

Equal Rights

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FIVE CENTS

SATURDAY,
FEBRUARY 28, 1925



DORA G. OGLE

Business Manager of Equal Rights, Member of the National Council of the Woman's Party and Congressional Chairman for Maryland. She is in charge of the sale of Equal Rights in the March 3 Inaugural Demonstration to be staged by the Woman's Party.

Feminist Notes

Equality Bill Beaten

THE bill to put English women on a political equality with men by granting them the vote at the age of 21, instead of the present age of 30, was killed in the House of Commons on February 20, when the House refused it the second reading by a vote of 220 against 153. The amendment offered by Sir William Joynson-Hicks, the home secretary, to postpone franchise reform action until later in the life of the present Parliament was carried.

Sops Do Not Satisfy Spanish Feminists

ALTHOUGH the recent election of several women to municipal offices in Spain has given the outside world the impression that that country is more progressively inclined than was heretofore supposed, Spanish women are not disposed to rest upon their laurels. Senora Isabel de Palencia of Madrid, president of the Feminine Council of Spain, who is visiting in Baltimore, in a newspaper interview apparently minimized what has been accomplished. "Spanish women have been working since 1913 for suffrage," she said, "and all they accomplished was to get the municipal vote for unmarried women and widows a year ago." She stated further that they are working for full suffrage, equal rights and higher advancement.

Italian Women Active

AT a recent convention in Rome of the National Council of Italian Women, resolutions were adopted urging the Government to investigate the condition of housewives. It also took a stand against legislation encouraging games of chance. The next convention will be held at Florence.

Belgium to Vote on Suffrage

THE woman suffrage issue has brought about dissolution of the Belgian Parliament and will be the principle question to be acted upon at the elections for the new body on April 1. The Clericals and a wing of the Socialist party stand for suffrage, while the Liberals and another Socialist faction are opposed.

Brazil's Opportunity

A BILL before the Brazilian Chamber of Deputies offers an opportunity to that nation to head the progressive Latin countries. It makes women eligible for all public offices. The presidency of the republic is included.

Another Congresswoman

MRS. FLORENCE PRAG KAHN was elected on February 17 at a special election in San Francisco to fill the vacancy in Congress caused by the death of her husband, Julius Kahn. Her plurality was 2200 in a field of four candidates. She claimed to be interested in equal rights when interviewed before election on the subject, and declared that the advancement of women would be one of her prime interests if chosen.

No Discrimination in North Dakota

IN North Dakota the election of women to office has ceased to be a novelty. Women mayors, councilmen, justices of the peace, county officials, etc., are looked upon as matters of course. Of 53 county superintendents of schools, 33 are women. In the Legislature, however, there are but two of the sex.

Special Minimum Wage Laws Undesirable

A PROTEST against pending minimum wage legislation for women has been voiced in Colorado by Mrs. Bertha V. Fowler, State chairman of the Woman's Party, in a letter to the Governor of the State. Mrs. Fowler pointed out that such legislation is an insult and an injury to women and has furthermore been held unconstitutional by the United States Supreme Court in the District of Columbia and by the Federal district court in Wisconsin.

Industrial Equality Bill Introduced

SENATOR THOMPSON has introduced a bill in the New York Legislature providing that "all contracts of employment in factories and mercantile establishments shall be based on not to exceed forty-eight hours in any one week of six days."

The bill states that its purpose is "to conserve the health of the workers and to prevent discrimination in employment." It is further provided that the bill "shall supersede all other regulations as to hours of labor for women over the age of twenty-one years in factories and mercantile establishments."

Women Councillors in India

THE first woman councillor of Calcutta took her seat in the corporation a few weeks ago. She is Miss Lloyd, general secretary of the European Association. In Bombay there has for some time been a woman councillor. In both cases, however, the selections were not by popular vote, but merely the arbitrary appointments of the Governor.

Nicaragua Court to Pass on Suffrage

THE leading feminist of Nicaragua, Senora Teresa de Mercales, has called upon the Supreme Court of the nation to decide the right of women to vote. She claims that this is granted by the constitution which is silent concerning sex qualifications and declares that all citizens of the age of 21 have the right to vote, or of the age of 18 if able to read and write. As the other Central American countries have similar clauses in their constitutions, a victory in Nicaragua will probably extend to them.

Republican Women Against "Protection"

OPPOSITION to the 48-hour bill for working women has been voiced by the Woman's Republican Club of New York, of which Mrs. James A. Wentz is president. Resolutions condemning the measure were adopted at a recent meeting and ordered sent to the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Speaker of the Assembly and Chairman of the Senate. The resolutions state that the bill "works to the disadvantage of women and loss of their positions."

Buys Miss Anthony's Birthplace

THE birthplace of Susan B. Anthony at Adams, Mass., has been purchased by the Adams Society of Friends descendants. The building will be restored and made a place of pilgrimage for those interested in the life and work of Miss Anthony, it is said.

First Veto by a Woman Governor

THE first woman Governor has used her veto power for the first time. Governor Nellie Ross of Wyoming disapproved on February 14 a measure passed by the Legislature which, as reported by the Associated Press, seems to provide for nothing more than an unimportant change in procedure in the State Treasurer's office. However, the fact that it was considered deserving of a veto indicates that it must have involved some weightier matters.

Women Enter New Field

THERE are two women coroners in California: Mrs. Dolores A. Potter, Jackson, Amador county, and Lillie Kitto, Woodland, Yolo county.

Uruguay Advancing

A BILL to enfranchise women and render them eligible to office is pending in Congress of Uruguay. It puts in effect a provision of the new national constitution adopted in 1917.

Alice Kraft Baroni

At 14 years Mme. Baroni began the study of voice, later going to the New England Conservatory at Boston, where



MME. BARONI,
Opera Singer, Editor of *Musical World*
and Founder of the Woman's Party.

she studied singing under the eminent teacher, William L. Whitney; harmony and composition under Percy Goetchius, and musical history and instrumentation under Louis Elson.

In 1910, under the guidance of Mr.

Alice Kraft Baroni is one of the professional women of our country who, in a life of unusual activity, feels she must find time to devote some of her efforts to the cause of the National Woman's Party in which she is greatly interested, being numbered among its founders.

Prima donna of opera, concert and song recital and actively engaged in her career, she has also found time in the past year to assume editorship of the *Musical World*, a review that has met with much encouragement and success owing to her extensive acquaintance with musical conditions in Europe and our own country.

In spite of her foreign-sounding name, Mme. Baroni is American, for some of her ancestors came here in 1638 and contributed to the upbuilding of our nation. On her maternal side she is descended from Captain James Lawrence of "Don't give up the ship" fame, and the Moreheads. Two brothers and a son of this family were among our early Governors.

Having shown marked musical talent at a very early age, she was put to the study of the piano when only five years old, graduating in this instrument at 16 under H. B. Roemer of the Leipsig Conservatory, afterwards of the Peabody Institute at Baltimore, Md.

Mrs. Willebrandt Speaks at Headquarters

THE principle of authority, which makes governments stable, is seriously challenged in America today by evasions of the law, particularly the prohibition laws and the tax laws, Mrs. Mabel Walker Willebrandt, Assistant Attorney General of the United States in charge of prohibition enforcement, told the audience at the Sunday afternoon forum at National Woman's Party Headquarters on February 15.

Bootlegging, she said, not only is a major form of lawlessness itself, but it contributes to the spreading of graft and corruption in government.

"The fundamental principle of authority in government is being assailed by graft and corruption under the oath of office. The men who try to justify a private violation of the law with a public declaration of patriotism are the real enemies of democratic government. This applies not only to Federal prohibition officers, but to local and State officers of all kinds who swear to uphold the Constitution when they take office. The question is not whether or not they believe in prohibition, for the time for officers of the law to discuss that is passed."

Mrs. Willebrandt used the George Remus case to illustrate the obstacles in

the way of prohibition enforcement. She pointed out that Remus was financed by respectable citizens who are willing to contribute to lawlessness as long as they were not directly involved. The indirect methods used in distributing illicit liquor were described. The intimidation of witnesses, the delays of the courts and the indifference of the public were the next obstacles.

"The courtrooms are crowded with shyster lawyers, ward healers and cheap politicians trying to influence the courts not to do their duty in enforcing the law. But the solid, respectable citizens who should be interested in law enforcement and stable government never show judges any appreciation when they work overtime enforcing the laws.

"Politics should not be permitted to enter into law enforcement.

"The man who cannot see straight down the barrel and refuses to let his elbow be joggled by political influence has no right to be in the front line trenches of law enforcement. We should applaud results, not try to use political influence to get individuals appointed. No party has a corner on the crooks. They are in all parties. Letting political considerations have anything to do with law en-

Whitney, she went to Florence, Italy, studying singing there under the old Maestro Luigi Vannuccini, then over 80 years of age, and afterwards with the celebrated Vincenzo Lombardi, known as the teacher of Caruso, Bonci and very many other of the leading singers.

Mme. Baroni sang in opera in Italy, Austria, and on a tour with a company in The Transvaal, South Africa.

Driven home by war conditions, she has devoted her time to occasional performances of opera and concert and song recital tours, having season before last made a tour from coast to coast of 17,000 miles, on which she gave 140 recitals.

Mme. Baroni has beauty and charm. On the subject of the National Woman's Party she is most enthusiastic. When asked for some expression she said: "I am exceedingly enthusiastic over what I have found in going to some of the meetings and coming into contact with the brilliant and interesting women I have met. I am proud of my sex as represented by these women, who are an honor to us all; reasoning, thinking, looking on life in its larger aspects and working for the correction of so many social evils and injustices. These are women who do honor to the sex. I deem it a privilege to be able to 'touch elbows' with them."

forcement is the surest way to prevent carrying out the laws."

Mrs. Willebrandt said that in her work in prosecuting the wholesale offenders against the prohibition laws she does not have many cases against women.

"But," she added, "when bootlegging is pushed back into the place where it eventually must be pushed, the underworld, we can expect that more women will be involved in prohibition violations. Women do contribute to lawlessness, however, by their use of the product the bootlegger distributes, and by condoning the violations of others."

Expressions of approval of Mrs. Willebrandt's work in enforcing the laws came from the floor following her speech.

Dr. Harriet E. Twombly of the staff of St. Elizabeth's Hospital, spoke on the history of women in medicine, tracing their work in the profession from the time of unwritten history down to the present.

Mary Van Casteel, chairman of the Students' Council of the National Woman's Party, presided at the meeting and introduced the speakers as examples of women's success in two of the greater professions.

Equal Rights



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Edith Houghton Hooker, Editor
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OBJECT OF THE WOMAN'S PARTY

To remove all forms of the subjection of women.

THE LUCRETIA MOTT AMENDMENT

"Men and women shall have Equal Rights throughout the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction."

"Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation"

[Senate Joint Resolution Number 21.]
[House Joint Resolution Number 75.]

Introduced in the Senate, December 10, 1923,
by SENATOR CHARLES E. CURTIS.
Introduced in the House of Representatives,
December 13, 1923,
by REPRESENTATIVE D. R. ANTHONY.

To Our Better Acquaintance

SEVERAL of our subscribers have written us that through the front pages of EQUAL RIGHTS they are coming to feel a genuine sense of acquaintance with the leaders of the feminist movement in America. One member writes from Oklahoma, "Your portrait gallery is fine. It's a delight to know faces as well as names." Another from Wyoming says, "Every week brings me a new friend. To us in the outfield, who never see our leaders, this fills a real need. It increases our sense of kinship with the movement." Still another writes from Georgia, "Some of the pictures I have framed so that I may see daily these sisters of the spirit whose hands I shall never touch."

We herewith acknowledge these many encouraging communications and propose a toast to the better acquaintance of feminists the world around.

The Importance of Sex Solidarity

"THE ultimate goal, the goal of human endeavor, is a combination of the educated efforts of women with the educated efforts of men for the creation of a civilized society. The mass of men do not want to welcome, or even credit, the help which women's co-operation can bring to society." (Ancilla's Share.)

Conceding to men their full share of generosity, it perhaps can hardly be expected that they will give up their centuries of control of politics, government and all forms of public activity without considerable pressure.

Their sense of justice and fair play leads them to offer women certain honors, but they retain, and, perhaps more or less unconsciously intend to retain, the key positions in their own hands.

The New York Branch of the Woman's Party has worked unceasingly during the past two months toward securing the appointment and election by the Legislature of two women to fill the vacancies on the State Board of Regents, which controls the educational system of the State. There have been twelve men on the Board and no women, and since women are taxed equally with men and bear equally with men the burden of the cost of education in this State, it is quite unfair to discriminate against them by withholding from them equal representation on the Board of Regents.

The Woman's Party asked that the women selected for these positions should believe in Equal Rights for men and women in the educational system of the State; that they should be qualified by education, training and experience to supervise the educational affairs of the State, and, furthermore, that they should be free to devote their time to active service in the performance of their duties on the Board.

Several women of excellent character and ability, well qualified by education and experience for these positions, were proposed and supported by various women's organizations throughout the State. In spite of the fact that these women were Republican women, one of them having been unanimously endorsed by the Kings County Republican Committee, and the name of another woman candidate having been presented by the Women's National Republican Club, the Legislature, which is controlled by the Republican Party, rejected the women candidates and on February 11th elected two men to fill the vacancies and one man to succeed himself.

An up-State newspaper recently stated that the average age of the men on the State Board of Regents is seventy years, and that at their last convocation seven fell sound asleep!

Will not women have to keep the sex solidarity so slowly gained through the long struggle for suffrage until they have won for themselves such a recognition of equal value that without question both sexes shall be free to make their common contribution to human welfare?

Here and there one detects a faint note of protest from women within the political party ranks. The *West Side*, a New York weekly, quotes Miss Sally Peters, a member of the Riverside Republican Club, as saying, when asked what she would think of a permanent joint committee of all of the organized groups of men and women on the west side of New York to work for civic betterment, "There are literally hundreds of men and women profoundly interested in the questions on the West Side who would welcome a really progressive, constructive association of this type if they could be assured of its purely civic and non-partisan character."

"Personally—and I think I can also speak for large numbers of women—I should not be even remotely interested in the idea if I thought it were going to be a purely man-made organization, officered solely by men." J. N. S.

We Do Not Oppose Equal Rights

THE burden of the pleas of the women appearing before the judiciary committees against the Equal Rights Amendment to the Constitution of the United States is: "We do not oppose the principle of equal rights, but—"

And following the "but" are varieties of objections, varying with the personal slant of the objector. Here are a few of the special "buts" posed by various women at the House Judiciary Committee meeting:

Katherine Ludington, treasurer of the National League of Women Voters: "I want to open what I have to say by stating that we are not here in opposition to removing existing legal disabilities and injustices, under the law, of our women. The League of Women Voters has been in the past five years working actively to remove, law by law, State by State, such difficulties. We are here in opposition to the blanket method, whether by State or Federal amendment, or by any type of general blanket legislation."

Elisabeth Christman, Chicago, Ill., secretary-treasurer of the National Women's Trade Union League, and likewise of the International Glove Workers' Union: "We stand emphatically for equal rights, equal opportunity and equal pay for men and women. We agree that the women of Ohio should have the right to be taxi drivers or to open a shoe-shining parlor if they want to, but we do not believe that in order to give this right to the women of Ohio we ought to take away the 48-hour law for women in Massachusetts, and the hour laws in 42 other States."

Agnes G. Regan, executive secretary of the National Council of Catholic Women: "There is no question about the fact that there are many instances in which woman is discriminated against in the law. There is still ample work to engage the best efforts of intelligent and earnest women in removing those statutes which not only deny certain rights to women, but which prevent them from doing their full duty to themselves, their children and society.

"But to hope to cure admitted evils by the passage of a measure based on a fundamentally unsound theory and to ask that the United States Government, through Congress, should go on record

the courts would find themselves in regard to this enactment. I have consulted legal advice, and while the concern of most of the women who have spoken has been related to women in industry, our concern is with the question of guardianship, of support of children, of attending to the deserting father or parent, who should have, as his main concern, the ignorant, bewildered, foreign and poor wife."

Lida Harford, headquarters director of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, quoting the resolution adopted by the Federation: "Whereas the General Federation of Women's Clubs has been co-operating in State and National movements for the establishment of political, legal and economic equality between men and women, which movements, since the ratification of the women's Federal suffrage amendment, have accomplished 86 specific equalizing changes in the laws of 30 states;" etc.

Thus they prefaced their fight against the one measure which will permanently guarantee equal rights for women and men, just as the fifteenth amendment guaranteed equal rights for white men and colored men, and as the fifth and fourteenth amendments guaranteed to citizens due process of law and equal protection of the laws.

The National Woman's Party has proved more than any other organization its belief in "specific bills for specific ills," as those opposing the Federal amendment say, for it has drafted and obtained the introduction and the passage of more such bills than has any other organization.

But it believes in making its work permanent, and in writing into the fundamental law of the United States the magnificent principle of equality. The amendment is not legislative; it is not prohibitive; it is not restrictive on the rights of States, for it allows each State to set its own standards for industry, divorce, marriage, property rights, etc., so that standards shall be equal for men and women.

MRS. MARY MURRAY, ticket seller on the Brooklyn-Manhattan Transit System, said at the hearings on the Equal Rights Amendment:

"I am not talking from sentiment nor theory; I am talking from actual experience. Twenty-odd years ago I came out into this world with five babies ranging from 1½ to 7 years old. My job was educating, clothing, feeding and taking care of the health and morals of those children, as well as my own. I made good. I raised those boys and girls not only to be good Christians, but good citizens, willing to give their all for their country. I gave two when Uncle Sam called, a soldier boy and a nurse. And during all those years of struggle and work and worry I never met a landlord, a doctor, or a butcher, or baker, to tell me because I was a woman in industry, or because I was a widow with five children, that I would not have to pay the same rent, the same doctor's fee, the same for everything, as the men. Why, even the undertaker exacts the same price for the women. Now, are not we women of the industrial class—we mothers—are not our children entitled to the same advantages as the children whose fathers have not been called home? We say they are and we know that the only way that we can get all those good things, pay the same rent, the same for everything, the same price as the man, is to have an equal chance with the man to earn that price. [Applause.]

"Women work for precisely the same reason as men—to earn for themselves and their children food, clothing and lodging. If we do not work, we must starve, accept charity, or live in prostitution.

"Now we women in industry are intelligent enough to know that good health and good morals are derived from good food and lack of worry; but we also know the only way to get all those things, so as to have good health and good morals, be free from worry, for which we shall have to pay the same price as a man, is to have an equal chance with the man to earn the price. And I want to say, Mr. Chairman, the organization who appeared a year ago against the equal rights bill, not one of them represents us women in industry. They had no right to talk for us women in industry. [Applause.] They never called us women in industry to a conference of any kind to take up with us what we wanted and what we did not want."

as approving such a theory is, to say the least, not only unreasonable, but ridiculous."

Mrs. Alexander Wolf, vice-president of the National Council of Jewish Women: "We feel that the removal of this legislation would render chaotic the family and home basis as a unit for our work, because of the chaotic condition in which

Feminism in Japan

A Review by Harriette Hifton King

ANYONE interested in the extraordinary changes taking place in the ancient customs of the Orient will feel well repaid by reading a chapter entitled "Femmes Emancipées" in the new French book by Albert Maybon on "Japan of Today," just published by Flammarion, in Paris. The author, who was a French bookseller in Tokio, and therefore met the Japanese intimately, deals frankly and sympathetically with the movements now agitating Japan. The sub-heads of the chapter mentioned above are "The Legal and Moral Position of Woman"; "The First Feminists"; "The New Feminism"; "The New Young Woman"; "Women Employees and Wage Earners." The following gives an idea of this interesting chapter:

WOMEN are regarded in Chinese and Japanese philosophy, as also in the religion of India, as impure beings whose misfortunes pursue them even beyond the grave, for only in some rebirth, after having acquired the masculine sex, can they ever expect to reach the Buddhist paradise. Foukouzawa, the great Japanese moralist and educator, says our author, forty years ago advocated the rights of women, and claimed that the low estimate of women was due to their lack of education and to the curse of polygamy. In urging war on concubinage and on the libertinage of men he was striking at fixed usage and tradition. These curses had taught contempt for feminine dignity and honor.

The doctrine that women were impure beings fit only for procreation so that the tombs of ancestors might be maintained and the male line of descendants be continued, was first opposed by the individualistic and Christian conceptions at the end of the Meiji era (about 40 years ago). Many authors who had been won over to the doctrine of equality published "virulent pamphlets against female slavery." The wife, they said, is in a servile, shameful condition; she is no longer fit for the name of mother, for she is the servant of the child rather than the protector and guardian over the awakening of its faculties and the formation of its character.

Foukouzawa in his discourse on the "Manners of Today" said: "It is necessary that woman should have the influence which belongs to her in the home and in society. Let us restore her to her real place so that conjointly with man she may govern the country and the family."

The Japanese feminists were active for the first time in 1912, when a society

headed by Miss Akiko and ironically called "Blue Stockings" ("Sei-To"), an ultra-radical group, was formed "to bring forth a feminine literature." This society disbanded in 1916. In 1919 it was reorganized as "The New Women" for the purpose of presenting to the legislators a detailed program of demands. They said there were two methods of securing women's rights: first, to secure better living conditions for women; second, to enfranchise them, to grant them liberty equal to that enjoyed by men. Several societies had been formed to secure the first object; this new society was to be devoted to the second object, and its propaganda is expressed thus: Equality of the sexes; specialization of the sexes; enlarging the rôle of women in the family; protection of wives and children; suppression of everything which is contrary to family interest. "We hope," they said, "by these declarations to reassure the conservatives who wrongly imagine that the enfranchisement of woman is the destruction of the family."

IN 1921 these "New Women" rented quarters opposite those occupied by the Senate and House of the Japanese Parliament. Early in 1922 they were successful in obtaining the abolition of Article 5 of the police regulations which prohibited women from belonging to or taking part in political groups and public meetings—an outrage, they said, to their intelligence and their good sense. "A breach is made," wrote one feminist, "in the thick wall which separates women from men! * * * The hour has come when we must strike for the suffrage, but as all the men are not yet voters, we must still exercise patience."

The fact is that a great step forward had been taken; political avenues had been opened! The "New Women" pledged themselves to remain faithful to the happy tactics of appealing to legislators.

The great poetess, Mme. Yosana, wrote: "The day when the mountain moves has arrived—I say it and no one believes—The mountain has long slept—At its beginning it moved in fire—That is difficult for some to believe—But men! Ah! men, believe—That women, after having long slept, are arousing themselves." Mme. Yosana, who was neither a "Blue Stocking" nor a "New Woman," held that the old tradition remained her own, though her writings on society, "The Service of Humanity," "Woman and Politics," etc., are all exhortations to feminine activity. She urges married women to seek occupation outside the home and to enlarge

and enrich their experiences while not neglecting their wifely duties.

Mme. Yosana has since 1913 devoted herself to the enfranchisement of women and to reforming domestic life; to freeing her sisters from the shackles which hinder the development of their personality; but she did not assail the laws of society and the family. She held to the traditional ideal: "Good wife, virtuous mother." But she does assail the differences in sex which result from unequal education and social prejudices. The subjection of wives in the lower classes of society is much less in evidence than among the middle classes and among the aristocracy. At home and at work in the home they are their husbands' equals—they are conscious of inferiority only outside the home—in factories, offices and stores, and when they must satisfy some condition of the law.

THERE is still another kind of Japanese feminism which, though as yet unorganized, is not less effective. Among young society women is found a consciousness of the anachronism of the education traditionally reserved to women to make them graceful, gracious, decorative beings for man's satisfaction; the desire to rise out of the inferior position to which manners and the law have assigned them, in order to fill in modernized society a role useful to themselves, their households and surroundings, and to society. Life is no longer limited to the home. The happenings in the world arouse curiosity and the desire to learn, and provoke the need of devotion and the assumption of responsibility. Life is no longer a spectacle; it has become a serious affair which requires intelligence and character.

Young women, after passing through elementary and secondary instruction, seek higher education. These attend an institution in Tokyo directed by Mlle. Tsouda of Anglo-Saxon training, and a women's university directed by Mr. Nitobe, with American assistants. This beginning gave impetus to the movement for the higher education of women and the admission of women to the official universities. Only the faculty of sciences of Sendai, northeast Japan, was open to women students. In 1920 the Imperial University of Tokyo was authorized to admit "the feminine element." The free universities soon followed the example of the Government. The result has been hailed as a success, and, it is added, women also make use of public libraries "with assiduity."

Many private schools admitting women, devoted to various educational purposes, such as applied art, hygiene, domestic

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science, call for an increasing number of professors and appeal for an ever-increasing number of students. It is an enthusiastic world and, as contrasted with masculine activity, which is "too mechanical," it brings into play beautiful and fresh qualities of labor which relieve the tension of life in Japan. If we question these young women, who are determined to exercise initiative, they will answer, after a moment's effort to overcome the timidity inculcated by centuries of Confucian discipline, that they intend to prove by serious acts their ability to conduct themselves freely and to make work profitable.

THE word "conquerer," or "conqueresse," to be more literal, is freely employed to indicate one who refuses to be bound by old customs, including forced marriages. A recent case was that of "Lotus Blanc," a poetess of ancient nobility, married against her will to a newly rich man without education or instruction, who took refuge with her lover, a young university graduate. The *Kokou-min*, a conservative newspaper, did not hesitate to write: "Lotus Blanc, victim of feudal customs, is a 'conqueresse' (conquerante). She wished to put love into marriage." The pity of women was excited when they learned that Lotus Blanc, by order of the Imperial House, which exercises discipline over the nobility, was compelled to retire for life to the seclusion of a Buddhist monastery.

Socialist feminism is concerned less with reforming the relations of the sexes than in combatting the exploitation of women in public work and shops. More than a million women work in factories from 12 to 15 hours a day for a wage less than enough to supply their daily needs.

A New Profession Is Open to Women

PERHAPS it was foretold that women, so lately on pedestals, so soon should appear in traffic towers.

Comes in the daily news of the week an announcement that the city fathers of Port Chester, N. Y., are divided into two camps: those advocating the appointment of traffic mistresses, and those opposing the entry of women into this occupation.

"Traffic towers are worked automatically by a system of colored lights. We don't need a six-foot, two-hundred-pound husky sitting up there to watch the lights. You need him pounding the pavements," say the proponents of the innovation.

"But women will flirt," the opponents answer carelessly, entirely preoccupied, you see, with the sex of the applicants. Just how a woman would successfully

Christian charities are now being supplemented by Buddhist sects, but the age-long Oriental habit of submission is turning to movements of revolt.

The proletarian Japanese woman has not yet been unionized, but two years ago a society of revolutionary women was organized in Tokyo. The president was Mme. Yamakawa, wife of the leading communist, well known in feminist circles by the publication of her book, "Victories of Women," which, according to her admirers, overshadows the works of Mme. Yosana on domestic poverty. Mme. Yamakawa insists that "all individuals in a class have the same interests within their class, and the middle class woman enjoys liberty and privileges denied to the working woman. Working women demand not only such liberties as their fathers, husbands and sons enjoy, which they say is only sex equality, but human equality and social justice, eliminating poverty and the need for charity." Proletarian women, says Mme. Yamakawa, demand that inequality of classes rather than inequality between the sexes be abolished. In the world of the poor, the two sexes are united to free themselves from capitalist slavery, and the enemy of the proletariat is not man, but the exploiter.

BUT all of these questions which so passionately interest the feminine youth of the upper classes leave the more modest young women of the lower middle classes and of the people quite indifferent. Among the more than a million office workers and shop attendants and more than fifty thousand teachers, few traces of feminism are to be observed. Working for a bare living leaves them little

time for propaganda, though it is true that less subjection to tradition makes for better assorted marriages and happier homes. Modern distractions help, fortunately, toward forgetfulness and relief from daily problems.

In a city like Tokyo the woman who is more conscious of her personality is more readily accustomed to going about by herself, but in the provinces she is little changed from former times; it is in the interior of Japan that musty traditions still seem to have their virtue in the eyes of the governing classes.

IT is difficult to say what is the position of the governing classes toward the woman question. We have seen that the legislator, by abrogation of Article 5, gave satisfaction to the "New Women," but, paternal and marital power remaining intact, it is impossible for women to exercise such liberty as is granted by the law; only the "new woman," the freed woman, the believer in feminism, will join political parties, will attend public gatherings, make speeches, etc. If the legislator took to the way of realization, it is a judicial reform he would make, especially in the civil code regarding marriage. But that is a long dream. Many publicists believe that the social order would be seriously upset if woman, more or less freed from the tutelage of the husband, were not recalled to her duties by a moral religious law which is yet to be formulated.

As we said in the opening paragraph, anyone interested in the modernization of the Orient and its women and in the new ideas there taking root will be well repaid by a perusal of this book, which apparently still awaits its English translator.

flirt from the elevation of a traffic tower is not quite clear, but it doesn't need to be. This preoccupation leaves them entirely unprepared for the next sally of the proponents, which is, "Why should you pay two cops \$5000 a year to operate a tower when you can get two reliable women to do it for \$1700 each?"

Ignoring economic determinism, they answer gaily, "But no flappers must be tolerated. They will powder their noses and keep an eye out for prospective husbands."

"Perhaps widows with two or three children to support, women with no time for nonsense," feebly counter the friends of the idea, "would be acceptable."

Doubtless the argument that two women can be secured to work for \$1700 each, as against two men at \$5000 each, will

settle the controversy in favor of the women. But be fairly warned, estimable city fathers, \$1700 may get you by for a while, but \$5000 will be hard on the heels of the lesser wage.

Here we have refreshing frankness. Women are desirable if they will work for less than men. Women are desirable if they are widows, the presumption being if they are not, they are content to be supported by men. Women will use any position open to them not to give conscientious service, but as a means to procure finally a husband who will support them. And what becomes of woman's "biological handicap" with lighting devices to conspire against the two-hundred-pound huskies!

From pedestals to traffic towers is not an unnatural progression. D. S.

From The Press

The Nation,
February 18.

THE National Woman's Party wants President Butler to admit women to the Columbia Law School.

Many times in years before the National Woman's Party was born women tried to get into the Columbia Law School, and the walls of the masculine sanctuary always stood firm. President Butler long ago turned the decision in the matter over to the law-school faculty, but a large majority of the professors resisted imprecations, pleas and demands from candidates and organizations, and even from benefactors of the school. This defiance of the laws of change and the tendency of the times would be magnificent if it were wholly a matter of principle. The

faculty, however, has never maintained that women could not master legal learning or that they should not be made to endure the frank and shocking language of the law. No, its argument has been lower and more practical. If women were admitted to the Columbia Law School, it said, then the choicer, more manly and red-blooded graduates of our great universities would go to the Harvard Law School! Two courses seem to lie open to the tacticians of the Woman's Party: Either they must bring about an inter-university treaty whereby the Harvard and Columbia law schools simultaneously open their doors to women; or a campaign must be undertaken in the men's universities to dilute the red blood with a little humor and common-sense. We advise the former course.

News From The Field

ON February 11 Mrs. Charles Jay Oppenheim entertained at bridge at her home, 1067 Fifth avenue, New York City, under the auspices of the New York City Committee, for the benefit of the National Woman's Party. Before tea Anita Politzer, National Secretary of the Woman's Party, spoke on the work of the Party.

The proceeds of the meeting amounted to about four hundred dollars, and a number of new members were obtained.

A BIRTHDAY CAKE with one hundred and ninety-three candles and a tea party to commemorate the birthday anniversary of George Washington was given by the National Woman's Party Sunday afternoon at 4 o'clock at the Woman's Party Headquarters.

Miss Sue White, a young attorney of Tennessee, spoke at this George Washington Tea. Her topic was "Constructive Revolutionists."

"The Woman's Party dedicated its meeting to George Washington," said Miss White, "as a tribute to the man who had the courage in the face of all the opposition of the ruling groups to fight and stand for the principle of self-determination. George Washington helped the people of the United States go half of the way. We are working to get the people of the United States to go the rest of the way toward complete equality."

Mrs. Herman Gasch, who writes under the name of Masie Manning, presided and acted as hostess at the tea. After the meeting tea was served and the birthday cake cut and eaten by the Equal Righters.

SIX measures are now in the hands of legislators for introduction into the Pennsylvania Legislature for the removal of discriminations still existing against women. Mrs. Ruth Billikopf is State chairman and Ella Riegel is legislative chairman.

The bills are to amend statutes to give: Equal rights of guardianship, earnings and services of child; equal rights to appoint testamentary guardian; joint action for the seduction of daughter; equal punishment to father and mother for concealing death of an illegitimate child; full contractual rights for the wife; the right of wife to recover all damages for loss of her services; equal rights in appointment as administrator of estates; right of married woman to choose her own domicile, and a bill legitimating child born out of wedlock.

ON the evening of March 3 the National Woman's Party will stage a series of open-air meetings in Washington as an Equal Rights inaugural demonstration. Eighteen States and four National Councils have already agreed to participate. Those taking part should report at Headquarters at 6.30 P. M., when they will be given regalia and automobile decorations.

Two Million Dollar Fund Treasurer's Report

SHELDON JACKSON, *Treasurer*
NETTIE TRAIL: C. P. A., *Auditor*.

RECEIPTS of National Headquarters, December 7, 1912, to February 13, 1925.

Contributions, membership receipts and other receipts, February 13, 1925, to Feb. 22, 1925: (*Half of membership fees are retained by the State Headquarters. The half of these fees sent to National Headquarters is listed below*):

Miss Nannie King, D. C.....	\$5.00
Miss Laura M. Berrien, D. C.....	25.00
Per Pennsylvania Branch:	
Miss May Bosse.....	.50
Mrs. Arthur K. Stern.....	.50
Per District of Columbia Branch:	
Mrs. M. M. Hanenfeldt.....	.50
Miss Emily L. Fallon.....	.50
Miss E. S. Bumgardner.....	1.00
Mrs. Fred S. Smith.....	.50
Mrs. M. A. Markley.....	.50
Mrs. George Howe.....	.50
Miss Jessie Patton.....	.25
Per Springfield (Ohio) Branch:	
Miss Addie Stratton.....	.50
Miss Isabel Martin.....	.50
Miss Genrose M. Gehri.....	.50
Miss B. F. Freshwater.....	.50
Mrs. Henry Bierberson.....	.50
Mrs. R. J. Graff.....	.50
Mrs. Grace Jamison.....	.50
Mrs. Ruth A. Peters.....	.50
Miss Helen A. Dury.....	.50
Anonymous.....	.50
Per New York City Branch:	
Mrs. Lawrence Gilman.....	5.00
Mrs. Albert Forsch.....	5.00
Mrs. A. Early.....	5.00
Mrs. James N. Montgomery.....	5.00
Mrs. N. G. Solari.....	5.00
Miss Mary R. Woodard.....	5.00
Mrs. J. E. Hyams.....	5.00
Mrs. Sara G. Hackes.....	.50
Miss Felicia Turner.....	.50
Miss Ella Morris Bayer.....	.50
Miss Edith H. Kunen.....	.50
Miss Elizabeth M. Young.....	.50
Mrs. Edna Ellis.....	.50
Miss Mae E. Darcy.....	.50
Mrs. Almira C. White.....	.50
Miss Florence M. Eldridge.....	.50
Miss Georgia O'Keefe.....	.50
Miss Nettie A. Blasing, Minn.....	5.00
Per Minnesota Branch:	
Mrs. L. V. Jackson.....	.50
Miss Marie K. Moreland.....	.50
Miss Eleanor Horrigan.....	.50
Miss Mildred Burke.....	.50
Mrs. F. A. Kingsley.....	.50
Per New York City Branch:	
Miss Natalie Rossin.....	.50
Miss Mabel Frenyear.....	.50
Mrs. H. T. Knowther.....	.50
Mrs. John A. Davis.....	.50
Princess Ghika.....	.50
Mrs. Lawrence Harnecker.....	.50
Miss Bertha Wood.....	.50
Mrs. I. L. Blackwell.....	.50
Miss Christina Mackenzie.....	.50
Miss Margaret Carlin.....	.50
Mrs. Millicent B. Jones.....	.50
Mrs. Leopold Cahn.....	5.00
Mrs. Morris Loeb.....	5.00
Mrs. George H. Heitmuller.....	1.00
Miss Mabel Vernon, N. Y.....	2.25
Mrs. Edward L. Graham, Md.....	5.00
Mrs. Helen Seville Rapley, D. C.....	1.00
Miss Edna B. Sloan, D. C.....	1.00
Mrs. Mary A. Murray, N. Y.....	5.00
Mrs. Grace Van Wert Henderson, Pa.....	5.00
Mrs. Grace Van Casteel, D. C.....	1.00
Miss Mary Van Casteel, D. C.....	1.00
Surplus from Congressional Hearings Dinner	13.50
Rent of rooms at National Headquarters	30.00
Sale of literature.....	.40
Collected for telephone calls.....	2.75
Per Equal Rights Committee:	
Dr. Donald R. Hooker, Baltimore.....	200.00
Mrs. Louise N. Graham, Ellicott City, Md..	10.00
Total receipts, February 13, 1925, to February 22, 1925.....	
Total receipts, December 7, 1912, to February 22, 1925.....	\$1,293,084.58

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