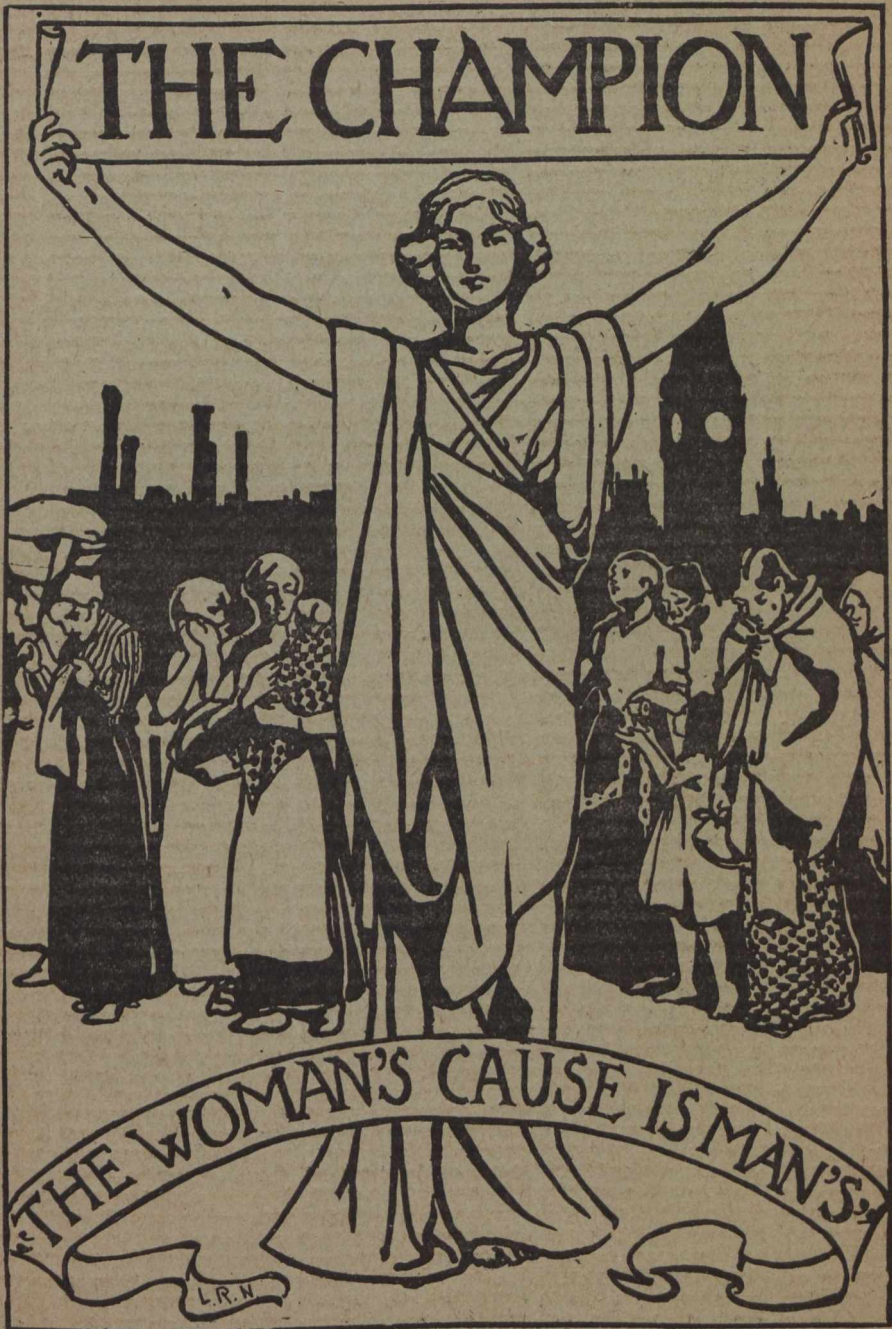


"The Woman's Cause is Man's"

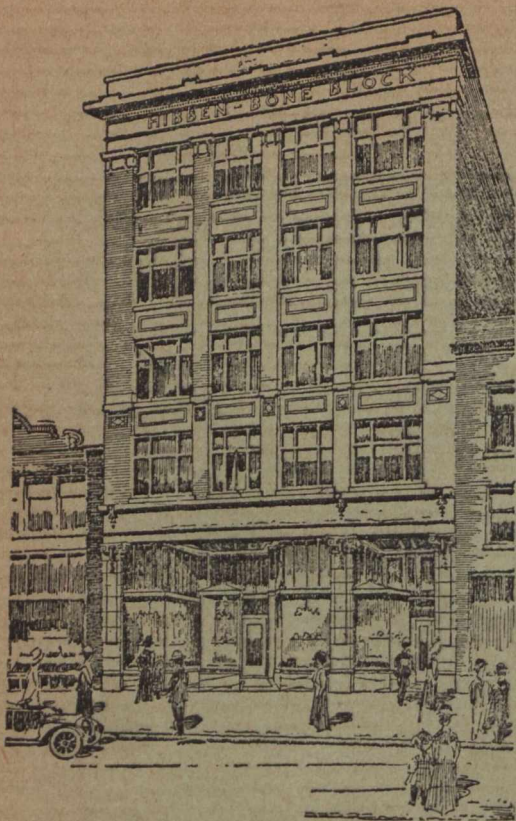


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February, 1913

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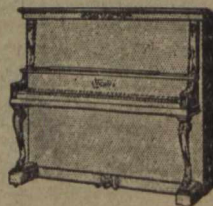
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The Champion

VOL. 1.

FEBRUARY, 1913

NO. 7.



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THE CHAMPION

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

"THE WOMAN'S CAUSE IS MAN'S"

\$1.00 Per Year, Postage Paid

Single Copies 10c.

VOL. I.

VICTORIA, B. C., FEBRUARY, 1913

No. 7

POLITICAL EQUALITY LEAGUE

Victoria Branch

President, Mrs. Gordon Grant.
Hon. Treasurer, Mrs. Baer.
Organizing Secretary,
Miss Dorothy Davis.
Recording Secretary,
Miss McDonald.
Office: Room 28, Brown Block,
Broad Street, Victoria, B. C.

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.

EDITOR'S NOTES

We published an interesting letter in our January issue from "A Wife" who was evidently one of the very numerous women who suffer from the injustice of the laws in this country. She certainly has the sympathy of every other woman, and we are only sorry we can do nothing to help her. It would not be in keeping with our policy to do as she suggests and appeal to the Legislature for the alteration of the law under which she has suffered. For representatives of suffrage leagues to ask for a mere instalment of justice would be a political error. We are pledged to demand **the Vote**, the key to all legislative reform, and we have no right to go back on our political creed

by asking either now or at any other time for itemized legislation. Apart from our duty in this respect, such a step would be a mistake in tactics, and for these reasons:

1. Such a step would give the Government justification for saying, "Evidently the women don't really want or expect the Vote, or they would not waste time asking for 'half a loaf.'"

2. It would justify the public in assuming that we lack elementary knowledge of practical politics;

3. If we were to ask for the amendment of a law and were successful, it would do our Cause infinite harm, because it would enable Antis to say, "You see, we get all we want without the Vote; why not trust the Men?"

The time for that sort of action is past. We have come out on solid ground, and all our energies have to be concentrated on **unlocking the door**; not on **calling through the key-hole**—in vain!



Who Is Canada's Strongest Man?

The eyes of every public-spirited and self-respecting woman in B. C. will be fixed for the next few weeks on one man, to see whether or no he is going to justify our faith in him as the strongest man in Canada.

For there is no doubt that Women are going to have the Vote, and that immediately, and the only question is, which Province is going to inaugurate this great reform first?

Alberta is forging ahead and is quite sure that her man is going to give the lead; we think ours is. We think that we have got the strongest man. We may be wrong. But the next few weeks are going to decide the question, and British Columbia will either be advertised throughout the world as the first Province in Canada to uphold its Women, or will have to fall in line as one of the puny followers on a broken trail. The Men of this Far West have always been Pioneers in the struggle for a wider, freer, greater physical existence. Have they the courage to show themselves Pioneers on a loftier

plane, and break the trail for their Women into a land of moral and social and political freedom?

It is a question of courage after all—and of strength.



The Price of the Paper.

Our readers will notice that we have had to raise the price of our magazine, but we believe they will all agree that it is still cheap, and that they can manage to afford a dollar a year for it. Old subscribers will, of course, continue to receive it till the end of their term of subscription at the old cost.

The reason of this change is that our publisher (with whose work we were far from satisfied) raised his terms, from \$48 monthly to \$70; and we felt that if we had to pay that, we had better go to the Victoria Publishing Company, where we were sure of the very best work, and where they were in sympathy with our Cause and had already helped us in various generous ways. Their terms are \$75 monthly, and we think our readers will endorse our decision.

Another difficulty we have had to contend with has been the varying moods of advertisers, on whom we have hitherto depended for all expenses. We are so short of helpers free to work for us at the hours when those elusive people are visible, that the business side of the publication—the securing of fresh advertisers, and the collecting of their dues—has had to suffer neglect. If we could devote more time to this branch of the work, we should have as many as we need; but, while this shortage of help continues, we feel it is safer to let the price of the paper help to ensure its income.

If members connected with business firms will try and secure advertisements for us, it will greatly help not only the quality and size of our magazine, but also its circulation. We don't want this to remain at 1000 any longer!

Suppose each reader makes up her or his mind to get us five new subscribers by Easter? It would be quite

easy. And the competition is still open—\$25 for the largest number of new subscribers over 100.

♦ ♦ ♦

Deputation.

The Premier has consented to receive a Deputation of Women from all over the Province on Friday, February 14th. (He chose this date himself, and we feel the omen is propitious!)

As this will be over before the appearance of the February number of our magazine, we merely announce the fact and are issuing special invitations to all sympathizers to send in their names if willing to take part.

♦ ♦ ♦

Our Office.

An important step in our work is the moving into a new office, although this is only a temporary one until our headquarters in the Campbell Block are ready for us.

We gave up the old office some weeks ago, in order to hand it over to the Victoria Club, which badly needed extra accommodation, and Mrs. Grant very kindly housed the League at her flat, while we awaited the completion of the building we intend to settle in; but this completion is taking so much longer than we anticipated that we decided to rent a room right in town at once, even though it involves another move. The office work is so heavy now, and it was so inconvenient to have no place of our own for interviews, or committee meetings, or for enquiries to be received.

But this move has been an expense, and at the moment the question of rent seemed almost an insurmountable difficulty. However, thanks to the generosity of a small group of friends, we are tided over this month, and we earnestly hope that by the time we have to pay more rent we may be in a better financial position.

The present office has the merit of being very light, central, large and sunny, and we pay \$23 a month for it. The one in the Campbell Block, however, will have a large front window exactly over the main entrance, which will be an excellent advertisement for

the Cause, and we shall pay \$25, including light, heat, janitor and elevator.

Meanwhile, for this office and the next, we are in need of various etceteras. Mrs. Pethick is very kindly lending us a chest of drawers and second table; but we want a waste-paper-basket, a typewriter, a pen-tray, inkstand, pen-knife, scissors, letter-trays, Canadian Almanac, Western Guide, letter-weight, two pen-holders, paper-weight, rubber bands, clips, pretty curtains in the colours (purple, white and green), a table-cloth, and—most of all—a Duplicator.

Does any friend feel disposed to help us by making a present of any of the above necessities?

♦ ♦ ♦

The Parliamentary Situation in Britain.

The British Government has again resorted to trickery and deceit in its dealing with the Woman Suffrage question, and as a result Militancy has again broken out. Greatly as we deplore the necessity for such methods, we realize that the responsibility for them rests entirely on the shoulders of a Government with so little sense of honor or justice, and of an electorate too apathetic to support its convictions by political action.

We publish elsewhere the Militants' explanation of their tactics, and would only add that, as an official organ, we shall never condemn any action which women who have already given ample evidence of their courage, their single-hearted devotion, and their sound judgment, see fit to adopt. Instead of criticizing the methods of other Regiments in the same Army, every true Suffragist will concentrate her or his energies on the work at hand. What concerns us is to do our duty in this country, and to emulate the self-sacrifice of those whose path is so much rougher than our own.

♦ ♦ ♦

White Slave Traffic.

We strongly recommend everyone to read a story in the December and January numbers of "Maclure's Magazine," entitled: "My Little Sister, or the Grey Hawk of the World"—by Elizabeth Robins.

A WOMAN'S STANDING UNDER B. C. LAW

There has been a good deal of discussion lately on British Columbia laws as relating to women. A statement of some of these laws may be of interest.

Education and Disposition of the Child.—A mother has no right of possession in her legitimate child.

The father has sole authority in the education and disposition of his child, though the mother is equally responsible for its maintenance.

The father has the right to arrange by will the guardianship and education of his child, even before its birth, till it shall be 21 years of age.

The consent of the father or guardian is necessary to the marriage of minors of either sex under 21 years of age, but the consent of the mother is **not** necessary if the father, or guardian appointed by him, consents.

A girl of 12 years or a boy of 14 years may be legally married in this province.

In the case of a deserted wife the husband has the right to collect and use the earnings of their minor children. He may also collect and use his wife's wages in some cases.

A wife is not entitled to dower in any land in the ownership of her husband. He may sell it or give it away without consulting her. This holds good even if **the wife's money helped to buy it**. He may leave her penniless.

A widow's portion.—If the husband should die without a will, the widow has one-third interest for life in all real estate owned by him at his death. If a widow and children survive, the widow gets the use of one-third of the real estate, the children inherit two-thirds and at her death the mother's portion.

If there are no children, one-half of a man's estate goes to his widow, the other half to his own people, however remote the relationship. If no next-of-kin can be found it may go to the crown.

If an unmarried son or daughter die without a will, leaving a father, mother,

brother and sisters, the father inherits it **all**, the mother **nothing**, unless the property came through her, when she inherits a life interest in it. A minor (under 21) cannot make a will.

Attempts to reform these laws have again and again been made but have always failed, and must inevitably fail so long as women have no representation in the legislature.

VERSE

A Great Writer has compared Humanity to a Bird, Man and Woman the two Wings, useless without each other on any lofty flight.

A Bird in flight across earth's open spaces
Sang to God's glory when the World was young,
Beat strong wings in the evil angels' faces,
And soared triumphantly as it had sung.

But, reckless in the pride of its high calling,
It brushed the Tree of Self and broke a Wing,
And thenceforth feebly rising, quickly falling,
Crippled, it flew near earth and ceased to sing.

Till, impotent in that low air, and dying,
It raised a tremulous note of prayer and pain,
And He Who made the Bird for upward flying
Touched the poor broken Wing to strength again.

Then the glad Bird, with white Wings spread in beauty,
Swept on its journey, circling near the skies,
Waking the world to know its lofty duty,
Thrilling all life to undreamt harmonies.

H. C. H.

RESOLVED:

"That this Meeting realizes the urgent need that the Woman's Point of View should be directly represented in the control of Legislation and all affairs of the Nation, and deplores the injustice to herself and the loss to the State involved in her present political position; and preferring that British Columbia should lead the other Provinces of Canada in all matters of Progressive Reform, rather than follow, it calls upon the Provincial Government to introduce and carry, during the coming Session, a Bill giving the Vote to Women on the same terms as it is or may be given to Men."

The above Resolution was put and carried at every Meeting which Miss Dorothy Davis addressed during her Organization Tour of the Province, the Meetings being **Public and Free**.

Place	Date	Chairman	How Carried.
Vernon	Sept. 28	R. H. Rogers, Esq., Barrister*	Unanimously.
Kelowna	Oct. 3	President Board of Trade*	Unanimously.
Summerland	Oct. 7	Mrs. Lipsett*	Unanimously.
"	Oct. 7	Mr. J. Logie*	Unanimously.
Penticton	Oct. 9	Mrs. Fallis*	One Dissident.
"	Oct. 10	Capt. I. M. Stevens, Reeve*	One Dissident.
Fernie	Oct. 25	Two Drawing-room Meetings*	Unanimously.
"	Oct. 26	Rev. Mr. Dymock*	Unanimously.
Creston	Oct. 31	R. O'B. Fitzgerald, Esq.*	Unanimously.
Revelstoke	Nov. 6	Mrs. Sibbald*	Unanimously.
Golden	Nov. 11	Mrs. Shaw*	Unanimously.
"	Nov. 11	Miss Dorothy Davis*	Two Dissidents (One said he was "ragging").
Invermere	Nov. 14	H. E. Forster, Esq., M.P.P. Mover, Mrs. B. H. Hamilton Seconder, Mrs. Poett	One Dissident (Approving principle but not Adult Suffrage).
Rossland	Nov. 20	Mrs. Moffatt Moved from Chair Seconder, Mrs. Lorne Campbell	Unanimously.
"	Nov. 20	The Mayor Mover, G. Agnew, Esq. Seconder, Col. Egan	Unanimously.
Grand Forks		Mrs. Ernest Miller Mover, Mr. W. Davidson Seconder, Mr. Farrelly	Unanimously. (Very small meeting)
Nelson	Nov. 27	The Mayor Mover, Stephen Hoskins, Esq. Seconder, E. A. Crease, Esq.	Unanimously.
Greenwood	Nov. 28	The Mayor Mover, Mrs. McCutcheon Seconder, Mr. F. White	Unanimously.
Phoenix	Nov. 29	The Mayor Mover, Mr. Ingram Seconder, Mr. Paterson	Unanimously.
Kaslo	Dec. 2	John Keen, Esq.*	Unanimously. (With enthusiasm).
Cranbrook	Dec. 4	Judge Wilson Mover, Mrs. J. F. Smith Seconder, Mrs. Macfarlane	Unanimously.
Creston	Dec. 7	E. Fairhead, Esq.*	Unanimously.
Revelstoke	Dec. 10	President P. E. L. Local*	Theatre full, standing, with acclamation.
Enderby	Dec. 13	Rev. Mr. Campbell Mover, S. Polson, Esq. Seconder, W. Downes, Esq.	Two Dissidents (Bank Boys).
Peachland	Dec. 17	J. L. Vicary, Esq. Mover, Mrs. J. B. Robinson Seconder, Mr. McDougall	Unanimously.
Vernon	Dec. 19	President Local Branch P. E. L.*	One Dissident.

Several Small Drawing-room Meetings, when feeling unanimous.

A similar Resolution was also carried, never defeated, at many other Meetings organized by the Branches, at which Miss Davis did not speak, and was also carried invariably at New Westminster, Haney, Hammond, Central Park, Ashcroft, Kamloops, and five or six other places, organized by another Organizer.

* The Names of the Movers and Seconders of these Meetings are lost, in lost luggage.

HOW THE MILITANTS EXPLAIN LETTER-BURNING

The Suffragists who have been burning and otherwise destroying letters have been doing this for a very plain and simple reason. They want to make the electors and the Government so uncomfortable that, in order to put an end to the nuisance, they will give Women the Vote.

These militant women are being warned that letter-burning is very unpopular. That is just what they want it to be, because they know that if the electors and the Government liked to have letters burnt, they would do nothing to stop it.

The quiet, patient methods of the law-abiding, non-militant Suffragists are very popular indeed (with those who happen to hear anything about them), and it is just because they are so popular that they are a failure; the Government and the electors being quite content that such pleasant, harmless methods shall continue for ever. The vote has never been given as a prize for good conduct. Women will never get the vote except by creating an intolerable situation for all the selfish and apathetic people who stand in their way.

It is true that in making a difficulty for the Government and for the men voters, the letter-burners may incidentally put other women to inconvenience, but at least those women will be suffering in their own interests and not only in the interests of other people, as is so often the case where sacrifices made by women are concerned. History teaches us that we must suffer to be free, and women, as men have done before them, are finding themselves obliged to pay this price for their liberty.

As for the men who are complaining of the actual or possible destruction of their letters, let them explain why they did not, long ago, force the Government to give Votes to Women. The men of the country and the dishonest and reactionary Government they have put in office must bear the whole blame and the whole responsibility for the attacks upon the letter-boxes, because, by rejecting every quiet and lawful appeal for the Vote, they have driven women to methods of revolution.—From "The Suffragette."

TREASURER'S NOTE

It has been suggested that a monthly statement of moneys received for the carrying on of our work be published in "The Champion." We shall accordingly be very glad to receive and publish reports from local branches. A quarterly financial report of the Provincial Executive will also be rendered.

We think it a good idea to keep before our readers the **need** of funds to carry on our work successfully, and also to show that there are those in B. C. who are awake to the importance of immediate financial help and who respond right loyally.

E. BAËR, Prov. Treas.

The January-February Receipts of Victoria Branch:

Membership Fees—

Miss J. J. Murray.....	\$0.50
Miss L. Gillespie.....	.50
Miss C. Angus.....	.50
Mrs. J. Hardy.....	.50
Capt. Longstaff.....	.50
Miss Leggett.....	.50
Mrs. Beilly.....	.50

Special Subscriptions—

Miss McDonald.....	1.00
Mrs. Powers	1.00
Mrs. Baer	10.00
Mrs. Pethick	15.00
Mr. Rand	2.00
Mrs. Sanders50
Mrs. Mitchell50
Miss Robb	5.00
Mr. Murphy25

Reception to Miss Davis (Receipts) 18.00

Subscriptions for Office Rent—

Capt. Longstaff	6.00
Mrs. Mitchell Innes.....	10.00
Mrs. Young	2.00
Miss Dodwell	1.00
Miss K. Gordon	1.00

Total.....\$77.25

E. BAER
(Treas. Victoria Branch).

MILITANT MEETING IN VICTORIA

Miss Barbara Wylie has come and gone. Her meeting in the Alexandra Club Ball-room was a complete success from the point of view of numbers, for every seat was filled and there were about thirty people standing at the back.

The chair was taken by Mr. Parker Williams, Socialist Member for Newcastle, and Miss Wylie, as need hardly be said, upheld the reputation of the W. S. P. U. as the school of first-rate speakers.

She aroused a good deal of sympathy among an audience already suffragist but opposed to militancy, and she made at least one or two converts.

A Resolution calling upon the Federal Government to give the Vote to Women this Session was carried standing and unanimously; and it is probable that her visit has helped the local Suffrage Movement, by drawing attention to the question to a degree never attained except by spectacular or sensational methods.

CORRESPONDENCE

To the Editors,—

I write to protest against the insertion in our last month's issue (January), of a very inaccurate report of my remarks at our Reception on the 3rd. One expects to be misrepresented by antagonistic papers, but our own Suffrage Magazine ought to be either accurate or silent. The omission of one word makes all the difference, and the omission of contexts completely travesties the sense of a statement.

I said that while the welcome and support I received from the women throughout the country far exceeded our expectations, the support of the men was **even** more enthusiastic; and in the report published a totally different idea was suggested.

Also, the report states that I experienced "the same difficulty at Kaslo as at Golden in obtaining a chairman," whereas what I really said was that I had a first-rate chairman for the Golden afternoon meeting, but had considerable difficulty in the evening. At Kaslo, I had no difficulty at all! and the words with which I referred to my chairman there—"a splendid man"—were given by the reporter as "a benevolent old gentleman," a quite ludicrous misdescription.

And so it is throughout the poor account we have so mistakenly published. It is quite impossible for me to write apologies to all the places where I met with such ready and encouraging support and kindness, but I did **not** select in the entirely arbitrary and pointless way the reporter attributes to me; and I should be very grieved if the feelings of anyone, either individually or from a sense of local patriotism, were hurt by the words put in my mouth or by an apparent favoritism in reference to places.

I hope in future we shall write our own reports, however condensed they would necessarily be, or else do without a report altogether.

DOROTHY M. DAVIS.

Feb. 2nd, 1913.

A UNIONIST JEST

C. E. B., in the "Evening News," chirps as follows upon the denial in Liberal papers of the rumor that Mr. Asquith will resign:

It is false, it is false, what these Unionists say

Of the Radical leader's fixed intent. Although he believes, in his own quaint way,

"In representative government."
He's a thoroughly squeezable kind of a chap;
If his lambs cry "Snip!" he will answer "Snap!"

Though "Votes for Women," he begs to think,

Would be a "disaster" beyond repair, He will swallow the physic without a wink,

Accepting the principle then and there.

If he cannot control the majority, He will stick to his watchword of "Votes for Me!"

NOTICES

Meetings.

A Mass Meeting will be held by the Political Equality League on Monday, February 17th, 1913, at 8 p.m., in the Alexandra Club Ball-room, for which invitations are being sent to every Member of the Provincial Parliament and the Civic Authorities.

It is hoped that all friends of the Cause will rally to this meeting and help us beforehand to get it thoroughly advertised.

Stewards will be needed to distribute literature, get signatures to the Petition, and hand round collecting trays. Volunteers for this work should send in their names to Miss Dorothy Davis at the Temporary Office without delay.

After this meeting, we hope to announce the continuance of regular Public Meetings Weekly.

Sunday Afternoon Socials.

It is proposed to hold Suffrage Socials on Sunday afternoons from 3 to 5.30 in the Office, when any interested in hearing about Votes for Women are cordially invited to tea and talk. These are for Men as well as Women; but the arrangements are not yet completed. When they are a notice will be put on the Office door.

◆ ◆ ◆

Monday Evenings.

Miss Dorothy Davis will be At Home every Monday evening from 7.30 to 9.30 at her Flat, to anyone already a Suffragist or those who wish to hear about the Movement. Sex no disqualification! Please enquire at the office for first date.

◆ ◆ ◆

Wanted.

About twenty girls or men to join our Volunteer Advertisement Corps, for distributing literature at or outside all places of entertainment. Two are sent out together, and this work is very amusing. If you would like to help this way by taking either one evening a week, or one definite Theatre or Hall, please send in your name at once to Miss Dorothy Davis.

◆ ◆ ◆

The Petition.

Names continue to pour in, and we should most undoubtedly be able to present at least 50,000 names if only we had more time to collect in **and more Collectors**. Won't some more Suffragists come forward and undertake to work either a street or a district? This opportunity to do a really big thing for the Cause may not—Shall not!—come again.

◆ ◆ ◆

An article on the White Slave Traffic will appear next month.

◆ ◆ ◆

Leaflets can now be obtained (Our Own Brand!) on application to the Secretary at the address on the title-page, for 50 cents per hundred. We hope later that this price may be reduced, but in issuing a limited number of copies, we have to charge cost price. Samples are being posted to-day (Feb. 7th) to all Branch Secretaries.

WOMEN'S FRANCHISE THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

"For so the whole round World is
every way
Bound by gold chains about the
Feet of God."

America

American suffragists celebrated the woman suffrage victories in Arizona, Kansas, Michigan and Oregon (some particulars of which we published last month) by a fine torchlight procession, in which it is estimated that 15,000 men and women took part. The same authority puts the number of persons who looked on at 250,000. This dense mass of spectators, says the "New York Tribune," filled the pavements solidly from 54th Street clean down to Union Square, and surged out into the street whenever the police let them, which was seldom, for the police arrangements last night were really almost perfect. It was not in a spirit of criticism that the crowd came out—oh, no. But it was almost solemn. Almost unbroken silence reigned among the thousands who gazed, from start to finish. It was as if they were saying to themselves: "What is this force that is marching upon us?"

The account goes on:

Standing at 42nd Street, when the Woman Suffrage party section, by far the greater part of the parade, got under way, it looked as if an endless chain of harvest moons was winding down the avenue. Far, far up, as far as the start at 58th Street, you saw those yellow globes of light, and as far down as the eye could reach you saw them swinging. They were the yellow paper lanterns the women carried.

At the head of the parade rode Miss Beatrice Forbes Robertson (Mrs. Hale), the grand marshal, on a milk white steed. Among suffragists well known in this country, as well as the United States, were Dr. Anna Shaw and Miss Meg Milholland.

The oldest person in line was William Irving, eighty-five years old, who marched, he said, in the big political

parades when Lincoln was elected. "And I'm proud to tramp along in the woman's cause, which is as great as the cause for which Lincoln toiled," he said.

The Suffrage States were represented by chariots, driven by suffragists, and women voters also represented Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Australia, and New Zealand.

In France

French feminists have for some time declared that women have as much right as men to stand for the Presidency of the Republic; and now a candidate has come forward to test the point. Mlle. Marie Denizard, who is, of course, a Suffragist, was a candidate at the last general election for the Chamber of Deputies, when she stood for all the divisions in her native department of the Somme; and, as the Paris correspondent of the "Daily News" says, "if she polls but one vote at Versailles on the 17th inst. she will have done as well as M. Grevy did at the first time of asking, and as well as such notabilities as the Duc d'Aumale, General de Galliffet, Henri Rochefort, and M. Combes did."

To an interviewer, Mlle. Denizard is reported to have said that she cherished no illusions as to the result of the Presidential election. "I shall not replace M. Fallieres at the Elysee," she said; "but if the feminists in the Chamber and Senate vote for me—and there are some—it will be interesting. . . . My candidature is not so fantastic as one might think. It means that woman has the right to take her part in government, as she pays her share of the taxes. . . . I am only putting my name forward as representing an idea."

Mlle. Denizard is a keen Suffragist. "If I were successful at the election," she said in the course of another interview, "I should begin by giving women equal political rights with men. What induced me to enter the lists to fight for the Presidency? To vindicate the rights of my sex and obtain justice for women. My mother was left a widow

ten years ago. There were four children, and no breadwinner, but the State made no reduction in our taxes. My mother was obliged to pay just as much as before, yet she has no vote, and, although I am now arrived at woman's estate, and have a flat of my own, the only right I possess is that of discharging my financial obligations towards the State. But if we pay the same taxes as men we should have the same rights."

In Italy

The fact that the Italian Chamber of Deputies threw out a measure to give votes to women last May has not by any means diminished the strength of the franchise movement that is going on in Italy. At present Italian women enjoy neither the municipal nor the Parliamentary franchise, and two recent meetings were held in Milan testifying to this demand for the former. At one, a well-known Socialist, Signor Innocenza Capper, made a great effect by an eloquent speech, in the course of which he said:

"I do not believe that any decent man in Italy would oppose Votes for Women on any pretext of her physiological inferiority; on the contrary, the opposition is purely political. We fear the too great power of Clericalism. Besides, Italy is not a matured nation. Giolitti [the Prime Minister] at present represents the conscience of Italy. He has said, 'No vote' to-day; but tomorrow it is not improbable that he may say 'Votes for Women.' . . . It is the vice of man which destroys respect for mother, wife, sweetheart, and without this political life is sterile. The flame of ideality must be kept alive in our hearts by real enthusiasm, and for this we must have the help of women, and the feminist movement is necessary to Italy."

The other meeting, which was also held to promote the granting of the municipal vote to women, was particularly interesting as being addressed by Signora Teresa Labriola, the fully qualified woman barrister, whose claim to exercise her profession was recently rejected by the Court of Appeal at

Rome. According to the account sent to us, she was given an enthusiastic reception, and made a strong, impassioned speech, "in rapid, nervous sentences." Here is a militant passage from her speech: "If women are to get the franchise there must be a continual manifestation of determined will and activity. The working-class men won the vote because they knew how to fight and conquer. This is not a question of philanthropy, but of obtaining a right. The sovereignty of the people was affirmed by the Revolution of France, and in England at the time of the Revolution. Now, when feminists there (i.e., in England) are fighting with greater fervour, there is greater hope of success."

In Hungary

Frau Rosika Schwimmer, who, it will be remembered, told our representative many interesting facts about the militant Suffrage movement in Hungary when she was in London last October, has sent us a communication with regard to the International Women's Suffrage Congress, which will be held in Budapest on June 15—20, 1913. Oriental women will take part in the Congress for the first time. The Chinese women are going to present a purple banner to the International Suffrage Alliance, embroidered with the words: "Let us hold together; we are working for the same ideals." The leader of the Buddhist women of Burmah, Ma Hla Oung, who is also Town Councillor, will be present with her daughter, Mah Nee Nee. Men and women of other Oriental countries are also expected to attend, including Chinese members of Parliament.

The second Congress of the Men's International Alliance will be held in Budapest at the same time, presided over by Sir John Cockburn.—From "Votes for Women."

In Russia

In Russia, too, the militant movement among English Suffragists obtains a hearing, and an enthusiastic one. Recently, a paper was read on it in St. Petersburg by Miss J. W. Wilson, a

member of the Women's Social and Political Union, and it was received with the warm applause that might be expected in a country where a struggle for liberty is always going on. This was the first time that a militant suffragist had spoken in St. Petersburg.

A "Reuter" message from St. Petersburg, dated Saturday, December 21, states that the Committee of the Council of the Empire has adopted the Bill providing for the admission of women to the Bar.

In Persia

His Excellency Abdul Baha, in the course of an address given at the Essex Hall last week, on "The Equality of Women," said that in Persia to-day women were showing dauntless courage in promoting their movement; they were proving their intelligence and their equality with men in all that applied to science and art, and were attaining to the highest degrees in the colleges. Women had been the inspiration of religious movements in ancient times, and in Persia the Bahai movement had had its martyr heroine, Kur-ratul Ayn, who had died to open the gate of the newer life to her country-women.

In Norway

Mr. Lloyd George's recently expressed approval of the so-called "Norwegian" amendment to the Franchise Bill, which he defined as giving the vote to "women householders and the wives of married electors," has drawn forth a letter to the "Times" from Mr. H. L. Broekstad, in which he says: "Allow me to say that the Norwegians went a good deal further. According to the Act of 1907, every Norwegian woman over twenty-five years who earns a yearly income of at least £16 10s. in the country and £22 in the towns, and who has paid taxes upon such income, is entitled to vote. In other words, all women over twenty-five years—no matter what class—unmarried, married, or widows, who themselves or whose husbands have paid the above taxes, can vote, and

even be elected a member of the Norwegian Parliament. I may add that this limited franchise for women will, in all probability, be extended to universal suffrage in the next or following Session of the National Assembly."

An interesting communication appeared in the "Westminster Gazette" last Tuesday, in which a Norwegian correspondent states that the women have taken a strong part in the recent elections in Norway, which have resulted in the return to power of the Liberal Party, which is pledged to maternity insurance and the better protection of unmarried mothers and their children. The article goes on to say that "the good effect of the women's vote has been so generally acknowledged that all parties have now adult suffrage on their programme, and adult suffrage to women will certainly be given by Parliament in the immediate future, as men already have it. The present suffrage, which excludes two-fifths of the women of the poorer class, was only intended as a cautious, preliminary step."

The writer also says that "the women are in a majority in Norway as elsewhere, but our men are not afraid of the women. There is not the fight between the sexes as in other countries; they work together for their common interest in the family and the State."

In Holland

In Holland, as in England, the Woman Suffrage prospects are overshadowed by a proposal, backed by the three Liberal parties there, to give adult male suffrage only in their new Electoral Reform Bill. As Dutch Liberals are no more ashamed than are their English brothers to take help from women in their election campaign, they are holding out vague hopes of a measure of women's enfranchisement, should their other reform measures not be impeded thereby! We hope the Dutch Liberal women will show a spirit too often lacking in their English sister Liberal women, and refuse to support these betrayers of their movement.

In Finland

Dr. Thekla Hultin, one of the fourteen women who sit in the Finnish Diet, has expressed amazement to the representative of the "Daily Chronicle" that on coming to England she finds women still struggling for their enfranchisement. She added some interesting facts about Finnish women M.P.'s. All members are paid a salary, but they lose it if absent without special leave, and are also fined 15s. a day. "I may say," she went on, "that the women attend the sittings more regularly than the men. The women members have endeavored to bring about improvements in women's position, especially in its legal and economic aspect. Bills introduced by women have been concerned with the raising of the age of consent, securing equality of the wife with the husband in the control of the children, motherhood insurance, the right of women to enter the legal profession, and so forth."—From "Votes for Women."

WHY NOT V.C.'s FOR WOMEN?

Men have rightly been rewarded with the Victoria Cross, again and again, for risking their own lives to save those of their fellows. Why is no honor of the kind ever conferred on the women who prove that in the matter of heroic self-sacrifice they are on an equality with men? Take the instance of Miss Alt, the grey-haired old heroine, who, hearing of the terrible distress and loss of life in the cholera camp at San Stefano, has gone down among the soldiers there, and is working night and day to save life and reduce the sum of human suffering that is the inevitable consequence of war. Many years ago, Miss Alt, who is a Swiss trained nurse, went out to Turkey in that capacity. Since then she has been a governess in Turkish families; and now, at an advanced age, she goes to risk her life and to spend her hardly earned savings in order to save the lives of others. Could the V. C. be given to a better recipient?

A Woman Skipper

The courage of woman is, of course, never called in question; but is astonishing how often it goes unrewarded, presumably because physical bravery is considered to be men's business, and not women's. Almost unnoticed, for instance, Mrs. George Orne, the only woman skipper on the Atlantic Coast, recently brought her leaking schooner, after a collision in the fog off Cape Cod, safely into Boston Harbor. For a whole night and day she stuck to the wheel, and was backed up in her determination to bring her crew and her ship into port, in the face of real peril and immense difficulties, by her chief mate, her daughter Ethel. How absurd it is to say that any occupation can be closed arbitrarily to women!

POLICEWOMEN

An interesting petition has just been presented to the Mayor and Council of San Antonio, Texas, by six women of wealth and position, asking for permission to join the police force. Their request is framed in the most practical way possible, for they have mentioned the particular "beats" on which they consider women policemen could be most usefully employed, and they add that they could get 10,000 signatures from women to back up their petition. We have no doubt they could; and, knowing how the state of our streets over here demands the presence of women as policemen, we can only express our warm hope that the enterprising women of San Antonio will achieve their end without delay.

NEWS FROM THE BRANCHES

Again, silence, except from **Rossland**, who report that they are going to attend the Carnival with literature to distribute, arrayed in Suffrage regalia—purple, white and green.

Someone has written to complain that there is too much of Victoria, and too little of other Cities. We quite agree that there ought to be as much about other localities as about Victoria, and we implore all the Branches, again,

to send us news of themselves before the 5th of next month, when we go to press. We particularly want this magazine to be **Representative of the whole Province.**

THE LAST REFORM BUT ONE!

Women Geographers

The Referendum to the general body of Fellows of the Royal Geographical Society, on the motion "That the Society approves the election of women as Fellows," had resulted, down to December 20, as follows:

Yes, 1,796; No, 578; Unsigned, 43; Conditional, 33.

Lord Curzon, President of the Society, with whom the proposal originated, has circularized the members to express a hope that "the Special General Meeting of January 15, which has been called to decide the matter, will be largely and representatively attended, in order that the general sense of the Society may be reflected by the vote."

Truly, anti-Suffragists are past-masters in the art of accepting the last reform but one! In 1893 the Royal Geographical Society rescinded its own by-law to admit women as Fellows, under which several well-known women had already been elected, including Mrs. French Sheldon, Lady Fox Young, and others. Now we have a noted anti-Suffragist advocating their election once more, though why women like Miss M. E. Durham, Mrs. Mary Gaunt, and Mrs. Bullock Workman should be considered fit to put F.R.G.S. after their own names and unfit to put a cross after the name of a Parliamentary candidate, is more than mere logic can explain.

LIST OF BRANCH SECRETARIES AND REPRESENTATIVES

Point Grey—Mrs. Harvey, 834 18th Ave. W.
Eburne—Mrs. Forbes, Terra Nova.
New Westminster—Mrs. Wiggin, Royal Studio.

Central Park—Mrs. Bryan, Central Park, Vancouver.
S. Vancouver—Mrs. Houlder, James Road P. O.
Sapperton—Transition.
Ladner—Mrs. R. H. Wilcox, Ladner.
Chilliwack—Mrs. Chas. Barber, "Free Press" Office.
N. Vancouver—Mrs. J. Gallagher, P. O. N. Vancouver.
Port Haney—Mrs. Hunter, Port Haney.
Fairview—Mrs. Vermilyea, 1520 3rd Ave. W.
Cloverdale—Mrs. Wright.
Ashcroft—Mrs. Hofst, Ashcroft.
Agassiz—Mrs. F. Smythe, Agassiz
Kamloops—Mrs. E. Mackenzie, 241 Seymour Street.
Mission City—Miss C. Murray.
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. L. Vicary.
Mrs. J. B. Robinson.
Penticton—Mrs. I. M. Stevens.
Revelstoke—Miss J. Hardie, Canadian Bank of Commerce.
Golden—Miss Ruth Armstrong.
Invermere—Mrs. Dunn.
Fernie—Miss Gordon.
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.

Other places have still no fixed representative, but will have shortly. Where no address is given, the name of the town is sufficient.

A complete list of all Branch Officials will be published next month if Secretaries and Representatives will kindly send in by March 5th, at latest.

"A HOUSE OF DEFENCE"

Long enough have I lived and sought to know the value of things,
To know the gold from the tinsel, to judge the clowns from the kings;
Love have I won and given, friendship of men has been mine,
But to-day I offer thanksgiving for a gift more rare and fine:

For the friendship of true women that has been since the world
had breath,

Since a woman stood at a woman's side to succour through birth
and death;

God made us a bond of mirth and tears to last forever and aye,
For women's friendship, staunch and true, let me give thanks
to-day.

Much have I met to rejoice in, much have I sorrowed for;
But nought is better to hear than the foot of a friend at the door,
And naught is better to feel in life than the clasp of a woman-hand,
Which says, "What are words between us? We know and we understand."

For the friendship of dear women, that has lasted since time
began,—

That is just as steadfast and just as deep as the friendship of
man for man;

For the tie of a kinship wonderful that holds us as blood-
bonds may,

For the friendship of women—tender, true—I would give thanks
to-day.

Many the joys I have welcomed, many the joys that have passed,
But this is a good unfailing, this is the peace that will last;
From the love that lies, and the love that dies, and the love that would
slay and sting,

Back to the arms of our sisters we turn for our comforting:

For the friendship true of women, that has been and shall
ever be,

Since a woman knelt by a woman's side at the Cross of Calvary;
For the tears we weep, and the trusts we keep, and the self-
same prayers we pray,—

For women's friendship, strong and deep, let life thanksgiving
pay.

—(The above is copied from a Xmas Card and was unsigned.)



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