

JANUARY, 1914

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VOL. 2

VICTORIA, B.C., JANUARY, 1914

No. 1

## POLITICAL EQUALITY LEAGUE

### Victoria Branch

President.....Mrs. Gordon Grant  
Vice-President.....Mrs. Baer  
Corresponding Secretary.....  
.....Miss Smith McCorkell  
Secretary.....Miss D. Christopher  
Treasurer.....Mrs. E. A. Ramlose  
Treasurer of Champion.....  
.....Mrs. G. H. Pethick  
Office, 202 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 resulting 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.

## WOMEN'S FREEDOM UNION (Known as the Go-Aheads)

Organiser—Dorothy M. Bishop.

Treasurer—Miss Dorothy Twist.

Address—202 Campbell Block, Victoria.

This League is in course of organisation, and will for the next three months devote its energies to helping along suffrage work generally, and the sale of the Champion in particular, until its Organiser returns from the Old Country, when its objects and methods will be published and its plan of campaign drawn up and announced.

In Mrs. Bishop's absence information may be obtained from Miss T. McCorkell, at the above address.

The motto of the Go-Aheads is "I Shall Arrive," their badge two out-



spread wings bearing a torch, their colours scarlet and white, the symbolism of which will be dealt with in an article later.

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### EDITOR'S NOTES

#### The Outlook

Since our last issue a very strong light has been thrown on the situation with regard to Woman Suffrage and its prospects in B. C. for the immediate future. A decisive step taken by certain Suffrage societies in Vancouver has elicited a definite statement from the Government which is to be taken, we understand, as official. The B. C. Woman's Suffrage Society in Vancouver, of which Miss Gutteridge is President, has convened a "Parliamentary Committee," to which all Vancouver suffrage societies were invited to send representatives, for the purpose of discussing the parliamentary aspect of suffrage work and arranging, whenever possible, for united action in connection with it. At a recent meeting of this Parliamentary Committee a majority decided in favour of approaching certain Members of Parliament in order to obtain from them a precise statement as to their views on the Suffrage question. Among other M. P.'s, Mr. Bowser received in due course a letter putting to him the fatal query, and his diplomatic reply invited the Committee to send a delegation of women to wait on the Cabinet in Victoria, because, he explained, his position made it undesirable for him to give an independent answer.

Accordingly, a delegation of women, consisting of twelve representatives of various Vancouver suffrage societies, came over to Victoria a fortnight ago and were received by the Premier, the Attorney-General, one other member of the Cabinet and a fourth, who came in towards the close of the interview. The upshot of the affair was, we understand, a clear pronouncement by the Premier as to his unfaltering opposition to the idea of Votes for Women. He told the women that he could only repeat what he had said fifteen years ago—

that if a referendum were organised of the women in this Province and two-thirds asked for the Vote, then—and then only—the Government would be prepared to consider the advisability of introducing a Government measure; otherwise the women would have to depend on a private member's bill. The Premier also, when asked why he so strongly opposed Woman Suffrage, made the naive confession that while he believed the Vote would not affect either politics generally or legislation in particular, one way or the other, yet he felt that it would lead women to neglect their homes and would so prove disastrous to the welfare of the nation. We wish we had the Premier's actual words to quote in this connection. English suffragists can dimly recall the time many years ago when this extraordinary point of view was prevalent in the Old Country, where tradition and conservatism may to some extent have excused it; but they are as greatly at a loss as their Canadian sisters to account for the existence of such antideluvian sentiments and views in the mind of a modern and progressive man of this country. Moreover, all suffragists must get considerable amusement out of this evidence of man's logic as exhibited by a statesman with legal training. Men have never at any time won political freedom or industrial rights on a show of hands; and when in the days of the agitation in the Old Country for the extension of the franchise to agricultural labourers, certain stalwart Tories protested (and in this case with truth) that there was no real demand for it, Mr. Gladstone made the historic reply that if it were right and just that any class should get the Vote, it was unnecessary to wait until a majority demanded it before giving it to those who did. It is unfair as well as absurd to say that the Vote should be withheld from the women of this Province who are intelligent enough to demand it, merely because they are at present (as all reformers are) in a minority. Moreover, with regard to the possible effect of the Women's Vote, this problem has now passed beyond the region of spec-



ulation, and it is only common-sense to look for its solution to the lands where experiment has already given an answer. There the Women's Vote has not only affected legislation in almost every department of national and municipal life, but the political atmosphere has felt its uplifting influence, and in many instances men have found that they may call in vain for its support at election time unless their personal standards both in private and in public life "satisfy the examiners" among the so-called "weaker sex."

This much has, however, emerged from the incident of the Delegation and its reception—that nothing short of a miracle will give us our freedom during the coming Session. A private member's Bill has no earthly chance of passing into law, and it is waste of time to devote any thought to its promotion. A Government Bill will not be introduced without some supernatural intervention compelling the authorities to take the question seriously. So that the suffragists of every league have before them certain definite facts and knowledge to work upon in the planning of their campaign for the next twelve months. With possible miracles we need not concern ourselves—they will happen (or not!) without our assistance. And it is therefore incumbent on us to concentrate on the development of a scheme of work which shall result at the next opportunity in a quiet but decisive victory.

Before leaving this subject we should like to impress on our readers the urgency of UNITY of PURPOSE among all those who believe in the Woman's Cause. It is surely easy for us who are bound together in the pursuit of so great an ideal to sink all petty personal differences, all petty personal ambitions, and to ignore all side issues in a common move towards its fulfilment.

Could we not take this year for our suffrage motto the words of William Morris:

"Then shoulder to shoulder, as the world grows older—

Help lies in naught but thee and me,  
Life is before us, the long years that  
bore us

Bore leaders greater than men can  
be.

Let dead hearts tarry and trade and  
marry,

And trembling nurse their dreams of  
mirth;

While we, the living, our lives are  
giving

To bring a great new world to birth."

The "News" has a "howler" which we make bold to quote: "A bishop without a diocese is called a Suffragette." But the question being asked in Victoria at this moment among suffragists is "When does a Suffragette become a Bishop?"

#### Criticisms

A correspondent sends us the following list of criticisms on The Champion and its failings. We append categorical replies:

1. It will not sell.
2. It contains so very little for ten cents.
3. The cover is not attractive, and there are no cartoons or pictures.
4. It looks too solid, too much like a Church paper.
5. Too much strong meat, not enough milk for beginners in Suffrage work.
6. It should be more sensational—expose things that are not right in society, Government, etc.—put in plain, strong language to wake up the people.
7. Not religious tone enough. No reforms without Christianity.
8. Speaks too plainly about certain unpleasant subjects, especially the White Slave Traffic. Should be made more fit for the Young People.
9. Does not deal sufficiently with Temperance.
10. There are no receipts, no dress-plates, few jokes, seldom stories.

The editorial staff is always ready to consider every criticism that occurs to those who have the Cause at heart and are anxious to improve the paper; but we feel obliged to point out one thing,



and that is that The Champion is a small organ, got up for one specific purpose—to promote the Cause of Woman Suffrage through the publication of its reasons and of news concerning it, and as a medium for the expression of the views of suffragists. This magazine was started absolutely without capital, and we have to pay a very heavy price for its publication. Consequently, our space is extremely limited, and we cannot afford any for the less important items generally to be found in a Woman's magazine. There are plenty of others published which contain jokes, receipts, dress-plates, etc.

1. Magazines do not ever sell automatically. They have to be sold, a demand for them has to be laboriously created, and this may be done in two ways: If the proprietors are persons who have undertaken to launch a paper in order to make money, they must expend a large amount in the floating of their paper, in advertising it, in salaries of a staff to conduct it, in maintaining it for months until it is known; also, they must cater to public taste and supply exactly what the buying public likes to read. If, on the other hand, the proprietors of a paper have launched it solely in support of a Cause—either political, religious, social or industrial—and have no capital to invest in it as a commercial enterprise, they have to do the best they can with the space at their disposal, and their paper depends for its sale and development on the loyal support and strenuous work of each individual member. This is particularly the case in regard to a paper representing an unpopular Cause. Harder work is required, and the sale and success depend on the individual efforts of each reader.

2. We have to pay a very heavy price for the issue of our paper, and we only just manage to cover expenses. The work put into the paper is all entirely voluntary, and in order to increase the size we need more advertisements, more subscribers, and more paper-sellers. If every subscriber will make it a point of honour to obtain for

The Champion five new subscribers, five new half-page advertisements, and sell copies for five hours a month—(that is the way that in all other countries suffrage papers are made to "sell")—we will guarantee to enlarge The Champion and give a very generous ten cents' worth.

3. We think the cover very attractive, though we should like to see coloured paper used for it, and this we hope in time to achieve. Cartoons and pictures cost about four dollars each month. Would our critic care to make us a present of a few each month?

4. This is chiefly the fault of the type, which we hope to get varied as soon as we can afford to make the necessary arrangements; but of course the subject is a solid subject, and we cannot please all, much as we should like to. Observe complaint ?!

5 and 6. We will try and improve in both these directions!

8. Impossible!

9. There are very many social questions with which it is not our business to deal particularly at present. Temperance is one of them.

10. We will try and do better as regards the jokes and stories. But has not some one a few positive suggestions to make within the scope of our limited funds and space?

### A HAPPY NEW YEAR

"The old year fades in memory's haze—another year has now begun. May twelve glad months of glad new days have joy for you in every one!"

### THE MENACE

She leaves her babe to others  
To climb the factory stair;  
She creeps home at night to her children,  
Too weary to bind her hair.  
With the sacred chrism of motherhood  
In her tired and careless hands,  
Through her they must come  
With souls born dumb—  
The men who shall rule our lands!  
—Grace McGowan Cooke.



### WEDDING BELLS

Another of our Victoria Suffragists has enlarged her sphere of usefulness and influence.

On Wednesday, December 17th, Miss Dorothy Davis was married to Mr. R. P. Bishop of Victoria, at St. Mary's Church, Oak Bay, the service being conducted by the Rev. G. H. Andrews. The bride was given away by Mr. Clive Phillipps-Wolley, and only intimate friends of the couple were present.

Mr. and Mrs. Bishop are leaving for England for two or three months, but on their return Mrs. Bishop hopes to continue work for the Cause.

### STOP PRESS!

The prevalent epidemic is assuming alarming proportions! As we go to press, another Suffragette (militant, too, by the way) proceeds to prove that the cause does not rob the Home. Miss Blanche Gargett is marrying Dr. Baillie at St. Mary's Church, Oak Bay, the Rev. G. H. Andrews tying this knot also, at 9:30 on New Year's morning. Dr. and Mrs. Baillie are leaving for Duncan, where the Doctor is about to practise. Our best wishes go with both brides and bridegrooms. We know that these events will help and not hinder the great work in which we are all engaged; and we hear that Mr. Andrews is to be applied to again before long!

### NEWS FROM THE BRANCHES

#### Vancouver

At a crowded meeting held the other evening in Vancouver Mr. J. P. McConnell, candidate for the Yale Division in the forthcoming elections, gave an excellent speech, which we wish we had space to print in full. He made at one point the startling disclosure which created a great sensation, that representation had just come from Quesnel complaining that the restricted district when removed from the town had been put into possession of a Government holding in the neighbourhood,

under the control of the Attorney-General. Mr. McConnell added that the condition of public morality in this Province was unspeakable and that he looked to the Women's Vote to effect a great cleansing and uplifting move in this direction.

#### Victoria

The Annual Sale of Work of the Political Equality League, Victoria Branch, took place on November 24th, and realised a substantial sum towards the expenses of the Branch. Some excellent music was provided during the evening by Miss Winifred Siddons, Miss Shrapnel and two of the latter's pupils, and a "rag" song by several members of the Branch afforded great amusement to the audience. Mrs. Greaves spoke, announcing the formation of the new League called the "Go-Aheads," and giving a few particulars as to the work it intended doing.

### OBSERVED HALLOWE'EN

#### Large Party Enjoyed Political Equality League's Event in King's Daughters' Rest Room

A very jolly Hallowe'en party was held on Friday evening at the King's Daughters' rest room by the Political Equality League, about seventy of the members and their friends turning up, many in costumes, and a most seasonable observance of the occasion being held. Witches, black cats, human pumpkins and other goblin forms held high revel, diving for apples, fortune-telling and guessing contests forming but a portion of the amusements indulged in during the evening. Mrs. Gregson gave a very suitable vocal solo entitled "Where the Fairies Hide Their Heads," and Miss Shrapnell contributed a violin solo in her gifted manner and to the delight of her audience.

A very amusing debate on "Vote for Women" was held between the Wizard and the Witch, the latter coming out victorious; and later a dame of 850 summers gave to a charmed audience her experiences during the last few centuries. Mr. Daniels made a most



successful clairvoyant fortune teller, and was sought by many for information regarding the future, while others sought for a clue to their future in the cake in which was imbedded the ring, the thimble, the piece of money and other symbols of the kind. The proceedings broke up about midnight, with many expressions from the guests and hosts alike of their enjoyment of the proceedings.—From the Times.

### WHY CANADIAN WOMEN SHOULD VOTE

**Women** as well as men are human beings, and voting is one of the special rights which distinguishes human beings from brutes.

**Women** are not identical with men, and their special interests should be represented at the ballot box as are the interests of men.

**Women** are the Mothers of citizens and future citizens. They have the greatest possible stake in the government, and deserve the greatest possible honor and power.

**Women** Will Advance in Self-Respect when no longer branded with the stigma of disfranchisement. They will no longer hold themselves so cheap in marriage or out of it.

**Women**, by the payment of direct taxes on their property and indirect taxes on what they eat and wear, contribute to Governmental Revenues, and should, because of this financial interest, be represented in every government not a tyranny.

**Women** increase the Nation's Wealth by their industry, three-fourths of the married women doing their own housework, sewing, nursing, etc., and a very large number working outside their homes in remunerative pursuits.

**Women's Ballots** will hasten the golden era of Equal Pay for Equal Work.

**Women's Special Cares—Home and Children**—are not legally protected when the homemakers have no votes.

**Women's Ballots** may bring greater attention to the Sanitary Needs of home, factory and street.

**Women** are so Universally Law-Abiding that only 3 per cent. of the criminals in state prisons are women.

**Women** Strive to be Better and Nobler, as is shown by the great preponderance of women in the churches, and in the unsalaried positions in the philanthropies.

**Women** with the ballot Could Prevent Destructive Wars, injurious to the State, and to their own best beloved.

**Women** Are so Generally Chaste, that even fraud, force, money, pretended love, and the allurements of an idle, elegant life, cannot tempt from virtue's path enough women to supply the demand.

**Women** Are Well Educated, almost all women in British Columbia being able to read and write, and their intelligent vote would greatly benefit the Province.

**Women's Ballots** Are Feared by Evil Doers, who avow their dread of what women might do to their various nefarious businesses.

**Women's Ballots** Might Prevent Graft by public officials whose salaries women must now pay, and under whose thieving women now powerlessly suffer.

**Women** might help administer Canadian affairs more economically, honestly and progressively than have the present voters. Many men admit that Canadian men and women together could do much better for themselves, the Province and posterity than could either sex alone.

**Women** Who Are Slave Mothers Bring Forth Slave Children. An enfranchised motherhood will bring forth a race which has never been equaled for nobility, heroism and true greatness.

**Women** in Canada Are as Intelligent, Virtuous and Public-Spirited as are the women of Australia, New Zealand, Tasmania, Finland, Norway, Isle of Man, Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, Idaho, Washington, Texas, Oregon, Arizona, California, Illinois and Alaska, where women vote for all officers elected by the people.

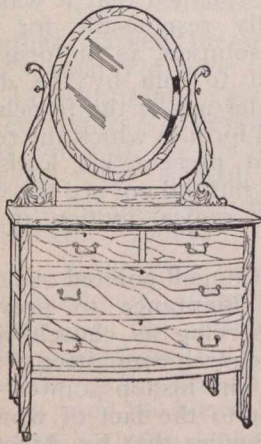
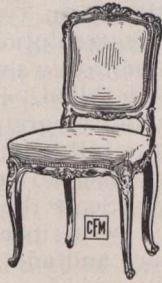
**Women** in Canada Deserve the Municipal Ballot as much as do the women



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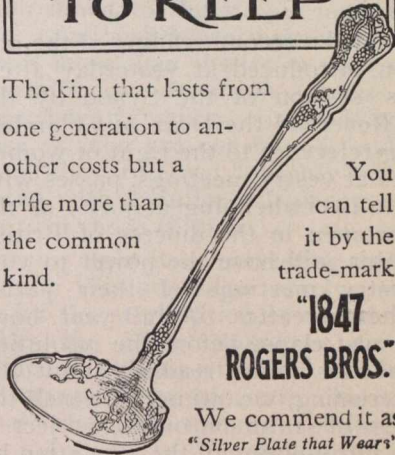
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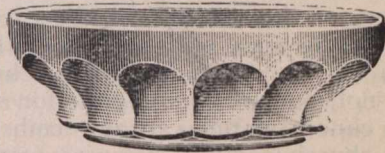
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### VOTES FOR WOMEN IN COLUMBIA DIOCESE

#### Resolution Passed First Reading at Synod; Speakers Advance Views

Provided a second reading of the resolution introduced at yesterday afternoon's session of the Synod by the Very Reverend the Dean of Columbia, having reference to the right of women to vote at vestry meetings, passes with such an overwhelming majority as the first, women in the diocese of British Columbia will have the power to vote at vestry meetings of their parish churches hereafter. A full year, however, must elapse before the resolution comes to its second reading, and it will be interesting, meantime, to watch the progress of sentiment on the subject.

The introduction of the resolution by the dean was preceded by an exposition of his reasons for asking for the extension of the suffrage therein asked for, which would entitle female members of the church to the same privileges as members of the vestries, as those enjoyed by the male parishioners of the church at the present time. They would not, however, be eligible for office as church wardens or as members of the church committee, or as members of the Synod.

The fundamental principles of Christianity taught that in Christ Jesus there was neither male nor female in the body of the church. This was the ideal; but Christianity had to encounter deep-rooted prejudice. Christianity had always kept steadily before it the ideal of an emancipated womanhood. The result was that she was today, in Christian countries, man's equal—in many instances his superior. The church must advance with the times.

"We all know," continued the dean, "what the women of the church have

done for it—their zeal, their devotion, their helpfulness in all departments."

"Is it not time to cease telling the women that we will accept their work, that we are willing to use them to the utmost as long as they will give their services, but to refuse them the privilege of exercising any control what-affairs?"

The dean continued by citing particular instances where the presence of women at vestry meetings would be a distinct gain.

The resolution was then read, and the motion was seconded by the Rev. Baugh Allen, of St. Paul's, Esquimalt, who only regretted that the bill did not go the full length and make it possible for women to become church wardens.

Mr. Seale thought it was something by way of insult to remove the hindrance and add the insult of qualifying the permission.

The bishop explained that it was he who was really responsible for the form of the resolution, as the original form presented to him by the dean asked for a wider use of the franchise. In the modified form in which the resolution stood at present his lordship fully approved, but did not see the wisdom of a more radical motion at the present time.

Rev. Robert Connell pointed out that there was no hindrance to prevent women from serving as church wardens or on the church committee at the present time. The bishop pointed out that it was not to the fact of women voting on the bodies that he objected, but to the actual personnel of the Synod if women were allowed to sit.

Speakers to the resolution included the Rev. C. R. Littler, Percy Woollaston, the Rev. Mr. Collison, the Rev. Mr. Barton, and others. Lindley Crease, K. C., chancellor, explained some of the technicalities necessary to be gone through with if the proposed change were accepted. The Rev. E. G. Miller delivered a ten-minute address in opposition to the resolution.

The bishop, in calling for the question, explained that the effect of the amendment would be to leave the question as to the canonical or uncanonical



position as to a woman being elected as church warden or otherwise just where it was at present. The resolution passed, as amended.

"Whereas, it is expedient to remove all expressions and words of definition from the constitution and canons of the Anglican Synod of the diocese of British Columbia which hinder and prevent female members of the Church of England in the diocese of British Columbia from being members of the vestry of the parish church which they attend, and exercising the right of speaking and voting at all meetings of said vestry, be it therefore resolved that alterations be made in the constitution and canons of this Anglican Synod of the diocese of British Columbia: That the word 'male' should be struck out before the words 'member of the Church of England in Canada.'"

—❖—

"Father," asked the girl who was going to marry a poor man, "do you think I ought to take a course in household economics? They offer a lovely one at Briny Moore for three hundred dollars?" "No," replied pater grimly. "You will get one for nothing after you are married."—Judge.

—❖—

The economic advantages to the Province of the establishment of "mothers' pensions" were recently laid before the Labor Commission by the delegates from the Social Service Commission of Victoria. It was pointed out that twenty of the States of the Union had adopted this law in some form or other, in addition to France and Denmark, and that a modified law had been in operation in New Zealand since Jan. 1, 1912, and Great Britain and Australia had the question under consideration.—Colonist, Nov. 5.

The women of B. C., while fully sympathising with the principle underlying the proposed reform, feel that one so intimately concerning their sex should be discussed by men and women together, and that until they have the vote this question cannot receive satisfactory attention.—(Ed. Champion.)

## CHIVALRY!

We are continually being reminded by Anti-Suffragists of the "pedestal" on which Woman sits enthroned in the eyes of Man, and of the unfailing "chivalry" which—as a result partly of her "weakness" and partly of her "queenliness"—Man offers her. As long as we are "womanly" (and have no vote) we may rest assured that our interests are safe in the hands of men and that in all affairs of life, from legislation down to the simple matters of daily relationship, we may confidently expect more than justice in their dealings with us. Attention, we are told, is consistently paid to our needs before those of men are considered, and the sins of the "frail" yet "queenly" sex are visited with a uniform leniency never accorded those of men.

In this light it is interesting to learn that the Wisconsin law wisely providing for the sterilisation of degenerates makes the State Board of Control (composed wholly of men), which has the management of State charitable, penal and reformatory institutions, the judge as to the advisability of sterilising any degenerates in the public charge, and **THAT THE BOARD INTENDS TO BEGIN WITH WOMEN DEGENERATES.** It is reported that several hundred **women** will be sterilised this year.

Here we have an instance of masculine chivalry, masculine leniency, masculine justice, as between women and men culprits; and can it be wondered that the announcement has stirred both women and men suffragists to a state of white-hot indignation? It is useless for those responsible to plead that they are actuated by a determination to see no more children born of degenerate parents. This result would be achieved far more certainly and completely by arranging that the drastic measure should be carried out first on the men. For whereas the percentage of women criminals is only 3 per cent. as compared with 97 per cent. of men criminals, it is also a fact that only a very small percentage of these degenerate women bear children, while the innocent



wives of degenerate men are bringing degenerate offspring into the world all the time. If the men were the first to undergo the punishment and the disgrace which they so richly merit, not only would all chance of their handing on their vicious tendencies and their diseased constitutions be averted, whether through the unhappy failures among women or the often still more unhappy upright wives, but general morality would more speedily be safeguarded, by this effective disabling of immoral men. While, on the other hand, the punishment of the women first will leave those poor unfortunates more than ever at the mercy of the vicious, will encourage bad men (who are ready enough to seize every offer of encouragement) to reason that it cannot matter what happens to such women, and will also encourage weak men to feel that here at any rate are victims whom they cannot injure, even if they do yield to their lower instincts.

While recognizing that Wisconsin has taken a wise and progressive step is passing the law as it stands, we suffragists protest with all our energy against its being administered by a body of MEN ONLY and being applied in such a way as to carry out the old tradition of making the woman pay the price of her folly while leaving the man free to continue his far more widespread, far more responsible life of vice with impunity, without even the slender chance of being made legally liable for any resulting offspring.

This suffrage movement is knockin' all the pothry out iv our relations with th' fair sex. There's our friend Hogan. He's been expellin' pothry about th' ladies f'r so many years that I have it be heart. They're this an' they're that. They're eternal joy an' everlastin' love. Angels don't look like thim, but only pretind to. They're perfection nobly planned, says he. But whin wan iv thim wondherful crathers comes up an' thries to cash in his adjectives f'r a vote, he wants to lock her up. It's hard f'r a lady to think he's on th' square with her whin he tells her men wud be brutes without her, afther he's

ordhered a polisman to chase her away fr'm the polls.—Mr. Dooley.

### OF COURSE NOT

Sir J. Forbes-Robertson, addressing a Suffragist meeting at Sheffield, told the story of a lady who called on a prominent Edinburgh tradesman with the intention of getting him to sign a memorial in favour of Lord Milner's South African policy.

"Is it money ye're wanting?" was his first query.

After he had been reassured on that point, he wanted to know who Lord Milner was!

It was explained that his lordship was our proconsul in South Africa.

"What's a proconsul?" said the Edinburgh man.

Another explanation followed.

Finally, when the lady had satisfied all the tradesman's queries, he agreed to sign.

"But ye're not letting the women sign this?" said he, anxiously.

"Oh, no," replied the lady.

"Ah! That's right—that's right. Ye ken the women know naething at all about these things!"

Smokers, attention! And ye rare birds, the non-smoking men, if any such are to be found on this Coast. We challenge you to be sports at least once a month and buy The Champion at your favourite cigar news stand. If you are not open-minded enough to read it yourselves, you certainly know some woman who would be interested in it. If you are already subscribers, give some friend, who is not, the tip to buy the paper at the stalls. The Champion is not as big as some others, but it gives you a viewpoint you don't get otherwise, and is not padded with a lot of stuff you have seen in some other paper. We particularly wish to boost the sale of our paper at the stalls, as we think these sales appeal to the advertisers, and we can handle any extra revenue we get through them without trouble.

C. M. (contributed).



## SPOKE ABLY IN BEHALF OF SUFFRAGE

"As Others See Us," a volume by John Graham Brooks, published by the Macmillan Company, quotes a speech delivered by a militant suffragette, a certain Mrs. Skinner, two generations ago. She said:

Miss President, "feller wimmen," and male trash generally: I am here today for the purpose of discussing women's rights, recussing her wrongs, and cussing the men.

I believe the sexes were created perfectly equal, with the woman a little more equal than the man.

I believe that the world today would be happier if man never existed.

As a success man is a failure, and I bless my stars that my mother was a woman. (Applause).

I not only maintain these principles, but a shiftless husband besides.

They say man was created first. Well, s'pose he was. Ain't first experiments always failures?

The only decent thing about man was a rib, and that went to make something better. (Applause).—The News.

### COST HIM \$1.50

An amusing little incident showing how one woman succeeded in voting is told in "The Ohio Woman." Mr. A.—so the story goes—was a naturalized foreigner and greatly opposed to Woman Suffrage. His wife wanted to vote for a member of the Board of Education. To keep her from voting he took his naturalization papers, which she would have to show if she voted, and locked them in the safe in his office. When Mr. A. came home on election day, he tauntingly asked his wife if she had voted. "Yes," replied Mrs. A. "How did you vote when I had my naturalization papers locked in my safe?" queried the adopted son of Uncle Sam. "Easy enough," said the Suffragist wife. "I took \$1.50 of your money and had a certified copy made from the records at the courthouse."

## NATIONAL CONVENTION STRIKES NEW NOTE

Margaret Hinchey, laundry worker; Mary Anderson, member of the Boot and Shoe Makers' Union, and Rose Winslow, stocking weaver, were speakers at the opening session of the National Suffrage Convention in Washington this week. They were introduced by the president, Dr. Anna Howard Shaw, and they sat on the platform with Jane Addams, the members of the Official Board and many of the leaders of the suffrage movement.

The introduction of these working-women as speakers at a great public meeting emphasized the new note that is sounding more and more clearly in the national suffrage movement. It marked the beginning of the end. The majority of suffragists claim equal suffrage as a matter of justice for all women and as a means of protection, especially to the women who toil. They claim equal suffrage more to right the wrong of others than as a special boon to themselves.

Now the workingwomen themselves come forward with a demand for their enfranchisement for practical and definite reasons. They present reasons based on experience, not theory. They tell, not second-hand stories of the wrongs done to women, they tell of hardships and injustices of which they themselves know and from which they themselves suffer. They bring vital, vivid arguments that carry weight and conviction.

They tell of children as young as four years, who work till eight o'clock at night, standing by benches in air heavy with the odor of oil lamps, making artificial flowers at five cents per gross. They say that \$6 a week is the average wage of women workers in the industries of the United States. They tell of girls who work from sixteen to eighteen hours a day, of girls who stand at their work seventy hours a week. They tell the difficulty of keeping body and soul together on the average woman's wage. They tell of how costly is a woman's virtue, a woman's honor, when she faces starva-



tion or when her life is a systematic process of starving both her body and her soul. They tell how girls go on strikes in the fight for honor, and how they are clubbed and taken to jail by the authorities that should protect them, and how they have no redress because, though they be thirty thousand strong, they are political non-entities.

They tell of fourteen thousand women over sixty-five years of age in New York City, who must be self-supporting or starve, old women whose bones are bent with scrubbing and washing, and who, after they have given all they possess, are sent to jail—not because of any violation of the law, but because they are old and helpless. They tell how these old women scrub government building floors till the blood runs down their old knees, and how in jail they rock themselves to and fro, asking why God has left them in the world to suffer.

They tell how young girls contract industrial diseases, how they suffer from overwork and exposure and insufficient nourishment, and how like worn-out machines they become when they suffer like human beings. They ask, in tones of despair, if manhood is dead in the nation. They tell the lawmakers and the voters to look around them and to go bury their faces in their hands for very shame.

Yes, the working girl has come, with her heart-rending testimony of her need of the ballot. She has joined issue with her sister; the suffragist has succeeded in arousing her sisters, and their cry will be heard around the world.

The tables are being turned. The working woman is arousing the suffragist to the point of alarm. The argument is no longer theory or abstract justice; it is flesh and blood, life and honor. The working woman is making extremely uncomfortable the womanhood of the whole civilized world. Who can wear flowers in bodice or hat, knowing children under ten years give the best of their young lives making them, day in and day out, at five cents

per gross? Who can wear beads that baby hands strung by lamp light? Who but sews innocent blood into her garments when she sews on buttons that have cost young girls their chastity while they tried to earn their bread?

The best ally of the suffrage movement is the working woman. And the suffragists' welcome of the working women, the stocking weavers, the boot and shoe makers, the laundry workers, to their ranks is the soundest proof of the sincerity of their democracy, the most significant sign of the new sisterhood which binds women to women.

Furthermore, life and virtue have been bought at a great price in the working world. The values are fundamental, and once the connection between the working woman and the ballot be established, nothing can force her from the direct road to woman's full freedom. She becomes a force such as the world has never reckoned with. The working women are joining us. Let us spread the news and swell the ranks and be swept on to the goal. It will be most fitting that the producers of the world's necessities, the boot and shoe makers, the laundry workers and the stocking weavers, shall come into full citizenship with the leaders in the long campaign for votes for women.—Agnes E. Ryan in *Woman's Journal*.

#### FINDS ENGLISH ACTIVITY GREAT

“The most surprising thing about the English suffrage movement is its ubiquity,” writes Mrs. Annie G. Porritt from Manchester, England. “There seems to be scarcely a hamlet in the country where a suffrage meeting has not been held within the last few years or is announced for a very near date in the future. We think in America that the women are pouring an immense amount of energy and giving liberally, almost exorbitantly, of their time and money for the propaganda for Votes for Women. What is being done in America is slight indeed in comparison with the work here. In the Lancashire



towns within ten miles of Manchester—I have not yet discovered how many such towns there are, for this part of Lancashire is one continuous city—three suffrage associations are holding meetings which follow each other rapidly.”

Mrs. Porritt tells of a speech by Miss Ashton, who is a member of the Manchester City Council. In her work on the Council Miss Ashton had been working to lessen infant mortality. She found that in the most crowded areas babies were dying at the rate of 150 per 1,000 in the first year of their lives! It was only human life—the woman's job, said Miss Ashton, that was allowed to be destroyed like that.

“It seems to me,” says Mrs. Porritt, “that if the government and the political parties continue their policy of provocation and of constant discrimination against the women, it will be difficult to hold back even the constitutional suffragists from actions of retaliation.”

Miss Ellen Gleditsch, co-worker of Mme. Curie in the preparation of her book on radium and an ardent suffragist, recently lectured before the Women's Political Union of New York on conditions in Norway, where equal suffrage has been extended to the women. In Norway, said Miss Gleditsch, there were 90,000 more women than men, and it had been shown that equal suffrage lent itself to the good of the race and of the country.

#### UP TO DATE

It was after her birthday, and the little maid of eight was sitting disconsolately by the nursery window.

“Aren't you going to play with your new doll?” asked her mother, with a side glance at the discarded present.

“No,” said the little girl.

“I thought you liked her so. Don't you?”

“No.”

“Oh! but you wanted a nice dolly. One that talked, didn't you?”

No response.

“And this one says ‘Mamma,’ ‘Papa.’”

The little maid's eyes flashed and sparkled as she replied, “I want a doll that says ‘Votes for women.’”

#### KANSAS WOMEN DECLARE PLANS

Women from all over Kansas met in Topeka, Nov. 29, to formulate a non-partisan declaration of principles to be placed before the various political party organizations of the State as an expression of what the women voters want included in the platforms in the next campaign. This is the first such meeting since women in Kansas received the franchise last fall. There are about 275,000 women voters in the State.

The women determined to work for the initiative and referendum; for by them they believed they could force desired legislation more readily. The meeting sent a telegram to Washington endorsing equal suffrage. It decided to work for a law raising the legal age of women from 18 to 21, a tax exemption of \$500 assessed value for all householders, and a law giving equal property rights.

Another meeting will be held to adopt a platform on child welfare legislation, prohibition of marriage of the unfit, and widows' pensions.

#### 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. Hofst.  
 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;  
 Cor. Secy., Miss Smith McCorkell.

### KING PROMISES VOTE IN ITALY

King Victor Emmanuel of Italy, in his speech from the throne at the recent opening of the Italian Parliament in Rome, spoke of the government's intention to give women their rightful place in governmental affairs. His promise was an indication that it is only a question of a short time before Italy will grant its women full suffrage.

What makes the situation still more hopeful is the fact that this was the first speech from the throne to be greeted by representatives chosen by universal male suffrage. Having just won the franchise themselves, the

Italian electorate should all the more readily realize the desires of the women.

### OUR MEN'S COSY CORNER

We regret to notice that a new movement is on foot in Victoria which will certainly damage the whole Cause of Woman Suffrage and put back the clock of all these hysterical women. I refer to the absurd innovation calling itself the "Co-Aheads," which consists of merely a few irresponsible girls and women all too young to know what they want or why they want it. They are simply husband seekers, and we hear that the view is freely expressed through the City that a good ducking, or deportation, will be the only thing to prevent them obtaining their nefarious ends.

If only women would follow the example of men in their conduct of political affairs and political aims, we should see less of these silly ideas. But how can they, without the experience of ages, which every man can boast, expect to succeed in any great enterprise?

Once again we implore them to leave these fields of public life and stay at home, where their natural womanliness may in time reassert itself and win for them rewards they can hardly be said to deserve, namely, kind, good husbands, whose advice they can ask in all these questions. Personally, we are very broad-minded and have no objection to women taking a suitable interest, as far as their limited intellects allow, in the spheres of men (sympathy is a woman's great charm), but the Co-Aheads and their kind will never find any support from right-thinking persons in this City.



*A gift must live beyond the time of giving,  
And give each day new pleasure by its living.*



## What Shall I Give?

It is difficult to realize how easy, conveniently and economically this big question can be solved until one pays a visit to this store. This year our store will be the main reliance of thousands of holiday shoppers in this city and suburbs, to whom its wonderful collections of Fancy Linens, Neckwear and Novelties will strongly appeal.

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New Neckwear in all the latest crazes.

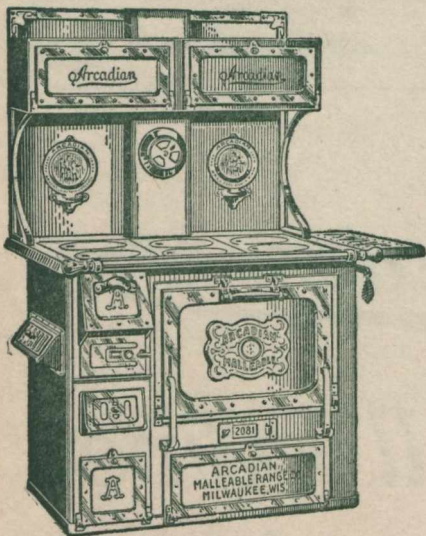
Purses, Handbags, Vanity Cases, Opera Bags, Slipper Holders, Jewel Boxes, Perfumes, Pin Cushions, Glove Script, Felt Slippers, Braided Slipper Trees and Umbrellas.

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