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State Conventions, (The Woman Citizen, Nov 2, 1918)

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Repository Citation

Staff, The Woman Citizen, "State Conventions, (The Woman Citizen, Nov 2, 1918)" (1918). *Maine Women's Publications - All*. 799.

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State Conventions

THE Maine Woman Suffrage Association has held its annual gathering at Lewiston. It was a lively session, covering the work the suffragists have accomplished in the past year, and outlining aggressive plans for the future. Miss Mabel Connor, president of the association, emphasized equal suffrage as war work in her annual address and cited the progress made in foreign countries during this war period. There are now twenty-nine leagues in Maine, and Miss Connor pointed out that there would be plenty of work for all leagues and their membership during the coming session of the Maine Legislature.

The feature of the convention was an address by Mrs. Halsey W. Wilson, corresponding secretary of the National American Woman Suffrage Association. Mrs. Wilson delivered a stirring address, which showed work for suffrage to be a patriotic measure at this time. "America cannot stand before the world and proclaim democracy without putting her own house in order," said Mrs. Wilson. "Suffrage for women must come in America before the full meaning is given to our strong democratic utterances." Mrs. Wilson closed her address by saying that woman is assuming her rightful place in the world's events during this war period. "Woman suffrage," she said, "is the climax of a century of struggle towards self-expression and self-determination. We should be traitors and slackers to give up our struggle just now as the last goal is in sight."

Much interest centered about the election of officers, which resulted in the reelection of Miss Connor as president. She will have on her staff: Vice-presidents, Miss Helen N. Bates, of Portland, and Mrs. Benjamin Brewster, of Portland; recording secretary, Mrs. George M. Chase, of Lewiston; corresponding secretary, Mrs. W. H. Pattangall, of Augusta; treasurer, Mrs. Fred I. Luce, of Old Orchard; auditor, Mrs. Alton C. Wheeler, of South Paris; congressional counsellors: chairman, Miss Helen N. Bates, of Portland; First District, Miss Margaret Thompson, of Kennebunk; Second District, Mrs. E. M. Lawrence, of Portland; Third District, Mrs. Julia Getchell, of Waterville; Fourth District, Mrs. A. W. Averill, of Oldtown.

A LIBERTY Loan Rally was one of the features of the forty-seventh annual convention of the Iowa Equal Suffrage Association at Cedar Rapids. The suffragists have been a big factor in all the state war service work and the rally held at Saint Paul's Methodist Episcopal Church marked the opening of activities on behalf of the Fourth Liberty Loan Drive. Mrs. W. W. Marsh, of Waterloo, auditor of the state suffrage association and chairman of the Woman's Liberty Loan Committee, for Iowa, presided at the rally. The speakers on this occasion were Mrs. Cora G. Lewis, of Kansas, and Mr. J. A. Davis, of Chicago.

The convention opened with a mass meeting, held in the chapel of the Presbyterian Church, with Miss Anna B. Lawther, of Dubuque, state president, presiding. Hon. J. F. Robb, Mayor of Cedar Rapids, gave the address of welcome. The program

included an address by Mrs. Richard Edwards, of Peru, Indiana, President of the Indiana Woman's Franchise League, who spoke on "The Goal in Sight"; addresses by Mrs. C. C. Loomis, of Cedar Rapids, chairman of the Linn County Suffrage Association, and Mrs. Ida B. Wise Smith, of Cedar Rapids, President of the Iowa Women's Christian Temperance Union.

Miss Laura Bass, of Des Moines, gave an address on "Woman in Industry" at the Thursday afternoon session, and there were talks by Mrs. Pearl W. Hague, Chairman of the First District, who spoke on "Money-Raising Stunts"; by Mrs. Laura Hurd Baily, chairman of the Ninth District; by Miss Sarah Scott, of Burlington, who spoke on the *Woman Citizen* circulation canvass in Iowa, and by Mrs. Ralph Thompson, who spoke on publicity.

The president's address and reports of state and district board members occupied the Thursday morning session. Mrs. James A. Devitt, of Oskaloosa, spoke on the suffrage school held recently at Oskaloosa and the Women's Oversea Hospitals, U. S. A. The election of officers featured the Friday session.

The members of the State Board present included Miss Anna B. Lawther, Dubuque, president; Mrs. James A. Devitt, Oskaloosa, vice-president; Mrs. Ella G. Caldwell, Adel, treasurer; Dr. Effie McCollum Jones, Webster City, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Frank Dodson, Des Moines, recording secretary; Mrs. W. W. Marsh, Waterloo, and Miss Miriam Le Compte, Corydon, auditors.

The chairmen of the local committees were Mrs. R. D. Taylor, Committee on Local Arrangements; Mrs. H. E. Spangler, Committee on Hospitality, and Mrs.

C. K. Thompson, Committee on Publicity. The Hotel Montrose was the official headquarters.

THE Illinois Equal Suffrage Association, of which Mrs. Grace Wilbur Trout is president, celebrated its fiftieth anniversary on October 25th when in Annual Convention at Chicago. A feature of the meeting was a telegram from President Wilson in which he congratulated the suffrage workers on their loyalty. He declared that the whole country is growing more and more to admire those, who, with wise foresight, are pressing on for the great act of justice for which the Equal Suffrage Association stands.

It was shown through the reports read at the convention that the Illinois Equal Suffrage Association has done a commendable amount of war service work and has supported the government in every way possible in its war program. The part that women must play during the reconstruction period was also emphasized in the talks and addresses, and one speaker declared that women should be represented in the peace parley when it comes. The suffrage association has been working strenuously in a campaign to carry the call for a constitutional convention at the November election, by which it is hoped Illinois will come into the list of full suffrage states. More than 1,000 meetings have been held in the interest of this campaign, which closed with an energetic program of activities.

"The Joy of Scaring"

Dedicated, with Apologies to the Author, to Anti Suffragists Anywhere.

The Scarecrow

Once I said to a scarecrow, "You must be tired of standing in this lonely field,"

And he said, "The joy of scaring is a deep and lasting one, and I never tire of it."

Said I, after a minute of thought, "It is true; for I too have known that joy."

Said he, "Only those who are stuffed with straw can know it."

Then I left him, not knowing whether he had complimented or belittled me.

A year passed, during which the scarecrow turned philosopher.

And when I passed by him again I saw two crows building a nest under his hat.

—From *The Madman*, by Kahlil Gibran.

(Alfred A. Knopf Co.)