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MISSING

The Champion

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"The Woman's Cause is Man's."

Vol. I.

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No. 3

POLITICAL EQUALITY LEAGUE

Victoria Branch.

President, Mrs. Gordon Grant.

Hon. Treasurer, Mrs. Baer.

Organizing Secretary,

Miss Dorothy Davis.

Recording Secretary,

Miss McDonald.

Office,

421 Vancouver Street, Victoria.

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 resulting therefrom, and to force public recognition to the direct connection be-

tween 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.

ROYALTY

The Duke and Duchess have come and gone. Everything they were expected to do, they did most graciously. The program of their visit was well arranged, and well carried out. But while the Royal visitors played right well the parts assigned to them, we sighed for a glimpse of the real man and the real woman from behind all the conventional pre-arrangement—something to which, as individual men and women, we could have responded.

DOMESTIC SCIENCE.

We rejoice to see that Dr. Young, in his plans for the Normal School to be established in Victoria, is paying

special attention to the branch of Domestic Science. The recognition of the scientific importance of this subject will do much to raise the status of the hitherto "looked down upon" domestic help, and make it worth while for our efficient and educated girls to take up housework as a sphere of employment that does not carry with it the stigma of degradation. In thus raising domestic work to the dignity of a scientific study, we not only educate the housekeepers and homemakers of the future, but provide a stimulus to the production of a class of helpers sadly needed in British Columbia.

OUR ORGANIZER.

Miss Dorothy Davis left Victoria on the 20th of September on a propagandist tour, her object being to organize branches of the Political Equality League throughout the interior of the Province.

Her first meeting was held in Vernon, where she addressed a large number of earnest men and women, who appeared to be most enthusiastic in their conviction that women should no longer be disqualified from voting. As a result of her efforts in this district, a good League was organized, which promises to work actively for the development of suffrage sentiment.

Miss Davis has proved herself an enthusiastic and convincing speaker. She rouses her audiences by her intense earnestness and personal magnetism, answering argument with argument, ridicule with humor, sarcasm with reason. The League has been particularly fortunate in securing Miss Davis to take up the work, and anticipates for her great success in organization.

OBJECTIONS AND ANSWERS.

The following objections to women being given the vote have been re-

ceived by the president of the Political Equality League.

1. "While the suffrage might be safe in the hands of some women, on general principles I am opposed to it being granted to women."

2. Politics **might** be degrading to the female sex, therefore I am opposed to it."

3. "Of the evils of political power being in the hands of men we know, but of those, if that power be placed in the hands of women, we know nothing—

These three objections can be answered together, as they cover largely the same ground. Whenever woman has had power she has shown herself capable of using that power without degrading either herself or the work she has undertaken. In Victoria, in municipal elections (as old timers will remember), the improved conditions at the polls and the better moral qualifications of the men who were elected to civic positions were very noticeable after the municipal vote was granted to women. Since Seattle women have had the vote the lowest element of that city has had to get other places of abode. Since California women have had the vote the mayor of Santa Monica has appointed seven women as an advisory council without regard to party, to make suggestions for the good of the city. As a result not only the mayor but the newspapers say "more improvements have been made in the last few months than in the previous six years." They are gradually but steadily beautifying and raising the moral tone of the city, while the protection of children is greater.

The Rt. Hon. Sir Joseph George Ward, K.C.M.G., Premier of New Zealand, said: "New Zealand women who were enfranchised in 1893 have not shown great activity in initiating special legislation. They appear rather to constitute themselves an examining board and their influence is undoubtedly felt in all legislation. It is a sane,

healthy influence which makes for purity in politics, and, while mainly democratic in spirit and devoted to the protection of public interests rather than private privilege, it is a balancing force—83 per cent of the women vote in New Zealand, while 70 per cent of the men vote.”

Judge Lindsay of Colorado says: “The result of woman’s suffrage in Colorado has been so satisfactory that it is hard to understand how it encounters opposition in other places. One of the greatest advantages which has come to us from woman’s suffrage is the fear on the part of machine politicians to nominate for public office men of immoral character. Again at critical times and in important elections when some great principle is at stake, where the home and family are involved, the women of the state have always come to the rescue. We have in Colorado the most advanced laws of any State in the Union for the care and protection of the home and children, the very foundation of the Republic. These laws in my opinion would not exist at this time were it not for the powerful influence of women, which, at all times has been back of them, and those who have conscientiously administered them.”

“Political power in the hands of women” is not an “unknown power” in the countries quoted from, but a tested power with beneficial results, and the “evils” feared by our opponents have not been realized. Canadian women are not one whit behind other women in their reliability, high principles, and intellectual qualifications, therefore these fears are false, and these objections without foundation.

The argument that because only some women are fit to vote, therefore the suffrage should not be given to any women, might with equal force be applied to men, yet no one thinks of saying “because some men are unfit, therefore I am opposed to manhood suffrage.”

Fourth objection. “I am opposed,

and am strengthened in my belief by the exhibition of lawlessness with which the militant suffragettes have been demonstrating to the world their unfitness for the responsibility of the ballot.” As well might this opponent say that the Conservative Government of this Province should be turned out as unfit to govern the people of British Columbia, because Mr. Bonar Law, the leader of the Unionist party in Great Britain, and Sir Edward Carson are both acting in an unconstitutional manner in inciting the people of Ulster to illegality and armed rebellion as a protest against the Home Rule Bill, the one saying, “I can imagine no length of resistance to which Ulster will go in which I shall not be ready to support them,” (Mr. Bonar Law), and the other that he is “prepared to break every law in Ireland” rather than submit to a Bill they disapprove, and this “regardless of consequences”!

Again, this opponent looks only at results and forgets to look back to find the causes. He should consider the indignities, brutalities and degradation women have been subjected to by men who have grown wealthy through the sacrifice of the bodies and souls of women, girls and even young children, sacrificed through no fault of their own, but betrayed, decoyed and sometimes even driven into that degradation by the pittance called wages paid by men growing wealthy on what was rightfully earned by the labor of these same girls in shops and factories. Thousands upon thousands of them in England and other lands are annually sacrificed to man’s lust.

If this opponent would consider the conditions under which women and children are today suffering and working in their homes, in the factories and in the sweat shops of England he would realize that to longer permit the present condition of things would be a terrible sin on the part of woman and a travesty on woman’s Christianity and enlightenmen of the 20th century.

Woman has had a vision not only of the terrible sufferings of her sisters, but of a divine mission showing her that woman must be liberated by woman. For fifty years she has asked for deliverance by the men who were voters and politicians, yet conditions today are worse rather than better. The cries of her sisters will not longer permit patience. With her awakening has come the realization that she must have the power which lies behind the vote and she must make those in authority understand that she is in deadly earnest. To be otherwise would be criminal. The conditions of the women in England and the political stubbornness of the government have made militant methods there a necessity. The remedy is in the hands of the lawmakers but they will not use it. Many years ago British politicians followed the same policy with their child across the water, and America threw off the fetters which bound her and became free; but in doing so more than broken windows were sacrificed. The stubborn British politician caused it all. There comes a time when to longer suffer under tyrannical law is a violation of a higher and God-given law.

WHAT WOMEN WANT.

By Elizabeth Newport Hepburn.

It is not luxury that Women want,
The idle, sheltered life, the chance to shirk!
It is not gratitude, nor graft, nor praise,
Nor painted primrose paths where Satyrs lurk.
What Women want, demand, demand again,
Is Just that same "square deal" which men give men,
And Man's high privilege of Chosen Work!
It is not less of Womanhood they crave,

But more of hardy growth, of steadfast poise.
They would not shirk their splendid destinies,
But only that stale sweet which drugs and cloys,—
Those suave and stinging compliments that burn!
The eating bread they do not, could not, earn!
The counting to strong men as chattels, toys!

All ye who ridicule this clamor shrill,
This discontent in every land confessed,
Ye Other Women, clothed in Dignity,
Convinced that "methods indirect" are best!—
Be patient while we battle. You shall see
The mellow fruits of Equal Liberty—
The world-wide harvest, grown of our unrest!

And we, thrice happy women, loved of men
Who give us honest minds and loyal hearts,
We would defend our sadder sisters, spent
By harsh, unguarded toil in many marts!
Not Special Privilege we ask for these
And for Ourselves—not thin-spun sophistries,
But that Self-Government which Strength imparts!

WHY I WANT VOTES FOR WOMEN.

By F. W. Pethick Lawrence.

Firstly, I believe in woman suffrage because I like the "new woman" better than the "old." I prefer the "twin stem" to the "clinging ivy."
And what healthy-minded man does not do the same? Is not the girl or the woman with the strong, vigorous body, the alert, well-trained mind, and the

sane judgment, a better help-mate to man than the delicate, overstrung woman who was the ideal of our fathers and grandfathers? Does not the brother prefer a sister who is a comrade instead of a stay-at-home? Is not the wife who can walk or ride with her husband, who can discuss as an equal his ideas and pursuits, a fitter companion for him than the weak, irresponsible woman painted by Dickens and Thackeray? Will not the woman whose lungs have drunk deep of the breath of heaven, whose frame has been strengthened by healthful exertion, whose nerves are calm, pass better through the ordeal of childbirth, and give to her sons and her daughters a richer inheritance than the harem-type of woman on whom the maudlin fancy of men has often delighted to dwell? And we "new men," who can claim the privilege of the acquaintance of many of these "new women," know also that they possess more fully than their sisters the essentials of true womanliness—the charm, the grace, and the beauty which, ever since men were men and women were women, have softened and sweetened the intercourse of human society.

Secondly, I believe in woman suffrage because in a democracy the vote is the hall mark of full citizenship, and exclusion from voting rights carries with it a stigma of inferiority. In those countries where women vote they are part of the sovereign people; in those countries where women are forbidden to vote the men are the sovereign people, and the women are a subject people.

This fundamental difference of opinion does not remain merely an abstract idea; it is translated into the realms of practical thought and action. Where women are voters, it is recognized that they are the masters of their own lives; in those countries it is for women to decide what are the essentials of true womanliness, to understand the real meaning of courage,

of truth, of honour, of comradeship, to be free to give or withhold their lives as they in their discreet wisdom shall decide. But where men alone vote, women are frankly subordinate; it is men who set up the standards of womanliness, which women are expected to adopt. Ignorance of life is regarded as a virtue, obedience is claimed as a right, freedom of choice is forbidden or is rendered a farce by the grinding poverty into which the unattached woman is allowed to sink. Of course there are many happily-mated men and women who are free from this obsession of male ascendancy, but for the vast majority it lies at the back of all their thoughts and enters at every point into their daily lives.

Thirdly, I believe in woman suffrage because I know that women need the protection which is given by the vote, and because I find that as a matter of hard fact, they do not get equal justice under the law in those countries where they are voteless.

It is not that the good, decent men who form the bulk of the electorate desire consciously to have laws unfair to women, but that just because they are men they cannot see with the eyes of women how unequal the laws are. Even when they recognize the need for redress, they still care far more for other reforms which touch on their own lives, and politicians, who have no choice but to attend to the most pressing business, are, therefore, apt to leave women's concerns unattended to.

A whole book might be written upon this side of the question, but I will content myself with giving four condensed illustrations of the way in which women suffer at the present time from causes which could be remedied. So far as I am aware, they apply to a greater or less extent in every country where women are voteless, while most of them have been redressed in countries where women vote.

a). Inheritance.—The laws of intestacy are unequal. The widower is better placed towards the estate of his deceased wife than the widow to that of her deceased husband. The father is preferred to the mother, and so on right through.

b). Marriage Laws.—Though the home and children are supposed to be the special province of the mother, her wishes are (legally) subordinate at every point to those of her husband. He can choose (against her) the place and nature of the home, and how it shall be kept, the children are his children, and can be brought up as he pleases. Property built up by their joint labour (as, for instance, a shop), normally belongs to him alone; he can sell it or leave it by will away from his wife. Though she devote her whole time to looking after his home and his children, she can claim neither wages nor any share of his property, and in many countries cannot even enforce her own personal maintenance.

c). Employment and wages.—The nation excludes women from many lucrative employments, and where it employs men and women, pays women considerably less than men for identical work. This inequality, which has an important bearing upon the terribly low wages which women earn in all occupations, is generally one of the first things to be remedied in a country when women are enfranchised.

d). White Slavery.—No adequate protection is provided to women against the horrors of white slavery; and where the promoters of this vile traffic are caught red-handed they cannot be punished as severely as men or women guilty of trifling offences against property.

Finally, I believe in woman suffrage because I want each nation to have the benefit of women's point of view and the driving force of women's votes to

rectify many abuses and to bring about many reforms which are needed in the interests of men, women and children alike.

Women, it has been truly said, excel in the care of all living things. How foolish it is, then, to exclude them from any share of the management of the nation! It is no wonder that the last century, which witnessed such a romance of progress in machinery and material development, saw so little progress in the care of human life. Take a single instance: why is there such an appalling waste of child life? In England 110 out of every 1000 babies die in the first year of their life; that is, something like 100,000 babies die every year, nearly all from preventable causes. In Canada (according to the latest figures which I have) the proportion is still higher, being no less than 132 out of every 1,000, or more than one in eight. Compare these figures with those of Australia, where women have the franchise. In Australia the infant mortality is below 70 in every 1000, or only a little over half what it is in Canada. Nor is this a mere coincidence, for before women got the vote in Australia the infant mortality rate there was among the highest in the civilized world; but the enfranchised women at once took the matter up, they got pure food laws and pure milk laws passed, and they got other regulations enforced with such success that the mortality was reduced to its present figure.

In face of facts such as these, can men afford to do without women in the control of their national life?

PETITION WORK.

A very important meeting of the Victoria Branch of the Political Equality League was held at the office of the society on the 2nd inst., to plan for the circulation of a petition addressed to the Legislative Assembly asking that the full suffrage be extended to the

women of British Columbia. The League is undertaking to prove to the Government that the statement is not true that women do not wish the vote. It is their intention to present to Parliament a petition signed by both voters and non-voters asking that women be no longer excluded from taking their share of responsibility in the Government of the Province. It is not believed that militant methods are necessary in British Columbia in order to prove to the Government that the women are in earnest in regard to this question.

AN ACROSTIC.

C stands for "Champion," the paper that's new.
H stands for help, which is wanted from you.
A stands for "ability," which we do not lack.
M stands for "money"—that we never send back!
P stands for "prejudice," the enemy of the cause.
I for "independence," greater than the laws.
O for "opposition"—listen to it rave!
N is for our "newspaper," fearless, true and brave.

D. H. H. C.

SUFFRAGE BAZAAR.

A Suffrage Bazaar will be held in the city on Wednesday, November 20, in aid of the cause. The hall in which the function will take place has not been decided upon, but will be announced later. It may be said in the meantime, however, that arrangements are being made for the introduction of a number of attractive novelties, in addition to an unusual array of fancy work.

One promised feature of the Bazaar will be an original burlesque entitled "A Suffrage Rummage Sale," with dramatic personae of the Auctioneer, Mrs.

Grundy, Mrs. Partington, and the Mad Hatter. The articles to be auctioned will be a choice lot of prejudices, superstitions, fallen idols, curios, second-hand costumes, antique furniture and antiquated notions. Every member of the League and others interested are asked to make this month a special one in securing contributions for the sale tables.

AN APPEAL TO ALL WHO TEACH.

Development, Citizenship, Democracy, Franchise, Self-Government, Universal Education.

Those are the key-words of the address delivered at Kamloops on Sept. 27 by Principal McDiarmid to the annual Convention of School Trustees. And there is food for thought in every one of these words, for all who care what becomes of this Province and Dominion, for all interested in education, and above all, for those to whom is directly entrusted the training of the children.

Development—the development of the character of the people, is of far greater importance than even the development of the mineral or agricultural resources here at hand. High-mindedness, public spirit, willingness to submit private interest to the common weal, these must all be instilled, if democracy is to be and do the best of which it is capable in the life of the nation.

All that is good in the children is to be brought out, and every possible help given them to face what life will have to offer them, both of opportunities and of their inevitably consequent responsibilities.

Citizenship.—A high quality of citizenship. This is presented as one of the chief aims of education. And what an inspiring thought for all teachers! But would it be expected that anyone not a pianist should teach the gentle

art of playing on the piano? Does one not go to a carpenter for instruction in carpentry? Who but a mathematician would teach mathematics? Would parents trust a non-swimmer to take care of their children in the water? Then why does the State handicap so many of its teachers in this vital matter? Why are so many teachers content not to be citizens, if they are to train up citizens? For women are not recognized as such by the State.

And can, dare, shall, teachers stop short at trying to teach in the smaller world of school those duties of citizenship to one half only of their pupils? Education is to be for all, free for all, universal. Then shall this great object of education be for only some? Is it reasonable? Can it be right?

Democracy—"Government of the people, by the people, for the people," not of the whole of the people by half and for half.

Surely this Province, with its magnificent future stretching out before it, with its traditions all in the making, with its power to free itself from all the abuses, weaknesses and mistakes of older countries, with its proud boast of having "inherited all that is great in the past history of the world," and the obligation thereby laid upon it, to "make Canada better than anything that has been," surely it cannot afford to lose the opportunity presented by its system of universal education to train up all its children to be citizens, able and willing to exercise the full privileges of citizenship, sanely, understandingly, wisely, equally, men and women working side by side for the good of the nation as a whole; for, as Principal McDiarmid goes on to say, "A principle of national government for us to recognize is the value and worth of the franchise. The liberties we enjoy today were purchased for us by many bloody struggles of past generations."

Much can be done by the teachers—more, perhaps, than by any other body,

to ensure that the British Columbia of this generation and the next shall be so far-seeing, so broad-minded, as to read the lessons of history clearly enough to prevent the sowing of the seeds of just such terrible struggles in the future against injustice, oppression, bondage. If anyone doubts that those words can ever have a meaning in this "free" and "democratic" country, let him enquire into the state of the laws regarding the guardianship of children, into the rates of pay for equal work as between men and women, into the conditions, industrial or otherwise, which not only make possible but even protect, the white slave traffic, and he will see that the menace is real, not imaginary. That men are a great deal better than the law allows them to be is, mercifully true; but that does not justify the legalization of wrong or cruelty in those who are bad enough to wish to perpetrate it.

Let us fit the future women as well as the future men to take their share in all national affairs which are the concern of both alike, and should be the responsibility of the former no less than of the latter. And what fits a man or a woman for responsibility better or more quickly than having to bear a measure of it?

China is quoted by the speaker as having "passed by a bloodless revolution from tyrannical empire into the sisterhood of great republics." Well, even China is ahead of us in this matter, for China has openly recognized the equity and advisability of calling upon her women as well as her men to take their share in the direction of national affairs, and China will thereby rise, not sink, in the scale of nations.

With the women of China and of several of the Western States enfranchised, British Columbia will surely not long lag behind her neighbours westwards across the Pacific and southwards across the forty-ninth parallel. And towards this, as towards

many another step onwards, teachers can do much to educate public opinion.

HER REVENGE.

He was not for woman's suffrage he
had stated o'er and o'er,
And he told his wife with vigor she
could go to clubs no more;
Further, there should be no banners
and no sashes 'round the place,
And a bunch of yellow ribbon he
would call a sore disgrace.
So she stayed at home one morning,
as he thought, to weep or pout,
But a litle after luncheon she decided
to go out,
And of course he had to help her, and,
well, picture him alack!
There were Votes for Women buttons
—twenty-seven—down her back!
—Laurana W. Sheldon.

RACE IMPROVEMENT.

Two entertaining pamphlets have just been issued: "The Responsibilities of Fatherhood," by Francis Swiney, and "Women and Evolution," by Lady Sybil Smith.

So much has been heard nowadays about the duties of motherhood and about the high infant death-rate being due to neglect of these duties, that it is a refreshing change to hear something about the responsibilities of fatherhood. When all is said and done, if during all the ages men had taken their fatherhood as seriously as the women have their motherhood, the health of the nation would have been very different from what it is today. Hitherto, however, some excuse must be made for ignorance; which ignorance such pamphlets as Mrs. Swiney's should do much to dispel. Men need to be taught that it is important for the race that they, too, should lead clean and wholesome lives, and we heartily agree with her that "when man ceases to seek in woman only a

body, the new life of the race will have begun."

Sounding something of the same note, Lady Sybil Smith also insists that as long as men look upon women as there only for their special use, the progress of humanity will be very slow. The evils of prostitution and social degradation of women will remain until the dual standard of morality is done away with. Those who do not fully understand the deep realities that underlie this suffrage agitation should read these books. K.D.S.

Said Pat to Mike: "And sure it is
Things are coming to a pretty note.
Who'll woman leave the baby with,
When she goes out to vote?"
Says Mike to Pat: "And sure as this
Old world turns on its axis,
She'll leave it with the one she does
When she goes to pay her taxes."

NEW WESTMINSTER FAIR.

The Vancouver World in reporting the showing from the districts of the province says: "It is a question whether any fair held in Canada this year, or any previous year, could excel in display of varied and splendid specimens of the products of a province as the one to be seen in the agricultural building at Westminster's great fair.

The Suffragette booth in the Industrial building is not a forbidding place. The ladies who believe in "votes for women," so remind all who pass that way to taste the home-made candy, for the local Political Equality League are offering the sweetest of sweet inducements to those who would contribute something to the funds of the P.E.L. There are "Sunbeams from Summerland," "Turkish Delight," and "Special Mixture P. E. L." And pleasant-faced young ladies take your coin, not militant suffragettes by any means. Mrs. Watson of Edmonds, is in charge. Mrs. Mason, Miss Mason and Miss Watson assist, while Mrs. Wiggins, the president,

looks in at times to note the thriving business done in the stall. Visitors will recognize the place by the suffragette colors of purple, white and green.

TEASING THE QUEEN.

A "Suffragette" prank played by Princes Albert and Henry proves that the two sons of the King of England are just two plain, red-blooded human boys.

The incident happened just after somebody looted the red flags from the golf course at Balmoral, and left purple "Votes for Women" flags in place of them.

That was bad enough, but it was worse when similar posters were found, a day or two later, plastered on the door of the guest room of Lord of the Admiralty Winston Churchill, who was visiting at Balmoral Castle at the time. Likewise there were posters on all the automobiles in the royal garage.

The Queen was furious. She suspected the servants, and made a rigid investigation. It took a week of hard sleuthing to run down the real culprits—the two young princes.

They didn't really sympathize with the "votes for women" campaign, they said, when they were cornered. They only did it for fun, and begged to be forgiven.

As there was nothing else to be done, the royal clemency was finally extended. The queen compelled both princes to apologize in person to Mr. Churchill, however.

HUMOROUS.

"Suppose coal is six dollars a ton, and you gave your dealer thirty dollars, how many tons would he send you?"

"Three."

"Oh, that's wrong."

"I know it's wrong, but that's what he did."

Patronize the advertiser in this paper who gives full weight to the ton.

WOMAN'S UNFAIR LEGAL CONDITION IN B. C.

Mr. R. B. Kerr, a well-known barrister of Kelowna, in a brief address given at a public meeting in that city, said, "The legal position of women in Great Britain and Canada compared very unfavorably with their standing in New Zealand and Australia. Even in China the right to vote has been extended to women, the provincial assembly of Canton having among its members four female representatives." In refuting the old stock argument against woman's suffrage, that woman's sphere is the home, he pointed out that a very large number of women had no home, being compelled to go out into the world and earn their living. The laws in regard to woman's rights in the property of their husbands and also as to the custody of their children, he said, were shamefully wrong in British Columbia, due principally, no doubt, to the Legislature being too busy with other matters to notice the need of reform of the statutes. A husband in this province had the right to will all his property to strangers, leaving the family destitute. A wife had no rights as to keeping her children, in the event of separation from her husband, and this was used as a club by brutal husbands to keep their wives in subjection, as they dared not leave and thus face parting with the children.

A husband even had the right to make a will separating his children from their mother, this power extended to an unborn child. Such a barbarous law had been abolished in all countries where women voted, where women now had the same right to their children as had their father. How were these things to be abolished under present franchise conditions in B.C.? The Attorney-General had brought in a bill in the Legislature to rectify some of these injustices but the members looked upon it as a huge joke, and refused to take it seriously, so he did not push it to a division.

Men were not interested in such things, declared the speaker, who added caustically that their sphere was not the home but booming townsites or selling goods."

A SELFISH RULE.

Said Mary to Johnny, "O dear,
This play is too poky and slow,
There's only one bubble pipe here,
O Johnny, please, I want a blow."

"No, I'll blow them for you," said he;
"Just watch and you'll see every one;
That leaves all the labor to me,
While you will have only the fun."

Said Johnny to Mary, "O my,
That apple so big and so bright,
You can't eat it all if you try,
O Mary, please, I want a bite."

"No, I'll eat it for you," said she,
"And show you just how it is done;
I'll take all the labor, you see,
And you will have only the fun."

Hawaiian Women Want Vote

The Hawaiian Republican Convention, in session at Honolulu, September 17, adopted a platform asking Congress to grant statehood and to amend the organic laws so as to give suffrage to women, as the native women particularly are firm in their demand for the franchise.

Demand Universal Suffrage

Belgium cables report that the Government is on the point of yielding to popular demand for the introduction of a bill providing for universal suffrage. The measure will give the right to vote to every man and woman when they reach their majority and a double vote to male heads of families.

Issue Strong in Germany

"Woman suffrage has become so important an issue in Germany," says

the New York Evening Post, "that political parties are obliged to take notice of it. The Social Democrats have declared in favor of it in the Prussian Chamber; the Liberal Unions have done likewise, and a few representatives of the Centre have also committed themselves affirmatively."

Educating Roumania

Roumania is said to be seething with sentiment favorable to woman suffrage. "Rights of Women," official organ of the Roumania Woman Suffrage Association, edited by Mme. Janculescan, reports that meetings are being held in all parts of the country and the demands for speakers and literature are pouring in at such a rapid rate that it is impossible to supply them.

French Government Committee Endorses Equal Suffrage

The Special Committee appointed by the French Government to investigate the workings of Woman's suffrage in the various countries where it has been adopted has submitted a favorable report and in no uncertain terms recommends its adoption in France. In conclusion the report makes these statements: "Whatever the point of view, it is certain that at the foundation of the debate there is only one question, that of equality of sex. Those who stand alone today are not the suffragists. It is France that lags in the rear. The great majority of the civilized world today has decidedly passed us. We stand alone with Spain and Turkey."

Dr. Annie Shaw Says

"My earliest and latest observations of life have confirmed me in the belief that the salvation of democratic government depends on the enfranchisement of women."

"Either a representative government is right or wrong, if it is right, it is as right for women as for men."

"The only qualifications that should govern the right to vote are intelligence and obedience to law."

"The things that concern us are the things about which we have a right to be concerned. So long as society comes into the house and lays its hands upon the woman's children, so long is government woman's business."

"The deepest of all reasons for woman's franchise is the child."—Josephine Preston Peabody.

MISS ADDAMS AND EQUAL SUFFRAGE.

In Miss Jane Addams' remarkable book "A New Conscience and an Ancient Evil," which deals with the White Slave Traffic and its remedy is recognized the importance of woman's enfranchisement, in its bearing upon the mitigation of this terrible evil; and Miss Addams is convinced that equal suffrage rights will mean the beginning of the end of commercialized trade in bodies and souls of women.

She writes: "Women with political power would not brook that men should live upon the wages of captured victims, should openly hire youths to ruin and debase young girls, should be permitted to transmit poison to unborn children. * * * Those women who are already possessed of political power have in many ways registered their conscience in regard to it. The Norwegian women, for instance, have guaranteed to every illegitimate child the right of inheritance to its father's name and property by a law which also provides for the care of its mother. * * * The age of consent is eighteen years in all the States in which women have the ballot although in only eight of the others is it so high * * * Certainly enfranchised women would offer some protection to the white slaves themselves who are tolerated and segregated, but who, because their very existence is illegal, may be ar-

rested whenever any police captain chooses, may be brought before a magistrate, fined and imprisoned. * * * These things constantly happen everywhere save in Scandinavian countries, where juries of women sit upon such cases and offer the protection of their presence to the prisoners. * * * Every movement therefore, which tends to increase woman's share in civic responsibility undoubtedly forecasts the time when a social control will be extended over men similar to the historic one so long established over women."

WHERE WOMEN VOTE.

California has a law which enables a county to try a lazy father for failing to provide for his family. Upon conviction he may be put to work on the public roads at \$1.50 a day and his earnings are turned over to his family.

The most popular toast at a banquet held recently in Los Angeles, California, was that of Judge Dillon, "Our Mothers, Wives and Sisters—at last our political equals."

Washington passed a law less than a year ago making the treating system in intoxicants an indictable offence. Opponents of the new law made a test case, appealing to the Court on the ground that the law was invalid. The Courts, however, decided in favor of the law as it stands.

THE WOMAN'S REASON— BECAUSE.

Because women must obey the laws just as men do; they should vote equally with men.

Because women pay taxes just as men do, thus supporting the government; they should vote equally with men.

Because women suffer from bad government just as men do; they should vote equally with men.

Because mothers want to make their children's surroundings better; they should vote equally with men.

Because a large number of women in Canada are wage workers and their health and that of our future citizens are often endangered by evil working conditions that can only be remedied by legislation; they should vote equally with men.

Because women of leisure who attempt to serve the public welfare should be able to support their advice by their votes; they should vote equally with men.

Because busy housemothers and professional women cannot give such public service, and can only serve the State by the same means used by the busy men—namely, by casting a ballot; they should vote equally with men.

Because women need to be trained to a higher sense of social and civic responsibility, and such sense develops by us; they should vote equally with men.

Because women are consumers, and consumers need fuller representation in politics; they should vote equally with men.

Because women are citizens of a government OF the people, BY the people and FOR the people, AND WOMEN ARE PEOPLE; they should vote equally with men.

Equal suffrage for men and women—women need it, men need it, the state needs it. Why?

Because women ought to give their help.

Because men ought to have their help.

Because the state ought to use their help.

IN IDAHO.

Miss Margaret S. Roberts, State Librarian of Idaho, writes in the Idaho Club Woman for June:

I think we can demonstrate not only that woman's suffrage has no bad results, but that it has certain good results.

Today we sit down and count our blessings that have come to us through suffrage. We find:

1. Suffrage has given to the women

of our State a position of increased dignity and influence.

2. It has made some improvement in our laws.

3. It has enabled women to bear on legislation more quickly and with less labor.

4. It has often defeated bad candidates.

5. It has broadened women's minds, and has led them to take a more intelligent interest in public affairs.

6. It has made elections and political meetings more orderly.

7. It has made it easier to secure liberal appropriations for educational and humanitarian purposes.

8. It has opened to women more important positions.

Miss Roberts further says:

No doubt it is in other suffrage States as it is in Idaho. They are besieged daily with the question, "What has suffrage done for your State?" Sometimes the cry comes like a cry from a ship that seems to be in distress, out in deep water of doubt and misgivings. But "Fear not, no harm can come to thee." No state that admits to citizenship its good mothers, wives and daughters can help but make a greater advancement in civilization and a greater, broader and finer citizenship.

Idaho women have accomplished much in a quiet, unobtrusive way. Before working for any reform they have studied the question thoroughly, and have kept this motto before them as their slogan: "Stop! Look! Listen!" Women in our State have always made their influence felt, on all vital issues, by their vote. This they consider good citizenship, and that the study of politics to help secure good political results is worthy of American womanhood. The ballot in the hands of a good woman is the open door to influential legislation, and the most important being in America today is the woman who thinks.

While we have accomplished much along all lines since coming into our citi-

zanship, we feel, like all women, we are in process. We have but recently begun to realize that we are individuals. Protection of adults weakens them, and causes arrested development. Power, we find, is not a gift, but is the result of wide exercise. With more exercise of the ballot, we expect to be a greater power in our State for good.

THE TIDES

"So vain is the cry of the Masters,
 And vain the plea of the hearth,
 As the ranks of the strange New
 Woman
 Go sweeping across the earth.
 They have come from hall and hovel;
 They have pushed through door and
 gate.
 On the world's highway they are
 crowded today—
 For the hour is the hour of fate.
 Many are hurt in the crowding;
 The light of the home grows dim—
 And man is aghast at the changes,
 Though all can be traced to him.
 They sat too long at the hearthstone
 And sat too oft alone,
 And the silence spoke, and their souls
 awoke,
 And now they must claim their
 own.

Let no man hope to hinder;
 Let no man bid them pause;
 They are moved by a hidden purpose.
 They follow resistless laws,
 And out of the wreck and chaos
 Of the order that used to be,
 A strong new race shall take its place
 In a world we are yet to see.
 Oh, ever has man been leader,
 Yet failed as woman's guide.
 It is better that she step forward,
 And take her place at his side—
 For only from greater woman
 May come the greater man.
 Through life's long quest they should
 walk abreast
 As was meant by the primal plan.
 —Ella Wheeler Wilcox.

PERHAPS!

Mrs. Chapman Catt.)

Perhaps you paused to think that the laws under which you live, and which control the whole environment of your life, are the direct or the indirect results of the averaged opinions which are put into the ballot box, you would incline to study the questions which pertain to the right of voting.

Perhaps, if you realized that law guarantees, or restricts, your own personal liberty; protects, or jeopardizes your health, your home, your happiness; regulates the food you eat, the clothes you wear, the books you read, the amusements you enjoy; in fact permits, or prohibits, your every act, you would feel a serious obligation to enquire into the nature of such authority over you.

Perhaps if you paused to think that law will never represent the highest intelligence or morality since intelligence and morality must always be averaged at the ballot box with ignorance and immorality, you would perceive that whenever intelligence and morality predominate over ignorance and immorality, the trend of civilization must be upwards, and you would search for such factors.

Perhaps, if you knew that women are also voting upon all questions in Australia, a country nearly as large as our own, New Zealand, Norway and Finland, and in municipal affairs in Sweden, Denmark, Iceland and England, you would awaken to the knowledge that other lands are passing us in the race toward liberty for all people, and you would ask why the United States hesitate to live up to its own principles of "equal rights for all special privileges for none."

Perhaps if you knew that the book-sellers of Denver reported that they had sold more books on Civil Government and Political Economy in six months after women were enfranchised than in ten years before, you would be convinced that women appreciate the responsibility of voting, and prepare

themselves to "administer the sacrament of citizenship" intelligently.

Perhaps, if you realized the full truth that women are not disfranchised because "women do not want to vote;" "because good men fear the influence of bad women on politics, or bad politics on good women," as is commonly reported; but because bad men fear the influence of good women on bad politics, and fear the influence of good politics over the affairs of bad men, you would be ready to join the Political Equality League.

Perhaps, if you realized that every excuse offered for the disfranchisement of women had done service in turn for every proposed reform in women's conditions, viz.: the higher education, property control, public speaking, the right of organization, etc., you would the more readily perceive that each excuse is but the shadowy creation of unreasoning prejudice set up to affright the morbid imaginations of the

timid, and you would not be frightened.

Perhaps, if you observed that the opposition to woman suffrage comes from the States where women do not vote and is therefore based upon theory, while in no State where the people have extended the suffrage to women, and therefore have had opportunities to observe the effects of its actual operation, has there been any effort to repeal such laws, you might feel more confidence in the righteousness of the cause, and be willing to speak a word for it now and then.

Perhaps, then, if you would turn to the report of the Superintendent of Education, and would learn that more girls than boys were graduated from our high schools, and also that only an insignificant per cent of crime is committed by women, and then noting that only few immoralities known to you are committed by women, you would recognize in woman suffrage added intelligence and morality to the voting forces.

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TABLE SHOWING THE
Rapid Growth of Profits Earned
DURING THE PAST FIVE YEARS

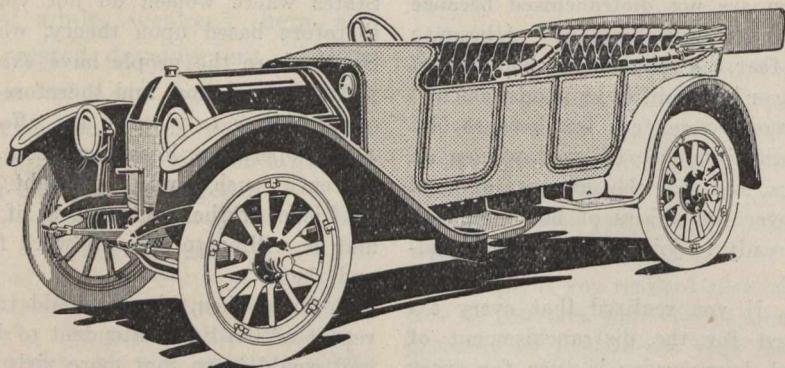
YEAR	PROFITS EARNED	Profits Earned in Per Cent. of Premiums Received
1907	\$381,146	21.99 per cent.
1908	\$428,682	22.36 per cent.
1909	\$501,922	24.49 per cent.
1910	\$615,083	27.39 per cent.
1911	\$731,064	29.79 per cent.

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