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## Woman Suffrage Dept, Lewiston Saturday Journal (folder) I Greenwood Papers Box 540 Folder 49

Isabel Greenwood

*Maine Woman Suffrage Association*

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# WOMAN SUFFRAGE DEPARTMENT

Conducted by Mrs. Florence Brooks Whitehouse.

A group of women who believed that concentrated effort of suffragists should be put upon Congress to pass the federal amendment at this session, met together to form a branch of the Congressional union Monday at the home of Mrs. Chas. F. Flagg of Portland.

Hon. Robert Treat Whitehouse spoke in behalf of the federal amendment and Miss Doris Stevens spoke for the Congressional union. After the speaking members were obtained and officers elected and a constitution accepted.

Mr. Whitehouse told of the value of federal over state campaigns. Of the expense, the labor and the difficulty in state campaigns, and he declared the ratification of the amendment by the legislatures of the different states to be consistent with our representative democracy. He asserted his faith in the Congressional union and his belief that they had touched the crux of the situation when they solicited the help of the enfranchised women of the West.

Miss Stevens told what the Congressional union had done. How its methods were non-partisan in the highest sense; how all they asked of the representatives was that they should be loyal to suffrage beyond party caucus. That, in fact, they should vote as they promised and not hide behind a caucus declaration. She said members from certain districts withdrew from the caucus upon the tariff out of loyalty to their districts, but representatives from the suffrage states did not withdraw from the caucus on account of their loyalty to suffrage.

Their war against the opposing party—which happened to be the democratic party last year—was successful. Of the 43 men campaigned against, only 19 came back. Sen. Thomas' majority was reduced from 43,000 to 3000. In San Francisco, a bulletin board was displayed showing just how each representative from the 48 states voted upon the question of suffrage, and the women of the West had a right to know how their representatives actually stood when it came to the votes. She told how for the first time in the history of woman suffrage, the women got a committee appointed to consider it. For the first time, women were able to speak before the republican and democratic conventions upon suffrage. She spoke of the difference of attitude in the judiciary committees, when they were neither bored nor sleepy, but alert and anxious. Why did you do this? If we do so and so what will you do? Etc. They have begun to realize that at last the women have the power of 4,000,000 votes with them. This plus the 1,150,000 votes in New York, New Jersey, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania and many more in the West, is big enough to be reckoned with, and the politicians are beginning to regard the figures, and to stop, look and listen.

After Miss Stevens had finished speaking, people were asked to sign membership cards and 36 responded.

## Officers Elected.

Then officers were elected and a constitution formed. The following is the list of officers to date. The full list is incomplete, but will be made up by the executive board.

Mrs. Florence Brooks Whitehouse was elected State chairman; Mrs. Sara P. Anthoine of Portland, 1st vice chairman; Mrs. Philip F. Chapman, 2d vice chairman; Mrs. Fred-eric Ayer, Bangor, 3d vice chairman. Three other vice chairmen from other parts of the State are to be appointed by the executive board later, as well as a secretary and treasurer. A constitution was adopted.

It provides for an entrance fee of 25 cents to be paid by each member to the National Headquarters, and an entrance fee of ten dollars to be paid to the National Headquarters by each league on admission to the Congressional Union. The colors of the organization are purple, white and gold. All the officers, chairmen and delegates of the Congressional Union shall be women.

There shall be an executive committee consisting of the State chairman six vice chairmen, secretary, treasurer and chairman of each Congressional district. This committee shall include Maine members of the advisory council and any national organizer working in the State. Nominations for the members of the committee shall be proposed to the convention by a nominating committee appointed by the executive committee. The executive committee shall fill vacancies occurring in the committee. The direction of the work of the Union shall be in the hands of the State executive committee under the general direction of the National executive committee.

A convention may be called at any time by the executive committee. Such conventions may be attended by all the members of the organizations but the voting members shall be one delegate for each ten women members of any branch for whom the 25 cents dues have been paid.

This constitution may be amended by a majority vote at any convention of the Association, provided that such amendment shall have been specified in the call for the meeting.

## Object of Union.

The object of the Congressional union is to use the votes of the women in the enfranchised states to win the Federal amendment for all women. It is the belief of the Congressional union that there are enough women voting in the West to bring great pressure to bear upon Congress at this session and there is good reason to believe the amendment will pass. If it does the Congressional union will have fulfilled its mission.

It is purely a National organization and in no way interferes with State work. If the amendment passes there will be great need of State work because the amendment must then be ratified by the legislatures of three-fourth of the states also by a majority instead of a two-thirds vote. But for the next few weeks it will be necessary to concentrate on Congress. The workers in Washington will watch the progress of the resolution which has already been presented to Congress and at any time that it seems necessary to bring pressure to bear upon any committee or any individual of any committee the matter will be taken up with the different states thru their chairmen, who in turn, will inform her sub-committees and the recalcitrant representation will be deluged with protests in the form of letters postal cards and telegrams. When a Senator or representative from Texas gets several hundred letters from women in forty-eight states he will begin to sit up and take notice and if the letters are in the form of protests for some thing he is doing he is quite likely to cease doing that particular thing.

We want women all over the State to join this association. It will not in-

terfere with state work. In fact, it will help the State work because it will put the women in the different districts in touch with the State organization and this will be a powerful force when it comes to State work. Our weakness now is lack of organization. We need to know how to get hold of the women suffragists thruout the State and in this way we can.

Congressional union dues are 25 cts entrance fee. Voluntary gifts will be gratefully received by the State organization and the work in the State will depend upon the amount of these gifts—but there are no regular dues.

The State chairman wishes it might be possible to receive cards from every woman who reads this article and to secure them at once. In this way it would help organize the State in the quickest possible way and there is need of haste if we are going to use the State to help win the Federal amendment at this sitting of Congress.

The vote upon the amendment will come in February or March and that leaves little enough time for action.

Will YOU not help by sending your name and 25 cts to Mrs. Robert T. Whitehouse, 42 Deering street for your membership in the Congressional union at once and thus help the cause of suffrage in this your State of Maine.

Greenwood Collection

(Mrs. Chester - Isabel Whittier)

WOMAN SUFFRAGE  
NEWSCLIPPINGS:

MAINE

Saturday Lewiston  
Journal

"Woman Suffrage  
Section"



# WOMAN SUFFRAGE DEPARTMENT



[Conducted by Mrs. Florence Brooks Whitehouse.]

**P**LANs are now being laid by suffragists for giving Congressmen from the non-suffrage states unique farewell parties when they leave their home towns for Washington next fall. Local suffragists will gather for a district convention and will set forth their views in regard to the need of an amendment to the Federal Constitution, calling upon their Congressman for his support. Whether he pledges himself to this convention or not he will be supplied when he starts for the National Capitol, with a train-letter in the form of resolutions adopted and signed by the members of all the local suffrage leagues in his district. If these documents fail to convince him of the demands among his constituents and if the hundreds of simultaneous district conventions timed as a farewell impression for him do not move him, perhaps the fact that when he arrives in Washington, D. C., hundreds of women will converge there for the forty-seventh annual convention the National American Woman Suffrage Association will have some effect especially as this body will make an appeal to Congress, presenting, *masse*, copies of the resolutions sent in from each congressional district.

Mrs. Medill McCormick, chairman of the Congressional Committee of the National American Woman Suffrage Association in Washington, explain the purpose of this plan for going-away parties as follows:

"It is to demonstrate the demand for nation-wide woman suffrage to secure action during the next session of Congress, that the Congressional Committee has arranged these congressional district meetings thruout the country. Especial emphasis will be given to the meetings in districts

of new members of Congress, of whom there are over 130 this session, and no Congressman will be left in a position to oppose us on the ground that 'there is no sentiment in my district.'"

Mrs. McCormick who is the daughter of Mark Hanna, and known as of the most farsighted politicians in suffrage ranks, has been putting much of her best effort during the past two years into congressional district organization work in non-suffrage states. It is said by men of affairs who have watched Mrs. McCormick's methods with interest that Congressional Committee of the National American Woman Suffrage Association has now a congressional district organization second only to the Prohibitionists.

"And see what the Prohibitionists have done," says Mrs. McCormick.

The formation which the suffragists have worked out is, in brief, this: a state congressional committee auxiliary to the National Congressional Committee has been organized in every state within and tributary to the state association. This committee, under the state press or state congressional chairman, is composed of representative suffragists, one from each district in her state, whose duty it is to serve as leader in congressional activities on the part of all the suffrage leagues in her district.

"This congressional district machinery has been running smoothly all summer," said Mrs. McCormick in telling of the work. "From the beginning we have used the card catalog system of checking up the Congressmen, you know, and now we are running it in duplicate. That is, we record, whatever facts we obtain for ourselves in Washington, including the Congressman's vote on all legislation in which women are interested, and we also send a card to the congressional district leader. She fills out the various questions asked

concerning her particular representative, his political record and affiliations at home, whether his wife is a suffragist or an anti, and various other items that may bear upon his case. Then she goes to interview him on women suffrage, returns the card to us, and there we have him—from both ends of the line! When the committee in Washington approaches a new member at the time of the next session, for example, they will know in advance the manner of man with whom they have to deal."

The congressional chairman at the head of the state congressional committees is Miss Helen N. Bates, president of Maine State Suffrage Association.

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(Mrs. Chester - Isabel Whittier)

WOMAN SUFFRAGE NEWSCLIPPINGS:

MAINE

Lewiston Saturday Journal

"Woman Suffrage Department"

# WOMAN SUFFRAGE DEPARTMENT

Conducted by Mrs. Florence Brooks Whitehouse.]

THE NATIONAL Woman Suffrage convention closed officially on Saturday night but to the public the most interesting meeting connected with it came the next day, when hundreds of people gathered at a large mass meeting in Pali's theatre to hear Dr. Shaw, Dr. Katherineement Davis, Mrs. Carr and Mr. Dudley Field Malone speak for the woman suffrage cause. Dr. Shaw, speaking with her inimitable grace, showed little weariness, even after a strenuous week. Upon the platform sat many of the men and women who have aided her in her work for suffrage and who gathered to show their loyalty to her as well as to the cause. Dr. Shaw is a great woman with exceptionable charm, doing nothing for herself of a selfish nature save her love of humanity. "Oh I have never been a leader," she said in Washington at the College League luncheon, "I have been an inspirer." And she is right. She has inspired the cause as perhaps no woman has done since Miss Anthony. The demonstration given to her at the convention when, marching suffragists pelted her with roses, crowned her with a golden wreath and placed a garland of flowers about her neck, symbolizing the affection with which thousands and thousands of women from the Pacific to the Atlantic and from Canada to the canal, regard her.

At Pali's theatre, Dr. Shaw told us she came to Washington more than a quarter of a century ago, to speak before the judiciary committee and how frightened she was. "I came with the same plea for citizenship which I am making today," she said. "A plea which should nev-

er be necessary to make in this country. A country which gives citizenship to all people but her own. Are our hands clean to offer freedom to other countries when we refuse it to our own people? So long as we are unjust to each other, so long as we fail to apply our principles to our own people, we can hardly expect to impress upon other people the sacredness of our democracy. When freedom, right and justice refer to only half the people in America, we are in no position to reach out our hand to give them to others. Women in America are neglected, left without a country if they marry foreigners. A cruel, unjust and unholy law. There is no law worse than this, to take away from woman her birthright for any reason except crime. Every symbol of oppression should be removed, and it is because of this injustice and the evils that follow in the trail of disfranchisement that women should be given all the privileges and opportunities the country can give. We ask for opportunity and we will work out our own equality."

Dr. Shaw at this point presented Dr. Davis, New York's police commissioner.

Dr. Davis gave as the subject of her address, "The Reasonableness of Woman Suffrage." She spoke at some length of Mr. Osborne and the work he is doing in Sing Sing prison and said he is trying to bring the prisoners into a realizing sense of what democracy really means. The prisoners were allowed to elect officers from their body to represent them,—the theory of representative government on a small scale. These men were to manage the prison departments and in this way Warden Osborne hoped to inculcate in them the spirit of democracy. Among the boards elected was a court which was to decide upon the guilt of prisoners who infringed upon any laws of the prison and to inflict the penalty. A prisoner "beat up" a keeper and according to the plan of the democracy the prisoner was tried before this court with the result that extenuating circumstances were found, because the keeper had nagged the prisoner and the latter was given a very light sentence.

At this point the world got hold of the story and rose in wrath that such a thing could happen within prison walls, forgetting that things like this happen every day without prison walls. They then began to abuse Warden Osborne. They declared it absurd to believe that a democratic rule could exist in a prison. Warden Osborne answered, "It must work in prison if you want the prisoners to believe in a democracy when they come out."

Dr. Davis believes it can be made to work. She has tried and proved it. She told of quieting the mob of 1600 men in the New York prison the other day. All the world knows the story. How she faced the men and declared, "I won't listen to one complaint until you are quiet. When you are still, you may elect dele-

gates and send them to me in the office and I will talk the trouble over." And they did and you know the rest. Yet the antis say "Government is founded on force."

She told how at the New Bedford prison she called the whole institution together and asked the women if they wanted to extend the principles of self-government, which had been worked out in one house, to the whole institution. Those who had tried it said, "Yes," the others said "No," and when she asked the reason, they said, "Let's trust it to the governors of the institution," and she said to herself, "Tis because these women are prisoners that they feel this way." The men in Sing Sing said the same thing to the same proposition and she thought again, "It is because they are not free." And then she asked the same question at a woman's college and she found the girls felt the faculty should govern the college because they were paid to do it. Then she realized the reason lay deeper than she had imagined. It resolved itself into a question of belief and interest in democracy.

Then Dr. Davis proceeded to show that women were in politics already and that they were organizing to improve civic interests, even organizing to get better schools, and playgrounds and moving pictures. Why not organize for the ballot and why should they not have it? She gave an optimistic view of the world in spite of the war across the seas. She said women were coming to a degree of consciousness to-day where they realize they can direct the evolution of the world—and this is why they are asking for the ballot.

She spoke of the reasonableness of the granting of suffrage to the women who did want suffrage and letting those who don't want it stay with the men who don't want it. She felt that it was absurd of Congress not to recognize this great force in the suffrage movement which could be turned into the channels of civic service.

Dudley Malone made a gem of a speech upon suffrage and declared that it was stupid to have to campaign for something which justice and right demanded should be given to the women of America. He said he was not interested in the women who did not want suffrage, but he was interested in the women who did want it and were working for it. "I want to get the yeast from American womanhood," he said, "and I'll take the risk of getting the dough as well. I want the women of America to participate in her affairs."

Mrs. Catt was the last speaker, and she gave a deeply impressive address. We are waging a war against tradition, she said, and tradition is the most powerful enemy in the world. It hypnotizes men and substitutes superstition for reason. It's because of this enemy that progress has been so slow. She told how since 1848 in New York state when women asked for their political freedom, the electorate was quadrupled—that 1,200,000 men had been enfranchised and that 80 per cent of the population is foreign-born. She told how little the for-

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igner knew of the democracy when they became "automatic voters" after five years' residence in the United States. She declared that the recent campaigns in the four states had done more to educate men than anything that had ever been done. That the speakers had given them an insight into true patriotism and Americanism which they had never known before. "We are teaching the foreign men and women, thru our campaigns, what should have been taught them years ago," she said. "We want to put all our aspirations into the ballot box." She insisted that a plank should be put in the platform of the different political parties enfranchising women. A broader democracy for men and women,—this is the dream of the suffragists. The divine right of rulership must come to an end and in its place shall be the ballot-box. With women's enfranchisement will come humanitarian movements which will make the world a better place to live in. There is no reason or common sense in the opposition behind woman suffrage in a land which is free. It is political expediency and nothing else which is against the suffrage cause in Washington. She closed by quoting the following lines:

To the wrongs that need resistance  
To the right that needs assistance  
It is our duty to give ourselves.

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(Mrs. Chastar -  
Isabel Whittier)

WOMAN SUFFRAGE

NEWSCLIPPINGS:

MAINE

Lewiston  
Saturday  
Journal



# WOMAN SUFFRAGE DEPARTMENT

[Conducted by Mrs. Florence Brooks Whitehouse.]

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**L**AST Wednesday afternoon Mrs. L. R. Rounds, who is president of the Maine Woman Suffrage association, Miss Burt, who is an ardent Junior League member, and Mrs. R. T. Whitehouse went to the Gorham fair in an automobile bearing the suffrage colors and gaily decorated with "Votes for Women" banners. These ladies carried countless suffrage flyers and gave them away to the crowd on the grounds. Many people, men and women, stopped beside the car to ask questions, and some of the questions led to interesting conversations. Many men announced their belief in woman suffrage and said they should vote for it when it came before the people. To some of the people the suffrage map was a revelation, since they did not dream so many states had woman suffrage.

One interesting incident occurred when a man who had been imbibing rather freely of something stronger than pink lemonade attempted to elucidate in incoherent, thick-mouthed language why women should not have the ballot. On being told by one of the occupants of the car that it was impossible to follow his line of thought, the man dissolved into the crowd and an unknown advocate of woman suffrage on the other side of the car pushed his way forward and for a moment held the attention of the crowd, when he said: "Say, people, which do you think is better fitted to vote right—that man or this lady?" One man from New Jersey came to the car and told us that he thought New Jersey would win this year. (If New Jersey falls this October, the matter cannot come up again for seven years.) Two men from Massachusetts told us they should vote for the amendment, and one of them, a not over enthusiastic believer in "Votes for Women," said: "You are going to win out in Massachusetts."

Some few people passed by with heads in the air, once or twice calling over their shoulders: "I'm not interested." But the majority of the people were willing to learn about suffrage if they did not already know about it. There was nothing bordering upon discourtesy in the large, heterogeneous crowd—and there was a good deal of interest. Nearly 2,000 flyers found their way into the homes of the Fair visitors and doubtless will bear good seed.

**E**X-PRESIDENT TAFT in the Saturday Evening Post publishes a characteristic article upon woman suffrage in which he balanced with legal skill the arguments for and against woman suffrage and then settled comfortably back into a provisionally "stand pat" attitude. The Suffragist says of it:

"The upshot of Mr. Taft's reasonings on woman suffrage is: 'But tho I am opposed to woman suffrage now, I recognize it is likely to come sometime. If it can be delayed until a great majority of the women desire it, and have become better prepared to exercise it, I think it will be a correct and useful extension of the democratic principle.' " When women are strong enough to win suffrage, Mr. Taft will be in favor of their having it—a safe and sane position for a public man!

It's amusing that Senator Borah of Idaho and Senator Johnson of Maine both refused to vote for the Federal amendment because of race complication when 27 southern representatives voted for it. Senator Johnson thinks, as stated in a letter recently, that he would be unwilling to thrust upon the South another problem like that following the 15th amendment. Does Sen. Johnson realize that there are 864,000 more white women in the South than colored men and women? Perhaps the enfranchisement of the white women in the southern states may solve the problem for the South—who knows?

Upon this point Sen. Works of Cal., said: "The race question should not be given as an argument against the National amendment, that amendment simply abolishes the sex qualification, leaving valid all other existing qualifications, as well as the right of a state to establish new qualifications."

**T**HE Equal Suffrage states will have 132 votes in the next republican national convention under the tentative places of the republican national committee for a convention of 935 delegates. The

list includes Illinois with 58 votes (suffragist).

Connecticut gives us a good illustration of the powerlessness of the voteless woman to obtain even civil treatment from the men who are sent to Congress to represent her, if the men are disposed to be re-actionary.

Sen. Brandegee, a rabid anti-suffragist—was asked to receive a deputation of ladies, whom he is supposed to represent, who wished to state their cases to him. The Senator flatly refused in not over-courteous language. The incident has received wide comment. The Hartford Times says in part: "Because of the principle invoked by Mrs. Ascoug (chairman of the deputation) that the right of citizens to present their case to representatives, quite apart from any personal feelings of the representative on the issue in hand, widespread interest has arisen in this controversy thruout the states. Public opinion seems to be to the effect that the contention of the suffragists is sound, and that Sen. Brandegee will have to back down."

Andrew Gallagher, the California labor leader, declared that labor had been with women in their fight because they believed the women's vote was a vote in the right direction. "We didn't endorse Woman Suffrage out of chivalry, but for economic reasons. We felt that women would see thru the sham of things and would vote in favor of the many and against the privileges of the few, and they have and will continue to do so. In those days when suffrage hopes were dark in California, labor stood by women; as we stood for state suffrage, so we now stand for National suffrage. If labor can help bring about the passage of the National suffrage amendment then labor will put its shoulder to the wheel and do all in its power to force its adoption."

The right of women to appeal to Congress to enact into legislation this principle of freedom cannot be questioned by any sane man. The times in which we live ought to prompt all of the heads of the government to co-operate in this matter instead of hindering."

In a most interesting article upon "The Progress of the Social Conscience" in the Atlantic for September, Mr. William Jewett Tucker says: "The acceleration of the movement for Woman Suffrage has come from the demonstration of her capacity for civic life. A great many (women) are seen to be fitted for doing, and many are seen to be doing, the very things for which it has been assumed that suffrage would prepare the way. Their example has had the two-fold effect of making suffrage seem at once less necessary and more logical; certainly it has made more evident the inconsistency of denying suffrage to those so well qualified to exercise it."

Leaders in the movement for woman suffrage are delighted with this prospect of woman suffrage in Waycross, Georgia. They believe that the enfranchisement of women in that municipality is the entering wedge that will finally open the way for equal suffrage for male and female in the South. The State Constitution of Georgia has always disfranchised the women of the State. Notwithstanding this fact the ablest lawyers in Waycross hold this amendment to be entirely constitutional as applied to municipal suffrage. No snags in its technical construction are anticipated by legal minds. A similar situation has been met in Felsmere, Florida, where municipal suffrage was adopted in spite of the fact that Florida is not an equal suffrage state. The women of St. Augustine and Jacksonville may have no vote in municipal elections. The women of Felsmere have that right on the same terms as men. Waycross has great hopes of following the example of Felsmere. The Waycross charter when passed by the legislature bore the governor's signature with an annotation directing attention to the fact "that woman suffrage in Georgia is unconstitutional." Waycross business men are hoping that this may be decided as not applicable to city election and they are upheld in their opinion by many of the best legal minds of the state.

Greenwood Collection

(Mrs. Chester - Isabel Whittier)

WOMAN SUFFRAGE NEWS-

CLIPPINGS: MAINE

Lewiston Saturday Journal

"Woman Suffrage Department"

# WOMAN SUFFRAGE DEPARTMENT

[Conducted by Mrs. Florence Brooks Whitehouse.]

THE Literary Digest of Oct. 9th publishes at great length the results of a poll of the press of the United States upon the question of Woman Suffrage and it will be well for those people who believe with Mrs. Oliphant, that "suffrage is going instead of coming" to reflect a little.

Says the Digest: "It is gradually becoming apparent that the nation must soon face one of those great issues in Government which is comparable to the struggle for manhood suffrage—Woman who yesterday was a political cipher, is today stepping up to occupy a plane of equality with man. The nature of the progress of woman suffrage in the West convinces its friends that its adoption is to become general. . . . Are the people who enjoy it, satisfied? Will the people who have not yet adopted it, yield to it? Is there really a popular demand for it?" The Literary Digest, in an effort to gauge the attitude of the United States upon the subject sent letters to 1,000 newspapers requesting that they answer two questions, one to determine the editorial attitude toward the proposition, the other to discover the sentiment of the community represented.

The value of such a canvass cannot be disputed. Every state responded freely. To state the result briefly, the ayes have it! An overwhelming majority of editors favor it. Out of a total of 529 replies, 391 were affirmative, 97 negative and 38 undecided. . . . The communities were: favorable 237, undecided 183, negative 156. Among the undecided, however, a large number are said to be "rapidly becoming more favorable."

In the resume we find some very interesting facts; one is the attitude of the editors and communities in the suffrage states themselves. In these states 99 editors and 103 communities are in favor, with only 7 communities doubtful and 6 opposed; while there are 12 editors opposed and 6 doubtful. This, considering the fact that suffrage is "not working out well," to quote the anti's, looks surprisingly like approbation of the states themselves. In the campaign states, the ratio for suffrage is not so high, yet it is, for rather than against, which proves what the suffragists have always contended, that the only need is education to make the belief in suffrage universal. Out

of 128 editors in the campaign states, 98 are in favor, 16 opposed, and 14 on the fence. In the communities the result is 62 in favor, 46 uncertain, and 21 opposed.

The testimony from the suffrage states is most interesting, from the most fulsome praise as to the working of it, to the statements that it has made no difference in anything. Wyoming, California and Oregon seem to be perfectly satisfied with the results. Colorado expresses the same satisfaction but does not claim that it has accomplished as much as was expected of it. Only one paper Utah does not approve and endorse it. Washington was almost unanimous for equal suffrage, being extreme in its praise of the women voters.

The Digest says: "The consensus of opinion in Washington and, in fact,

practically in all of the western states, seems to be summed up in this editorial expression of the Spokane Daily Chronicle: 'A five years' test of equal suffrage has not converted the state of Washington into a sweet and snakeless Garden of Eden; but it has brought into action a tremendous new force for honesty, better morals, temperance and cleaner living. It has multiplied the list of independent voters. It has aroused a keener interest in the duties of governments toward the poor, the sick, the unfortunate. It has put fresh support behind every lawmaker and every official who cares more for humanity than dollars. It has made it foolish for the rouser to run for office, or for the grafter or the boodler, once exposed, to seek election again. The people of Washington favor equal suffrage heartily, but not unanimously. . . . The good citizen, however, does favor equal suffrage for Washington, today, to-morrow, and as long as the republic stands.' Which would seem to discount forever Mr. Maling, and 'Mrs. Goddard,' and 'Anna Bock,' and four or five more of the anti advocates in the various suffrage states who have been worked over time by the 'Protest' and the anti-suffrage speakers. Nevada is the only suffrage state which does not like suffrage, and Nevada was pretty rotten before the women came in, so it is not to be wondered at that things have not run smoothly. Opinion has not had time to crystallize in Nevada yet."

THE resume of the campaign states is most interesting, and we will have the opportunity before many days to see how nearly right it proves to be. There is no question but the sentiment is growing all the time for suffrage and if the campaign states do not win this year, they doubtless will in another campaign if they are not enfranchised by a federal amendment before they have a chance to put the question up to the voters again. In all probability this will be the only opportunity that the people will have to give their women the franchise. Feeling for the federal amendment is constantly growing and one finds that the large majority of representatives who hide behind "states rights" are in truth "hiding" because they do not approve of suffrage anyway and are not brave enough to say so. Already President Wilson has been assailed by the anti's. Of course we knew he would. But whatever way we look at it, it is a victory for us. We believe him to be sincere. Even if he felt it would lose him the presidency another year, President Wilson would do what he felt to be right, yet if he were working for votes alone, his espousing the suffrage cause would prove that he knew it to be winning and too strong to repudiate. Who knows, the President may be won over to the federal amendment later on.

Ida Husted Harper, in the North American Review, wrote an illuminating article upon the federal constitution and I want to quote a few paragraphs from it.

"The advantages of a national amendment are enormous. From the time it is submitted, women are freed from the humiliation of personal appeals to the individual voters and can concentrate their efforts on the Legislatures. While not all of the members are representative of the highest citizenship, the lowest is not usually found among them, and their number is very small compared with the number of voters. Always there are legislators of character and ability, and among them would be many allies. What work should be necessary in the constituencies for the sake of influence, would be easy and pleasant compared to the exacting and endless demands of a state campaign. The danger of fraudulent votes, stuffed ballot boxes, and counting out would be avoided. It would not be difficult to discover the power behind hostile legislators and find a way to overcome it, or they could possibly be relegated to private life. It would be a work of time, but of much less time than to obtain from a Legislature, or perhaps two, the submission of an amendment and then secure the majority of the voters in the state—more than a million and a half in New York, for instance, and a million and a quarter in Pennsylvania.

"It is most unfair to hold that the fifteenth amendment is an insurmountable barrier against the enfranchisement of women thru amending the federal constitution. The question as to whether it was constitutionally adopted has always been acute enough to make one party reluctant to agitate it and the other bold to defy it. It was not the out-

growth of a long, educational campaign and a measure bearing equally upon all parts of the nation, such as women suffrage would be, but the result of civil war and the overthrow of an established 'system'; the forcing upon one section of the country by another section of an immense body of voters undesirable at that time from every standpoint. If a national amendment to confer the franchise on women, were submitted now, there could be a perfectly legitimate vote on it in every state by a Legislature elected by the legal voters of that state. The southern states alone could supply enough votes to defeat it and have some left over, for it would require a ratification of three-fourths of all the states. When the class of voters that would be added to the electorate, should it be adopted, is compared with the class that was added by the fifteenth amendment, the injustice of considering the two propositions as parallel cases is clearly apparent and wholly inexcusable. No class was ever enfranchised in any country so well qualified as are the women of the United States.

"There is a wide misunderstanding of this proposed amendment. It does not take away from any state the power to prescribe the qualifications of its voters, with the one exception that it must not disqualify solely on account of sex. . . . At present in 38 states women may be able to meet every requirement for voting, but because they happen to be women, the state has power to keep them disfranchised until the end of time. Should this amendment be adopted, the states could still impose requirements as to age, property, education, residence—even the 'grandfather clause' would be as constitutional as it is now."

When all this is taken into consideration the solicitude of some of the northern senators as to forcing upon the southern states an added burden of negro women is most amusing and cannot help raising the question in the minds of the suffragists as to the genuineness of their advocacy of their cause.

The world wags, merrily or otherwise, and the suffrage cause moves on. A charity worker said to the writer, the other day, something to this effect, altho not in these very words: "With all the suffering among women and children that I see I cannot help feeling that it would be better to give up allegiance to some of the other causes and devote the time to this particular charity."

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WOMAN SUFFRAGE  
NEWSCLIPPINGS:

MAINE

Lewiston Sat-  
urday  
Journal

"WOMAN SUFFRAGE  
DEPARTMENT"

The writer did not reply to the remark because it would have taken more time than was available at the moment, but this estimable woman failed to understand, as so many anti-suffragists do, that the suffragists feel that the work of the charities, while necessary at the present time, is doing nothing toward reaching the causes of the poverty and sickness and degradation. That is why women have pledged themselves, all over the country, to work for suffrage, because they do not believe poverty and illness and degradation, as they exist to-day, are necessary, and they believe they are reaching the fundamental cause of these calamities when they demand that the laws and the enforcement of them, shall rest in the hands of the women as well as of the men. The women will come into the electorate, as a torrent of fresh water comes into a muddy stream, and purify it. Twelve states where the experiment has been tried have testified to this. To again quote The Digest: "The opinions are overwhelmingly in favor of the women, the opposition being so small—the occasionally 'little but loud'—as to be largely outvoted."



# WOMAN SUFFRAGE DEPARTMENT

[Conducted by Mrs. Florence Brooks Whitehouse.]

ON SEPT. 2d there will be held in Portland a meeting which cannot fail to be interesting to Maine suffragists, and, we hope, productive of much good to the Suffrage cause. The Congressional Union represented by Mrs. Florence Kelley, who is a member of the advisory council, is planning the meeting and will speak herself upon the "Aims and the immediate program of the Congressional Union." Other speakers will be announced later, as well as the place of meeting.

The Congressional Union is working for the passage of the Federal Amendment in Congress, in the belief that that is the simplest and quickest way of obtaining the enfranchisement of women, altho it is not opposed to the state rights methods as well.

Mrs. Kelley writes, "In New York I work in the Woman's Political Union for the New York amendment. But I dare not stay in New York in the summer so as a tax-payer in Maine I work here. The United States Constitution provides two methods of granting Suffrage, why use the only one."

We, in Maine, are unable to do any definite thing for suffrage until 1817 because our legislature convenes only once in two years, why should we sit back and wait in idleness for the year to go by, when we can be helping not only our own State, but all the states by working for the Federal Amendment? This is the most politically important year in the whole history of the movement in this country. Nearly 4,000,000 women can vote for the President of the United States. One-fourth of the Senate, one-sixth of the House, and one-fifth of the electoral vote comes from the states where women vote in National elections.

In Congress the Federal Amendment must be passed by a two-thirds vote of the members of both Senate and House, a quorum being present, after which before it becomes a law it must be ratified by three-fourths of the states therefore it is not forced upon the states unwillingly, as its objectors would have us believe, any more than any other question is forced by the majority upon the minor-

ity. Working by states rights methods is slow and uncertain, and politics enter largely into the question. Furthermore the vote must be a two-thirds vote for the State amendment, whereas for the ratification of the Federal amendment, it need only be a majority vote. As we all know, counting by majorities the suffrage amendment won in our own Legislature last winter by a vote of 55 but we lost by 11 on a two-thirds vote. The question of the enfranchising of the negro women seems to some of our representatives a large one, yet according to the 1914 census, in 15 of the southern states there are 465,627 more white women than negro men and women put together. May it not be that the enfranchisement of the southern women is the only thing which will save the south from the burden it carries in the enfranchisement of negro men?

THERE are just 15 states in the Union where women have no suffrage, Maine is one. There are all full suffrage states and one other where women can vote for President. There are 21 other states where women have a partial right to vote—generally for members of the school boards. The Independent says of this situation "So in two thirds of the U. S. the question is no longer, 'Shall women vote?' It is rather, 'Shall women who vote for this be allowed to vote for that as well And in one quarter of the states that question has been answered in the affirmative.

Let us face the issue squarely. Since women may vote on child education, why not on child labor? Since women may have a hand in the spending of public moneys for hiring schoolteachers, why not for employing food inspectors? Since their votes may influence the building of a schoolhouse why not of a post office? If women are to vote at all they should vote in all the states. If woman's place is in the home, it is a bad for her to take place on a school board as on a health board. For two thirds of the U. S. the question of women's voting is settled. The only open question is the further extension of suffrage to women." To that question logic, good sense and fair play can have but one answer.

Many people in Maine feel that since suffrage was defeated last win-

ter there is nothing to do until another year, this meeting of the congressional Union will convince them to the contrary. In four campaign states men and women are working to win in their own states, and all over the country the Union is working for the federal amendment. Maine has a good chance to help the other states unless she feels as one Maine anti does that here is "no need to work for suffrage since the laws in Maine are so good." A little altruism won't hurt us any. From February to July in San Francisco at the Exposition the Union enlisted 600 members chiefly voters from all parts of the country. They will help with the amendment in January. President Wilson has announced his intention of stating his position upon suffrage this fall, before his own state, New Jersey, votes upon it. Congress can pass the Federal Amendment before the Presidential election if it so desires and that is what the Congressional Union is working to bring about. For the first time in the history of suffrage a Presidential election depends on the votes of four million women, and this even the none of the campaign states win out.

The Congressional Union feel particularly hopeful of winning the amendment next winter because they made such progress in the 63d Congress. For the first time since 1887 the amendment was debated; it received a favorable report in the Senate for the first time since 1892; was reported to the House of Representatives for the first time since 1894; was voted upon in the Senate for the first time since 1887 receiving a majority of one and failing of the necessary two thirds by only 11; was voted on in the House for the first time in our history receiving 174 votes and failing by only 78 of the necessary two thirds.

THE San Francisco Bulletin commenting upon Senator Phelan's declaration that suffrage is a privilege and not a right says.

"Privilege is defined by Noah Webster's heirs and executors as a 'law for exemption from the common provisions of a law, in favor of an individual or a body; peculiar advantage, right or immunity; prerogative' Sen. Phelan was therefore stepping among some fine distinctions when he told the regimental delegation from the Congressional Union for Woman Suffrage that suffrage is a 'privilege and not a right.' If the Senator was speaking in terms of 'is' rather than in terms of 'ought' he had abundant reason on his side. The suffrage is in practice a privilege just so long as there is a distinction against any normal members of the adult population. It will remain a

vote on equal terms with men. So that all Senator Phelan really said when he called suffrage a privilege was that it was something that men had kept from women without regard to justice or injustice, by the use of naked force. By implication he actually advised them to use force. Not that he meant this. Not that he dreamed of it. He merely, by inadvertence, said it. There is no doubt that the women will indeed use force and win by it. Probably, they will not burn down the Phelan building, but they will use the force of votes where they already have them, the force of personal character, and the force of economic efficiency. After that suffrage will cease to be privilege and become a right."

"I believe many men go to the saloon, club, lodge and devil, because of the weak, vapid, inane, unintelligent tittle tattle of empty headed women who have no interest beyond the wash tub, caramels or poodle," said Dr. Augustus E. Barnett of Philadelphia the other day.

The following excerpt is taken from the letter of an Anti Suffragist in the Brooklyn Eagle the other day: "Take child labor. Who kicks up all the row about that? Not men certainly. No, Suffragettes. Children are perfectly comfortable working in the canneries. Those who work in the canneries come from a class of people who are accustomed to labor hard, who have nothing and if their children didn't work in the canneries they would probably starve to death. Then take all this rot about the working girls. They get far more now than they are worth in wages. They were perfectly satisfied to work ten hours a day for ten cents an hour until the suffragists came along and stirred them up. Barnes is perfectly right in trying to stop this fool class legislation 'Widowed Mother's Pensions' and 'Postman Pensions,' 'minimum wage and child labor etc., which threaten the prosperity of this country. Now it only remains for the men to vote 'No' on November 2nd."

Answer to a recent denial by the Ass. Opposed to Woman Suffrage that they are supported by the liquor interests, the Anti Saloon League Superintendent of New Jersey writes in the American issue of August 6: "The Supt. holds no commission from the suffrage association, nor has he ever made a suffrage speech in New Jersey or any other state. Yet he has become so thoroughly disgusted with the lies that are being told that he wishes to state that in this experience of ten years or more in the fight against rum he has found that the liquor interests will spend as much money and fight as hard to defeat the right of women to vote as to defeat direct legislation against the traffic itself."

In a 500 mile trip in her automobile thru the Eastern part of the state, your correspondent had many interesting experiences. From the front of the car the "Votes for Women" banner floated in the breeze and was the cause of many pleasant conversations along the way. One man said, "I take off my hat to your flag," and proceeded so to do. "Hurrahs," were sent into the air as the car passed or "Good luck to you," followed the disappearing automobile. One chance meeting with an assistant editor of one of the Massachusetts papers, as the car was held up by a truck which was stuck in the mud led to a very interesting talk over the Mass. situation. "I am inclined to think that you will win out," the editor said. "I sincerely hope you do, but the liquor interests are working hard in Mass. to defeat you. They are putting up a great deal of money and will put up a great deal more. Whether the Antis are willing to admit it or not, they are being financed largely by the liquor people. All newspaper men know it. And all politicians know it, it does no good for the antis to deny it."

If any of the readers who are interested in the meeting of the Congressional Union on September, will write direct to Mrs. Whitehouse at Squirrel Island she will give them any information she is able to give and send copies of the federal Amendment and a resume of its progress. A full program of the exercises will be published soon.

Greenwood Collection

(Mrs Chester - Isabel W.)

WOMAN SUFFRAGE NEWSCLIPPINGS:

MAINE

Lewiston Saturday Journal  
"Woman Suffrage Department"

# WOMAN SUFFRAGE DEPARTMENT

[Conducted by Mrs. Florence Brooks Whitehouse.]

**T**HE fact that President Wilson has at last taken a stand upon the suffrage question and given it his support, is a cause for great rejoicing among the suffragists far and wide. The time has come, he says, when the women of New Jersey should be given full citizenship, and he also thinks they will help the state. McAdoo, Redfield, Wilson (secretary of labor), Garrison and Tumulty also will support the measure.

To-day in 12 states women can vote for President. At the last presidential election there were only six. "The Suffragist" of Oct. 2 has printed excerpts from Gail Laughlin's speech at the San Francisco convention. I wish there were room to quote the report in its entirety, but we must be satisfied with a few quotations. She speaks of the absurdity of the initiative and referendum upon the suffrage question in the United States, altho we consider it good for individual states. She is a strong believer in the federal Anthony amendment. "Year after year," she said, "Susan B. Anthony and others went up against the wall of prejudice known as the U. S. Congress and asked for an amendment to enfranchise women, and year after year they went away again disappointed; and then from far off across the snow-peaked Rockies, thru the darkness of their disappointment, there came a flashing gleam of light. Wyoming, Colorado, Utah and Idaho, to their undying glory, declared the soil of their states free soil on which women as well as men were free. . . . Whatever amendment we are for, we are all for national suffrage. That is our goal. We are all agreed on the thing to get. How, then, is the best way to get it. Mrs. Mackrille has answered that the best way to get it is by team work of the suffrage states. . . . It is possible, women voters, for us to realize our power and to use it for the liberty of the women who have not received it, and, as Mrs. Mackrille has so eloquently said, if we regard the rights and liberty of women as sacredly as we regard the rights of men, there is no answer but one that we would send back to the call of the eastern states to come and help them. We will send back the answer, 'We will!'"

**M**RS. BASS, president of the Chicago Woman's club, has been campaigning in New Jersey for suffrage, and what she says about the working out of suffrage in Illinois is well worth repeating. To quote her in part:

"We are slowly but surely changing the character of the city council. The same quality of alderman that ran for office before, does not dare to run now, because he has to campaign before women voters, who ask intelligent questions, and he has to answer these questions in terms of clean milk, playgrounds, bathing beaches, the state of public institutions, etc. The women of Chicago do what their husbands have no time to do, because they are busy earning their living. Women in considerable numbers attend all the meetings of the city council, and of every important administrative body in Chicago, and of all their committees.

They listen carefully to the proceedings and carry the news home to every supper table. For the first time, the candidates have to face an informed constituency. Since getting the ballot we have secured a boys' court, policewomen, and other good things, and the garbage question is on the way to a satisfactory settlement. We cannot vote for county officers, and we have a bad county board; but we have a vote on appropriations, and we are refusing to give them any money. Among our most important achievements are the improved character of the city council and the defeat of bond issues where the money would be handled by the worst type of politicians. Most of the men of Illinois have received the women as partners in the task of governing the city with a great spirit of welcome and cordial co-operation. They feel that they needed us more than we needed the vote. Here was this great body of unused citizenship, which was intelligent, informed as to conditions, with the time to give to civic work. They are glad to have us. The only people that are sorry that women have been given the ballot, are certain great corrupt interests and the professional politician, who knows that a woman's conception of the responsibilities of municipal government does not include the sinister things for which he stands.

**O**N Oct. 9 the Literary Digest will contain interviews by telegram from about one thousand newspapers thruout the United States on the question of woman suffrage. Replies from the majority of them have already been received, and at the present time about two-third of them are in favor of it.

The convention of women voters just closed in San Francisco was full of inspiration to the women who had come from the North and the East and the West to proclaim their belief in the justice of Votes for Women, and to register the appeal of thousands and thousands of other women who could not travel across the country that the women of the United States be enfranchised by federal amendment. There were 10,000 people in the crowd, under the starry California sky when Miss Anglin delivered to Miss Frances Jolliffe and Mrs. Sara Bard the resolutions and petitions they are to bear to Congress and to the President.

Miss Anglin said in presenting the petitions: "I am not saying words alone. The hopes and the hearts of thousands of women go with you," and Miss Jolliffe answered: "We are going thru the states where women are enslaved in factories and in mills, where they work long, back-aching hours and cannot register their protest anyway. We are only two women, but we go armed with the fighting strength of four million to do our best to help set other women free."

These two ladies are to travel by automobile across the country. Their car was decorated with the suffrage colors, and left amid the cheers of the vast crowd.

The San Francisco Bulletin says of the meeting in California:

"There was probably not one man or woman in that great audience, judging from the hush that fell upon the mass of people at the beginning of ceremonies, who missed the big significance of the occasion. In this tremendous exposition of the high accomplishment of men and women

of the world there had come together from the four points of the compass, from every state in the Union, women who felt they were fighting in a holy war. More than one-half disfranchised, they had poured into a free state to ask that the women of the West, with the power of the ballot in their hands, aid them in their struggle in the East—a struggle that has lasted half a century and more. And the western voters in that convention assembled had risen to this solemn demand, almost as one woman. They made definite plans for the coming campaign; they passed resolutions to be sent to Congress—and powerful are the resolutions that are backed by four million voters—and they had done more. They had elected delegates to carry the message to Congress, to appear before every congressional committee, to see the suffrage bill thru the House, and to stay till the last gun was fired."

Apocryphal of the criticism which the Congressional Union has been subjected to in fighting as it did last year against the democratic party as a whole, comes the following in the San Francisco Bulletin written by Spencer Miller, jr., of the Industrial Relations Commission: "A government of laws and not of men is one of the myths of American politics. A government of men and parties of men is the fact. For back of every law is a man executing it, and back of every administration is a party in control. . . . Responsibility, therefore, becomes a matter of party responsibility. And responsible government is the watchword of twentieth century politics. The problem of making government responsive and responsible is the problem of making parties in general and the party in power, in particular, responsive and responsible. External pressure seems to be the modus operandi. Political party pressure, far from being indictable, is highly commendable. It is not an attempt to embarrass a party, but rather to vitalize the contact between the people and the party. . . . For unless governments do respond to human needs and more accurately reflect in their operations the aspirations of the people, they have not justified their existence. More and more should government tend to become a barometer to social pressure. Consciously should it address itself to the problems of humanity. Organizations created with this purpose of intelligently directing governmental agencies are distinctly a public asset. These are some of the outstanding facts of contemporary American politics. And this is one of the causes which has brought the Congressional Union into being. The effectiveness of the organization arises from this very shunning of the myths and seeing the facts for modern politics. It is an adaptation of twentieth century political machinery to twentieth century political conditions."

Greenwood Collection (Mrs. Chester - Isabel Whittier)

WOMAN SUFFRAGE NEWSCLIPPINGS: MAINE

LEWISTON SATURDAY JOURNAL  
"WOMAN SUFFRAGE DEPARTMENT"



# WOMAN SUFFRAGE DEPARTMENT

[Conducted by Mrs. Florence Brooks Whitehouse.]

**T**HE Alabama Senate defeated the Suffrage Amendment on Sept. 1st by 21 to 10. The House recently defeated it by 52 for to 43 against a three fifths majority being necessary to carry it. The bill had been made a special order of the day, but Sen. Holmes, who introduced it, secured an indefinite leave of absence of the thirty fifth day and cotton ware house legislation consumed all but half an hour of the working period. In that half hour the equal suffrage bill was called, a vote was taken and it was defeated. The Alabama Legislature meets only once in four years.

Here is a case in point for the Congressional Union. Are the women of Alabama who believe in Woman Suffrage to sit and fold their hands for four years till the question can come up again? They certainly must if they cannot work for the Federal Amendment. If they join the Union they can be working for the other states and if the Federal Amendment passes before the state legislature of Alabama convenes again, well and good, if it does not the Alabama women have lost nothing by working for the other states.

The rejection by the New Jersey Labor Union of Woman Suffrage last month has caused great rejoicing among the antis. For many years the federation has stood for woman suffrage and this change of face at the critical time of pending campaign seems serious. Political equality for the sexes has been and is the consistent policy of organized labor

all over the country, and it seems amazing for the New Jersey Federation to turn its back upon woman suffrage by a resolution of 144 to 96 while 90 members present failed to vote at all. The National Federation of Labor stands for woman suffrage and all over the country state federations have endorsed it. The Massachusetts Federation has taken a stand for suffrage in that state and the labor organizations are entering into and active campaign in behalf of the amendment this fall. A letter is as follows:

"The American Federation of Labor has taken a firm stand in favor of woman suffrage in Massachusetts. As you probably know our honored national president, Samuel Gompers, has already advocated the extension of suffrage to women as one of the necessary advancements of the cause of union laboring men without votes do not have the same standing in the community as laboring men who have votes to cast for public officials favorable to organized and efficient labor. If this holds true for men it holds true for women. Every laboring man who has a wife can double his potential strength as a voter if his wife goes to the polls and registers her votes in favor of the man, who, in her opinion, will make the best laws for her and her children. Please read this letter at your next meeting, bringing to the attention of the brothers in your local union the necessity for individual work in favor of the woman suffrage amendment, and asking them to let no discussion of woman suffrage, whether formal or informal, pass by without a statement of the position of organized labor. Also please make a point of distributing the inclosed literature among the men. We have carefully gone over these pamphlets and can vouch for their accuracy in every way. It looks as tho Massachusetts is going to be carried for woman suffrage. This will be one of the greatest victories ever attained by labor men in the state.

**M**ISS Agnes O'Brien in Life and Labor tells what the working woman is doing for suffrage. We often hear it said that the working women do not want suffrage. In fact that practically all the organized working women stand for it. They realize the power they get by organization but they also realize that even with organization if they are disfranchised, they are hampered in their efforts to bring about legislation favorable to them. The isolated working girl is often anti; most of us are anti anything at first because it is easier to follow the lines of least resistance and we are content to follow them, but the woman who works and thinks and organizes, is bound to be a suffragist. It is fine to feel that so many of the working girls are coming to the front and doing such splendid work as they are in the campaign states.

One of the reasons why the Federations of Labor endorse Woman Suffrage is because when women have the ballot they immediately change the conditions under which women and children labor and the wages for which they work. A good example of this is shown in Illinois, where for the first time in history of state, women in state work are to receive same pay as men for the same kind of work. Pres. Kern of the state board of administration presided at the conference where this was decided, and representatives from the Chicago Federation of Labor. The Woman's Trade Union League and the Hospital Employe's Union were present. The improvements in the system decided on were:

1st; The minimum wage for men and women in all the institutions to be the same for the same class of work.

2nd; All employes to be given one day of rest in seven, in addition to the two weeks vacation annually. (Under the old system they had the two weeks' vacation but worked seven days a week.)

3d.; A promotional scale whereby all employes will automatically receive higher wages as their term of service lengthens.

4th; The change from night to day service, to be made hereafter each week instead of monthly.

"There is no reason," said, Pres. Kern, "why a nurse in these state institutions should not receive as high wages as the men for the same class of work. It should have been recognized long ago. We believe that we are establishing the right standard this time and that it will tend to increase the efficiency in all institutions."

**D**R Albert Williams, who was special commissioner for the Outlook with five armies during the war, was lecturing at a village Chautauqua near Detroit and in the course of his lecture he threw upon the screen the picture of the excavation made by a shell—"a shell does not only alter the landscape it alters geography—" and told how that excavation became in an instant the grave of 560 men. Then upon the screen appeared the photograph of a part of the remains of those men as they had been gathered together for interment; poor broken clotted human kindling. He told how the Red Cross trains, speeding from battle fields to base hospitals drip blood as an ice cart drips water. He showed cords upon cords of human bodies piled up in every conceivable contortion of agony and hasty handling. And then he said; "Before the first long echo of exploding shell had split the air, 560 lives were snuffed out. Blood soaked fragments of flesh came raining down like falling dew.—But I thought of all that had gone to the making of these men. I thought how for each one of them a mother had gone to the very valley of the shadow of death to give him life. I thought of their baby years, carefully tended. I thought of the sacrifices that went to their rearing, and their schooling and to give them a start in life. I thought of each as a center of some circle's hopes. Yet there they were, 560 of them, killed and crushed as you would swat a single fly. But the mothers who bore them—many of them living to read their babies names in the death list; for the old country mothers live long. They suffered for, tended and reared and counseled these children of theirs. And the end of it all is—one shell shrieking and exploding and 560 mothers' sons dead. I was never a suffragist till then. Now I hope and pray, with all the fervor of my soul that now women will get their voice so that they may vote in the making of wars. They will never vote for a condition of things where one shell, made by peaceable workmen in peaceable times, can render 560 mothers childless, 560 families fatherless, 560 strong young bodies lifeless."

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(Mrs. Chester-Isabel)

WOMAN SUFFRAGE  
NEWSPAPERS:

MAINE

Lewiston Saturday  
Journal

"Woman Suffrage  
Department"

# WOMAN SUFFRAGE DEPARTMENT

[Conducted by Mrs. Florence Brooks Whitehouse.]

THE MEMBERS of the Junior League in Portland are studying the various phases of the suffrage questions and three papers are given at each meeting of the club. At the last one, one of the members, Mrs. Jewett Mintern, read a short paper upon "Women in Industry," and I am sure it will be of interest to the readers of the Journal. It is given below:

## Women in Industry.

The immediate reason for favoring equal suffrage is that the most serious problems of the present day are industrial, and the entire industrial system is affected by the employment of women and children. It is possible to regard the child as a ward of the state, because he lacks strength and experience for self-direction, but this weakness does not exist with women. Most suffragists believe child labor will be abolished and civilized standards of employment secured far more quickly by the combined political action of men and women, than by continuing to regard women as incompetent recipients of legislative favors. Eight million women are employed in gainful occupations in the United States; it seems hard to realize that there can be people who, knowing the disadvantage under which many of these women toil, can honestly believe they do not need the vote, and the power to enforce their right to protective legislation.

In steam laundries alone there are employed 80,000 women and children; yet in 18 states the hours for this work are unrestricted. In the shirtwaist trade in New York state there are employed 200,000 people, only five per cent. men. What of the 190,000 women? Are they to have no voice in the laws that govern them?

It is manifestly unfair to compare, as our opponents so often do, the best male suffrage states with the poorer equal suffrage states, and the only fair or exact way is to take an average. To give a few statistics bearing on legislation of interest to women: The injunction and abatement act, to restrain commercialized vice, is in force in five of the ten equal suffrage states (I do not count Montana and Nevada in this as they have had no opportunity to enact legislation since passing the suffrage amendment); in Colorado, where it failed to pass the Legislature last year, it has again been introduced; the other five equal suffrage states have particularly good laws against this evil. Out of 38 male suffrage states, only seven have any laws against prostitution. Doesn't the average speak for itself? The mothers' pension act is in effect in nine of the ten equal suffrage states, while only 12 of the 30 male suffrage states have such a law. The earnings of the wife are still controlled by the husband in 10 states, all male suffrage states except Idaho, where I believe the census shows only 681 women employed outside the home. It is only natural that non-indus-

trial states should not have as many laws in regard to working women as such states as New York. The census of 1910 shows that New York had 293,525 women working in factories at that time, while the four suffrage states, Idaho, Wyoming, Utah and Colorado, all together, had 3,499, and yet our anti-suffrage friends cite the greater number of protective laws of New York, as against these other states, as proof we do not need and should not have the ballot.

An eight-hour day for men is secured by federal laws in 20 states. Women have only succeeded in getting it in three states, California, Colorado and Washington, in all of which they vote. In Idaho and Utah they have obtained a nine-hour law. In Massachusetts they have passed a nine-hour law after 40 years of effort. The maximum fine for violation of this law is \$100, while the penalty for violating the men's eight-hour law is \$1,000.

What women have done where they have the ballot toward controlling child labor is strikingly indicative of the trend of legislation with women behind it. Arizona has adopted the model law, framed by the National child labor commission; California has an age limit of 15; Washington, Colorado, Kansas, Utah, Illinois and Oregon have almost perfect laws in this connection, a dead-line of 14, 15 during school term, and 16 in all dangerous occupations. Idaho and Wyoming are the blots on the suffrage map in this respect, but they have no horrors to equal the tragedies of the southern states, where babies can be made to work for unlimited hours with no redress, or the glass works of Pennsylvania, or the miseries of the canneries of New York and New England. If you ever hear the child labor law of New York quoted, this fact may be of interest to its upholders; in 1905 the attorney general of New York deprived the children employed in canneries of any protection by holding that sheds are not a part of a cannery and do not, therefore, come under the law. Ever since, the women of New York have been petitioning and using their indirect influence to have the word "sheds" inserted in this law, but with no success. In the meantime children of five years old may be kept shelling peas or snapping beans, in one of these sheds, from 5 in the morning till midnight, if they can be kept awake. One investigator reported finding a tiny child, asleep on the floor of the building at midnight, with its little hand still full of the peas it had been shelling.

I cannot resist citing the vote on the recent child labor bill in Congress, as indicative of the trend of the suffrage and anti-suffrage political minds. Out of the 232 legislators favoring the bill there were, of course, anti-suffragists, but out of the 44 congressmen opposed to the measure 43 had, a short time before, voted against women suffrage. That the majority of these 44 came from the South, notorious for its chivalry, is an added item of interest. And to say the least the proportion is instructive and one would think that

even an anti must find the record far from enviable.

The working woman needs the ballot to enforce equal pay for equal work; women are cheap labor now, and it is only to be expected that many employers will fight the equal suffrage amendment, the passing of which will mean a vast power of organized voting women. If she had a vote a woman could help enforce sanitation in the conditions in which she works. In going thru a candy factory not long ago, where the wages are such that the owners will not employ girls who do not live at home as they cannot be responsible for their morality, thereby tacitly admitting the wages to be so low, morality would be difficult, I tried to get some information from the girl told off to show us around. But she seemed afraid to talk and all I could glean was the fact that the department where the best candies were made the girls were supposed to receive an increase in pay, but seldom did. The sanitary conditions were such as to make one feel candy would never be desirable again.

The statement made so often by the antis that the vote of the uneducated or lower class women would be a menace, seems to me to be based on a fallacy. In the first place, statistics show us that the schools are graduating twice and sometimes three times as many girls as boys, so among women, at least, the lack of education grows less and less. And as the great army of working women is largely recruited from this class, and suffers from the lack of protective legislation, it would seem fairly safe to predict their vote would be cast for their own betterment in industrial conditions, hence the betterment of all women. And when one sees the difficulties under which women work, under man-made laws, improperly enforced, it is impossible to believe women could make a worse job, and I, for one, do believe they could make a much better one, so want them given a chance.

A government by women alone would be as absurd as the present government by men alone seems to many suffragists; there are as many home features as there are business ones, in any municipal administration. A recent Indiana Legislature passed a \$5,000 appropriation for the better care of hogs, and defeated an equal appropriation to better the care of the children who were wards of the state. Of course hogs bring in a return in revenue, and children do not, but had the children been represented by a woman—and it seems to me I have heard it said it was a woman's job to care for children—might the result not have been different? Don't you believe that if women had had any ruling in the matter that \$75 per life would not have been considered sufficient after the Binghamton shirtwaist factory fire in which 145 girls were killed? And doesn't it seem that something must have been missing in the mind of the magistrate who fined the proprietors \$20 for a repetition of the offence which caused the first fire?

I believe women in industry need the vote because: votes make the laws, votes control the laws, the laws control conditions.

WOMAN SUFFRAGE NEWSCLIPPINGS;

MAINE

Lewiston Saturday Journal  
"Woman Suffrage Department"

Greenwood Collection (Mrs. Chester - Isabel Whittier)

# WOMAN SUFFRAGE DEPARTMENT

[Conducted by Mrs. Florence Brooks Whitehouse.]

**I**N a letter to the New York Times last week, Louis Brandeis said in part "Experience has shown that the American Ideal of democracy and social justice requires for its fulfilment that suffrage be granted to women. My own experience in various movements with which I have been connected, and in which I have tried to solve small way economic and political problems that have presented themselves from time to time, converted me. As years have passed I have become more and more impressed with the difficulty and complexity of those problems and also with the power of society to solve them; but I am convinced that for their solution we must look to the many and not to the few. We need all the people, women as well as men. In the democracy which is to solve these problems, we must have, not a part of society, but the whole."

The New York Letter Carriers Association last week endorsed Woman Suffrage, "believing that its passage will promote the public well being of the state and of the community, and will establish a more truly democratic government."

The National Association of Letter Carriers has already endorsed woman suffrage. The Mrs. Oliphant, of Legislative fame last winter in Augusta, comes forward highly indignant because Mr. Bradley, founder of Asbury Park, refused to allow the anti-suffrage meeting because he said "they are in effect allied with the liquor interests of the state." "Mr. Bradley had no right to say that we are backed by the liquor interests of the State" Says Mrs. Oliphant. "Such a statement is untrue, unqualifiedly untrue, and is unwarranted by the facts." And Mrs. R. Emery adds, "Our funds are raised by subscriptions and are the result of faithful, honest, self denial on the part of the home loving women of New Jersey, many of them self supporting, who make up our organization. Our speakers are paid from such funds only, and our work is carried on from such funds only."

Yet the liquor interests of New Jersey have openly come out and stated that they are going to fight woman suffrage to the last ditch! Yet, should New Jersey fall to win woman suffrage in the fall, will the anti-suffrage claim the victory "because of the strong sentiment of the home loving people of New Jersey?"

Mrs. E. F. Feichert, President of the N. J. Woman Suffrage Association has answered these to anti-suffrage ladies so well that I can do no better than to quote her. "Does Mrs. Oliphant wish us to understand," she says, "that the liquor interests are not fighting suffrage? If so, she knows more about the liquor interests than they do themselves, for leading papers of the state have reported that part of their policy is to oppose votes for women and that

statement has never been denied. Mr. Bradley did not say that the women opposed are knowingly seeking the support of the liquor interests. His statement was perfectly courteous and correct, and a too great hastiness on the part of Mrs. Oliphant not unnaturally raises certain questions in my mind. I should like to know from our opponents if the anti-suffrage campaign is supported solely by the savings of the home loving women of New Jersey (not all of the home loving women of the state, by the way, for some hundred thousand or so are enrolled in the ranks of the suffragists) how is it that by general admission the leading part in the campaign is being taken by James R. Nugent? If the women are running their own campaign, why is it that their publicity work is handled by Edward S. Hanley who tells us that he was engaged by Mrs. Nugent in April of this year to fight woman suffrage? Also is it possible that the funds collected by the home loving women are sufficiently great to pay the salaries of the clerks who are addressing and for the postage which is being placed, upon the literature which is being sent out by Mr. Horace Nixon of Woodbury and Camden to all the voters, not only of Gloucester and Camden counties, but also to those in Cape May and other southern counties? Are we to understand that themoney at the disposal of Mr. Nugent and his press agent, and of Mr. Nixon, is taken from a fund raised by honest, self denial on the part of the home loving women of New Jersey? If not, from what source do Mr. Nugent and Mr. Nixon derive the funds they are using in their philanthropic and altruistic efforts to save women from the burden of the ballot? A frank and full answer from the leaders of the Association opposed to Woman Suffrage would shed much light upon the present situation."

Such an answer has not yet been forthcoming.

**R**EV. Dr. W. C. Covert, pastor of the first Presbyterian Church of Chicago said in a sermon the other day: "The entry of women into politics is proving the strongest factor in bringing about a new democracy in America." It is the new democracy alone that can save the country from anarchy, he is reported as saying and that democracy includes social justice as its principal feature, and Chicago is the city which is taking the lead in these matters and is far ahead of New York and other large cities.

At the banquet given last week in New Jersey to commemorate Lucy Stone's birthday Mrs. Catt was one of the speakers. After paying a tribute to the memory of Lucy Stone, whom she knew and loved, she said: "You are a poor kind of reformer if you have doubt in your mind. All sorts of things are now coming to pass that were formally looked upon as impossible. I believe now, that we are going to have four new states for suffrage this fall. There has never been a movement like this. Its advocates have crossed the plains

and climbed the mountains, and held meetings in ships upon every sea. Today there is no place for anybody till he adopts our slogan. I expect to hail New Jersey as the 13th star, and two weeks later we shall hail a glorious trio. Then when all the stars are on Betsy Ross's flag, no one will dare stay behind; and we who have grown gray in the work, can sit on our piazzas and fan ourselves."

Owen Lovejoy has given his services for a week to New York, campaigning for suffrage. He will tour the state taking with him his wife and children and speaking every day.

"The state which was disgraced this week by the lynching of Leo Frank has just shown itself to be only one in the country not to give fitting consideration to woman suffrage," says the Woman's Journal. At the hearing held before the senate committee on Constitutional Amendments, several suffragists spoke forcefully for their resolution to submit the question to the voters. Nobody spoke against the measure. In every one of the 27 states where a suffrage amendment was introduced this year, it was seriously considered but the Georgia Senate Committee was in executive session less than five minutes when it voted unanimously against even submitting to the voters the question of enfranchising women.

In Georgia 4000 children work 11 hours a day in the cotton mills. It is Georgia where for years the women have been to the legislature with petitions in their hands asking for help for the children, but each time their entreaties have been disregarded. To the manufacturers cotton is of greater worth than children, and the manufacturers have the ballot, and the women do not.

But we do not have to go to Georgia for examples of man made legislation. We do not even need to travel outside of Maine. What about our 54 hour law last winter which passed the legislature? It didn't ask a great deal only the right to a half day once a week when the factory workers might go into the sunshine and enjoy the fresh air, but it did the right to do that without having to be docked pay for the hours taken out. And what happened? A referendum to the people. A petition of 10,000 names of those opposed. Women, who are working in the factories? Ah! no, what do women know about their needs. Of course not. Men, 10,000 men held up legislation for a year and a half and the women whom the legislation was designed to help, must still work 58 hours a week and give up the afternoon in the sunshine. What do women care about the sunshine any way. Men know their needs better than they know them themselves, and men say they do not need the sunshine and ten hours a day in the factories is good for women. Most men are stronger than most women and can knock them down, so of course they are better fitted to decide all questions for women.

For this reason the men in the Legislature voted against Mothers' Pensions, 84 to postpone the considering of the bill to 26 for its passage—"Mother's place is in the home," yet the men of the legislature voted 34 to 26 against a bill whereby a mother left with a family of small children could stay in the home and care for her children.

The jewel of consistency is not worn alone by woman!

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