

seriously the demand of their own countrywomen.

Mrs. Kemp of Vancouver read a very telling paper, in the course of which she expressed the confidence of the women of this country in the Premier, and stated that she brought their Petition signed by approximately 10,000 women and voters of the Province.

Dr. Belle Wilson, representing the unaffiliated Suffrage Societies of Vancouver, read a paper representing their point of view, and suggesting on their behalf that a Referendum or a Plebiscite should be inaugurated.

Miss Dorothy Davis, Organizing Secretary, next stated explicitly the reasons for the Women's demand, and emphasized the greatness of the Government's opportunity on this occasion for showing the courage of true statesmanship and justifying their claim to be representatives of the most progressive Canadian Province. She added that never again would the women of the country come to them in quite the same way, and they would still prefer to take their freedom and the recognition of their citizenship as a generous and chivalrous gift, than win it as the result of a political struggle, (a peaceful struggle!), which would usurp energies they were ready to utilize in various lines of service to the State.

Dr. Scarlett-Synge, of New Westminster, then made a striking little speech, followed by Mrs. Machin, and Mrs. Tuckwell of New Westminster, Mrs. Corey of Kamloops, and finally Mrs. Winstead of Kaslo, each of whom emphasized some one distinct point in the claim of womanhood for its rights.

The "Times" says that "the scene was picturesque. Ranged round the room were all types and ages of womanhood, from the feeble and white-haired, who, side by side with their husbands, had toiled in the pioneer struggles of the early days of the Province, to the fresh and hopeful faces of young girls whose lives yet lay before them. . . . Elements of humor were not lacking in the facial expressions of some members of the Cabinet, who were obviously doubtful of the

climax which might come in the event of the refusal of the women's demand. The prevailing impression, however, was one of extreme dignity, and even the Premier's non-committal words when he rose to speak failed to dissipate this."

The Premier made exactly the reply expected of him. He alluded to the very great respect in which Mrs. Grant was held throughout the Province for her long and untiring work in many different departments of social development, and the consequent importance which would be attached to an appeal made by the women of the land through her. He promised a reply by the following Wednesday at latest, and reminded the Deputation that in the event of the Government refusing a Government Measure, they could always obtain the introduction of a Private Member's Bill. As the Deputation had distinctly stated that they were asking for the former, and had practically already refused the latter, this suggestion on the part of the Premier showed that he hardly yet realizes the clear-sightedness of the women with whom he has to deal. The Government will have to learn that the "hot-air" which is so readily swallowed, in such large draughts, and with such apparently thirst-satisfying results by their present voters and masters, is a mixture of which we recognize the prescription and dislike the taste. The "open your mouth and shut your eyes" policy is one of the many political methods at present in vogue which does not commend itself to the judgment of women. Experience, in this day of masculine commercialism, has taught us that cash is preferable to cheques, and that promissory notes may satisfy the sense of honor of the issuer but otherwise generally fulfil a barren destiny.

After the Deputation the ladies dined in groups at the various hotels, and later in the evening several of them met at a most delightful reception held by Mrs. Mitchell of Superior Street, when discussion of plans for the future was kept up till a very late hour, among the decisions arrived at being the im-