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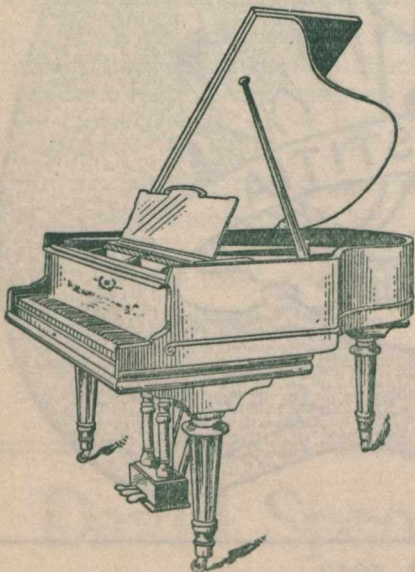
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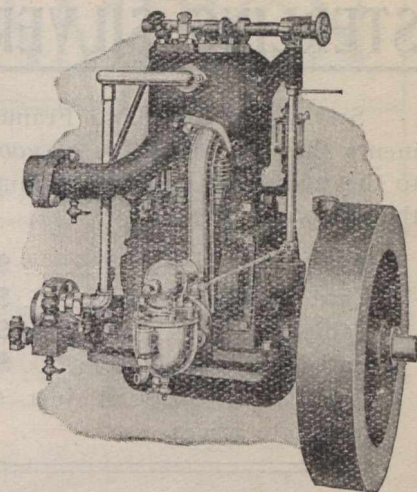
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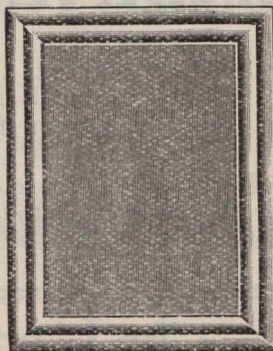
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# THE CHAMPION

A Monthly Magazine Edited by  
**THE POLITICAL EQUALITY LEAGUE**  
(Victoria Branch)

"THE WOMAN'S CAUSE IS MAN'S"

\$1.00 Per Year, Postage Paid



Single Copies 10c.

VOL. I.

VICTORIA, B.C., OCTOBER, 1913

No. 15

## POLITICAL EQUALITY LEAGUE

### Victoria Branch

President.....Mrs. Gordon Grant  
Vice-President.....Mrs. Baer  
Corresponding Secretary.....  
.....Miss Smith McCorkell  
Organizing Secretary.....  
.....Miss Dorothy Davis  
Treasurer.....Mrs. E. A. Ramlose  
Treasurer of Champion.....  
.....Mrs. G. H. Pethick  
Office, 103 Campbell Building.

1. This Society adopts as the fundamental principle of its Constitution the establishment of the Political, Social and Industrial Rights of Women and Men.

It recognizes as indispensable the possession by Women of the Parliamentary Vote on the same terms as it is or as it may be granted to men.

It demands from the Government immediate legislation to secure this.

The further aim of the Society is to take active means to remedy existing evils and to bring to the knowledge of the public the inefficiency of some of the laws of British Columbia especially as they affect women and children.

2. The objects and aims of the Society as set forward above, need very little explanation. We intend to expose in every way possible to us, the dual standard existing for men and women, to demonstrate the evil result-

ing therefrom, and to force public recognition to the direct connection between this dual standard and the political disability of women.

We stand to emphasize the fact that **causes** of individual cases of injustice can only be satisfactorily and finally dealt with by legislation in which women have a direct share.

3. Regarding the enfranchisement of women as essential to the attainment of equality between the sexes, we are necessarily working primarily for Woman Suffrage, and the principal item on our programme is therefore the demand for a Government Measure giving the Parliamentary Vote to Women on the same terms as it is or may be given to men.

### EDITOR'S NOTES

#### The Outlook

The Autumn campaign is in full swing, with all officials returned to work, and a most invigorating "nip" of keenness in the political air.

The first two meetings of the season, which are reported elsewhere, were remarkable for thier size, their generosity, and their enthusiasm, and all through the country a fresh and vigorous spirit of personal devotion is expressing itself in unexpected and eminently practical ways.

We of the Victoria Branch have drawn up a programme which will provide work for every member throughout the coming months of strenuous

endeavour, and being, as we are, immediately on the spot—the scene of political operations—and with opportunities no other Branch can have of keeping a finger on the Parliamentary pulse, we rely on making very rapid and permanent progress towards a goal which is certainly a good deal nearer than perhaps some of us have imagined it to be.

The urgent need now is for every woman and every man whose convictions have driven them nominally into the suffrage movement to express those convictions and justify their attitude by zealous support of suffrage principles and by active and definite work in our ranks. There is a feeling far too widely spread among us that a mere expression of sympathy is all that is required of a suffragist. But we cannot too strongly emphasize what we have already frequently insisted upon—the fact that convictions are worth **nothing** till they have been converted into conduct; and that an academic assent to any vital principle, unaccompanied by the deeds without which faith is proverbially dead, ill becomes a human being of our day and of our race. There is no member of our League, no adherent of the faith that is in us, so situated as to be unable to **Give Something**, something actual and costly, towards the achievement of victory—either money, or time, or the finest gift of all, Personal Service. Sacrifice is the essential condition of any service worth offering; and we have no right to call ourselves suffragists, no right to claim the honour of membership in so great an Army, until we have each individually, in mind, or body, or heart, suffered something very real and very deep, for the sake of the faith we profess.

The next six months will be a test for every one of us, as to the reality and the value of our political principles, and since the Suffragists of B. C. have become a force to be reckoned with in the Province, the eyes of many outsiders are on us, to weigh our words and estimate the consistency of our actions in the **peaceful**

fight we are putting up for a great ideal. We may not be called upon in this land to give what women are giving so valiantly in the Old Country, but it is surely the more incumbent upon us to make our sacrifices as nearly heroic as our easier conditions will allow. Here we are not forced to wage a material as well as a spiritual warfare, but we can, if we choose, follow the example of those whom some of us honour, by offering the renunciation of luxuries, of leisure, of rest, of comfort—of our lives—upon the altar of the spiritual and political enfranchisement of one half of humanity.

“Many loved Truth and lavished life’s  
best oil

Among the dust of books to find her,  
Content at last, for guerdon of their  
toil,

With the lost mantle she hath cast  
behind her; . . . . .

But these our brothers fought for her,  
So loved her that they died for her.

Their higher instinct knew;

They love her best who to themselves  
are true,

And what they dare to dream of, dare  
to do.

They followed her and found her

Where all may hope to find—

Not in the ashes of the worn-out mind,  
But beautiful, with danger’s sweetness  
round her,

Where faith, **made pure with deed**,

Breathes its awakening breath

Into the lifeless creed.”

◆ ◆ ◆

### British Justice

In another column we quote from an English suffrage paper on the subject of “Rugged Honesty.” Comment on our part is unnecessary, but we may perhaps remind our readers that the laws of B. C. are almost identical with those of the Old Country and legal methods no worthier of respect.

◆ ◆ ◆

Take time to consult Page 17.

VERBATIM REPORT OF AN  
ANTI - SUFFRAGE SPEECH  
BY MRS. HOMAN CHILDE

I am greatly embarrassed to appear in such an unfeminine position and to speak in a public meeting, but it is better that I should unsex myself for a few moments than that at all; women should be unsexed forever. I am only a poor, ignorant woman, but I understand the original scheme of things from the bottom up. God made woman of the rib. The rib she should remain, and not seek to become as man.

The vote is the right of manhood. We look up to man on account of it. If we voted, we should stop looking up to men and become just the same as they are. What would happen to the world then? And how could we explain it to our children?

Woman's place is the home, and every woman should have one. It is her business to get one. They can all find some kind of man to make a home for. Anyway, the more I see of the men God put into the world, the more convinced I am that God did not intend us women to be too particular.

The Bible says, "Women, obey your husbands." We would have a fine time doing that if we had the ballot! It would simply double the ignorant vote if we did, and it would defy the Bible if we didn't.

Any lady can see at a glance that she has no place mixing with the coarse, low, vulgar men who make the laws of our nation, any more than she should mix with other vulgar laborer's who drink and swear and cheat and make money.

Besides, if women got the vote, they would either not use it at all or they would spend all their time at the polls and neglect their husbands and their homes. Women are creatures of habit.

Anyway, if women were fit to be Mayors and Governors and Presidents and things, they would have been them long ago; but no woman ever has, which proves that they never can be.

Last of all, it is very silly for women to try to get anything by the vote, be-

cause they have so many better ways. Men will give us anything we ask for if we go after it in a truly feminine manner. Smile and look pretty, or tease, or try tears, or, as a last resort, make home Hades if you have to, until you get what you want. But be womanly, above all things. And aren't these feminine ways more interesting than dropping a dirty piece of paper in a greasy ballot box?

Oh, women, women, if you would only use the means at your command and be feminine! What are facts? What are statistics? They are for the vulgar mind. A lady cares nothing for these. Her intuitions are her guide. Oh, my friends, if you would only follow your hearts, and not try to believe you had brains! If you would trust your instincts and not try to reason, you would—but, there, I can say no more. I am overcome with my emotions! I—I feel so deeply on this subject, ladies, that I—I cannot—think!

FROM "SONGS BEFORE SUN-  
RISE"

We come from many lands,  
We march from very far;  
In hearts and lips and hands  
Our staffs and weapons are;  
The light we walk in darkens sun  
and moon and star.

It doth not flame and wane  
With tears and spheres that roll;  
Storm cannot shake nor stain  
The strength that makes it whole,  
The fire that moulds and moves it of  
the sovereign soul.

We are they that have to cope  
With time till time retire;  
We live on hopeless hope,  
We feed on tears and fire;  
Time, foot by foot, gives back before  
our sheer desire.

From the edge of harsh derision,  
From discord and defeat,  
From doubt and lame division,  
We pluck the fruit and eat;  
And the mouth finds it bitter, and  
the spirit sweet.

We strive with time at wrestling  
 Till time be on our side,  
 And hope, our plumeless nestling,  
 A full-fledged eaglet ride  
 Down the loud length of storm its  
 windward wings divide.

We are girt with our belief,  
 Clothed with our will and crowned;  
 Hope, fear, delight and grief  
 Before our will give ground;  
 Their calls are in our ears as  
 shadows of dead sound.

\* \* \* \* \*

O sorrowing hearts of slaves,  
 We heard you beat from far!  
 We bring the light that saves,  
 We bring the morning star;  
 Freedom's good things we bring you,  
 Whence all good things are.

—Swinburne.

♦  
**REV. J. G. INKSTER, REV. M.  
 PRATT AND MRS. GRAVES  
 SPEAK AT LEAGUE  
 MEETING**

The first of the winter season's meetings of the Political Equality League, held last evening at the Unitarian Hall, was largely attended, and some very interesting addresses were given, that by Rev. J. G. Inkster opening the programme.

Mr. Inkster pointed out the position of the women's enfranchisement movement in England today: The government divided, the Labor party pledged to support it. The much-maligned militant methods had at least crystallized the question to this point.

His reasons for supporting it the speaker placed under two major heads: (1) That women, neither inferior nor superior to men, but their equal, should have equal rights; and (2) The giving of the franchise to women would lessen the sin and sorrow and suffering of the world, as at present those who feel the evils most, the women, have no voice in legislation to suppress them.

Mr. Inkster also expressed his strong feeling of personal respect for

the militant women and his sympathy with their attitude, which he said he considered (in view of the treatment they had received at the hands of the government) was the only dignified one to adopt.

Mr. Inkster briefly referred to the fact that in addition to the large section of militant suffragists there was another great host of educated, cultured, and hard-working women who supported the movement. Legislation along the lines of moral reform, he said, was a long way overdue. Temperance legislation, for example, would never be considered as it should be by men, who were the worst offenders. Gambling would never be properly debated by men. Horse racing and gambling were two different things; he had nothing against the former, but everyone, every community, knew the evil of professional gambling both to the individual and to the community. The social evil was a point of legislation which was hopelessly in arrears; no woman voter would say, as men voters had been known to say, that the red-light district was necessary in any city. The city of Victoria stood second to none in respect to natural beauty, but the population was materialist in the extreme.

In conclusion Mr. Inkster pledged his assistance in approaching the government in behalf of the cause whenever he was asked by the leaders of the organization here to do so.

**Struggles Today**

Rev. M. Pratt referred to the struggles which had always occurred in connection with the passing of any great reform. Everyone looked back with envious longing to the times of Magna Charta, for instance, and heroically wished he might have been present on that historic occasion. They forgot that there were struggles just as significant, just as far-reaching in their possible effects, going on today. The women's movement was one of these, and in years to come people would be sorry that they had not seized the opportunity to take part in the world movement.



As a democrat, he could not see how any man could claim that faith who immediately retracted his statement by saying that he believed in representation of only one-half of the people. Women were outclassed in the legal scheme because they had no ballot. Politicians only gained respect for people when they could vote. This was well known. Consequently women's claims would only receive proper consideration when they held the franchise. One faction of statesmen considered the movement as a new one. But it was past the experimental stage in many countries. And yet the appalling anticipated "unsexing" had not taken place. Women should unite. Then the cause would succeed.

An Englishwoman's point of view was given during the evening by Mrs. Greaves, who feelingly expressed her appreciation of the warm-hearted sympathy with the movement in England which she had heard expressed. The subject was profoundly serious. Even anti-suffragists must admit the right of every woman to protect herself and her children. Today in England 22,000 children were being brought up in work-houses. In 64 of these the children were cared for by little better than imbeciles. The result was that more than half the children died before maturity, and were a complete loss to the nation. Infantile mortality was a stupendous question, but it was being steadily neglected in those countries where women had no power to legislate in their behalf. In countries such as New Zealand and Australia, where women voted, the question was very seriously considered, and in the former country the infantile mortality had been worked down to a percentage of only 62 per 1,000. Infantile mortality was the one great index to the healthy or unhealthy standing of nations. And yet where men were the legislators this great point was almost a negligible consideration.

#### Needed for Women

Prisons, municipal lodging homes, etc., suffered from lack of women's legislation. One of the great needs in

the Old Country today was municipal lodging-house accommodation for women. Every city had municipal lodgings for men. That was because men did the legislating. But in a great city like London there was no such institution, although there were thousands of poor women and girls just as there were thousands of poor men and boys. It was not because such institutions were not successful, but simply because legislation on the matter was neglected by the male legislators. In Glasgow and Manchester there were women's lodging-houses, founded by women, and these were not only successful but profitable.

Even prisons for women were administered by men, male warders, male doctors, etc. This was wrong. If militancy had done nothing else in England it had exposed some of the scandalous brutalities of the English prison system, and reforms had already taken place. Further, when a man was tried for an offence he was tried by his peers; the same justice should be given women. In the English struggle the women had nothing whatever to do with party politics. If the government opposed the women's enfranchisement movement, then the women would oppose the government, whether it were Liberal or Conservative.

Mrs. Grant, who presided, pointed out that there was at least one thing in which women were considered equal to men—that was, their subjection to penalty for the breaking of man-made laws. Mrs. Parsons and Miss Shrapnel provided musical numbers during the evening.



The Political Equality League held an interesting meeting last Tuesday evening, when the hall was crowded with an appreciative audience. A very funny play was given by an anti-suffragette, her daughter and a suffragette. This was followed by an address on "The Methodical Way in Which Four Women Secured the Ballot in Illinois."

The experience meeting resulted in the treasury being enriched by a considerable sum.

The letter of experience signed A. N. Onomous was accorded the prize by the committee as having given the best experience of how the money was secured.

### NOTICES OF MEETINGS

A meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 30th, in the Unitarian Hall at 8 o'clock, when the speakers will be Rev. W. Scott, Mrs. Gleason and Miss Dorothy Davis. Mrs. Ferec has kindly offered to sing for us. This will be the last meeting held in the Unitarian Hall, owing to the Government having taken it over for a wireless telegraphy building. In future our meetings will be held in the Friends' Hall, Courtney Street, at 8 o'clock on Saturday evenings, Saturday being the only day on which this hall was free.

### THE INTERNATIONALISM OF THE INTERNATIONAL

By Winifred Harper Cooley

The important result of the recent great conclave of women at Budapest is not the volume of business achieved, the various resolutions adopted, or the impetus for more efficient labor, but the spirit of internationalism created. The curse of woman has been her isolation. Here and there throughout the world, and adown the centuries, the individual has protested feebly against the suttee, the harem, the law that took away a mother's children; but no one heeded, as women were wholly unorganized and not co-ordinated. Even as each country waxed strong through the union of its "weaker vessels," and Parliaments began to heed the combined voices, and a Feminist movement began to shape itself, still each land considered only its own problems. But at last the cry has sounded "Women of the world, unite: you have nothing to lose but your chains!"

The feminists of nearly every geographical division of the civilized world have combined their power, and internationalism is born. A house divided

against itself will fall; and as long as women not only were oppressed by men, but also were torn asunder by petty jealousies and suspicions, so long they had no power. Internal strife will ruin a nation more quickly than war waged by besieging enemies. It has taken long for us to realize the need of effecting a solid feminine phalanx. We have catered to and fawned upon our male masters, and decried other women in self-protection. If man were not propitiated our economic support would fall, and we and our babies would perish; therefore, let other women struggle for themselves or be cast to the ash-heap. This was the old necessity. All this now is changed. Women are standing shoulder to shoulder for the last needed battle. We have seen the Parliament of Women, if not the Federation of the World. Nothing was so wonderful, psychological point of view, in the recent Congress at Budapest, as the underlying similarity of feminine endeavor. It was not merely a drydiscussion of ways and means to get the vote, but comprehensive studies of social and moral conditions, and of how women could better them. At almost every session one learned of the White Slave Traffic; of ways to protect young girls; of efforts of women legislators to raise the age of consent; of State Insurance for mothers; of solutions of the problem of the illegitimate child; of better laws for working-women; of the abolition of sweat shops and child labor.

All this concerns the mothers of the race, whether they be black or brown, white or yellow. All this seems to have become peculiarly the women's problem and responsibility. It is truly an international one! For the past nine years the leaders have been perfecting the organization and oiling the machinery. Now the great Alliance is beginning a new era of effective labor. We have made mistakes. Here and there may have been lapses into the old feminine bigotry, jealousy, or narrowness. Sometimes we have not risen to the lofty heights. But through all the sorrow and travail has been brought

forth the new and wonderful internationalism which should regenerate the world!

### THE WONDERS OF AN INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF WOMEN

By Charlotte Perkins Gilman

The most amazing thing in these great International Women's Congresses is the massing and moving of the hitherto isolated and stationary sex. Never before in all human life—if we except the legendary performance of the 11,000 virgins of Cologne—have great numbers of women come together; and never before have they travelled so far. This is the strongest impression made, on my mind, by these meetings. Next to that is the world-hope of international amity which shines forth from such gatherings. When citizens of so many countries meet on the common ground of a need felt by all, a universal desire for the good of all, it promises much for that world-peace which is the hope of the age.

The warm, personal friendliness and kind care, the overflowing hospitality, the general goodwill, is another prominent characteristic. It means much for the heart of woman and the good of mankind when that love, which has been kept for so long in one small circle of family and friends, now widens to a mass of strangers; and that hospitality, hitherto shown in private entertainment, opens its arms to the world. We have the hospitality of cities, of governments, of businesses; we find entertainment for causes and ideas as well as persons. Here in Hungary the marvel lay in the enormous labor of preparation for such a polyglot meeting in a land whose language is practically unknown outside. Hundreds of women were specially trained to use, among them, fourteen various languages, that they might act as guides and interpreters.

The city itself was a joy to see—the strange beauty of old Buda, the in-

tensely modern development of new Pest; the amazing combination of the two in one. Of all the entertainments offered us, the crown belongs to that marvellous combination of sunset and moonlight; that dream of towers and turrets, battlements and grey walls, soldiers out of picture books, and costumes of all lands, music, oratory, refreshments and red fire, on the Fisher Bastion. This was a scene from wonderland, a thing never to be forgotten.

Another thing which impressed me personally was the steady broadening of the suffrage movement. That which for so long was a demand for "rights" has become an irresistible insistence upon duties. It is no longer merely a plea for the unquestioned justice of Woman Suffrage, but a rising pressure for the suffrage as an instrument of social service. With this comes the evergrowing power of achievement, the rapidly increasing number of the women who can vote; as well as the women who have done much in other ways. Nothing succeeds like success.

Every woman should try to look her best. Read Page 17.

### THE SPECIES OF THE FEMALE

(Suggested by Rudyard Kipling's delicate tribute to "The Female of the Species," published in "Woman's Platform" on October 20th, 1911.)

When the soul of man awakened, when  
the woman that God gave,  
Stood revealed as wife and sister, not  
as chattel or his slave,  
Then he formed his own conception of  
what woman ought to be,  
And he made a plaster image, and he  
told her it was she.

For the woman as God made her  
wasn't good enough for man;  
He invented large improvements upon  
Nature's cruder plan;  
And he washed that image nice and  
white, and set it on a shelf,  
Where he kept assorted virtues that he  
did not want himself.

Man might govern, fight, and reason,  
 to his perfect satisfaction;  
 Soothed by woman at the season when  
 his mind was out of action;  
 Woman: good, and kind, and clinging,  
 timid, soft, anaemic, pale,  
 For the female of the species was an  
 adjunct to the male.

But the woman as man made her,  
 scarcely suits our modern no-  
 tions,  
 With her regulated instincts and her  
 neatly trimmed emotions.  
 We have dropped the weaker vessel  
 and the tame domestic pet,  
 And our taste finds something lacking  
 in that saint-like statuette.

So our literary gentleman has modeled  
 her afresh;  
 And the terra-cotta fairy is a demon of  
 the flesh;  
 Half Mother-fiend, half maenad, she-  
 wolf's tooth and wild-cat's nail,  
 "Armed and engined," fanged and  
 poisoned, for the hunting of the  
 male.

With the morals of the hen-coop, with  
 the jungle code of law,  
 With the mercy of the tigress when  
 she rips her quarry raw,  
 Such the bard's vivacious vision: but  
 the woman who can judge,  
 Knows that much of it is fiction, and a  
 good deal simply fudge.

And man knows it, Mr. Poet. Knows  
 your singular ideal;  
 Does not bear the least resemblance to  
 the woman that is real;  
 For the woman ain't no plaster saint  
 and she ain't no tigress, too,  
 But an average human being, "most  
 remarkably like you."

SIDNEY LOW.

#### NEWS FROM THE BRANCHES

##### Vernon

This Branch has sent in a report of  
 such excellent work that it would take  
 up too much space to print it in full  
 and we have been obliged very regret-

fully to make a mere synopsis of it.  
 Vernon has from the date of its or-  
 ganization a year ago up till the  
 present day worked with ceaseless and  
 unselfish energy, holding meetings,  
 debates, entertainments, and doing  
 most self-sacrificing spade-work in the  
 way of educational propaganda, and in  
 collecting signatures. This Branch  
 also got up a concert to obtain funds  
 for the Headquarters Organization ex-  
 penses, and sent the splendid sum of  
 \$30 up in April. In March the Branch  
 accepted an invitation to attend the  
 Men's Club and put its views before  
 the members, the result being an ex-  
 tremely pleasant and successful even-  
 ing. The Vernon Branch has also  
 done excellent work in advertising its  
 principles, especially through the  
 moving picture shows.

The members of this Branch have  
 had to face an exceptional amount of  
 prejudice and apathy, and have been  
 greatly hampered by another difficulty  
 experienced in parts of this Province,  
 namely, a strange social shyness on the  
 part of certain sections of the com-  
 munity, which prevents their amalga-  
 mating for serious and vital objects  
 with any other "set" than their own  
 particular circle.

This feeling, which a common faith  
 and purpose has entirely obliterated in  
 the Old Country and in the States, will  
 no doubt soon disappear as the class  
 most addicted to it becomes better  
 educated in political and social matters  
 and more keenly alive to the vital  
 issues at stake. Vernon has been  
 happy in enjoying an unbroken har-  
 mony in the ranks of its own Branch  
 workers, and has also the great ad-  
 vantage of the hospitality and support  
 of the Vernon Daily News, a paper  
 which, in the opinion of many of us, is  
 ahead of every other in the Province  
 as an example of sound journalism and  
 a sane political outlook.

The President, Miss Alys Evans  
 (now retired); the Vice President,  
 Miss L. Harris, and the Secretary,  
 Mrs. Walker, are to be warmly con-  
 gratulated on the progress of this  
 Branch.

## CORRESPONDENCE

To the Editor:—

Mr. Ralph Smith's speech, quoted on Page 16 of your September issue, would seem to contradict the statement of many supporters of votes for women, inasmuch as he claims that the Liberal convention did not adopt the plank in favor of Woman's Suffrage to get votes, but would lose a great many men's votes, and women have not the vote.

It has always been argued that politicians would not adopt any platform that would lose them votes, and it is a wonder that the Liberals did not adopt this platform when they were in the zenith of their power and could have created many new votes by the extension of the vote to women.

Perhaps they will do so in Provinces where they hold the reins of government.

A MALE READER.

❖

### "RUGGED HONESTY"

Seven months' imprisonment was the sentence given at Clerkenwell Sessions last Friday to Edward Powell, who was convicted of (1) assaulting the woman he lived with; and (2) living on her immoral earnings. This sentence was given by the same judge, Mr. Lawrie, who, in the same Court, on August 19, had given three years' penal servitude to a man convicted of stealing 2s. 4d. and a collar-stud.

The case of Edward Powell was a remarkable one on account of the extraordinary defence put forward by the prisoner's counsel. He was charged with violently assaulting Ellen Leard, having cut her head open with a saucepan (saucepan was produced in court), blacked her eye, and kicked her badly in the chest. He admitted on oath having kicked the woman several times when she lay on the ground.

Counsel: A very honest man to say that.

The prisoner had to answer a further charge of living on the immoral earnings of Ellen Leard. She was unwilling to give evidence on this charge, and her sister, Annie Leard, deposed

to having seen money given to Powell which had been earned on the streets by her sister.

The prisoner declared that he had, on the contrary, tried to keep her off the streets even when they had no food or fire, that it was for this reason he had quarreled with her on the occasion of the assault. The woman denied this, saying the dispute arose over a shilling.

In summing up for the defence counsel enlarged on the "rugged honesty of the man" in admitting that he had kicked the woman, and spoke of the "little gleam of gold" in his composition. Surely, said counsel, it was a "manly trait" on his part "to want to keep this one woman to himself" (i. e., by cutting her head open with a saucepan?).

The man was sentenced to three months on the first charge, and four months on the second, the two sentences to run consecutively.

When women have won the vote and the right to sit on juries, we think that counsel will have to find a better ground for defending persons of the type of Edward Powell than was chosen in the case we have here reported.

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### LIST OF BRANCH SECRETARIES AND REPRESENTATIVES

- New Westminster, B. C.—President, Mrs. Greaves; Secy., Dr. Synge.  
 Fairview, Vancouver — Pres., Mrs. Bryan, 842 Burrard St.; Secy., Mrs. H. Davis, 590 Broadway, W.  
 Ashcroft, B. C.—Pres., Mrs. Donald Sutherland; Secy., Mrs. Hoffl.  
 Agassiz—Pres., Mrs. Wm. Cox; Secy., Mrs. Orwell.  
 Central Park—Pres. (to be supplied soon); Secy., Mrs. Hadfield, Central, near Vancouver.  
 Chilliwack—Pres., Mrs. Chas. Barter, Free Press Office.  
 Kamloops—Pres., (another to be elected soon); Secy., Mrs. E. MacKenzie, 241 Seymour, W., Kamloops.  
 Ladner—Pres., Mrs. R. H. Wilcox; Secy., Mrs. H. Wilson.

Port Haney—Pres., Mrs. Webber;  
 Secy., Mrs. McQuinney.  
 Mission City—Pres., Mrs. F. Solloway;  
 Secy., Miss C. Murray.  
 North Vancouver—Pres., Mrs. (Dr.)  
 Follick; Secy., Miss Harrison.  
 Revelstoke—Miss J. Hardie.  
 Golden—Miss Ruth Armstrong.  
 Invermere—Vacant.  
 Fernie—Vacant.  
 Cranbrook—Mrs. W. Macfarlane.  
 Mrs. J. Finlay-Smith.  
 Creston—Mrs. Crompton.  
 Nelson—Undecided.  
 Kaslo—Mrs. John Keen.  
 Rossland—Mrs. Cornish.  
 Miss Cecil Moffatt.  
 Greenwood—Miss Ida Shaw.  
 Phoenix—Mrs. Ingram.  
 Mount Pleasant—Mrs. Curtis, 12 14th  
 Ave. E.  
 Coquitlam—Mrs. Irvine.  
 Abbotsford—Mrs. J. C. Campbell.  
 Enderby—Mrs. Lawes (temporary),  
 Enderby Heights.  
 Vernon—Miss Parkhurst, Vernon.  
 Kelowna—Mrs. D. F. Kerr, P.O. Box  
 565, Kelowna.  
 Summerland—Miss Lipsett.  
 Mrs. Jack Logie.  
 Peachland—Mrs. J. B. Robinson.  
 Penticton—Mrs. I. M. Stevens.  
 Victoria—Pres., Mrs. Gordon Grant;  
 Secy., Mrs. Smith McCorkell.

### NO MORE VULGAR JOKES!

The following statement, which appears in the Stage (August 21), is an interesting commentary on the way the Woman Suffrage movement is regarded in a country where something like four millions of women already have the vote:

"B. F. Keith's Press department advises me that he has issued peremptory orders to the managers of his two-score theatres throughout the United States to suppress all ridicule of the Women's Suffrage movement. Any act which ridicules votes for women will be warned, and, if the offence is repeated, will be cancelled. Mr. Keith has become a convert to Women's Suffrage, and in his order to his managers points out that it is time to put an end

to the disrespect habitually paid women by American comedians. Popular songs deride women in many instances, and many time-honoured variety jokes make light of wives and mothers, and give youthful auditors the impression that women are merely subjects for low comedy. The mother-in-law joke was barred in the Keith houses last winter, along with certain violent expletives. From now on Keith vaudeville will give a cold reception to comedians who seek to make laughter by jibing at women, either in the family or political relation. As president of the United Booking Offices, which controls all major vaudeville from coast to coast, Mr. Keith will use his influence to secure the co-operation of all his brother managers in demanding courteous treatment for the Suffragettes."

Read Page 17 and learn a secret worth knowing.

### TO SUPPRESS THE WHITE SLAVE TRAFFIC

#### The Fifth International Congress An Impression

Although the Congress was primarily intended for delegates, a number of interested outsiders were present throughout the proceedings. The majority of the audience consisted of women, but the speakers were chiefly men. Great eagerness and enthusiasm prevailed, and at times the atmosphere grew very tense. A striking proof of the change of attitude of the general public was the fact that this subject, which a few years ago was practically tabooed, should be able to draw together from all over the world such a number of interesting and attractive personalities. It seems as if the present moment is psychologically the time for discussing this question, which is so closely bound up with other branches of the woman's movement, especially that of the Suffrage.

The thanks of women are especially due to the Duchess of Albany, who

was present throughout the sessions and took an important part in the Congress.

The Fifth International Congress for the Suppression of the White Slave Traffic was held in London from Monday, June 30, to Friday, July 4, at Caxton Hall, Westminster. The opening ceremony took place on Monday morning, and words of welcome to the delegates were spoken by Lord and Lady Aberdeen and the heads of the Anglican, Roman, Nonconformist, and Jewish Commissions, as well as the Lord Mayor of London and the Chairman of the London County Council. Replies were made by representatives of France, Germany, and Holland.

The real business of the Congress was taken on Monday afternoon, and the question before the delegates (submitted by the French National Committee) was the extension of the laws for the protection of children to children employed in theatres, circuses, and concerts.

A Swiss delegate maintained that the atmosphere surrounding young people employed in these places, and the bad payment they received, led the way to prostitution. The result of the discussion was the passing of a resolution that national legislation should prohibit employment in theatres, circuses, and concert and music halls of children under 16 years of age, and that special provisions should be added to this legislation for the protection of young girls under age who accept employment abroad to perform in theatres, circuses, concerts, and music halls.

The second question discussed on Monday afternoon was the extent of the National White Slave Traffic and the means adopted to fight against it. The outcome of the discussion was much additional information about this traffic in various countries, and it was decided that each National Committee, or other responsible body in countries where no such committee now exists, be requested, through the International Bureau, to urge upon its Government the appointing of an official Commission, consisting in part of

women, to ascertain the extent of the traffic of women in that country, and to recommend methods to suppress it.

Tuesday's session was one of the most important in the whole Congress.

The question before the Congress dealt with the State registration of foreigners and the repatriation of foreign women of bad character, and Congress resolved that the National Committee of every country should endeavour to abolish the licensed houses of ill-fame. This resolution is a tremendous step forward, for one of the chief causes of the success of this terrible traffic is the existence of these "maisons tolerees" which are always ready for the legal disposal of new victims on the market.

It is interesting to note that one of the principal speakers that day was the Rev. J. Scott Lidgett, D. D., who was so closely connected with Josephine Butler's splendid war against the State registration of vice, which has received a great blow from the passing of this resolution.

Tuesday afternoon was occupied with the study of emigration from the point of view of the White Slave Traffic, and the action of employment agencies respecting that traffic. Mr. Bullock, of Scotland Yard (Central Authority for Great Britain for the Suppression of the White Slave Traffic) pointed out very truly that if legislation for the employment agencies was made too strict, it would simply send girls more and more to advertisements, which would be a much greater evil, as appointments would be made to meet them in strange houses or hotels, where they might only too easily be entrapped. The betrayal of a girl might be brought home to an agency, but if it was the result of answering an advertisement there would be no redress. Congress, therefore, confined itself to instructing a Special Commission to study the subject of emigration from the point of view of the White Slave Traffic, with a view to assuring to emigrants and women travelling alone protection both on railways and boats.

On Wednesday Congress studied the moral and social causes of the White Slave Traffic. A special feature of the discussion on this day was the telling speech of Mrs. Fawcett, who made a great point of the fact that the revival of warfare against this great social evil was simultaneous with the Woman Suffrage Movement. She had just come from Buda Pesth, where she was struck with facts which had been laid before the International Suffrage Conference there with regard to the protection of women and girls in those countries in which women were enfranchised.

Another question of great interest before the Congress on Wednesday was that of the assistance of women in the administrative measures concerning prostitution. The speech of Mrs. Leathes, a French Canadian delegate, who is also president of the Toronto Suffrage Society, evoked tremendous enthusiasm.

"I am a Suffragist," she began, amidst loud applause, and, like Mrs. Fawcett, she showed how the possession of the vote would enable women to take an effective part in the destruction of this terrible traffic. She went on to describe the important work done by women policemen in her own country, and related that young girls coming out of the Department Stores were frequently accosted by undesirable people. Complaint was made to the authorities, who at first tried to do away with the evil by placing there a six-foot high policeman in uniform. This, of course, was folly. The procurers at once went elsewhere for their victims, and then the authorities were induced to station outside the stores a woman policeman in an ordinary blue serge coat and skirt, who was much more likely to effect a capture of the traffickers.

Congress resolved that the assistance of women is desirable in the administrative measures concerning the social evil, including in proper cases the appointing of policewomen, and that the National Committee be requested to press this question on the

attention of their respective Governments.

On Thursday Congress discussed the much-vexed question of the employment of barmaids, and expressed the wish that the legislation of every country should adopt preventive and repressive measures, and should prohibit in these establishments the employment of girls under age, except in the cases where the young girl employed is in the cafe kept by her parents. Miss Hall, of the Church Army, said that barmaids, as a class, were very moral in this country. The danger came in when they went abroad.

Mrs. Creighton, who spoke on Thursday, emphasised the fact that these great moral questions are being dealt with by the best of the younger part of their generation, who are feeling that these matters are pre-eminently their business.

Mr. Claude Montefiore, in a magnificent speech, raised the whole debate to a high spiritual level. Speaking for his own race, he pointed out that no English Jew had so far forgotten his duty to England as to be engaged in this traffic, and stated that if foreign Jews had been convicted of taking part in it, it must be remembered that this was the result of the terrible suppression which Jews have suffered in other countries.

A very exhaustive and valuable report in answer to a question about the operations of the Government Bureaux for the Suppression of the White Slave Traffic has been written by Mr. Bullock, printed copies of which were distributed at the Congress.

On Friday, the last day of the Congress, a Dutch delegate, M. A. de Graaf (president of the Netherlands National Committee), made a very interesting statement as to the effects of the new law, May 20, 1911, for the Suppression of Immorality in the Netherlands. This law has abolished the State registration of vice in Holland. A striking proof of the awakening of the national conscience to the horrors of this evil is the fact that many cities, acting on their own initiative, had abolished it before the above law was passed.



It is also of interest to know that, in the very near future, Dutch women will undoubtedly be enfranchised.

A delegate from Glasgow, speaking on the suppression of the traffic in children, spoke of the great need there was for legislation on this matter, especially in Glasgow.

The Congress was closed on Friday afternoon, having done very useful and encouraging work.

Several times during the proceedings, the economic question was touched upon, as was also the duty of parents and guardians to teach children the facts of life. The appalling ignorance of these facts, in which many of them are allowed to grow up, was deplored.

Other points which called forth the keenest enthusiasm on the part of the audience were the necessity of demanding an equal standard of morality in men and women and the need of women being enfranchised to enable them to help men effectively in abolishing the White Slave Traffic.

Finally the whole Congress was a great memorial to the work of one delicate woman, who had sown the seeds of a mighty harvest, which others are about to reap. From beginning to end of last week's sessions the spirit of Josephine Butler was present in the hearts and minds of the delegates, who were carrying on the glorious work which she began. Women who today are facing the same storm of opposition, the same hardships, the same physical dangers which she encountered so bravely in the course of her great crusade, feel strengthened and encouraged by the thought that the same magnificent victory is most surely awaiting their efforts.

### FESTIVAL

Let all Victorian Suffragists remember the Festival and Bazaar to be held early in November and keep busy making things and soliciting donations from friends. The Bazaar cannot be

made a success by a spurt at the last moment, but if all unite in working for it from now until November 21st the result of the Festival will be very gratifying.

### Program

The League has arranged a full program for the month of October.

On Saturday evening, the 11th instant, a public meeting will be held in the rooms of the King's Daughters, 719 Courteney Street, when Mrs. Pratt, Mrs. Spofford, Dr. Shaw and others will speak.

On the evening of October 25th a progressive whist party will be held at the same hall, the price of admission being twenty-five cents.

On October 31st a Hallowe'en party will be given, at which the usual fairies, witches and spooks will be present.

A large attendance is expected at all these gatherings.

## GREAT RELIGIOUS MOVEMENT

### Professor Bickerton's Opinion

Professor Bickerton was the chief speaker at the London Pavilion on Monday, June 30. In the course of his speech he said:

"I tell you that I am convinced that this great movement for the emancipation of women is the most important in the entire history of mankind. There is nothing of equal importance in all the progress of civilisation. Miss Beatrice Harraden speaks truly when she says that she does not believe that the Government means to murder women. I do not think they mean to murder. They thought that they would quench the spirit of the women. They did not realise that this great movement was a religious movement, one of the most extraordinary religious movements the world has known. You know the influence of religion: how it destroys cowardice, how it gives the most wonderful capacity for overcoming ridicule. When you are animated with this marvellous and most wonder-

ful of all the spirits that inspire humanity—the spirit of religion—you do things that you would not do for anything else. A week ago I saw a number of brave women in Westbourne Grove, walking along by the side of the road, making themselves into sandwich women for the sake of your movement. I saw the same thing when I was in the Southern Hemisphere, when I saw the Salvation Army lassies doing the same thing, both impelled by the same wonderful force—the force of religion. When I saw in the Albert Hall, where that £15,000 came in, the spirit at that tremendous meeting, I said, 'There is no spirit of patriotism, nothing that can inspire this, save the spirit of religious enthusiasm,' and there I saw the women with their eyes full of enthusiasm, and I knew that the spirit of Joan of Arc was there—that the women there were willing to give their life for this cause that had become their great ideal, and not merely a great ideal, but an ideal so grand that I knew that it was going to cause not merely the emancipation of women, but the resurrection of the race."

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### CUSTOM

By Sarah Sellers

I was dreaming,  
And I saw the children,  
The babies from heaven;  
The mothers of the future  
Who will nurse us, and rear us,  
Who will teach us, and guide us;  
Straight from heaven I saw them,  
Beautiful to look on;  
And I heard a voice:  
"Bring the chains, the chains of  
custom."

The chains were golden,  
And fine as a baby's hair,  
And the beautiful children  
Were wound in them.

I was dreaming;  
And I saw the maidens  
Strong and straight,  
With the beauty of youth in their  
faces,

With the promise of years before  
them;  
And I heard a voice:  
"Bring the chains, the chains of  
custom."

And new chains were brought,  
Beautiful and golden;  
And the maidens did not know  
They were chains.

I was dreaming;  
And the mothers stood before me,  
With their children around them;  
And a voice said:  
"Bring the chains, the chains of  
custom."

And the mothers were bound  
With chains not golden,  
And the links held them  
With the strength of years.  
The mothers knew they were chain-  
ed;  
And they looked at their children.

Page 17 tells something worth know-  
ing.

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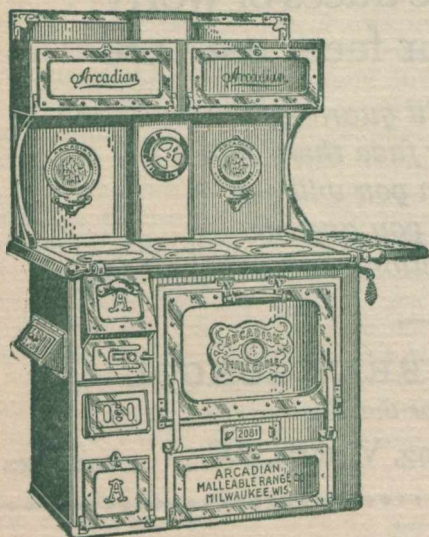
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