

Equal Rights

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FIVE CENTS

SATURDAY,
MARCH 28, 1925



Emma Wold

National Secretary of the Legal Research Department of the National Woman's Party, who has just completed a very successful tour of Pennsylvania and New York, speaking on the legal status of women and the Lucretia Mott Amendment.

Feminist Notes

A Persian Heroine

A FOURTEEN-YEAR-OLD native girl started in 1898 the movement in Persia for equal educational opportunities. In 1896 public schools were opened for boys only. Private schools for boys had existed before, the Mohammedan priests having insisted that feminine schools were anti-religious. But in 1898 the first school for girls was started, nevertheless, in the City of Ispahan, nominally under the supervision of a woman advanced in years, but really under the fourteen-year-old girl referred to. For five years before, dressed as a boy, she had attended school with her brothers and taken additional instruction at home. Her mother had encouraged her in this course and none outside of her own family suspected what was being put over. Then she opened the school, taking care that nothing contrary to the Persian religion be taught therein. This disarmed criticism. Her example encouraged others. Since 1900 more than 60 schools for girls have been started in Persia. In 1911 these were all taken over by the public school system under the Minister of Education, and the curriculum of the boys' schools was extended to them. In 1916 a special tax for education having been levied, ten new schools for girls were opened in the capital city, Teheran, though 30 new schools for boys were started at the same time. Girls' schools are still lacking in the provinces, but an agitation to supply them is being carried on by the woman's paper in Teheran, *Zavane-Zavan* (*The Voice of Woman*). It is regrettable that the name of the young heroine who began this work is not mentioned in the report.

South African Troubles

THE present session of the Parliament of South Africa must deal with a number of bills bearing on women. Chief among these is a suffrage measure. South Africa has lagged behind other dominions in this matter for a number of reasons explained in a recent bulletin of the Woman's Enfranchisement Association of the Union of South Africa. There seems to be lack of co-operation between English-speaking and Dutch-speaking women, with the result that the latter show little interest in women's political movements. Furthermore, the movement is embarrassed by the question of including—or rather of excluding—the native races while trying to extend the principle of equality. Lack of harmony, inevitably resulting from this situation, has necessarily held back the movement. Nevertheless the W. E. A. U. is making a strong fight which holds out hope of some progressive results.

Taking Snap Judgment on the Islanders

NEW constitutions for the islands of St. Vincent, St. Lucia and Granada, in the West Indies, are being framed in the British Parliament. These islands are governed by a legislative council, consisting of the Governor and other officials, nominated and elected members. The new constitutions make ineligible holders of office under the Crown, clergymen, election officials, non-voters and women. Women are not disfranchised, but must be at least thirty years old to vote, while men may vote at the age of twenty-one. These discriminations against women led Mr. Pethick-Lawrence to ask the Secretary of State for the Colonies in the House of Commons to explain why and wherefore. Secretary Amery replied that local committees on the islands had recommended the course taken. Mr. Pethick-Lawrence then asked why these matters had not been left to the voters to pass upon. Mr. Amery considered the packed committees more capable of judging such matters.

Cannot Steal From Wife

MARRIAGE is a partnership like any business combination, and hence a man cannot steal from his wife. This was the opinion of Magistrate Gresser in Jamaica Police Court recently. Mrs. Josephine Grollmus of Ridgewood thereupon withdrew her complaint of grand larceny against her husband Paul.

Mrs. Grollmus alleged that her husband had stolen \$250 in cash belonging to her, and had also taken a bankbook showing deposits of \$325. Grollmus, a machinist, produced the cash and passbook in court, and explained that he took them only because his wife planned to leave him, and the more money she had the longer she would be away. The cash was returned to Mrs. Grollmus.

A Possible Equal Rights Campaign

THE issue of equal political, civil and economic rights for women may be injected into the Maryland Democratic primaries in 1926 in spite of bosses and bourbons should Mrs. Virginia Peters-Parkhurst carry out the wishes of supporters within the party who are booming her for the United States senatorial nomination. Her platform includes equal rights, a uniform marriage and divorce law, special protection of motherhood and political equality for the District of Columbia. She holds it unconstitutional to maintain a different standard of citizenship for men from what is held for women. She is national director of publicity of the Susan B. Anthony Foundation.

Woman Internal Revenue Collector

THE only woman occupying the position of Collector of Internal Revenue, Mrs. Mabel G. Reinecke of Chicago, is making a record for efficiency in the face of difficulties. Her district contains the largest number of income taxpayers in the country, though second to New York in actual amount of cash taken in. Nevertheless her staff has been arbitrarily reduced at the busiest time by the Administration's policy of economy. In spite of this she has maintained the morale of her force so that a spirit of co-operation prevails and her subordinates are cheerfully working overtime that the office may make the proper showing.

Judge Allen to Address Marylanders

JUDGE FLORENCE E. ALLEN of Ohio's Supreme Court has been urged to address a women's mass-meeting at Peabody Hall, in Baltimore, on March 31, and has consented to do so. As Maryland is one of the States with a Legislature too backward to realize the fundamental importance of matters affecting women, the significance of the object lesson, which the very presence of a woman holding such a position must impart, is obvious.

Gloria Swanson Joins the Movement

GLORIA SWANSON, most talented of feminine movie stars, has announced herself as a feminist and become a life member of the National Woman's Party. Press reports say that she was converted by Miss Alice Paul in Paris. Miss Swanson intends to become an active worker for the cause. She will endeavor to organize a council of motion picture actresses to co-operate with the movement for equal rights. The ability and intellect which she has hitherto devoted with wonderful success to her art is also to be placed at the service of freedom and equality.

No Chance for Suffrage in Italy

A MAJORITY and minority report on municipal suffrage for women were offered to the Italian Chamber of Deputies on March 11. The majority report offered by the Fascist members urges rejection on grounds once so popular with suffrage opposition in the United States, namely, that women do not want the vote. The four minority members, led by Signor Acerbo, tendered their opponents the undeserved compliment of presenting for their consideration an intelligent argument. Nevertheless there is no hope that suffrage will be granted by the present Parliament.

Feminists Organize for International Movement

By Ruby A. Black

JUST as Alice Paul and the National Woman's Party co-ordinated the suffrage movement in the United States, and directed it toward a definite and final goal, so Alice Paul and the National Woman's Party, of which she is vice-president, are now organizing the feminists of the world for completing victoriously and unitedly the struggle of women all over the world for equal rights.

An International Parliament of Women will meet in December in Washington, D. C., as one of the first direct steps toward co-ordinating the efforts of women all over the world toward freedom—political, economic, social.

Alice Paul is now in London and Paris, where the international committee is being organized. Leading suffragists in France—Mme. Durand, Mme. Duchene, Mme. Jouvre and Mlle. Dumont—have conferred with Miss Paul on plans for the uniting of women of all nations toward the emancipation of womanhood. In England, Lady Rhondda, M. P.; Elizabeth Robbins, author of "Ancilla's Share," and Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence have become members of the committee. American women in France who have also joined the Woman's Party Committee are Gloria Swanson, the Countess of Lausanne, who was a prominent suffragist in the United States before her marriage, and was a classmate of Inez Milholland at Vassar; Mrs. Roy Pelletier and Ganna Walska. Michel Strange, Julia Marlowe and Mme. Balzan, daughter of Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont, are also interested.

Thus the ideal of the Woman's Party for equal rights throughout the world will begin to be realized with the Inter-

national Parliament of Women, at which women of all nations will meet to consider the handicaps in the laws and customs of their varied countries, and to unite to remove all laws and eliminate all customs which lead to the subjection of women.

The Paris press, both English and French, has been most cordial to the movement.

The Paris edition of the *New York Herald* on February 17 quoted Miss Paul as saying:

"It seems to me that in its essence this proposal for an International Parliament of Women means that we enlarge our present work in America by joining hands with the women of every country in the endeavor to end our world-wide subjection.

"I think that perhaps the most important contribution that the Woman's Party has made in the past has been in leading women to stand together. When we began our work for suffrage we found women striving in one State for municipal suffrage, in another for Presidential suffrage—they were divided into isolated State groups. The Woman's Party brought unity into the suffrage movement by leading women of all States to stand together for the national amendment.

"Now we are undertaking to do for the whole world what we have been trying to do for the women of America. By standing together nationally we have certainly accomplished more than we could have by separate State action; by standing to-

gether internationally we can accomplish still more."

The Paris edition of the *New York Times* said on January 31:

"In Egypt and in Turkey, in India and China, perhaps in Eskimo land and Central Africa—who knows?—women are trying to convince men of the equality of the sexes, that women have as much right to the money they earn, that equal work should mean equal pay, that women are as well fitted to be the guardians of their children as men, and all the rest of it *ad infinitum*.

"But the Turkish woman who has just torn away her veil is perhaps unaware of and certainly unhelped by the struggle toward equality waged by women in China and India, in Norway and in France. There is no reason why this should be so, says Miss Alice Paul, and because she is Alice Paul there will be begun within the year a movement to throw into one all the feminist movements of the world."

Miss Paul went to France in December to make plans with Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont, president of the National Woman's Party, for the international meeting. After a few weeks of conference with Mrs. Belmont and others on the Riviera, she went to Paris and London to consult feminist leaders of France and England. She will return to the United States soon, both to complete her work at the University of Pennsylvania for her Master of Laws degree—and she has been working on her thesis at the Sorbonne University during her visit to Paris—and to work with the Woman's Party on plans for the International Parliament of Women.

Equal Rights at Knox College

By Florence Merdian

COMplete triumph of co-education is in sight at Knox College, Galesburg, Ill., as a result of resolutions adopted by the New York Knox club, asking for a woman member on the college board of trustees and the appointment of a committee to study the college curricula with reference to methods of education for home partnership.

If the first resolution is carried out it will open to the Knox alumna the one college position which heretofore she has not been entitled to hold. It would bring to an end the long struggle of women for an equal share with men in the privileges of the college, which started in 1869 when the first woman was permitted to enter Knox and received instructions in the class with men. Although there was a female seminary organized in 1848, a decade after the college was founded, women students did not obtain entrance into the college itself until 1869. In

1880 there was 20 women students. In 1890 the Woman's Seminary was abandoned and the total number of women in college equalled the number of men. During the next 30 years men and women had an equal right as undergraduates.

If a woman is appointed trustee she will sit in a body which has included many notable men, among whom are Frank O. Lowden, former governor of Illinois; the Rev. Edward Beecher, brother of Henry Ward Beecher; S. S. McClure, the editor; John H. Finley, now an editor of the *New York Times*, and Geo. W. Gale, a prominent figure in the recent constitutional convention of Illinois.

The resolution follows: "Resolved that it is the sense of the New York Knox Club that there should be a woman member of the Knox College Board of Trustees, preferably a Knox alumna with

knowledge of educational problems."

The second resolution, asking the appointment of a committee to study the college curricula with reference to methods of education for home partnership, gives a new interpretation of marriage among college people. The resolution follows: "Resolved, that the president of the New York Knox Club appoint a committee of two women and three men with knowledge of educational problems, who shall prepare and propose to the Knox College Alumni association a plan for a comparative study of college curricula with particular reference to methods of education for home partnership."

Both resolutions were introduced by Mrs. John H. Finley and were accepted unanimously at the recent meeting of the New York Knox club. Copies of them have been forwarded to the trustees and it is expected that they will be brought before them at their next meeting.

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Founders.....	\$100.00
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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.

Stars That Shine

IN the level light of daytime, when the bright glare of the sun exposes without mercy the crudities and banalities of life as it is lived by human kind, it is difficult, if not impossible, to watch the hurrying throng and realize that behind the grease and chalk, beneath the varied cut of coat and gown, mysterious presences, suspended between birth and death, continually have their being. Like bubbles on a stream they sail along without apparent reason, each pitifully intent upon his own iridescent shadows, that presently when night comes will vanish utterly. For with whatever pomp and glory life is lived in the sunshine, time ticks by, and in a moment those who came naked into the world will take themselves off in much the same condition.

Of what use then the tinsel and the show, the used or the unused fleshpots? Sitting apart, watching the crowd go by, one seldom sees a face turned upward. Only when a great grief, a startling tragedy transpires, are eyes momentarily lifted. War, earthquake, famine, death, cataclysm, when these occur, the light of the stars beyond the sunshine becomes suddenly envisioned. Standards that seemed real enough before are then discarded and the presence behind the human mask displays a different countenance. To help, to give with open hands, to forget self, to yearn for justice, to substitute real for unreal values, these would appear to be the triumph of despair.

Truth is the little earth lights dim the stars, and only when they are extinguished can human eyes behold the beauty of the firmament. Yet beyond the sunshine the stars shine on, awaiting but the night to become visible.

Even so in this little world of ours the passing day conceals the noblest of humanity. Only after the sun has set do they become radiant. In the long quest for human justice, who among the leaders have not been scorned and reviled by their contemporaries?

Let us then not lose heart when we are assailed for our belief in justice. The stars shine on, after the little candles gutter out, the stars that light the way to immortality.

Clearly a Sex Oligarchy

THE accompanying comparative table of men and women in State legislatures was compiled by a member of the National Woman's Party. Some errors may be noted by readers, due to the fact that the table was made from rosters of legislatures, and it is sometimes difficult to tell from the name alone whether the member is a man or a woman. The table covers only 32 States, as only that number responded to the request for rosters:

	Total		Men		Women	
	Senate	House	Senate	House	Senate	House
Arkansas	35	100	35	98	....	2
Arizona	19	47	19	47	....	....
California	40	80	40	76	....	4
Colorado	35	65	35	61	....	4
Delaware	17	35	17	34	....	1
Florida	32	86	32	86	....	....
Georgia	51	207	51	205	....	2
Idaho	44	62	43	62	1	....
Illinois	51	153	50	150	1	3
Iowa	50	108	50	108	....	....
Maine	31	151	31	150	....	1
Massachusetts	40	239	40	239	....	....
Minnesota	67	131	67	131	....	....
Missouri	34	150	34	150	....	....
Nebraska	33	100	33	97	....	3
Nevada	17	37	17	33	....	4
New Jersey.....	21	60	21	55	....	5
New Mexico.....	24	49	23	46	1	3
New York.....	51	150	51	150	....	....
North Carolina.....	50	120	50	119	....	1
North Dakota.....	49	111	49	109	....	2
Ohio	35	130	33	122	2	8
Oregon	30	60	29	60	1	....
Rhode Island.....	39	100	39	99	....	1
South Dakota.....	45	103	45	100	....	3
Tennessee	33	99	33	97	....	2
Texas	31	150	31	150	....	....
Utah	20	55	20	52	....	3
Vermont	30	148	30	137	....	11
West Virginia.....	30	94	30	93	....	1
Wisconsin	33	100	33	97	....	3
Wyoming	27	62	27	62	....	....
	1144	3342	1138	3275	6	67

Intercollegiate Equal Rights Prize

THROUGH the generosity of Elizabeth Thatcher Kent, California State Chairman of the National Woman's Party and a member of the Inez Milholland Memorial Committee, the Students' Council of the National Woman's Party is offering an intercollegiate prize of \$100 for the best essay on Equal Rights.

Any phase of the subject—economic, legal, philosophical, historical, psychological—may be emphasized. The essay should be not less than 3000 words long, and not more than 5000. The contest begins April 1 and ends June 15, 1925. Essays mailed on June 15, as evidenced by the postmark, will be accepted.

Announcements of the prize and a bibliography on the subject are being mailed to the deans of women in three hundred colleges and universities, to be posted on the college bulletin boards. Any undergraduate student of any college or university is eligible to enter the contest. Students in professional schools may enter

if they have not at the time of the opening of the contest received the degree of Bachelor of Arts, and if they are still studying toward that degree. Members of Inez Milholland chapters of the National Woman's Party who are in professional schools are eligible.

No manuscripts will be returned. Each manuscript should be accompanied by an envelope containing the name and address of the writer, and a certificate, signed by the dean of women or the dean of the college, showing the college or university, the school or department, and the class of the entrant.

Mary Van Casteel of George Washington University is chairman of the Students' Council. Vivian Simpson of the Law School of George Washington University is secretary.

Principal references for those wishing to compete for the prize are:

- Leaflets of the National Woman's Party.
- EQUAL RIGHTS, official organ of the Woman's Party.

The bibliography in the chapter on "The Role of Women in American History" in Arthur Schlessinger's "New Viewpoints in American History."

"The History of Woman's Suffrage."
"The Life of Susan B. Anthony."

Two articles in the *Journal of the American Association of University Women* in the October, 1924, and the January, 1925, issues.

The winner will be announced at the annual conference of the Students' Council in October, 1925.

It is felt by the Students' Council that no more important work can be furthered by the Woman's Party than the encouragement of study of the problem of Equal Rights in the colleges and universities. The leaders of tomorrow are the undergraduates of today. The stimulation of interest in the colleges and universities is one of the most fruitful activities of the Woman's Party and its Students' Council and Inez Milholland Memorial Chapters.

Industrial Hearing at Albany

THE Equal Opportunity League is an organization largely made up of industrial women, and constitutes an important factor in the campaign for equal rights for women in industry. We present herewith some of the remarks made by their representatives at the hearing on the Mastick-Shonk Bill before the Committee on Labor and Industry of the New York Assembly, as well as the summing up of the argument against the bill by Mrs. Rheta Childe Dorr. To our regret space prevents the publication of the complete transcript.

Miss Margaret Firth of the Equal Opportunity League: You will hear from the other side—the men who are trying their very best to save the dear women. Why not save a few of the men while you are about it? If these men are sincere in regard to this 48-hour week that they are so urgent women shall have, why not include the men, too? But I tell you they are traitors to their own Unions when they come up here and seek legislation for women only. Do they not realize that they are setting outside of their ranks, a group of women, who, in order to live at all, will have to go in as scab workers, and work for a lower wage, in order to make a living at all? Can they not see where they are undermining their own position as union men?

I want to say, in behalf of union labor, that the rank and file is not with these labor misrepresentatives that come here every year.

It is a fact that women must work. I believe that one-third of the heads of the families in the United States, roughly speaking, are women who work for exactly the same reasons that men do. They have to work for a living themselves, and they possibly have children or parents, or brothers and sisters to support; and they work for identically the same reason as the men do. It is axiomatic, that a woman has a right to sell her services for the highest price obtainable, just the same as a man has, and it is her privilege to work either day or night, and her privilege to regulate her hours of employment with her employer. If she is affiliated with a labor union group, so much the better. Let there be group contracts. I believe most employers favor that. Get your basic 8-hour day, and I think there is no woman present here who would object to a basic 8-hour day; but we do object to having our day limited to that, as it has been shown there are many times when industry can not be regulated, and extra hours are necessary.

Another thing. If a woman is enabled to get more money by working more hours, that is to her advantage. There is in the minds of a lot of our "protectors," the fact that she has to go home and perform labor at home. All right. If she is earning enough, she will then be able to buy electrical appliances, and all the latest inventions which will lighten her work at home, and also pro-

vide work for another group of workers, both men and women.

Every worker is also a consumer. And her power to purchase is based on her earning capacity. If you limit and cut down wages, you have cut down—and do not forget that—the buying power of the person whose wages are cut down.

Let every woman be free to choose her own hours and her own time.

So long as we furnish loop-holes for such unjust application of the labor law, our women will suffer and our men will suffer. What we need is good working conditions, and then let the person be free.

The mistress of a home perhaps may have to work 16 hours a day. The state can not legislate against that. Nobody seems to worry about it. But let that same woman go out into a factory and get real money for it and then somebody objects!

Why? Back of it all is the economic idea, that the woman must be kept in an inferior position. A woman with a pocket-book equal to that of a man is not in an inferior position, and she does not have to stand for things that she had to in the past.

Mrs. Ada R. Wolff, of the Equal Opportunity League: During the years I have been appearing before you, one thing I have learned, is economics. This is entirely a question of business economics. No question of the strength or weakness of women enters into it. That

has nothing to do with it. A woman has to go out and earn her living, and she has to do that whether she is strong or weak. So I will never argue that point again. Let those do it that want to.

It is a question of business. You as business men know that when business is organized as it is at present, so that it goes from one week's end to the other, and finally a year passes, you cannot always close at the same hour every night. As one of the male speakers has said today, there are accidents which occur to machinery in industry, which delay the production and hold up orders, and then, in order that the order may be gotten out, to keep faith with the man with whom you have made a contract to deliver goods, it is necessary that you work overtime. So a flexible force is necessary. Any business man can see at once the full force of that. Then there are periods of unemployment. No legislation can compel orders. If those orders cease to come, idleness is inevitable, and the workers have to get along on their savings, and use them up. And then a big year comes along.

Let me read you a dispatch from Lawrence, Massachusetts, October 3, of this year. The mills had been shut down all summer. A large order had come in, and it was said that, in order to meet the huge order, it would be necessary for the mills to run nights. The normal employment at these factories involved about 16,000 hands, and at full time, about 18,000. This dispatch said, "It is believed that the mills will run at least normally in January, and possibly longer, because of the placing of this order." This was a single large order.

My point in reading that is this: Massachusetts has the 8-hour law for women. Not only that, but it goes further, and says that no woman shall work in any mill or factory after six o'clock at night. Therefore, these women, who had suffered with the men during a large part of the summer, when they went back to work, could only work eight hours. The men worked on the night shift and made the extra money, which would help them to pay expenses to tide them over until another busy time came; but the women could not do that.

Now, some of you will say, "Oh, well, those men will help the women out." In industry, every man and every woman must stand on his or her own feet. What we earn today we can save, if possible, for a slack period. When the busy period come along, we must like the bees, store up honey for another slack period that may come along. You know that I am speaking the truth. Therefore, any mandatory legislation in industry is wrong in principle. That is why labor men fear it, and rightfully fear it.

I have stood here, year after year, and said, as a labor union woman, that mandatory legislation would be bad for laboring men, and it is bad for us; but I have said that we would not oppose legislation if it affected alike men and women. But it is my belief that industry, at least in certain lines, cannot be held down rigidly to certain hours.

I have in my mind a bulletin which has just been issued by the United States Bureau of Industries; 1925 is the imprint. I am not going to read extracts from it, but I am going to give you some figures from its pages. It is an investigation into the condition of working women in Ohio. It mentions, in one place, that of course the investigation could not cover all the women, but they took a certain number, and from that, deduced a large number of things. One of these things is this; For 30568 women, they found the average wage was \$13.80 (thirteen dollars and eighty cents). Ohio had a separate law for minors under 18. Women over 18 can work 50 hours a week; no restriction on night work, except certain occupations. Therefore, the women there have a better chance than they have in Massachusetts of getting work during the slack period. Under their law, they are also allowed to work on the night shift, within certain limitations. That has got them their wage of \$13.80.

The average wage of the Massachusetts woman is \$11.00 plus. There is that difference.

Then there is the average of the women in New Jersey. New Jersey has a 54-hour law. Until last year, it had no prohibition of night work. The Night Work Bill was put through the Legislature by a perfectly unscrupulous means, and it went into effect the first of this year. The manufacturers are disregarding it, claiming that it is illegal.

The medium wage for a like group of New Jersey women is \$14.95, which is a dollar a week more. Rhode Island has been called one of the black states. It has not had much legislation for women, but the average wage of Rhode Island women is \$16.00 plus, which is very high.

You are men of business and brains, and I ask you to draw your own deductions. This legislation has been going on for 80 years. Isn't it time that we had something new? We get new dresses and new styles in hats and everything else. Can we not have a new style in legislation, in the legislative realm, for working women to work on? (Laughter and applause). Give us a new legislative program, or none at all, or else come back to Mr. Boyle's bill. We know that that will not get through this year, but it will some year.

Mr. Boyle: Do not be too pessimistic.

Mrs. Wolff (continuing): That is new type legislation, and you will hear more of this anon. I wish to register my objection to the most intense degree, against the Mastick-Shonk Bill, and other bills of like character. Of course, where they are so framed that they will include all persons, I may say that we will take it, if it has to come. I approve, in the highest degree, of Mr. Boyle's bill, and Mr. Stapley's bill, allowing women to work nights when it is legal for men. Will you all please stop sobbing over the woman with a job, and do a little sobbing over the woman without one?

Mrs. Rheta Childé Dorr sums up the opposition to the 48-hour bill for women only: I am a member of the Women's National Republican Club. I think a better description of me would be that I am a reformed uplifter (laughter). I have been in newspaper and magazine work for over 25 years. During practically all that time, I have been interested in social questions and particularly in the industrial conditions affecting women.

About 17 years ago, I took a year off, and worked in practically all industries in which women were employed. My idea was to gain first-hand information as to the conditions under which women worked in industries. After actually working and getting practical experience at first hand in a considerable number of these various industries, I was so horrified by the bad conditions under which women worked, that I was completely fooled as to the remedy. As a result of that, I think that I did a great deal of harm in urging as a panacea the limitation of the hours of work for women, and special legislation for women.

I am very sorry that I did that harm, and that is one of the reasons that I am here today—to try to do something to offset the harm which I feel that I did in that direction.

Later on, after I had had much greater opportunities for observation, and after having observed women's work, not only in the United States, but women's work all over the world, practically—because I have been foreign correspondent for a good many years, and there are only two or three countries in Europe in which I have not observed and studied the conditions of working women at close range—I have reached the conclusion that the thing we have to go after is not the hours, at all, but the industry—the industrial strain. If there is any limiting of the time of work for women, it must be on the same terms that we limit the hours of work for men.

My whole plea is that what is sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander. If you think that laws limiting the hours of labor are good, if you think that we ought to have a 48-hour law, if you are going to pass such a law at all, make it

for men and women. There is a feeling—I do not know where it came up—that the Republican women of the State are for this restrictive legislation. They have never gone on record at all.

Now, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen of the Committee, you have heard from women in the trades. I am a newspaper woman. In common with the others, I join in resenting this idea of classing women and minors together. It may begin in the lowest class of industry, but it goes through every trade and profession. It has been a difficult, and at times it has been almost an impossible task, to get it into men's heads that women and minors should not be classed together.

When I started in newspaper work, nobody wanted a woman in a newspaper

office, and I had a hard time to get in. But I did get in. I have done everything on newspapers, from editing the woman's page to being a war correspondent.

Now, in regard to the question of wages. It has been, in my profession, just the same as it has been in these trades that have been referred to by the girls and women who have spoken to the Committee. I have found, in my profession, that I could not get the same pay as a man would receive for the same work. Of course, for my magazine articles, I do get the same money, but I can not get the same money in a position on a newspaper that a man would receive.

The condition to which I have referred goes right straight through from the beginning. If you make a distinction

against women in one department, it goes right straight through all the other departments, so that no woman, whatever her ability, can get the same deal as men. It is psychological. It is a question of that psychology that is before you. Mrs. Wolff has said that it is old style—out of date, and we want something new.

The main thing I want to emphasize is this: Put men and women on the same basis.

That is our case. I simply stand here to tell you that we are against legislation providing a limitation of hours for women—classing us as somewhat out of the human race—classing us with children.

We are for child labor legislation, but we are not for any legislation whatsoever on the work of women alone. (Applause.)

Correspondence

Eden, N. Y.

Dear Editor:

I am bound to write you just a line or two to tell you what a delight it is to read the editorial page of EQUAL RIGHTS every week. I don't just see how you can keep it up week after week, and always in the same fine key.

Your "A Real Christmas Gift" and "Don't be a Cipher" and "Immortal Tasks" are only a few of the fine recent ones that I can call to mind off hand. But always, every week as soon my copy comes, "I sit me down" no matter what the hurry, long enough to read your fine editorials. And I want you to know that I love them, and also the one who has the clear vision to put the thought they contain down on paper.

I often wonder if you leaders in this movement ever feel the appreciation we in the rear of the throng try to send up to you, and the inspiration you are to all of us. I most sincerely hope you do get a little of it anyway. Because you are doing valiant work. With all good wishes to EQUAL RIGHTS and its editors, I am,

Sincerely,
MARIE F. SIMMEN.

East Palatka, Florida.

Dear Editor:

I read EQUAL RIGHTS with intense interest each week. In Florida as you perhaps know there are many "protective" laws for married women. No married woman could hold the office of County Treasurer because she would have to be bonded and a married woman's bond is invalid. She can't give bond. She cannot

make a contract. The husband has the right to administer her property, and she cannot require an accounting from him as to how he administers such property or what he does with the rents he collects for her.

In Florida a girl makes a will. She marries and her pre-nuptial will automatically becomes void. The pre-nuptial will of a man is not necessarily invalidated by his marriage, but the wife does get a portion of his property.

In Florida if a married woman wants to borrow money, to plant a crop for example, her husband must sign her bond or else she must put up security. Her husband, however, if he wants to borrow money can borrow this money without his wife's name on his bond.

In Florida a married woman can acquire the privilege of giving bond, contracting and bringing suit in a court of law by becoming a Free Sealer. This is a lengthy and expensive matter consisting of petitioning the county judge. He considers the petition. Then the matter comes to hearing and substantial business people must give as their opinion that the petitioner is capable of administering her own affairs, giving bond, etc. Then the judge again considers and the ultimate fate of the petitioner rests with him.

There are, however, two good laws for married women in Florida. One is that a married man cannot sell any of his real estate free from his wife's dower without her signature to the deed, and the other is that the family homestead cannot be sold or mortgaged to satisfy the claims against a man's estate.

Very truly yours,
ANNE HARDON PEARCE.

New York City.

Dear Editor:

I have received the pamphlet "Equal Rights for Women Doctors," compiled by the Woman's Party and have read it with interest. I had known of Dr. O'Malley, the chairman of your Physician's Council, and believe I have met her. She is a very able woman.

I believe women should be given more of a chance by the United States Government to show what they can accomplish. The proof that they should be given such opportunities and will make good use of them is shown by the great success that the women Quaker workers have made of their service in Russia.

I wonder if you know that the Quakers were the only relief organization that sent women workers to Russia. They have been there almost continuously since 1915. Since that time men and women have gone out in equal numbers and they are still going.

Sincerely,
EDWARD THOMAS.

Kansas City, Mo.

Dear Editor:

Enclosed please find check for two dollars, for which renew my subscription to EQUAL RIGHTS for the coming year. It is very valuable in our branch work here of the National Woman's Party, and we read from it every meeting. I am sure you will receive other subscriptions from this activity. We would be very glad to see the cartoons of Mrs. Nina E. Allender on the front page again, for they tell stories that words do not do alone.

With sincere interest, I am,
GENEVIEVE THOMAS WHEELER.

News From The Field

OLIVE Geiger, attorney, chairman of the Legislative Committee of the District of Columbia Branch of the National Woman's Party, will speak at headquarters March 29 on "Legal Disabilities of Women in the District of Columbia." Burnita Shelton Matthews, chairman of the Legal Research Department of the National Woman's Party, will preside.

AMID-WEST Conference of the National Woman's Party will be held at Detroit, Mich., on June 4-5-6. A pageant depicting the woman's movement will be given, and women's industrial condition and their demands for economic equality will be emphasized.

The magnificent outdoor theatre on the beautiful Booth estate in the Bloomfield

Hills, near Detroit, will be used for the pageant through the generosity of Mr. Booth.

Mrs. Laura Cramer, National Chairman of Organization of the Woman's Party, heads the committee for the conference. Others on the committee are Mrs. William McGraw, Kathleen Hendrie, Michigan State Chairman; Marjory Whittemore, Lucia Grimes and Marjorie Bowen, all of the Michigan State Board, and Bertha Koon, chairman of the Detroit City Committee of the Woman's Party.

Anita Pollitzer, secretary of the executive council of the National Woman's Party, is helping with the work for the conference and pageant, and is holding a series of meetings on Equal Rights in Michigan.

MRS. MARCUS MARKS and Mrs. John Jay White went to Albany on March 10th, to attend Legislative Hearings.

Mrs. Marks spoke at the Hearing before the Codes Committee on the Dower and Courtesy and Prostitution Bills. Assemblyman Esmond, who presided at the Hearing was much impressed by Mrs. Mark's statement that Ohio, Missouri, Massachusetts, Maryland and Illinois have already equalized dower and courtesy while still preserving the protection which these life estates afford.

Mrs. Marks also spoke for the Woman's Party on the Prostitution Bill. She repeated Kipling's impressive lines, "A woman pays, pays, pays," adding that if a man did not buy a woman would not sell.

Two Million Dollar Fund

RECEIPTS of National Headquarters, December 7, 1912, to March 13, 1925, \$1,293,899.56.

Contributions, membership receipts and other receipts, March 13, 1925, to March 19, 1925.

Per New York City Branch:

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Sal of literature.....	2.25
Telephone receipts at National Headquarters.....	1.70
Cash collection at Sunday afternoon meeting.....	2.64

Total receipts, March 13, 1925, to March 19, 1925.....\$5,904.09
Total receipts, December 7, 1912, to March 19, 1925.....\$1,299,803.65

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