopes and wishes of her sex which the coming year promises to bring either into realization or so much nearer to it that their future presence can be felt. Time, when it shall have given woman all the other things she desires among its benedictions, will leave few troubles which the laws of the land can remedy. She seemed so hopeful of Father Time's obliging disposition that she was asked whether 1913 is going to be a "woman's year."

"That question," she replied, "is probably best answered by the slogan we had in Oregon during the last campaign. We had a map showing California and Washington, the suffrage states, with a man and a woman standing together; but our own state, lying in between, had only a man on it. Under this she had the caption, 'Man cannot live without a woman.' It won the point. The men of Oregon realized that they needed the women to help them legislate, and they were not to be outdone by the men of the adjoining states.

"That slogan is true. Men are realizing that they need the help of the women not only in the home, but in the management of civic affairs and in the professions. The women know far better than the men the needs of the girls in the factories and mills; they know better who is responsible for unhealthy conditions in tenement houses; the mothers are the best judges of the schools and the playgrounds.

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Corsets Were Stylish 4000 Years Ago



Full Cretan Dress, Low Bodice and Bolero



Bolero Effect in Ancient Cretan Jacket



The Loose Curl as it Appeared 4000 Years Ago

YES, says good, careful, conscientious, brutal Doctor, with the awful authority of science in his tones, corsets are a comparatively modern invention, being the late outcome of women's idiotic vanity and man's fiendish ingenuity.

We have abandoned the primitive simplicity of the beautiful Greeks; we have laced to scorn the ample and healthy outlines of the Venus of Milo; we have arrogated to ourselves the slender, serpentine willow which the savage daughters of Eve are still too wise to acquire; we are the monumental fools of the ages which, until medieval tortures gave the first excruciating hints on the subject, had too much sense to try to bottle up a twenty-six-inch lot of vital organs in an eighteen-inch diaphragm.

Doctor is very strong on history. He can cite the sheet-iron corsets that made a woman look like a cruiser prow of 1913 during the period of Queen

Elizabeth; he can describe the cartoons of the Georgian era, when ladies' maids were hired for the brawn they could put on stay laces as well as the skill they could display on the hair.

Every time Doctor fulminates, poor woman stands aghast at her impending fate, and makes a solemn vow that she's going to go without corsets altogether; and she keeps it, too—sometimes as

long as an hour and a quarter.

The next time Doctor tips and snorts, and begins telling about the tortures of the inquisition, don't quail; don't tremble. Just ask him one question. Remark, negligently:

"Well, Doctor, how about the women of ancient Crete?"

THE archeologists haven't quite settled it yet, but the nearest they've got down to the date, those women of ancient Crete were wearing corsets, and looking fine in them, some 4000 years ago. The Greeks were moderns beside them. The Greeks had to begin where the Cretons left off. The finest power of Grecian mythology had its roots buried in the vanished kingdom of Crete; its fabled heroes fought with the Cretons, its fairest maidens

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were given over to them in tribute. The Minotaur's labyrinth may have been only a series of beauty parlor to qualify the captive Ariadne for wedlock with their new overlord, and their shipwreck may have been elicited by their first experience with the Creton corset.

It takes only half a glance to identify the lines of the corset under the conventional attire of the women who laughed and flirted and danced many thousands of years ago that now not a word of the written records they left can be interpreted.

They wore their corsets for vanity's sake, too, just like their sister-sufferers of today. The climate was granted, but their figures were all alike. The men of the little party of swimming pants and shirt were all alike, or needed. But the women were resplendent in skirts that were alternately inclined to the right and the left, and their figures were all alike, and their figures into rivalry with the men's, and in delicate, slender, and only by that of their own view, but equalling the late, respected Queen Elizabeth and her ruff as to the back.

Dr. Edith H. Hall, who has done some notable delving among the ruins of ancient Crete, says that the evidence of corsets, as shown in many figures de signed then and since, together with their line drawings and other remains, is beyond dispute. "The corsets in colors, which remain in the earth in Crete," she said, "give ample proof that the women of ancient Crete wore corsets of the same as the fashions modern women indulge in. The women of Crete, a whole millennium before the Greeks amounted to enough to play their part in civilization.

Here is one of a number found at Petsofa, a rocky citadel of the old kingdom. It is of excellent porcelaine and eight inches in height. It is painted in colors—white stripes on a ground of brickish red. Note the hobesierre collar and the contour of the waist. Under the extremely large collar, which you think the girdles worn by the women of the time had, or anything so huge, or that of a woman so voluminous. The girdle, as it appears here, is probably an exaggeration, conventional to the art of the period; and the skirt has a peculiarity of shape which indicates that the potter may have been a designer of fashions. So long two items of the Creton woman's dress must be taken with many grains of allowance, although they were undoubtedly realities, only on a more conservative plane.

"In this other figure, a piece twelve inches in height, the corset is a light brown on a light blue ground. The similarity to many features of modern dress for women is remarkable. The figure wears a relatively tight skirt, and over it a simple, quilted, pretty apron. The bodice is extremely low, and if ever French archeologists who were working in Crete, claimed, when he saw the finds: 'Give ample proof that the women of ancient Crete wore corsets of the same as the fashions modern women indulge in. The women of Crete, a whole millennium before the Greeks amounted to enough to play their part in civilization.

THEIR CUTE LITTLE CURLS

"Here are two photographs of frescos in the Cnosus palace. The big knot at the back of the neck, on one figure, seems a sort of very high saah, or bow. The face is the face of a woman, the face of a woman that of a girl one would expect to meet in the United States today than like the Egyptian types so familiar to us. The figure is thought to show a girl in the pose of a slow, graceful posture dance; her extended arms and her lying tresses give ground for the assumption, that she wears a bolero jacket, with light, short sleeves and well-defined bodice.

"The Creton dress had reached this stage of its evolution about 1600 B. C., and the faces, as you can see, are very well modeled. This particular piece was found under the floor of a small room of the great Cnosus palace, hidden in a secret treasure chest. That tall tiaras were in fashion then, with snakes for trimming, can be seen from the towering headdresses. It seems likely that this was the emblem of the goddess symbolized in the figure.

The Annual of the British School at Athens has made extensive comparisons with modern fashions. In the Cnosus palace there is a series of frescos in miniature, which show the women of ancient Crete in groups, in front of their homes and gardens, houses very much like ours, three stories high with casement windows above the first floor, which were built up solidly. The general effect of these groups is to impress the spectator with the existence of a highly advanced society, very much like ours in the stage of its development, strikingly like ours in comparison with the flowing draperies of the Greeks who lived two years afterward.

"Do you think that means we'll have to write with our fashions for another 1600 years before we settle on the beautiful simplicity of the Greeks? Miss Hall was asked.

"I'm afraid to think anything about it at all," she rejoined, emphatically. "Who can tell about fashion?"

So we can neither hope nor despair. But crabbid old Doctor, if he wants to be nasty when you tell him about those buxom creatures who squeezed their waists in 4000 years ago, can answer, with a good deal of truth:

"Well, aren't they all dead?"