

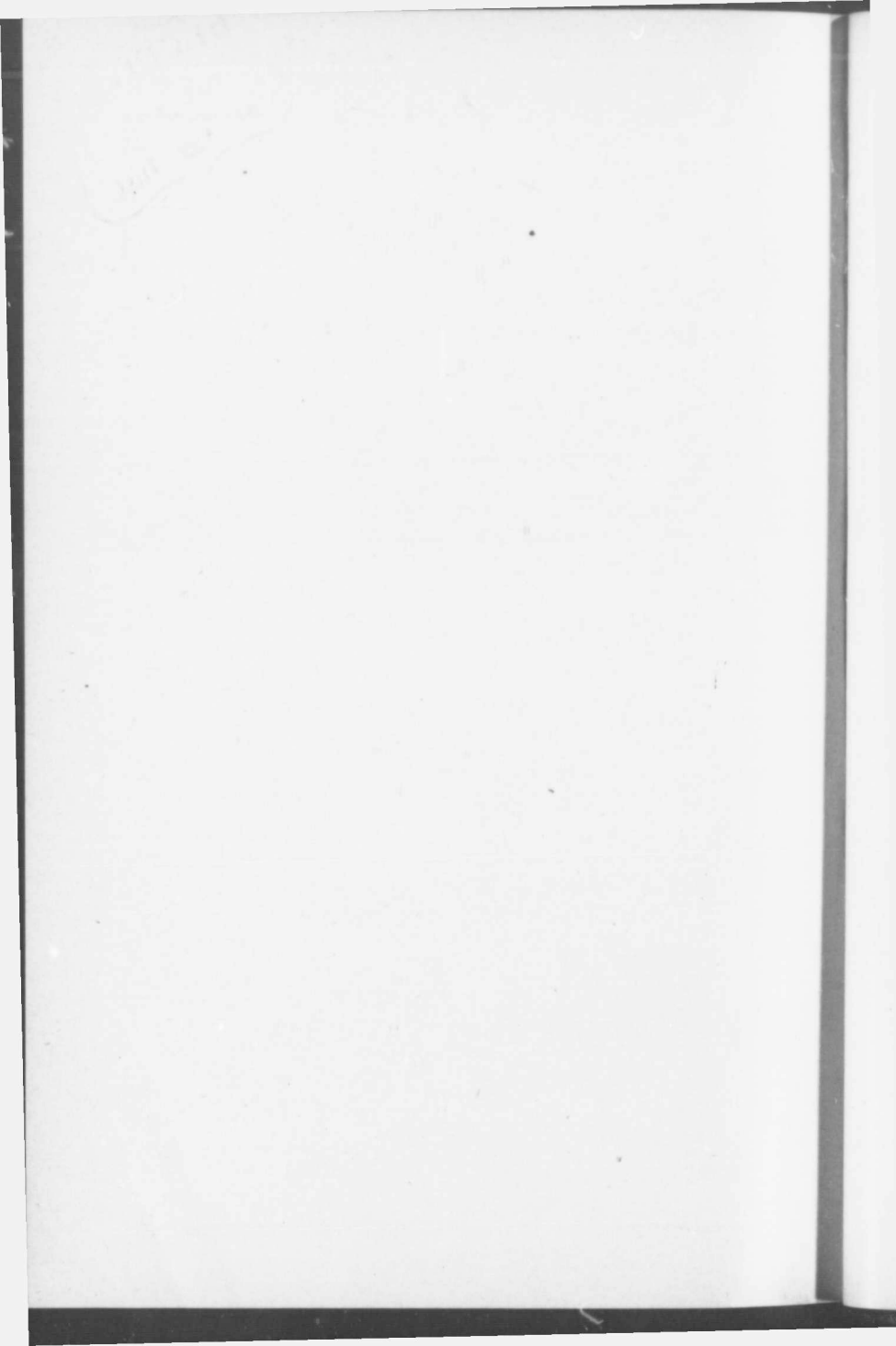
GOVERNMENT OF THE PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

## Liquor Laws, Equal Suffrage and other Saskatchewan Legislation Affecting Women

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# Liquor Laws, Equal Suffrage and other Saskatchewan Legislation Affecting Women.

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## INTRODUCTION.

Since Saskatchewan became a province in 1905 a large number of laws have been enacted by the Legislative Assembly and many of them are of special interest to Saskatchewan women, because of their effect upon the domestic, social and business welfare of every woman in the province.

Among the many progressive laws in force in Saskatchewan may be mentioned the Homestead Act, passed in 1915, which prevents the mortgaging of the homestead without the consent of the wife; the Devolution of Estates Act, passed in 1907, which affects the property of persons dying without a will; the Hospital Act, passed in 1916, the Factories Act, passed in 1909; the Deserted Wives Maintenance Act, passed in 1911; the Children's Protection Act, passed in 1909; Employment of Female Labor, and a number of others.

But because they provide the means for the overthrow of the liquor traffic in Saskatchewan and give women a voice in the government of the province the statutes of greatest interest and value are the Sales of Liquor Act and the Election Act. It now appears likely that the women of Saskatchewan will be the first in Canada to exercise the right and privilege of voting out the legalised sale of liquor and of taking part in the election of members to the Legislative Assembly.

While many women have made a close study of the position of women under our Saskatchewan laws, many others, due partly to their very busy home life, and also to the fact that until recently they had no voice in the government of the country, have not been able to devote much time to such considerations. The following notes have accordingly been prepared for the purpose of presenting in concise form summaries of the laws of Saskatchewan affecting Saskatchewan women.

## SALES OF LIQUOR ACT.

## 1.—ABOLITION OF THE BAR

When Hon. Walter Scott, at Oxbow on March 18th, 1915, announced the policy of his government in closing the public bars and abolishing the private retailing of intoxicating liquors in Saskatchewan, there were some who openly questioned the right of the government to take so far reaching a step without a special mandate from the people of Saskatchewan, and the action of the government was even considered by some who approved of the closing of the bar to be somewhat drastic and to savour of autoeratic methods. It is generally recognised, however, that even in democratic government there must be leaders, and there is now general approbation of the government's action by nearly all except those who were formerly interested financially in the licensed sale of liquor as the main business of our hotel system. And now that Saskatchewan has been without the bar for nearly one and a half years, and has realised the beneficial effects of the change there is not the slightest chance of any substantial body of public opinion favoring its return.

## 2.—WHOLESALE LIQUOR STORES.

When the government's policy regarding the liquor traffic was announced it was desired to get immediate results in the curtailment of the liquor traffic and so the bars, which numbered 406, were closed. There were at that time, however, thirty-eight wholesale liquor stores privately owned and operated. To overcome the objection of persons who regarded the action of the government, respecting the bar, as arbitrary and unwarranted, it seemed advisable to allow the wholesale liquor traffic to remain until the benefits from the closing of the bars should be apparent. The question then arose as to whether or not this remnant of the liquor business should be in private hands or administered under the strictest public control. The decision was in favor of the latter, and twenty-three stores for the sale of liquor in sealed packages were established in twenty places in 1915. Three were closed as a result of the vote of December 1915. And now the voters of Saskatchewan having had a reasonable time to consider the effect of the government's action in closing the bar are being given an opportunity to say whether they wish the government to abolish the remaining liquor stores as well.

## 3.—THE ACT.

The Act is divided into six parts, namely: organisation and administration; books of account and finance; prescriptions; enforcement; submission to the electors and miscellaneous. As the people of Saskatchewan will be asked in 1916 to decide whether the present system of liquor stores is to be continued, it may be desired by some of the electors to have an explanation of the system and for this a study of the Sales of Liquor Act is necessary. Many, however, will only be interested in the Sections relating to the referendum as to

whether the present system of liquor stores shall be abolished and these are explained in this pamphlet.

4.—REFERENDUM ON THE LIQUOR STORES,  
December 11, 1916.

The sections relating to this matter are 211 and 227 inclusive and section 212 as amended in 1916 reads:- "A provincial vote shall be taken at the municipal elections of 1916 or at such earlier time in 1916 as may be provided by proclamation of the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council upon the question as to whether or not the system of dealing with intoxicating liquors established by this act shall be continued." The municipal elections in Saskatchewan are held on the second Monday in December.

5.—QUALIFICATIONS OF VOTERS ON REFERENDUM.

The Sales of Liquor Act specifies that the persons entitled to vote on the referendum shall be those possessing, at the time the vote is taken, the qualifications required by the Saskatchewan Election Act. Paragraphs 7 and 6 of this pamphlet describes the qualifications of voters under the Saskatchewan Election Act.

6.—WHO MAY VOTE.

Except for court judges, Chinese, Indians, criminals and lunatics as well as those who for corrupt practices have temporarily forfeited their right to vote, every person whether male or female, who is a British subject by birth or naturalisation of full age of twenty-one years, and has resided in Saskatchewan for twelve months and in the electoral division where he or she seeks to vote for three months shall upon compliance with the provisions of the Saskatchewan Election Act as regards registration, be entitled to vote at the election of a member of the Saskatchewan Legislature and likewise on the Sales of Liquor referendum.

In this connection it should be remembered that persons who have been resident in Saskatchewan for twelve months but have not lived continuously for three months in the electoral division in which they wish to vote shall if otherwise qualified be entitled to vote in the electoral division where they last resided continuously for three months.

7.—RULES AS TO RESIDENCE OF VOTERS.

For the purpose of registration of voters under the Saskatchewan Election Act the place of residence of any person shall be governed by the following rules as they shall be applicable.

The residence of a person whether male or female shall be the place in which his or her habitation is fixed and to which whenever absent therefrom he or she has the intention of returning:

Persons shall not lose their residence who leave their homes for temporary purposes;

If persons depart from Saskatchewan with the intention of making their residence elsewhere they lose their residence in Saskatchewan;

The place where a man's family resides shall be deemed to be his place of residence, but any man who takes up or continues his abode with the intention of remaining at a place other than where his family resides shall be deemed to be resident where he so resides;

The residence of a single man shall be where he usually sleeps;

A change of residence can only be made by the act of removal joined with the intention to remain permanently in another place. There can only be one residence;

No person while he remains in Saskatchewan shall be deemed to have lost his residence until he has gained another.

#### 8.—LIST OF VOTERS.

In all cities and in all towns of over one thousand inhabitants, lists of voters shall be prepared. As this has already been done and as the process of registration is described in detail in the explanation in the following pages regarding the Election Act (Paragraphs 37 to 47 of this pamphlet) further description is unnecessary. The preparation of voters lists is limited to the cities of Saskatchewan and the towns of Battleford, Canora, Estevan, Humboldt, Indian Head, Kamsack, Kerrobert, Maple Creek, Melfort, Melville, Moosomin, Rosthern, Shaunavon, Wilkie, and Yorkton.

#### 9.—WHERE LISTS ARE NOT USED.

In all other places voters lists will not be used, but any person having the necessary qualifications as described in Section 6 will be allowed to vote on appearing at the poll for the purpose. When a provincial referendum is being taken in places where there is no list of voters the deputy returning officer is required to administer the following oath to voters when asked to do so by anyone entitled to be present in the polling place.

#### 10—OATH WHICH VOTERS ON REFERENDUM MAY BE ASKED TO TAKE.

"You swear (or solemnly affirm) that you are of the full age of twenty-one years and are a British subject by birth or naturalisation and are not an Indian or a person of the Chinese race;

That you have resided in the Province of Saskatchewan for at least twelve months and in the electoral district of..... for at least three months previously to this date;

That you have not voted before upon this question;

That you have not received directly or indirectly any gift or reward, nor do you expect any for the vote which you tender;

That you have not received anything, nor has anything been promised you directly or indirectly either to induce you to vote or for loss of time, travelling expenses, hire of teams or any other service connected with this vote;

That you have not directly or indirectly paid, given or promised anything to another person to vote or refrain from voting upon either side of the question submitted.

So help you God."

## 11. CLOSING OF LIQUOR STORES.

Should a majority of votes be cast at the provincial referendum in favor of abolishing the system of liquor stores in Saskatchewan the system will be discontinued before June 12, 1917, as provided in the Sales of Liquor Act.

## 12. THE CHILDREN'S PROTECTION ACT.

The recent death of Mr. S. Spencer Page, Superintendent of Neglected Children, who was so well known and universally respected has served to bring before the public notice perhaps more prominently than during his lifetime the great work which he was doing for neglected and dependent children in Saskatchewan.

## 13.—THE ACT.

The Statute under which this work is conducted was passed in 1908 and provides for the appointment of a Superintendent of neglected and dependent children and the organisation of Children's Aid Societies for the protection of children from cruelty and of caring for and protecting neglected, abandoned or orphaned children, including those left in criminal surroundings.

## 14.—WHO ARE NEGLECTED CHILDREN

Within the meaning of the Act any child is regarded as a neglected child;

(a) Who is found begging in any street, house or place of public resort;

(b) Who is found wandering about at a late hour or sleeping at night in barns or outhouses or in the open;

(c) Who is found associating or dwelling with a thief, drunkard or vagrant or who by reason of neglect or drunkenness or other vices of the parents or guardians of such child is suffered to grow up without salutary parental control and education or in circumstances exposing such child to an idle and dissolute life;

(d) Who, owing to the inability of the parents or guardians of the child to control it, is growing up without salutary parental control or education, or in circumstances exposing such child to an idle or dissolute life;

(e) Who is found in any disorderly house or in the company of reputed criminal, immoral or disorderly people;

(f) Who is a destitute orphan or who has been deserted by his or her lawful parents or guardians;

(g) Who is found guilty of petty crimes and who is likely to develop criminal tendencies if not removed from his or her surroundings;

(h) Who is an habitual truant from school or habitually wanders about the street or public places during school hours without any lawful occupation or employment;

(i) Whose only parent is undergoing imprisonment for crime.

(j) Who is in peril of loss of life, health or morality by reason of ill treatment, continued personal injury or grave misconduct or habitual intemperance of the parents of such child or either of them;

(k) Whose home by reason of neglect, cruelty or depravity is an unfit place for such child;

#### 15.—CARE OF NEGLECTED CHILDREN.

Within 48 hours after apprehension of any child it shall be brought before a judge or a stipendiary or police magistrate or a member of the mounted police or provincial police who is a Justice of the Peace or two justices of the peace acting together, who shall investigate the facts of the case and decide whether such child is "neglected". The parents or custodians shall be notified of the examination. If the judge finds on examination that a child is neglected he may order the delivery of such child to a Children's Aid Society and such society may send such child to a temporary home or shelter until placed in an approved foster home.

#### 16.—OTHER PROVISIONS.

The Act provides for the placing of such children in training schools and for charging a portion of the cost of maintaining a child to the municipality to which it belongs. Severe penalties are provided for illtreating children and for harboring absconding wards of a Children's Aid Society. A judge may permit the searching of any premises in which it is suspected that a child is being ill used or where it is believed that an absconding ward of a Children's Aid Society is being harbored.

#### 17.—WHAT HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED.

Few people are aware of the facilities which exist in Saskatchewan for this class of work and consequently though they may know of cases requiring attention may not know what to do to have them cared for. For this reason a few notes are added outlining some of the practical results obtained through the enforcement of this Act.

From the passing of the Act until the end of 1915 some 2353 cases were dealt with and 989 of these were committed or transferred to the Superintendent or to a Children's Aid Society. Of this number 248 have been placed with relatives. Six of the older girls have been married and eighteen of the older boys have enlisted.

The arrangements in Saskatchewan for the detention of troublesome boys and girls are not yet completed. The Protestant girls from 12 years upwards are cared for in the Social Service House of the Presbyterian Church in Calgary, while the Roman Catholic girls of the same age are sent to the Convent of the Good Shepherd in West Kildonan, near Winnipeg. The younger boys are sent to the Detention Home which was opened last year in the Old Court House, Wolsley. This institution has proved very useful and only some three or four boys have had to be sent to the Industrial Training School at Portage La Prairie, Manitoba.

In addition to the general work amongst the Neglected Children, the duty has been placed upon the Superintendent of arranging for



the education of deaf and blind children. The deaf children are all sent to the Manitoba School for the Deaf in Tuxedo Park, near Winnipeg, where all the children of this class in the western provinces are to be educated. The blind children, who only number six or seven, are nearly all being educated at the School for the Blind in Brantford Ontario.

Several feeble-minded cases of the extreme type which have come under the notice of the Superintendent are being cared for in the Institution which has been opened for this purpose in the old Legislative Buildings on Dewdney Street, Regina.

Persons knowing of cases that require assistance should at once communicate with the Superintendent of Neglected Children, Legislative Buildings, Regina.

#### 18.—THE HOSPITAL ACT AND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE FOR PIONEER DISTRICTS.

Public hospitals, medical services and nursing are topics of particular interest in new countries as they are less liable to be found in the sparsely populated districts than in the older communities. These questions have been given very great consideration by the Saskatchewan Legislature and a solution of them appears to have been found in the application of co-operative principles in supplying these very essential facilities.

Cities and towns have their hospitals, and rural dwellers within reachable distance are easily able to use them. But the settlers on the frontiers who are not so conveniently located, whose necessities are equally as great and whose risks are much greater have not the same opportunity. To obtain relief for the latter the Rural Municipal Act has for several years had a provision empowering municipalities to grant aid for the erection and maintenance of hospitals.

(The Saskatchewan Legislature votes substantial grants to public hospitals complying with certain regulations, and rural municipal hospitals would have the same opportunity in this respect as the largest city hospitals in proportion to the patients treated.)

Notwithstanding this legislation, however, the task of erecting and maintaining a hospital appears to have been too large an undertaking for the average municipality, as under this legislation only urban municipalities undertook such responsibility. But results began to be apparent since the amendment of the Municipal Act and the passing of the Hospital Act in 1916, to permit of co-operation between municipalities in erecting union hospitals. Today, Kindersley union hospital is in operation, a union hospital is being erected at Eston and there are likely to be several others organised within a short time.

#### 19. THE HOSPITAL ACT.

The Hospital Act provides in effect, that two or more adjoining municipalities, excepting cities, may co-operate in establishing a union hospital. Each municipality concerned has power to appoint two

representatives, one member of the council and the other a resident ratepayer, who is not a member of such council. This board is a body corporate and has power to appoint a chairman and a secretary. For the purpose of erecting and maintaining the desired hospital, a rate which is limited to two mills on the dollar on all rateable property within the municipalities concerned, according to the last revised assessment roll, may be levied and should the borrowing of money be necessary the provisions of the various municipal acts respecting borrowing money will apply.

#### 20.—BONUSING PHYSICIANS AND NURSES.

It was feared that after the crop failure in 1914 it would be necessary for some of the medical doctors practising their profession to earn revenue in the drought affected area to leave their posts temporarily in order to live and purchase necessary medical supplies. Consequently to prevent hardship on residents in south western Saskatchewan the government for a time loaned money to medical men who were affected by the crop failure.

Since that time, however, the need for medical doctors and nurses has been felt in other communities and rural municipalities are now empowered to engage municipal nurses or grant aid for securing the services of nurses. They may also legally make grants to medical practitioners to induce them to take up medical practice in municipalities where doctors are not located. Such assistance is in the nature of a supplemental allowance and may only be granted so long as the doctor's income does not exceed \$1,500.00 per annum.

#### 21. ASSISTING MOTHERS IN MATERNITY CASES

Mention should also be made of the provision granted through the Saskatchewan Bureau of Public Health whereby financial aid to the extent of \$25.00 is given in maternity cases in isolated country districts to persons who without such aid would be unable to engage medical assistance and purchase necessary supplies. The doctor who attends such cases is paid \$15.00, and \$10.00 is paid direct to mothers who need it. This assistance is not so necessary in cities and urban communities where doctors services are readily available.

#### 22.—THE HOMESTEAD ACT.

The Saskatchewan Government appointed a commission in 1913 to investigate the conditions under which farm machinery was being sold in Saskatchewan and to recommend means for restricting such evils as it should find to exist. As a result of the commission's recommendations the Farm Implement Act and the Homestead Act were passed. The latter will be described in detail, but it is unnecessary to give an outline of the Farm Implement Act, except to say that under its provisions farmers are now afforded protection from the abuses which prevailed in connection with the sales of large implements such as traction engines and plowing and threshing outfits and caused in

numerous instances the loss of the farm and much trouble and suffering for the wives and children of unfortunate victims of expert salesmanship. Very frequently when such a sale was negotiated a mortgage on the homestead was signed along with the order. Doubtless many such orders would not have been filed had the mortgage not been forthcoming and the Homestead Act gives our women a real opportunity to block such transactions if they wish to do so.

#### 23.—THE HOMESTEAD ACT.

This law is designed to prevent men from transferring, mortgaging or selling their "homesteads" without the consent of their wives. Before it was placed on the Saskatchewan statutes they could do so, but this is now changed and the wife is in a position to prevent such transactions.

#### 24—"MEANING OF HOMESTEAD".

The "homestead" may mean the original 160 acres homesteaded, or it may mean 160 acres of purchased land on which the owner lives, or in the case of a retired farmer who has left the farm, or an urban dweller, it may mean a house and lot in village, town or city.

#### 25—PROVISIONS OF ACT.

The signature of the wife is necessary on all documents affecting the title to the homestead, and she is required to make declaration that she has signed with full understanding of her rights and of her own free will. In cases where the wife is a lunatic, or living apart from her husband under circumstances disentitling her to alimony, a judge of the Supreme Court may order that the signature and declaration of the wife be dispensed with.

When an instrument affecting the transfer, sale, lease or mortgaging of land unaccompanied by a wife's declaration and signature, is to be executed, the maker of the instrument must make affidavit that the land described in such instrument is not his homestead or that he has no wife.

When the husband makes general assignment for the benefit of his creditors the wife's right in the homestead will cease unless she files a caveat against the land within thirty days after receiving notice from the registrar, by registered mail, of the filing of the assignment. The caveat of a wife with respect to her husband's homestead will be registered without charge in the Land Titles Office.

#### 26—FRAUDS.

The person to whom a homestead is transferred, mortgaged or leased without the signature of the wife of the owner is guilty of fraud if he knew at the time of the transfer, mortgage or lease was executed that the owner had a wife; and the wife under such circumstances would be entitled in an action to have the transfer, mortgage or lease cancelled.

Any transfer, mortgage or lease of a homestead made and accepted in good faith prior to April 13, 1916, is valid

## 27—THE DEVOLUTION OF ESTATES ACT.

The Devolution of Estates Act passed in 1907 deals with the disposition of estates of deceased persons who die without having made a will. In fact it may affect the wife's share in her husband's estate even though the husband had made a will, if under the terms of the will the wife's share in the estate is less than she would have obtained had there been no will. This provision was added in an amendment to the Act passed in 1911, which states that in such cases the widow may within six months from the death of her husband apply to the Supreme Court for relief.

The Act provides for distribution of estates of intestates in the following manner:-

(a) *A married man with issue:* one third goes to the widow absolutely and the residue to the children equally, the children of deceased children taking their parents' share.

The estate of a married woman with issue is divided in the same manner between husband and children, the former getting one-third and the latter the remainder.

(b) *A married man without issue:* The widow gets the whole estate. The estate of a married woman without issue likewise goes to the husband.

This is a very important statute as so many people neglect until too late this very important matter of making a will. In such cases the Devolution of Estates Act provides for a distribution that is equitable and fair in the interests of all concerned.

## 28—THE DESERTED WIVES MAINTENANCE ACT.

An important though brief Act was passed in 1911 dealing with this subject. The Act defines a deserted wife as a married woman living apart from her husband because of his acts of cruelty or of his refusal or neglect without sufficient cause to supply her with food and other necessaries when able to do so.

## 29.—RELIEF FOR DESERTED WIVES.

A married woman deserted by her husband may summon him before the court (a district court judge or a police magistrate sitting and acting as a justice of the peace) and the court if satisfied that the husband though able or partly able to maintain his wife or his wife and family has wilfully refused or neglected to do so and has deserted his wife may order that the husband shall pay to his wife such weekly sum not exceeding \$10.00 with or without costs as the court may consider proper having regard to his means and to any means which the wife may have for her support and the support of her family

## • 30.—THE FACTORIES ACT AND FEMALE LABOR.

While Saskatchewan is not noted for its manufactures, the Factories Act is a modern and effective statute designed to protect

the lives and health of female as well as male employees. The Act prohibits the employment of children under 14 years of age in factories in Saskatchewan.

No girl or woman may be employed in a factory in such a manner as to endanger her health. Female employees in factories must wear close fitting caps or bind their hair closely to their heads to avoid danger of entanglement with the machinery in motion.

Regular working hours are limited to 8 hours per day and 45 per week and work must cease daily by 6.30 p.m. Under special circumstances, however, the factory inspector may vary the regulations but in no case must work by women or girls begin before 7 a.m. or continue after 10 p.m. Overtime will then be paid but overtime permits to any factory are limited to 36 per annum.

Sanitary conditions must be maintained and inspectors are very insistent on this in order to safeguard the health of all factory employees.

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### 31.—EMPLOYMENT OF WHITE GIRLS OR WOMEN BY CHINAMEN.

An Act was passed by the Saskatchewan Legislature in 1912 which forbids under penalty of a fine of \$100.00 or two months imprisonment the employment in Saskatchewan of any white girl or woman in any laundry, restaurant or other place of business or amusement owned, kept or managed by a chinaman. The Act forbids allowing any white girl or woman to reside, lodge in, work in, or frequent such places.

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### 32.—PROVINCIAL ELECTION LAWS.

As Saskatchewan women now share equally with men the privileges and responsibilities of popular government insofar as the election of members of the Legislature is concerned a few brief notes regarding the provisions of the Saskatchewan Election Act will be of general interest.

### 33.—WOMEN AND POLITICS.

The state is composed of all its citizens, and the maintenance of good government is a matter of deep concern to all those who fully appreciate their responsibilities as citizens. The maintenance of good government is in fact most easily accomplished when every voter makes a careful study of the work of government, not only from the point of the individual but also from the viewpoint of all the individuals composing the state. The system of party government is not perfect but it appears from the present development of human society to be the best form of government so far devised. In fact many students of political economy hold that the maintenance of party lines, the close study of political questions and the character of individual candidates are indispensable means of preserving political purity. The healthiest periods of the Roman republic were periods of fierce political strife. The citizens of Athens were not allowed to remain neutral but were compelled to take sides on all questions of great public interest. Not

only was every citizen required to vote, but the elected candidate was bound to accept the office and subordinate his own desire for private life to the higher interests of the state. England owes much of her greatness and liberty to the active and aggressive vigilance of opposing political camps. Political parties are the outcome of political freedom and the logical result of the application of democratic principles.

There is always danger, however, that the issue may be confused by political partizanship. Abuse of political parties and unsupported allegations are sometimes used vigorously when constructive politics are lacking and these tendencies in our public life are regrettable. There is, however, no doubt that the influence of women in public life will have the effect of inducing the highest type of candidate to accept office, of eliminating undesirable elements from public life and of still further moulding our statutes in harmony with the highest development of society.

The right of women as well as men to vote is not merely a right; it is a solemn and sacred duty.

#### 34.—WHO MAY BE A CANDIDATE FOR ELECTION TO THE LEGISLATURE

Any person, whether male or female, of the full age of twenty-one years and a British subject by birth or naturalisation, resident in Saskatchewan who is not disqualified by The Legislative Assembly Act or by any other Act shall be qualified to be a candidate.

#### 35.—QUALIFICATIONS OF VOTERS.

Paragraphs 6 and 7 of this bulletin should be read again if any doubt exists regarding the qualification of voters.

#### 36.—WHAT ONE MUST DO IN ORDER TO VOTE.

At certain times the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council (consisting of the several members of the Cabinet and the Lieutenant-Governor of the province, acting in their executive capacity) appoints registrars and other officials to prepare voters' lists. The practice varies in the cities and in towns having a population of 2,000 or over as compared with rural districts and places which have a population of less than 2,000, so we shall consider the two methods separately.

The foregoing is true of a provincial election and is also correct with respect to a prohibition referendum except that for the referendum lists of voters must be prepared in all cities and towns having a population of 1,000.

#### REGISTRATION IN CITIES AND LARGER TOWNS.

#### 37.—PUBLICITY.

The first detailed advice the public receives will be found in the proclamation giving the announcement that a revision of the voters' list is to be made, the names of the registrars, the dates on which applications will be received for the registration of voters and other

particulars. Then each registrar, after dividing the electoral divisions into polling subdivisions and appointing deputy registrars will insert in a newspaper circulating in the polling division a notice announcing that a list of voters is being prepared, defining the polling subdivisions naming the deputy registrars and stating the time of registration. He will also print and put up posters giving the same information and copies of another poster containing the sections of the Election Act stating who may vote.

#### 38.—FACILITIES FOR REGISTRATION.

Suitable and convenient premises for registration must be provided and deputy registrars must be on hand to receive applications at stated hours some of which are specially for the convenience of women and working men.

#### 39.—METHODS OF REGISTRATION.

When an applicant appears and asks to have his name placed on the voters list certain questions must be asked by the deputy registrar and answered by the applicant regarding his or her name, address, nationality, residence in Saskatchewan and in the electoral division and general qualifications. An affidavit as to the correctness of the answers is then made by the applicant whereupon the name is duly added to the list of voters.

Provision is made for the registration, by persons familiar with the facts, of persons who through illness or absence are unable to make application in person to the deputy registrar.

It is also provided that certain persons may be present and question applicants regarding their qualifications so as to insure the correctness of the list, and such persons have the right to enter objections to the registration of the name of any person applying to be registered. If the applicant declines to swear to the correctness of the answers to the questions by the deputy registrar, the deputy registrar shall mark such applicant "Disallowed."

#### 40.—POSTING LISTS FOR VOTERS.

Each deputy registrar is required to prepare a full and complete list of the voters registered by him and post it for ten days in at least two conspicuous places in the polling subdivision to which it refers. The original list is retained by the deputy registrar and is accessible to all parties who desire to see it.

When posting said list of voters the deputy registrar shall also post a notice of the time and place where the list of voters will be revised by the revising officer, who must be a judge of the district court.

#### 41.—OBJECTIONS TO NAMES ON LIST.

Any person who is a voter in the electoral division, and certain other persons named in the Election Act, may register objections to leaving any name or names on the list of voters. Such objections

must state the reasons in writing and be signed by the objector and delivered in person or by registered mail to the deputy registrar within ten days after the list is posted.

#### 42.—SUBSEQUENT PROCEEDINGS.

After the lists have been duly posted the deputy registrar sends the lists to the registrar with all objections and all documents relating in any way to the registration. The registrar in turn sends to the clerk of the Executive Council certified lists of voters as received from the deputy registrars and to the revising officer for the electoral division, the original registers of names, lists of objections and all other documents relating to the registration.

#### 43.—PRINTING LISTS.

The clerk of the Executive Council will print complete lists of voters as registered for each electoral division and send copies to each revising officer for the purposes of courts of revision.

#### 44.—COURTS OF REVISION.

The judges appointed as revising officers are required to notify the registrars before the close of the period for registration of the time and place in which the courts of revision will be held.

#### 45.—LATE REGISTRATIONS.

Any person who neglected or omitted to register during the period for registration may apply to the revising officer to have his or her name added to the list and the revising officer has authority to register at the Court of Revision persons who possess the qualifications of voters.

#### 46.—METHOD OF REVISION.

The names on the list provided by the clerk of the Executive Council to which no objection is registered with the deputy registrar shall be allowed to stand, but the objections made before the deputy registrar shall be investigated. In all such cases it shall be necessary for the objector to prove that the name appears improperly on the list or the name will remain on the list. Witnesses may be summoned and expense money paid to them according to the scale allowed in the district courts.

The decision of the revising officer in regard to the right of any person to be a voter shall be final, and to the list of voters as revised and closed by the revising officer, there is no appeal.

#### 47.—FURTHER PROCEEDINGS.

The revising officer upon the completion of the revision is required to transmit the revised list of voters with all documents relating to the registration and revision to the Clerk of the Executive Council. The



clerk of the Executive Council will then make a correct copy of the revised list and have additional copies printed. The original and all relative documents will be sealed and filed in the archives of his office.

#### 48.—PREPARATION OF LISTS OF VOTERS IN URBAN DISTRICT VILLAGES AND THE SMALLER TOWNS.

As the large number of voters in Saskatchewan live in the rural districts, Sections 270 to 285 of the Election Act and following notes will be of great interest to them.

It is contemplated that lists of voters will be prepared for the rural districts, villages and smaller towns until shortly before the date of an election, as on account of the residents of such districts being better known to their neighbors the opportunity for election frauds is lacking and the need for the previous preparations of closed lists does not exist. The plan, therefore, followed is to appoint enumerators to make lists of voters. In this case personal registration is not necessary as the list is made by the enumerator capable of correction and even if the names of qualified voters should be accidentally or inadvertently omitted such persons would be permitted to vote upon applying to the deputy returning officer for a ballot on the day of election and making affidavit as to their qualifications.

#### 49.—ENUMERATION.

The Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council may appoint enumerators but if not appointed before the writ is issued for an election provision is made for their appointment by returning officers with the assistance of other persons specified in the Act. The enumerators will make lists of voters for their polling subdivision and eight days before the date of polling will post one copy at the post office nearest to the polling place or outside the entrance of the polling station, if there is no post office. He will deliver another copy to the Clerk or Secretary-treasurer of the municipality and keep the third copy for revision. But these lists of enumerators need not cause any anxiety to any men or women residing in a rural municipality or urban centre of less than 2,000 people whose names may be accidentally left off, as a ballot can be demanded and obtained by any qualified voter on election day.

#### 50.—REVISION.

During four consecutive days the enumerator will attend at a place duly made public by him to receive information relative to the corrections of the list of voters. The revision must be completed two days before polling day. After certifying to the correctness of the list at the close of the revision, the enumerator will deliver the certified copy of the list to the deputy returning officer on or before eight o'clock of the morning of the polling day who will use it as a list of voters for his polling subdivision.

## 51.—FURTHER CORRECTION.

The deputy returning officer shall while the poll is open if required by any person whose name is not on the voters' list administer to such person the following oath; and such oath having been taken the deputy returning officer shall at once cause such persons name to be added to the voters' list with the word "Sworn" written thereafter.

1. You do swear that you are a British subject, that you are not an Indian or a person of the Chinese race that you are of the full age of twenty-one years, that you have resided in the Province of Saskatchewan for at least one year and in this electoral division for at least three months immediately preceding the day of (Here insert the date of the issue of the writ of election).

2. That you are entitled to vote at this election at this polling place.

3. That you have not voted before at this election at this or any other polling place.

4. That you have not received anything nor has anything been promised you directly or indirectly to induce you to vote at this election or for loss of time, travelling expenses, hire of conveyance or any service whatever connected with this election.

(Or at the option of the voter in lieu of paragraph 4.)

5. That you have not received anything nor has anything been promised you directly or indirectly to induce you to vote or refrain from voting at this election. That you have not received nor do not expect to receive anything for loss of time, travelling expenses, hire of conveyance or any service whatever connected with this election except what has been bona fide earned by you and may be lawfully paid to you under the Saskatchewan Election Act by or through the returning officer or deputy returning officer or other proper public officer out of public moneys without committing a corrupt practice and except what has been bona fide earned by you and has been or may be lawfully paid to and received by you or on the behalf of the candidate or otherwise under the Saskatchewan Election Act and notwithstanding the receipt or expectation of which you are entitled by law to vote.

6. And that you have not directly or indirectly paid or promised anything to any person to induce him or her to vote or to refrain from voting at this election. So help you God.

Note .—(a) If the voter is a person who may by law affirm in civil cases then for "swear" substitute "Solemnly affirm".

## 52.—WOMEN AS VOTERS IN MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

Ten or a dozen years is a short time in the life of an individual and shorter still in the life of a nation. Yet within that time the Legislature of Saskatchewan has provided legislation for a vast range of activities necessary for the expanding life of a new and progressive province. When Saskatchewan became a province in 1905 there were only two rural municipalities. Local improvement districts with limited powers were units of rural government. But since 1905 a complete code of laws for carrying on local self government have been provided by the Saskatchewan Legislature for cities, towns villages and rural municipalities.

53.—Provision has been made in all the Saskatchewan municipal laws for the voting of women for mayors, aldermen, Reeves and Councillors; but as the *municipal franchise* is a *property franchise* only owners of property whose names *because they are on the assessment roll* can vote. There is no distinction between men and women. The same applies also to the election of school officials.

The first step necessary to have a woman's name placed upon the list of voters is to see that she is assessed for property in the municipality. A wife is not entitled to vote in municipal or school elections on property that is assessed in her husband's name. She must be assessed for property in her own name before she is entitled to vote.

54.—*In Rural Municipalities.* The persons entitled to vote for reeve or councillor are the "electors" of the municipality. "Elector" means any person of the full age of eighteen years whose name appears on the municipal voters' list as the owner or occupant of assessable property in the municipality. No particular valuation is required for the property for which they are assessed.

As soon as may be in each year, but not later than the first day of July, the assessor shall assess every person, the owner or occupant of land in the municipality and shall prepare an assessment roll in which shall be set out accurately as may be:

1. The name of the owner and the name or the occupant of each lot or parcel of land in the municipality which is not exempt from assessment and the post office address if known of every such owner or occupant;

- 2.—A brief description of each such lot or parcel of land, the number of acres which it contains and the assessed value thereof.

The treasurer of every municipality shall on or before the first day of November in each year prepare a list of all persons whose names appear on the last revised assessment roll of the municipality and such list shall be arranged according to the divisions of the municipality and shall be known as "The Municipal Voters' List."

55.—*In Villages.* The persons entitled to vote for councillors shall be the "resident electors" of the village. The expression "Resident Elector" means, any person of the full age of twenty-one years actually residing in the village or except in the case of community Doukhobors, within two miles of the limits thereof, whose name appears on the last revised assessment roll of the village. No particular valuation is required for the property for which they are assessed.

As soon as may be in each year, but not later than the first day of July the assessor shall assess all real and personal property and income in the village not exempt from taxation and shall prepare an assessment roll showing the name of each person assessed, the property in respect of which he is assessed and the assessed value thereof.

56.—*In Cities and Towns.* The persons qualified to vote at municipal elections in towns and cities are the men and women of the full age of twenty-one years whose names appear on the last revised municipal voters' list.

The assessor or the town clerk shall, on or before the first day of September in each year, prepare a voters' list in alphabetical form. He shall place thereon:

The names of all men and women of the full age of twenty-one years who are assessed upon the last revised assessment roll for \$200.00 or upwards; and the names of all persons appearing on the "householders' list", Subsection 2 of section 402 of the Act states that. . . every person liable to pay a poll tax, and any of the persons heretofore excepted, upon satisfying the assessor on or before the first day of July in the then current year that for a period of at least three months prior to such first day of July he has bona fide resided in the town, and that during the said period he has been and still is a bona fide occupant of premises at a rental which would amount to at least one hundred dollars annually, shall be entered by the assessor upon a list to be called the "householders' list," and shall thereupon be exempt from payment of a poll tax for the then current year.

Provided, however, that every tenant of a separate portion of a house shall be deemed, but a boarder or lodger shall not be deemed a tenant within this Act.

Householders are eligible to vote at municipal elections in towns and cities if they take the necessary steps to have their names entered on the "householders' list" within the time required by law.

#### 57.—LIQUOR REFERENDUM AND MUNICIPAL VOTERS.

When the referendum is taken on the liquor question at the municipal election on December 11, 1916, all persons, men and women, who are then entitled to vote for members of the provincial legislature will have the right to vote and decide whether intoxicating liquor shall be sold for consumption in the province of Saskatchewan or whether it shall not. If they are not property owners in the municipality they will not be allowed to vote for the municipal or school officials, but that will not interfere in any way with their voting "yes" or "no" on the liquor question.