

# EVERYWOMAN'S WORLD

JANUARY

NINETEEN HUNDRED AND SEVENTEEN

## THE FUTURE OF CANADIAN WOMEN

Assured by the Wonderful Record of the Past

AN EDITORIAL

by William Howard Hearst, Premier of Ontario

**A**LL that woman had accomplished before the War, all that she has sacrificed in time, money, energy, and pleasure since the War began, and the many excellent traits of character which have, at all times, been exemplified in woman as a whole, and particularly in woman here in Canada and in Ontario, all this has been recognized and is being appreciated.

Now that EVERYWOMAN'S WORLD has given me the opportunity, I do not hesitate to say that I sympathize with the aspirations of woman in her claims to higher citizenship. Premier Asquith stated the case pretty well when he said in a recent speech that "after the War the British Government might be forced to give

a better recognition to women for the sacrifices they had made, and the initiative they had displayed during the War."

How the War will affect matters in Canada, and particularly in Ontario, I am not prepared to prophesy, but I believe it will not be very long before the great majority of male voters will come to the conclusion that we shall be better off together than we are separated. At present the Government is very busily engaged doing its utmost in what it considers to be its duty during the Great War, and until there is a more pressing demand, it would probably be wiser to minimize new legislation as much as possible while the War is on.

## CANADIAN MEN AND CANADIAN WOMEN

Together Must Solve Our Great National Problems

AN EDITORIAL

by Newton Wesley Rowell, Leader of the Opposition in Ontario

**A**NY student of history cannot but be struck with the fact that the forward movements of the race have ever been marked by a removal of the restrictions which hampered the liberties of woman, and by the gradual improvement of her status and the enlargement of her opportunities.

War has not changed conditions; it has simply helped the great mass of the people to realize that which observant social students understood and appreciated long before the War broke out.

That the State needs the help of woman in the solution of the great social problems of modern civilization, and particularly the industrial revolution of the past century, has been obvious for many years, but the outstanding part which woman has taken in this War, the countless sacrifices she has made, the unselfish and continuous service she has rendered—all these have crystallised public sentiment, and won for the cause in which woman is most immediately interested, a host of recruits—an army which is constantly growing.

The great social and industrial problems which we shall face after the War must have the sympathy and ability of the best men and women in Canada for their satisfactory solution. And to me it is practically unthinkable that we should try to solve these problems without seeking the whole-hearted co-operation of woman.

Before the War broke out, I repeatedly declared myself, in the Legislature, in favour of Equal Suffrage. The War has only confirmed the opinion I then entertained, and, if anything, has emphasised its importance.

That woman will have the Franchise is a foregone conclusion. The only question is the date when legislation will be enacted. That, of course, depends upon

the attitude of the regnant party. The War has again and again emphasised that, after all, the great thing in a nation's life is its men and women, and that, more important than any question of development of resources, or problems of transportation, is the character of the men and women on the farms and in the cities. When the War is over, Canada, and all other countries involved, must face the future bereft of thousands of its finest and healthiest young men. Those who have fallen upon the field of honour were not physical weaklings, and in this new land we have had the best part of our population drawn upon for recruiting purposes and from a greater and wider area than any other people involved in the conflict. This question of human wastage, of making up this great loss, is the most difficult, as it is also the most vital, of the problems we must face.

If, therefore, Mothers' Pensions and kindred legislation will help the mothers of our nation give their children a better chance for life, and the opportunity to lead a fuller life, we should have it, and have it as soon as possible.

If social legislation will help the working man and working woman during sickness to pay his or her way and not expose the children to a grinding poverty which might impair both physical and mental energy, then both men and women should have that relief.

In other words, we should, deliberately and wisely, plan to promote all such remedial measures as will give a wife and mother the just opportunity to live the part of a real wife and a real mother to the coming generation, and to insure to every child born in Canada the certainty of a healthy, normal development, and an education which will fit that child for filling a useful part in the growing life of our young country.