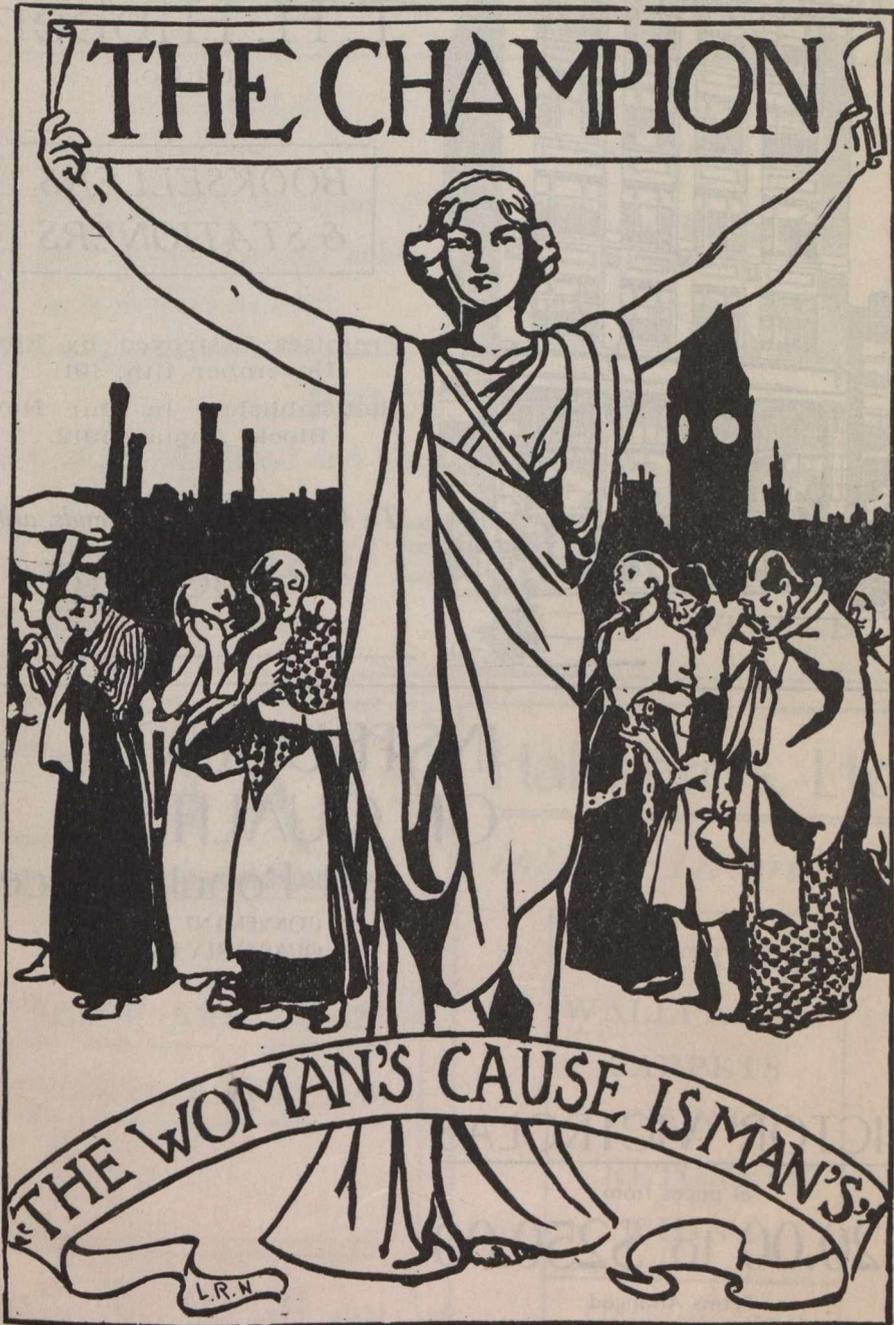


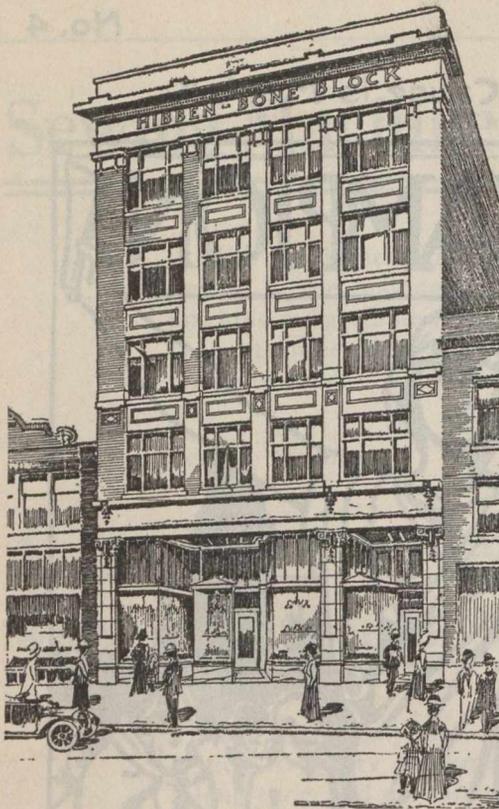
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November, 1912

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# The Champion

A Monthly Magazine Published by

The Political Equality League (Victoria Branch)

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Single Copies 5c.

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

Vol. I.

NOVEMBER, 1912

No. 4

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## POLITICAL EQUALITY LEAGUE

### Victoria Branch.

President, Mrs. Gordon Grant.

Hon. Treasurer, Mrs. Baer.

Organizing Secretary,

Miss Dorothy Davis.

Recording Secretary,

Miss McDonald.

Office,

421 Vancouver Street, Victoria.

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

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

It demands from the Government immediate legislation to secure this.

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

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

tween this dual standard and the political disability of women.

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

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

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## PETITIONS.

The Political Equality League have already planned for the circulation of a petition asking the Government to give to women the vote on the same terms that it is given to men. It is the intention of the women to prove to the Government that the people of British Columbia are very much in earnest in their request and it is confidently asserted by some of the leaders in this movement that the Government are sufficiently broad minded to grant the vote to women as soon as they show that a large number demand it. It is, however, of the ut-

most importance that there will be concerted action on the part of all Leagues and organizations in having the petitions thoroughly circulated. Vancouver and Victoria are both busy getting signatures. New Westminster League with the various new organizations throughout the Province are giving this their first attention, so that the returns may be in early in January. To make this effort effectual the work must be done methodically, persistently and thoroughly. Let the canvassers remember to leave literature wherever they call. This is splendid propaganda work.

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The Political Equality League has arranged to hold a bazaar at Mrs. Peterick's house, 976 Heywood Avenue, on the afternoon and evening of Thursday, November 21st. The bazaar will be opened at half-past three by Mrs. Roper. There will be many attractions and it is hoped and expected that all interested will come and bring their friends. An auction sale, to close the proceedings, will be held at nine o'clock.

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#### THE STUDY CLUB.

A very interesting meeting of the Study Club was held at the home of Mrs. Baer, Vancouver Street, on Thursday afternoon, October 17th. It was the first of a series to be held through the winter season, at which free and full discussion of various topics of interest to the "new woman" is being arranged for.

The initial subject chosen for discussion was "Fundamental Reasons for the Enfranchisement of Women," and everyone was requested to come primed with a "reason," the meeting was of a very general, interesting and varied character, and as one lady expressed it, "We had to stop long before we got through."

Mrs. Baer, chairman of the club, said in introducing the subject: "Today we are discussing fundamental reasons for the enfranchisement of women. This is a large subject and may be studied from many viewpoints. Primarily there is a theoretical side and a practical side. We may study the scientific, philosophical and religious aspect or we may turn to the social and economic significance of the movement. Some women are with us because they are labouring and see others labouring under the disabilities of existing conditions, other women as idealists see that the political equality of the sexes is the basis of a more desirable state.

This afternoon we meet to express our different viewpoints on the question of woman's enfranchisement.

#### The Mother of the Race.

The particular reason I want to emphasize is this. By the very nature of motherhood, racial progress and development is largely in the hands of women, and the rights and privileges of citizenship should be hers, in order that she may have liberty to serve and care for her children more adequately.

Look at the people as you go down the street and ask, Isn't there room for improvement in the human specimens you meet? What is the reason for the manifest imperfections? What is woman going to do about it? What **can** she do while her sex means her subjection? I think, first of all, before she can do anything, she must wake up to the responsibilities of her position, and become conscious of her own ignorance and lack of development. How little we know, for instance, of all that is involved in motherhood, and what is there for us more important? (This is a subject for study, to which some of our meetings will be devoted.) How negative we are, tamely accepting, as we do, conditions against which we should

struggle with might and main—as, for instance, a double standard of morality, drink and disease, enforced maternity, sickly and imperfect children, sweated labour, man-made standards for women. How calmly we are detailed to take care of home and babies in much the same way that you give dolls and toys to children to amuse them, keep them quiet and occupied. When are we going to fully realise that instead of being a condition imposed, motherhood should bear the royal insignia of freedom. The result of making one-half of the human race a subject half, an adjunct to the other half is producing such dire results that women are being aroused to the need of sterner, more positive and potent ideals of womanhood and a restatement of her relative position. Standards for women must be set by women, not by men.

We must go forward as women or racial progression must cease, for we are the mould in which the future race is cast. And while hitherto man, with his physical strength has dictated the terms, and woman in her weakness has submitted—a perfectly natural result—in the course of evolution and with increasing knowledge, the subtler forces of mental and spiritual power are superceding material and physical force, and the necessity for the awakening of that latent **woman power** is felt in every department of human society today. We women have got to take the broader view—the step forward. We are the **Mother of the Race, not the subject of the man.**

So long as woman regards herself as the subject of the man, she needs no vote, she is looked after according to **his** will. But when she awakes to the fact that she is the mother of the race, she **does** need a vote in order to more adequately attend to her own business. As women come to recognise this larger aspect of their glori-

ous calling so shall their influence be more potent and for good.

Mrs. Mitchell as next speaker made a very thoughtful plea for woman's liberty to serve in the larger life of the world as well as in the home and emphasized the inherent right and duty of the individual to self-expression in service, no matter whether man or woman.

Miss Ralph thought the high death-rate of infants in Canada should be a call to arms to all women and open their eyes to the need of enfranchisement and pointed to the results as shown by government statistics in this particular, in the countries where women **had** the vote. She also took up the educational view of the question from the standpoint of a teacher.

Perhaps one of the most interesting talks of the afternoon, because of the personal touch, was given by Mrs. Saunders, who told of the loss of her baby girl in Vancouver two years ago. The milk she had been feeding to her sick baby was analyzed by the doctor and found to contain **no milk whatever**, a purely chemical production. That winter 300 children had died in four months in Vancouver and she and some of the other mothers had tried to get a public investigation into the matter and prosecution of the vendors of the impure milk.

She spoke of the tremendous difficulties that faced the women and the way was blocked because certain authorities feared that public investigation would **injure the tourist traffic.**

This experience, Mrs. Sanders said, opened her eyes to the need of the woman's viewpoint in the realm of government. Man was so liable to place commercial and private interests before the consideration of human life.

She also cited the unequal divorce laws as a potent reason for woman's enfranchisement, and gave instances of women having to put up with a life of unbearable insult, but no suit

for divorce in order because the husband had not used **personal violence**, the only redress being to run away, as one lawyer advised.

Mrs. Elkin thought the laws regarding the guardianship of children were enough to arouse any woman to a sense of the degradation of her present position under existing law and thought immediate action should be taken to have them changed.

Mrs. Pethick, Mrs. Saville and Mrs. Foxall took part in the general discussion which followed and Mrs. Christie's excellent paper we reproduce on another page.

Mrs. Gordon Grant in summing up the discussion emphasized the growing need of "woman power" in every department of public work. She called attention to the work of the League, the paper, the meetings and petition, which all were invited to sign. The serving of afternoon tea brought to a close a most interesting meeting.

In connection with the Study Club, the Rev. W. Stevenson will deliver an address on "Women, Past and Present," at the home of Mrs. Mitchell, 641 Superior Street, on Wednesday evening at 8.15, November 13th.

#### ANOTHER ORGANIZER.

Mrs. Lashley Hall left on the 6th of November on a trip through the lower part of the Province. She will visit all the cities, towns and rural districts between Vancouver and Kamloops, organizing Political Equality Leagues and circulating a petition for signatures asking the Government to give the vote to the women of this Province on the same terms that it is given to men. Mrs. Hall will return to Vancouver about the middle of December.

#### CANADIAN CLUB.

The members of the Canadian Club with many of their friends gathered

at the Alexandra Club on the afternoon of November 5th to listen to an address by Miss McNaughton. Mrs. Jenkins, in a few appropriate words, introduced the speaker. Miss McNaughton's subject was "Woman's Suffrage," and the hearty applause which constantly greeted her remarks showed the sympathy and interest she awakened in her audience as she carefully and thoughtfully, yet with a strong sense of humor, took up the reasons, one by one, why women needed the vote. Although not a militant suffragette she knew many of the militant leaders and they, she stated, were not women of an hysterical class, but clever and level-headed, who had come to these methods because they felt they had exhausted all others. She said they were heroic women who stood with courage by their convictions, and, as women of all history who have stood out alone in their efforts for the cause they advocated have been publicly and privately censured, so these women are. Even Florence Nightingale, a heroine whom all honor today, was in her early efforts spoken against, written against, and preached against. The speaker said that if we cannot endorse the methods used by the militants we need not condemn these women who are enduring a great deal for the sake of the freedom of womanhood. The suffrage is an old cause, and if we study the whole question in an historic way we will find that in old Greece it was declared that there were two things that could never be—first, the abolition of slavery, and second, that women should be allowed to vote. The first has come—the second is coming.

It is said, the speaker continued, that women should stay at home and not interfere with politics. That is not the right way to put it, rather say politics have interfered with the home, with the women, with the children. In England there are 5,000,000 women

workers, that they are among the best citizens is proved by criminal statistics. Woman's work is her property. At present she has little protection in it. A strike unless supported by a vote is useless, thus the financial position is involved in the vote. Then, too, trades cannot be bound together to protect their wages and the conditions under which they work effectually without the leverage of the ballot. The vote is the simplest and easiest method of adjusting these things. The outcry of the result of woman having the vote is only a repetition of the history of the time when the married woman's property act was passed and woman was allowed her own purse. "It would be a great economic force if women would be allowed to do what really belongs to them." Appealing to those present she asked: "Are the women of the Canadian Club going to claim the duties and the power of the vote? It is coming and it would be well to prepare for it."

A vote of thanks was accorded the speaker and a bouquet of carnations was presented by a wee tot on behalf of the Canadian Club. The reception closed with the singing of the National Anthem.

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### THE CLERGY.

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During the months of August and September the Political Equality League addressed a letter to three hundred of the clergy of all denominations in this province asking their attitude on the question of giving the vote to women on the same terms as it is given to men. Eighty-one clergymen replied, only nine of whom were opposed to the vote being given to women, while seventy-two were in favor. In our last issue we replied to

those who objected to women voting, today we wish to quote some of the reasons why other of the clergy are in favor of woman's suffrage.

The Rev. Father E. W. Connelly, M. I., of the Church of Our Lady of the Holy Rosary of Vancouver, says: "In the church some are for, others against, the militant claims of the suffragette. Personally, I am of the opinion that the fanatical mistakes of the English suffragettes should not be allowed to damage a whole movement. Votes for women, in spite of difficulties, will one day I think be an accomplished fact. In certain matters which in questions that concern the welfare of the race it is imperative that women, mothers and daughters, should have a vote. I believe women should have a say and wield political power and not until then will questions that affect them so closely be dealt with in any adequate or satisfactory manner. It is certainly nauseating to see pure and honest women deprived of a vote which is given to frequenters of saloons and houses of immorality."

Rev. George Murray of Vancouver says: "I am entirely in accord with the aims of the Political Equality League. The movement is one of vast importance, fraught, I believe, with beneficial results, moral and social. It is worthy of steady, persistent and judicious effort, which is sure to win out although progress may seem to be slow. I believe women will bring more conscience to bear on voting than men do, consequently their accession as voters will be a marked gain. I believe in the justice of your cause and its ultimate triumph."

The Rev. W. Baugh Allen, rector of St. Paul's Royal Naval Station and Garrison Church, Esquimalt, says: "I believe woman's influence as a whole is in the interests of the home and her vote would be used in the moral upbuilding of the Province. I am in

favor of the vote being granted to women on the same conditions that it is given to men and I will certainly assist in helping to secure it as opportunity offers."

Rev. H. N. McLean of Jubilee Station says: "I am in fullest sympathy with the movement for political equality for women. I should say in the words of our marriage service, If any man can show any just cause why women should not be given absolute equality, let him now declare it or else hereafter for ever hold his peace. I have yet to see one sound reason advanced in support of the present one-sided, man-sided system."

Rev. H. Carson of the Congregational Church, Victoria, says: "I favor the vote being given to the women of this Province and I will be glad to help as opportunity offers in assisting to secure it for them, for I believe it will help in the moral up-building of the Province."

Rev. H. W. Laffere of Cumberland says: "I have long been convinced of the justice as well as the necessity of woman's suffrage and wish you speedy success."

Rev. Duncan Campbell of Enderby says: "As a matter of justice and fairness woman should be on equality with men in the matter of the franchise and I will be glad to assist in securing that end by every reasonable means."

Rev. S. J. Thompson of Nanaimo, Rev. W. Stevenson of Emanuel Baptist Church, Victoria, with sixty others heartily endorse the vote being given to women and are willing to assist in securing it as opportunity offers.

We heartily appreciate the courteous replies received. We wish, however, that more had replied so that we could have answered the question more effectively, "Are the clergy as a whole barring woman's progress and freedom?"

#### PUBLIC MEETING.

The Political Equality League of Victoria held a very interesting public meeting on Saturday evening, November 2nd, in the Unitarian Hall. The chair was ably taken by Mrs. Baer, who introduced the speaker of the evening, Mr. Daniels. The subject chosen was "The Position of the Women of the Orient." Taking the text for his subject the oft repeated assertion "that as woman cannot do man's work she ought not to have his vote," he told of the work the women of Japan and the Philippine Islands were doing in the mines and in the coaling of vessels while the men look on, smoking and resting. The women, he also stated, dug the potatoes, husked the rice and picked the bananas while the men ate and smoked and rested. The Japanese argue that higher education is unwise for women as it makes them dissatisfied with smaller pay and fewer opportunities than men. "Surely," the speaker continued, "if woman can do man's work, if she can be entrusted with the education and character building of the children, she should be allowed a vote in regulating the conditions under which they live. Eighty years ago the women of England were in similar conditions to the Filipinos women of today working in coal mines and following other laborious pursuits of men. The address was full of information and most interesting.

A report of the work of the Organizing Secretary, Miss Dorothy Davis, was given by the President and was greatly appreciated.

The next public meeting will be held in the Unitarian Hall (above Bowes' Drug Store), on Saturday evening, November 23rd, at 8 o'clock. Mr. Max Waddell of Seattle will address the meeting. It is hoped there will be a good attendance. A collection will be taken to defray expenses.

## ONE REASON FOR VOTES FOR WOMEN.

Among the many reasons why women are asking for the privilege of the vote perhaps one of the strongest is that they may be the better able to help in building up the moral tone of the Province. In their efforts at the present time they are doing all they can in alleviating suffering and helping the destitute, but they are painfully conscious that they are working at results without touching causes, yet, it is all they can do, with their limited power. If they had the vote to increase their influence and assist in changing the causes which bring about present conditions their work would greatly help in placing men and women on a self-supporting basis who today are being supported by charity, through the development of their self-respect and the arousing of their dormant energies. It would be another case of history repeating itself. In Australia in 1892 women were placed on a political equality with men and since then have given a great deal of time and thought in studying the causes which brought about conditions of poverty, worthlessness and crime. In 1895 the prisons were full, largely of men convicted of lawbreaking, and while they were serving their sentences, their wives and families were either being helped by charitably disposed individuals or else the mothers were compelled to leave their children to look after themselves while they earned sufficient to support them. The women of leisure investigated many of these cases and afterwards visited the men in prison. They found that although these men had broken the law, they had many redeeming traits of character. The humane side appealed to them and, consulting with those in authority as to the best method of assisting both husbands and wives, it

was decided to form a Prisoners' Aid Society. The first effort of this organization was to secure a law which enabled men to be released on license, and given a chance to again try and lead a decent life. As a result twenty-six prisons have been closed in seventeen years, and one up-to-date reformatory has been opened. In the last ten years 2880 people have been assisted, of these only 324 again broke the law, proving that the humanitarian viewpoint as seen through the ballot being placed in the hands of women has demonstrated the fact that if given a chance under better conditions men regain their self-respect and manhood. The correctness of these figures might be doubted had they not been given by the Minister of Justice of Australia in a recent report at the annual meeting of the Prisoners' Aid held in the early part of this month.

## WOMAN'S SUFFRAGE MEETINGS.

### Miss Davis Completes a Successful Tour Through the Okanagan Towns.

Miss Dorothy Davis had two or three hours in Vernon last Friday on her way through on the completion of her tour of the Okanagan Valley, for women suffrage organization. She had met with extraordinary enthusiasm and looks on the trip as a success exceeding all anticipation.

At Enderby the few people whom she was able to call together for a very small meeting (having only one night there) threw themselves wholeheartedly into the question, are organizing a local branch and hope to arrange a large public meeting for December.

At Armstrong Miss Davis merely touched, but found two or three enthusiastic persons, and Mr. Mohr, editor of the Advertiser, announced that

he intended to make woman suffrage the subject of a debate at the Overseas Club in the near future.

At Kelowna, a large public meeting had been organized by Mrs. Kerr, and went off most successfully. Mr. R. B. Kerr took the chair, and the audience consisted of over 100 persons, of whom about half were men. The resolution was carried unanimously, 34 joined the Political Equality League at once and are organizing a local branch, a very large collection was taken, and at the close of the meeting several men and women came forward and volunteered active help.

At Summerland two meetings were held, or rather Miss Davis was invited to address a meeting of the W.C.T.U. and a meeting of the Socialist party. At both the resolution was carried unanimously and a local branch was formed which intends to organize a public meeting for December. But the crowning success occurred at Penticton, where, thanks to the energy of Mrs. I. M. Stevens, and the Misses Duncan, two large and influential meetings took place. The first was held on Wednesday afternoon for women only, when about 80 ladies were present. Mrs. Fallis took the chair, and the utmost enthusiasm was shown. The following day a large public meeting was held in the evening, with Capt. I. M. Stevens (Reeve) in the chair. Mr. Foley-Bennett had promised to speak, as one who in New Zealand had had practical experience of the value and success of the women's vote, but unfortunately he was at the last moment prevented from attending. The audience numbered about 120 and consisted partly of men, one causing a good deal of amusement by asking why the suffragists would not marry. At each of these meetings the resolution was carried with one dissentient, the interruptor of the evening meeting holding up his hand

against. On the Thursday afternoon Mrs. Stevens gave a drawing-room meeting for the organization of a local branch, which over 24 had joined the day before. This branch is organizing a large public meeting for December and promises to lead the rest of the Okanagan Valley in public spirit, esprit de corps, and unselfish energy and enthusiasm such as was exhibited by both the women and the men in regard to this vital question.

At Revelstoke, Nelson, Fernie and Cranbrook Miss Davis has held large meetings and organized strong Leagues. She will remain several weeks in the interior on organizing work.

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#### THE WOMAN OF THE FUTURE.

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That is part of the prophecy of  
**Thomas A. Edison**

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As recorded in an interview by  
Edward Marshall.

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"The housewife of the future will be neither a slave to servants nor herself a drudge. She will give less attention to the home, because the home will need less; she will be rather a domestic engineer than a domestic laborer, with the greatest of all handmaidens, electricity, at her service. This and other mechanical forces will so revolutionize the woman's world that a large portion of the aggregate of woman's energy will be conserved for use in broader, more constructive fields."

As we talked, Thomas A. Edison, doubtless the greatest inventor of all time, said some things which may offend the woman of now, but he said others so appreciative and inspiring that they surely will wipe offense away. He declared, without reserve, his concord with the suffrage workers; he explained that woman as she is, and speaking generally, is an un-

developed creature and—here is where women's wrath will rise at first—vastly man's inferior. But he went on to say that anatomical investigation of the female brain has shown it to be finer and more capable of ultimate aesthetic development than man's, and he explained that that development is undoubtedly, at last, well under way.

"It may be a perfectly natural detail of the development of the race that the modern woman not only does not wish to be, but will not be, a servant," Mr. Edison declared. "This has had its really unfortunate effect in that it has led, of late years, to general neglect of woman's work, and has resulted in the refusal, or, at least, the failure, of many mothers to rightly teach their daughters. But good will ultimately come of it, for the necessities arising out of womankind's unwillingness, have turned the minds of the inventors toward creation of mechanical devices to perform that work which woman used to do. The first requisite of such machinery was a power which could be easily and economically subdivided into small units. Such a power has been found in electricity, which is now not only available in the cities, where it can be obtained from the great electrical supply concerns, but is becoming constantly more easily available in the rural districts, through the development of the small dynamo and of the gasoline engine and the appreciation and utilization of small waterpowers which are becoming general even on our farms.

"It will develop woman to that point where she can think straight. Direct thought is not at present an attribute of femininity. In this woman is now centuries, ages, even epochs behind man. That it is true is not her fault, but her misfortune, and the misfortune of the race. Man must accept responsibility for it, for it has been through his superior physical strength that he has held his domi-

nance over woman and delayed her growth. For ages woman was man's chattel, and in such condition progress for her was impossible; now she is emerging into real sex independence, and the resulting outlook is a dazzling one. This must be credited very largely to progression in mechanics; more especially to progression in electrical mechanics.

"Under these new influences woman's brain will change and achieve new capabilities, both of effort and accomplishment. Woman will grow more involved cross fibres and that will mean a new race of mankind.

"Woman is at present little, if any more than half what she might be. The child may be considered the mean between his father and his mother—between the undeveloped female and the developed male. The male has had his full of mental exercise since society first organized; it has been denied the female. To growth, exercise is essential. An arm which never has been used will show weak muscles. A blacksmith's arm is mighty because it lifts great weights, strikes heavy blows. Development of brain is not so very different from muscular development. The idle brain will atrophy, as will the idle arm.

#### **Children of Future to Be Wonders.**

"The brain of woman in the past has been, to an extent, an idle brain. She has been occupied with petty tasks which, while holding her attention closely, have not given her brain exercise; such thinking as she has had time for, she has very largely found unnecessary because the stronger sex has done it for her. Through exercise men's brains have developed from the low standard of the aborigine to the high standard of the modern man, and if, in the new era which is dawning, woman's mental power increases with as great rapidity as that with which man's has grown, the children of the future—the children of the ex-

exercised, developed man, and of the exercised, developed woman—will be of mental power incredible to us today.

“The evolution of the brain of the male human has been the most wonderful of all the various phenomena of nature. When, in the new era of emancipation from the thralldom of the everyday mechanical task, the brain of woman undergoes a similar development, then, and only then, will the race begin to reach its ultimate. Yes, the mental power of the child born in the future will be marvellous, for to it women will make a contribution as great as that of man.

“There never was any need for woman’s retardation. Man’s selfishness, his lust for ownership, must be held responsible for it. He was not willing to make woman equal partner in his various activities, and so he held her back from an ability to fill an equal partnership.

“Less of this is evident in the development of the Jewish than in that of any other race. The almost supernatural business instinct of the Jew may be, I think, attributed to the fact that the various persecutions of the race have forced it to develop all its strength—its strength of women as well as that of men. Women have, from the beginning, taken part in Jewish councils; Jewish women have shared, always, in the pursuits of Jewish men; especially have they been permitted to play their part in business management. The result is that the Jewish child receives commercial acumen not only from the father’s but from the mother’s side. This may be taken as an evidence of what may come in future when womankind in general is equally developed with men along all lines.

“The development of woman through the evolution of mechanics will, by means of those mechanics, probably be the quickest which the world has ever seen. The refinements

of life in the future will be carried to a point not dreamed of now. I think the time has just arrived when the menial phases of existence may be said to be upon the verge of disappearing. This undoubtedly accounts for the great difficulty we experience now in hiring men, and more especially in hiring women, to do menial labor. The servant girl performs her tasks unwillingly in these days, and when she sees an opportunity, deserts them for the factory, where, through mechanical appliances, her potentiality as a human being finds new effectiveness.

“All these things will do more for the development of women than they will for the development of men, and they are but a few of many influences which now are working toward that end. They occur to me because they are involved in those things which most engage my thought. They will help develop those cells in a woman’s mind which have not in the past had opportunity or encouragement to grow. Give them opportunity and encouragement, and they will grow with great rapidity. They are very smart—these little cells! I have not much muscle, because I never have had reason to develop muscle. If I had had to do hard manual labor in the past, my little cells would have built muscle for me.

“The exercise of women’s brains will build for them new fibres, new involutions, and new folds. If women had had the same struggle for existence which has confronted men, they would have been physically as strong, as capable of mind. But in the past they were protected, or, if not protected, forced to drudgery. These days are the days of woman’s start upon the race—her first fair start.

“More and more she must be pushed, and more and more she will advance herself. It is lack of those brain-folds which has made her so illogical. Now, as they begin to come

to her she will gain in logic. When she has to meet, in future, the same crises which men in the past have had to meet, the conservation of her time, which modern science has made possible, will have armed her for the encounter. This will make Earth a splendid planet to live upon.

#### Better Marriage, Better Births.

"The development of women will solve many problems which we now deem quite insoluble. When women progress side by side with men, matrimony will become the perfect partnership. This perfect partnership will produce a childhood made up of individuals who would now be thought not only mental, but physical and moral prodigies. There will be no drawbacks to life. We shall stop the cry for more births and raise instead a cry for better births. We shall wake up presently to the dire fact that this world is getting settled at a rate which presently will occupy its total space. The less of that space which is occupied by the unfit and the imperfect, certainly the better for the race. The development of woman which has now begun and is progressing with such startling speed, will do more to solve this problem than any other thing could do. What we want now is quality, not quantity. The woman of the future—the domestic engineer, not the domestic drudge—the wife, not the dependent; not alone the mother, but the teacher and developer, will help to bring this quality about."

#### POLITICAL CANDIDATES APPROVE WOMAN'S SUFFRAGE IN ALASKA

Juneau, Alaska, Oct. 25.—If platform declarations count as indications of future actions, woman suffrage is reasonably certain in Alaska. All the political parties whose candidates are in the field have announced themselves as in favor of votes for women.

#### THE PERPLEXED VOTER.

By Fred H. Colvin.

Bill Jones's wife's an Anti,  
Who's so ladylike, you know,  
She would never think of voting,  
To the polls she'd never go.  
For she is represented  
By her husband, as you'll see,  
And her influence is greater  
Than her vote could ever be.  
But it's rather hard on Billy  
As you may surmise, or guess,  
And his job of representing  
Keeps him in an awful mess;  
For his mother and his sister  
Live along with him, you see,  
Not to mention wifey's mother  
In addition to the three.  
Now Bill is not progressive,  
So he favors William T.,  
While wifey thinks that Teddy R.  
Is all he ought to be.  
So with her wifely tenderness  
She'd have him represent  
Her views, without her voting,  
Lest she lose her good intent.  
But mother is a Democrat,  
Who's sure as she can be  
The country's going to smithereens  
Without our Billy B.  
Her sister thinks that Wilson  
Is the finest of them all,  
And if she only voted  
Her choice on him would fall.  
Then wifey's mother tries a hand  
Her influence to wield,  
By asking Bill in sweetest tones  
To give Prohib the field.  
She's sure the country's going to  
smash  
Because of rum and beer,  
But any thought of women's votes  
Makes her feel weak and queer.  
So Bill is up against it  
And is wondering what is meant  
By this talk of men so voting  
As to others represent.  
And how, with one lone ballot,  
No matter how he strive

That he can vote just as he ought  
 And represent all five.  
 Till he's sick of all the argument  
 For principle or pelf,  
 But now wants woman suffrage  
 So to represent himself.

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### IMPERIAL DEFENCE.

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A few days ago, under the auspices of the Navy League, an enthusiastic crowd packed the Victoria Theatre to listen to strong addresses on the question of Imperial Defence—on the duty and necessity of an immediate contribution of battleships to the Empire.

Is this really the present crying need? Why not a giant assembly to consider that infinitely more subtle and important question—the defence of the People of the Empire—of our Race—against those insidious foes which attack the vital forces which go to build up our manhood and womanhood? Are the people of less importance than the country? Or do we wait for the power of the women's vote to build the battleships that shall defend and conserve racial strength and beauty? Man has ever fought for his country and his interests, but it is woman—the mother—who cares for her children, the people of the country.

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### A USEFUL COURT.

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The city of Chicago has undertaken to provide husbands, who neglect their families, with work, to oblige them to do it and to see that their wives get enough of their wages to support them and their children. In order to bring this about, a Domestic Relations Court has been established. This court has proved that many delinquent husbands can work if they are given work to do. Last year the court dealt with fourteen hundred cases. Of these five hundred husbands could not be found. That is, more than a third had completely deserted their families. Of the

remaining nine hundred, only forty, or a little less than four and one-half per cent, were so worthless or helpless that they were committed to the workhouse. The others went to work. A little more than half their wages was collected for the benefit of their families. This amounted to \$40,000, a sum which would help materially to keep the families. By the aid of this court, happiness has been restored to many homes and hundreds of men have, through its help, regained their lost self-respect. This is an experiment in social work worthy of imitation.

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### WOMAN JUDGE HAS COURT.

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#### Trials of Delinquent Girls to Be Her Special Jurisdiction.

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Miss Mary M. Bartelme, of Chicago, has just been appointed Assistant Judge of the Juvenile Court of Cook County, Illinois, and will preside over a separate division devoted to the trial of girls and young women charged with minor offences and delinquency. Miss Bartelme is a lawyer, and several years ago was appointed Public Guardian of Cook County, which office she conducted so successfully that it has led to her elevation to the bench. Miss Bartelme is an ardent supporter of woman suffrage and an associate of Miss Jane Addams, of Hull House.

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### WHY WOMEN SHOULD BE ENFRANCHISED.

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I will first tell you what a woman who is a Justice of the Peace said was the most important reason why women should have the right to vote. I quote her because she has had a practical experience in public life and knows whereof she speaks.

"The most important reason why women should have the right to vote is because they need the ballot for

their own protection from crime, disease, starvation, ignorance and manifold other dangers."

For my own part, I believe that women should be enfranchised for exactly the same reason that the men are, that they should have the same right of full suffrage that men have, because they have the same need for it, if not more so.

If universal suffrage is granted to men in most civilized countries to promote justice for all men, why should women, merely because of their sex, be deprived of the same right of representation and self-protection?

However, we need feel no surprise that woman's suffrage meets with opposition. It is the natural course of human history; humanity has always through prejudice and superstition resisted every great reform, whether social, religious or political. But surely all who assist in bearing the burden of government should share in the privileges of government. Women are just as good an asset to the community as the men, and the world could not get along very well without their help: yet they are not represented in the government, although they outnumber the male population. Women pay taxes and do public service, therefore the city that does not enfranchise its women is not only unjust, but unprogressive. Our self-respect demands legal recognition and a voice in the government, and in the selection of those who make the laws under which we live and which we must obey.

I see no reason why women, simply because they are women, should be denied the right of representation and self-protection through suffrage.

The feminine mind supplements the masculine and both combined complete the mind of humanity.

Men and women are one, their interests are identical, but they look at things from different viewpoints, and

both points of view need to be represented if a city would progress along right lines.

Men look at things from the business and financial viewpoint, while women look at the humane and individual. Politics mean to men supporting a party, while to women it means human life and human destiny.

Women look upon politics as a means to an end, and the end good women have in view is not place and power, but the abolishing of sin, misery, crime and poverty.

The crime and degradation of the world are closely connected with the economic and political position of women throughout the ages. Through the power of the ballot women would seek the uplift and preservation of the race they brought into the world, leaving men freer to look after the material prosperity of the community, as the business and financial viewpoint is their specialty.

The ballot in the hands of men is a powerful weapon for good or evil; in the hands of women it would prove a powerful element for the good of the human family, for women, in a much larger proportion than men, would support legislative measures in the interests of home and morals.

The suffrage movement of the present day indicates the higher evolution of women, it represents a higher civilization because it would increase the power that works for righteousness, and the enfranchisement of women will result in a more enlightened and better balanced citizenship and a truer democracy.

The woman's movement is worldwide and is not due to the influence of any earthly leader or agitator, but to the quickening Spirit that comes from above, and it will go on until women in every land are made legal citizens of the world. Women must advance to higher things, to nobler and broader

aspirations if the human race is to be improved, and equal suffrage would tend to broaden their minds and increase their sense of personal responsibility, as the ballot is an educator, and women would become more practical and more wise in the using of it.

Therefore, for the good of the race, and the good of our own community, it behooves us to bring pressure to bear to get the Legislature to revise their Constitution and to put in a suffrage amendment giving women legal recognition as free adult citizens.

If we present the question before them in a right light, surely they will not hesitate to grant our just and righteous desire.

Thus our present legislators may share in the privilege of helping along the evolution of the race and the dawn of a higher and better civilization.

ALICE M. CHRISTIE.

### BAZAAR.

The Political Equality League have arranged to hold a bazaar in the Friends' Hall, 1333 Courtney Street, on the afternoon and evening of Thursday, November 21st. The Bazaar will be opened by Mrs. Roper at 3.30 o'clock. There will be a number of attractions, including the children's corner, with the generous goose, the bubbles, balloons and dolls, the tea room, where suffragette cake will be served, the news vendor, the fancy stall, the candy booth, all of which will be presided over by young ladies. It is expected and hoped that all interested will attend and will bring their friends.

### MARRIED WOMEN'S LEGAL STATUS.

Until recently a wife in England could not testify against her husband, because they were one and he was the

one, and it would be the same as his testifying against himself. Then the Court of Criminal Appeal took a hand and declared that she not only might testify, but could be compelled to. The ball was then tossed into the House of Lords, which has just decided that she can do as she pleases. By the time the courts and the legislative bodies and the church and the newspapers get through with woman, will there be any woman left?

MARY LEIGH.

August 9th—September 20th.

They took a living soul away,  
And shut it from the breath of day;  
They bound the feet, they bound the hands,  
They fenced it round with iron bands;  
Into the mouth they forced the bit,  
Bridled, and bruised, and tortured it.

"Five years," they said, "here shall you be,  
O Soul, in your captivity;  
Five years of weariness and pain  
Before we let you out again."  
Five years! And scarce five weeks are run—

She looks on freedom and the sun.

"Basis of Government," Brute Force,  
Has had its fling and run its course.  
The utmost that it dared to do  
Was done: flesh shrank till bones  
showed through,  
Yet still within that house of clay  
The spirit lived and won its way.

She won because she had the will  
To die—she whom they dared not kill!  
Possession gave them their nine points:

This tenth has pierced their harness-joints.

They fought with backs against the wall:

One poor weak body beat them all!

—Laurence Housman.

## CORRECTED.

A wealthy American girl was attending a social function at a country house in England.

"You American girls have not such healthy complexions as we have," said an English duchess to the girl. "I always wonder why our noblemen take a fancy to your white faces."

"It isn't our white faces that attracts them," responded the American; "it's our greenbacks."

The other day a political convention at Greenville, Tenn., ended in a fight, after six men had been knocked down with chairs. If anything of this kind had happened in a woman's club it would have been quoted from one end of the country to the other as proof that women are unfit to vote.

## JUSTICE AND LIBERTY.

What irony! The Statue of Liberty and all our figures of justice are women!

Mr. Pethick Lawrence says: "My training as a political economist has taught me that such serious evils as the sweating of women—women who earn but five, six and seven shilling a week, for 11 and 12 hours' work a day, and keep a whole family on that miserable pittance—this and the White Slave traffic are intimately bound up with this question of franchise. These questions do not receive from the legislators the attention they would if women had the vote."

If a woman can choose her husband, then why not her own M. P.?

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EVERY DOLLAR for the Policyholder

TABLE SHOWING THE  
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YEAR	PROFITS EARNED	Profits Earned in Per Cent. of Premiums Received
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1908	\$428,682	22.36 per cent.
1909	\$501,922	24.49 per cent.
1910	\$615,083	<b>27.39 per cent.</b>
1911	<b>\$731,064</b>	<b>29.79 per cent.</b>

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to sign the petition asking the  
government to give women

## The Vote

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names will kindly send their address or  
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## The Suffrage Sale

Will be held at the home of Mrs. G. H. Pettrick, 976  
Heywood Avenue, on Thursday, November 21st.

The Sale will be opened by Mrs. W. J. Roper at half  
past three o'clock.

There will be ye olde book shop, an apron and fancy  
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A dainty and appropriate Christmas Card will be furnished free to anyone wishing to send the Champion for a year. Order early.

### PRIZE COMPETITION

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Through the generosity of two ladies belonging to Vancouver and Victoria branches of the Political Equality League, we are able to offer three prizes of five, ten and twenty-five dollars to the three persons in the province securing the largest number of yearly subscribers to the "Champion" between September 15 and December 15, the minimum number to secure any prize being one hundred subscribers. For information apply in writing to "Champion," 421 Vancouver Street, Victoria.

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