

Equal Rights

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Broadcasting to the World

Feminist Notes

India for Equal Rights

A DRAFT of a constitution for India was drawn by a national convention at Bombay in December, to be submitted first for discussion and amendment to various political parties throughout the province, to the press and to associations. When put in final shape it will be submitted to the British Parliament with a petition that India be accorded a Commonwealth status. The proposed constitution contains a section devoted to fundamental rights and included in this is the following:

"There shall be no sex disqualification with regard to the franchise, membership of the governments, of the legislatures, and of the local bodies, and all offices, functions and powers shall be open equally to both sexes."

International Alliance Meets

THE International Alliance for Woman Suffrage held its annual conference at Basle, Switzerland, on February 24 to 27. Attendance was not large, the only countries represented being Switzerland, Germany and England. Nevertheless, an interesting program was carried out. There were reports of activities from many places and the publicity given these and the work of the conference generally, it is hoped, will encourage better attendance at the next gathering.

Women at the Wembley Exhibition

THE Women's Engineering Society of England is arranging a conference at the British Empire Exhibition from July 15 to 17 of all professionally trained women throughout the empire working in industry and science. The invitation extends to those working in engineering, chemistry, research, industrial welfare and psychology. A Women's Industrial Day will be set apart when a special display of work performed in factories by women will be presented.

French Suffrage Has an Uphill Road

A RALLY for the women's municipal suffrage bill in the French Chamber of Deputies on March 14 succeeded in the passage of a resolution providing for discussion of the measure on the 17th. The move was hailed by suffragists as portending a victory which would give French women the suffrage in time for the elections in May. Disappointment followed, however, for on the 17th the anti-suffragists insisted on keeping to the front a bill to regulate the price of sugar beets, and the suffrage bill was again shelved. The bill may now be postponed for a year.

Turkey's Lone Woman Physician

AT the meeting of the Women's Medical International Association, held several weeks ago in London under the auspices of the Royal Society of Medicine, there was present Dr. Safieh Ali of Turkey. Dr. Ali said she would like to bring greetings from Turkey's women doctors, but could not because she constituted the entire membership of that profession in her country. As the ban against women practicing medicine was lifted but little more than a year ago she hopes soon to have a number of colleagues however.

As Others See Us

MRS. DOROTHY JINARAJADASSA, the leader in the women's movements in India, who has recently visited the United States, expresses in *Stri-Dharma*, organ of the Women's Indian Association, how she views the position of the American woman. "There is in America," she says, "no disability for a woman to occupy any position or fulfill any function for which she is fitted and capable, and so there are women senators and councillors and officials in all departments." She also makes this surprising statement concerning America in general: "Ideas are welcomed, experiments are willingly tried, not weighed and balanced for ages, but tried because they are new, not in spite of being new as in Europe." National pride evidently led some informant of Mrs. Jinarajadassa to encourage an impression which experience with the suffrage movement scarcely justifies. However, it may be a good thing to force an unearned reputation on a nation and thus stimulate it into an effort to live up to it.

Woman Firefighters in Japan

THE first woman fire brigade has been organized in Japan at the town of Uraga in Nagasaki prefecture. This action was made necessary by the fact that male residents are mostly fishermen and spend most of their time at sea.

What Women Justices Favor

AUSTRALIA is to have a federation of women justices. This was decided at a conference of these officials in Sydney. The conference also went on record as demanding a number of court reforms. Among other demands were the admission of women to juries and that juries be half and half when a woman is on trial, the protection of witnesses under cross-examination from insulting or offending questions and suggestions, and prohibition of the photographing of persons on trial who have not been convicted.

Foreign Feminists to Speak

HELENA STOCKER of Germany and Alleta Jacobs of Holland will speak at the Sunday afternoon meeting of the New York City Committee meeting of the Woman's Party on April 5 at the Allerton Hotel. Katherine Anthony will preside.

British Parliament Rejects Equality

THE opposition of the Conservative Government defeated the bill before the British Parliament to equalize the age qualification of men and women voters. At present men voters are required to have reached the age of 21, while women must be at least 30. The bill was rejected by a majority of 67. Lady Astor, reinforced by eleven male Conservative members, broke with her party on this measure.

Women Voted Par in Parties

THE New York Senate on March 24 passed the Whitley bill to give women equal representation on the State committees of both parties and change the basis of representation from Assembly to Senatorial districts, thus reducing the unwieldy size of the committees.

It was a Republican platform and program measure.

A Generous Gift to Suffrage Work

A GIFT of 10,000 francs to the International Alliance for Woman Suffrage has been made by M. Schlumberger, a citizen of Switzerland, in memory of his wife, recently deceased, who was first vice-president of the Alliance. The money is to be used to support a feminist press bureau.

President Coolidge Not Opposed

THE report that President Coolidge is opposed to appointing women to positions not heretofore filled by one of the sex has been denied in a White House statement issued on March 6. The statement declares that the President is not averse to women in public office, but will not adopt a policy of favoritism toward them. He will consider fitness only without regard to sex.

London Elects Women to County Council

OUT of 48 women candidates for the London County Council at the election during the first week of March, 20 were successful. Of these 9 belong to the Labor Party and 11 to the Municipal Reformers. Of the Labor Party members two served in the last body and 7 were elected for the first time. Of the Municipal Reformers 7 served in the last body and 4 are new.

Bonstelle Benefit Brings Results

"THE GOOSE HANGS HIGH" for the National Woman's Party in Michigan these days. On Monday, March 9, this organization was the beneficiary of the Bonstelle playhouse, where that charming American play is being produced.

Miss Jessie Bonstelle is the owner, producer and sometimes star of this beautiful new Detroit theatre. Her policy is from time to time to sell the entire house outright to an organization and let the members realize what they can on the private sale of the tickets. The Michigan Branch undertook to do this and thereby cleared more than eight hundred dollars.

The house of more than thirteen hundred seats was sold out. The purple, white and gold banners were hung on the walls, the balcony was draped with purple, white and gold streamers, and spring flowers of the same beautiful colors were carried by charming young girls among the audience for their selection. Slips of papers of purple, white and gold were passed bearing pertinent little questions such as "Do you know your clothes are not your own?"

Between the acts brief speeches were made. Mrs. George T. Hendrie, State chairman, welcomed the audience and

thanked them for their support. Anita Pollitzer, national secretary, told of the work of the organization and urged all



MRS. W. NELSON WHITTEMORE
of Michigan
Chairman of the Theatre Benefit.

women to carry their share of the burden of bringing these much-needed changes about. Mrs. Besse M. Garner, a young Detroit attorney, explained the three

measures before the Michigan Legislature sponsored by the National Woman's Party.

Mrs. Richard Mansfield was the guest of Miss Bonstelle and played the part of the mother in the production. The Wednesday before the play the Michigan Branch gave a tea at the City Club in honor of Miss Bonstelle and Mrs. Mansfield, at which both guests spoke and Mrs. Mansfield joined the Party. Mrs. C. E. Visser, at the close of the performance, presented Mrs. Mansfield and Miss Bonstelle with great armfuls of roses and all the women of the cast with corsage bouquets of violets and yellow and white roses tied with long streamers of Woman's Party regalia.

It was the gala night of the season. Members and friends came from far and near. Two special cars were run to Pontiac that night. The Business Women's Clubs of Pontiac and Birmingham came in a body. Theatre parties were the order of the evening. One of the largest was given by Gordon Mendelssohn to thirty guests. E. LeRoy Pelletier, whose wife is at present in Europe and is a past chairman of the Michigan Branch of the National Woman's Party, gave a large theatre party.

Woman Teacher Brings Mandamus Action

NOTICE was served on the Board of Education of Elmira, New York, at its regular meeting on March 24, that Miss Rena Rockwell, head of the history department at the academy and chairman of the State Teachers' Council of the National Woman's Party, will file an application in the Supreme Court for an order of mandamus against that body, wherein she requests an order compelling the board to increase her salary \$100 for the 1924-25 term. Miss Rockwell is represented by Attorney David N. Heller.

This will be a test case on the Teachers' Equal Pay Law, which was secured last year through the efforts of the National Woman's Party, the Teachers' Welfare League, the State Teachers' Association and the Albany League of Classroom Teachers. The law became effective last September and has been evaded in a number of cities. The case will be followed with great interest by women teachers.

The information was formally received by the board with a communication from Corporation Counsel John J. Crowley, in which he cited the law regarding Miss Rockwell's action. The first step to be taken by the school commissioners in defending the case was the adoption of a

resolution offered by Commissioner Wm. H. Mandeville, to the effect that the president of the board be authorized to enter into a stipulation of facts for the submission to some competent, judicial authority, setting out the dispute as covered in the letter from the corporation counsel.

The specific instance pointed out in Miss Rockwell's application for a writ of mandamus is that her salary for the term of 1924-1925 is \$100 less than that of a male teacher of the academy, whose duties are identically the same. She alleges that this is in direct violation of the State law regarding the salaries of instructors, and requests that the Board of Education be directed by the court to compensate her for the difference.

According to members of the Board of Education, the salary of Miss Rockwell for this year is \$2000, while that of the teacher in question, Ralph S. Austin, is \$2100. It was declared, however, that the male teacher's extra compensation was for his work as treasurer of the various academy organizations. Miss Rockwell insists that Mr. Austin is not being paid for his services as treasurer. "His \$2100," she states, "is only the \$75 increase over last year, when he was not

treasurer, which he is entitled to by law. If \$100 of his present salary is for that work, then his teaching salary has been cut \$25 since last year, which would be a violation of the tenure law."

Thirty-two teachers met on March 23 and organized the Elmira Teachers' Council of the National Woman's Party. Miss Edna Cronin was elected chairman of the council, which will meet again on April 3. The Syracuse Branch of the Woman's Party has also organized an active Teachers' Council.

The situation faced by the New York teachers is paralleled by that of the women teachers in other States. For example, in Maryland where an equal rights bill for teachers was passed at the 1924 session of the Legislature, equalization of the salary schedule for Baltimore teachers has not yet gone into effect. Under the law the increase in salary should have taken place last June, but the administrators of the law have so far been derelict in their duty. Possibly one reason why the women teachers have so much difficulty in securing the enforcement of the law is because of the preponderance of men on school boards and on the boards that disburse public funds.

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Edith Houghton Hooker, Editor
Dora G. Ogle, Business Manager

Associate Editors:

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Zoe Beckley	Ruth Hale
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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.

What Of It?

MRS. FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT'S claim at the hearing in Albany on the Mastick-Shonk bill that "women are women" gives rise to the interesting question, are they not people as well? One of the definitions of "sex" given by Mr. Webster in his immortal treatise on words is "woman," seeming somehow to imply that the gist of a woman, as differentiated from all else, is sex and nothing other. This definition ought greatly to appeal to those who believe that sex in itself, if it be feminine, is sufficient ground for special industrial legislation.

We go perhaps one step further than Mrs. Roosevelt, for we believe not only that women are women, but that men are men. With these two momentous facts in hand we still fail to see how they relate to sex-linked industrial legislation. Whether one be male or female, one has to eat, to be housed and to wear clothes. These cost money. In order to earn money one must, unhappily, compete with many others who desire jobs. Any impairment of one's usefulness to the employer, whether by legislation or otherwise, diminishes one's desirability as an employe, and consequently reduces the chance of employment and also wages.

Neither the disabled soldier nor the expectant or actual mother can derive an income from restrictive statutes. Laws, unfortunately, even an eight-hour law, do not guarantee an income to the needy. Consequently the maternal argument is malapropos. Far better to suggest the endowment of motherhood or aid to children in their homes.

We confess that we do not understand Mrs. Roosevelt's argument. "Women are women," well, so be it. Is that sufficient to exclude them from their primary functions as human beings?"

The International Movement

TIME was, and that not so very long ago, when man's picture of the world was so incomplete and so inaccurate as not to bear the slightest resemblance to the planet as it is. Maps of the world in the era immediately preceding the discovery of America are so fantastic and unreal that it is scarcely credible they were ever accepted in good faith, and yet they were even by the most learned men. It is difficult today to believe that so recently as 1615 Galileo was denounced as a propounder of heretical opinions because he advocated the Copernican system, and that in 1632 he was sentenced to an indefinite term of imprisonment by the Inquisition on account of his views.

When Nicolaus Copernicus completed his *De Revolutionibus Orbium Caelestium* in 1530, showing the universe to be spherical and the earth and sea to make one globe, he dared not make his discoveries public. Twelve years elapsed before he could be persuaded to give his book to the world for fear of the unpopularity which the work threatened to bring him. In the end, after the publication of his magnum opus, death alone saved him from the horrors of the Inquisition.

The flight of the few centuries between Galileo's time and ours has witnessed a complete remaking of the maps of the world. The cable, the steamship, the radio, the aeroplane, have brought what were once called the four corners of the earth as closely together as neighboring towns once were. A message can now be sent to Australia or Siam in less time than word could be brought from Washington to Annapolis in Revolutionary days. Yet friendship and peace between the nations seems no nearer now than in the time when Galileo, a lad of eighteen, watched the lamp swinging in the Cathedral of Pisa. The pendulum of time has marked out many years since then, the barriers of space have broken down, but greed, the lust for power and race hatred still conspire to defeat the brotherhood of man.

Enlightened womanhood, however, sees the problem of internationalism with different eyes. The spirit of motherhood the world over is akin. What man has failed to accomplish woman, the mother, may yet win. In the international feminist movement we see a new hope for humanity, a hope that peace on earth and good will among men may at last be established on this little world. It is our opportunity to participate in this world-wide movement to lay the groundwork for an enduring civilization. It is a vision toward whose fulfillment we may well dedicate ourselves and all that we possess.

Discriminations Against Women in District of Columbia

By Ruby A. Black

THE last of the winter series of the Sunday meetings was held at the National Woman's Party Headquarters March 29. The next series of meetings will be outdoor garden meetings, while the historic old headquarters is being remodeled.

Olive Geiger, a Washington attorney, talked on "The Legal Disabilities of Women in the District of Columbia." She is chairman of the legislative committee of the District of Columbia Branch of the Woman's Party. Burnita Shelton Matthews, who is the head of the Legal Research Department of the Woman's Party, gave a general survey of the status of American women.

"While the women of the District of Columbia are just as unfairly discriminated against in the law as women in the various States, they are doubly handicapped in their effort to change these laws. They cannot vote, and they must work with the entire body of Congress. The men in Congress are not subject to them in any way, but are susceptible to the will of the voters in other States," said Miss Geiger.

"In the District of Columbia a woman's services in her home are legally her husband's. If a married woman is injured, the husband sues for and collects damages for her injuries. The father has superior rights with regard to the child, and in case of an injury to a child the father is entitled to all damages. Inheritance laws usually prefer the male line. Women are not eligible to jury duty in the District of Columbia."

Burnita Shelton Matthews, who is a member of the District of Columbia Bar and of the Supreme Court Bar, in commenting on the survey by the Legal Research Department of the Woman's Party of the bills regarding women from all of the States in the Union where the legislatures have met this year, said:

"We find that the legislatures this year have made comparatively little progress in the piece-meal efforts throughout the country to remove the legal disabilities from women in the various States. The old English common law, the Napoleonic code and the old Spanish laws, all of which regard women as inferior to men, still, in a large measure, rule the women of the United States. The Equal Rights Amendment to the Constitution of the United States is the only method which will permanently and speedily bring justice to American women."

Miss Geiger discussed the following discriminations against women in the District of Columbia:

Under the English common law, married women and infants were incapable of contracting. This rule has now been changed in the District of Columbia as to married women, except that no married woman in the District is allowed to make any contract as surety or guarantor, or as accommodation drawer, acceptor, maker or endorser. (Sec. 1155.)

The common law vests practically all property rights in the husband, and while this law has been changed in the District of Columbia so as to permit a married woman to own and control property, still the first right of property which a free person enjoys, that is to say, the full ownership of his or her labor, is still denied the married woman.

Although she may collect wages for work performed outside the home, the fact is that the household work and other home service devolves upon her and this labor or service is not hers, but is legally the property of her husband. Consequently when prosperity comes her labor and service does not entitle her to share as a partner in the gains nor is she entitled to any part of the family income besides her necessary support.

The right of a husband to his wife's services entitles him to sue for damages for loss of such services when the wife is injured through the negligent or wrongful act of a third person. Thus when a wife is injured, two suits for damages may be maintained, one by the wife for her pain and suffering and the other by the husband for loss of her services. On the other hand, when a married man is injured, only one suit is maintainable, and that is a suit by him. He recovers all damages and the wife can recover nothing for loss of support. (13 R. C. L. 1441; Wills v. Jones, 13 App. D. C. 482. Washington & Georgetown Rd. Co. v. Hickey, 12 App. D. C. 269. Scott v. Rd. Co., 4 Mackey 152. 13 R. C. L., pages 1443-1444.)

Although the District of Columbia law makes the father or mother liable to punishment for refusal or neglect to provide for his or her child, the father has superior rights with regard to such child. For instance, under the statute of the District of Columbia authorizing the recovery of damages from a person or corporation that wrongfully causes the death of a child, the father is entitled to all damages. (Secs. 1301-1303, 380.)

In a recent case (Lyman v. Knickerbocker Theatre, D. C. Supreme Court, at Law No. 67204) a needy mother in the

District of Columbia was denied the right to recover damages for the death of an only son.

In this case David Lyman, a 17-year-old athlete, was killed in Washington at the time the roof of the Knickerbocker Theatre caved in. His mother, Mrs. Josephine Lyman, sought to recover damages for the death of the son. The court decided that she could not recover any damages for his death since the right to the damages belonged to the father alone. As the father died three months after the son's death the damages recoverable by the father's administrator were limited to those sustained for the period between the date of the boy's death and the date of the father's death.

The inheritance laws of the District of Columbia usually prefer the male line. For instance, it is usual for the father to inherit from a child to the exclusion of the mother; the grandfather is preferred to the grandmother, and so on. (Secs. 942, 948, 949, 950.)

The brunt of the burden of illegitimate parenthood is placed largely upon the mother. The relationship of parent and child is recognized as between the mother and the illegitimate child for practically all purposes, but the relationship between the father and the illegitimate child is not recognized except to the extent of requiring the father to contribute to the support of such child until it is fourteen years of age. (37 U. S. Stats. at Large 134. Code Secs. 387, 958. Southern Ry. Co. v. Hawkins, 35 App. D. C. 313.)

When a person dies without a will, or when a person dies with a will, but without having named an executor, the court is obliged to prefer the appointment of a man relative over a woman relative to look after the estate of the deceased. For example, if a person dies leaving as the nearest relations a brother and a sister, the brother must be appointed administrator over the sister. This is true even though she be the better qualified of the two, because the law declares "males shall be preferred to females in equal degree." (Sec. 281.) An administrator is paid for looking after the estate. (Sec. 365.)

Women are not eligible for jury service. The code stipulates that a juror be a "man." (Sec. 215.)

When a man dies leaving a widow, the widow is entitled to a life-estate and a life-estate only, in one-third of all the lands of which the husband was seized at any time during the marriage. The husband cannot dispose of his land so as to defeat the widow's dower unless she consents thereto. (19 Corpus Juris, 460.)

Talty v. Talty, 40 App. D. C. 587.)

In regard to personal estate, the widow is entitled to one-third of such personal property if the deceased leaves children or descendants of children. If there are no children or descendants of children, the widow gets one-half. In case there is neither child, parent, grandchild, brother or sister, or the child of a brother or sister, the widow gets all of the personal estate. The husband can dispose of his personal estate during his lifetime without his wife's consent. However, if he dies leaving personal estate, she may take

The Mastick-Shonk Bill Dies

AFTER passing the Senate of the New York Assembly on March 27, the last day of the 1925 session, the Mastick-Shonk Bill limiting the hours of working women to forty-eight a week, failed of passage in the House. This brings to a close this year the argument before the New York Legislature, part of which we have followed in our columns under the caption "Industrial Hearing."

In order to present the views of those favoring the measure, we print herewith a few of the most characteristic speeches made by those in favor of the eight-hour bill. It will be seen that these arguments follow the usual fashion of regarding all working women as primarily mothers, regardless of their actual condition, and as transients in the industrial world. The assumption that the normal condition of every woman is to be supported by some man may be read between the lines. That industry "belongs" to men is another idea that appears. Mrs. Williamson's closing remark is especially worthy of notice. Precisely why she needs a law to prevent her continuing to work at night is obscure. There is no law to prevent her "giving other people a chance" today if she wishes to. Senator Mastick's remarks might almost be used for the other side. If women enjoyed the opportunities and better wages paid to men they might be able to send their own and their husband's shirts to the steam laundry!

But to go on with the final installment of the transcript:

Mr. John M. O'Hanlon: I represent the New York State Federation of Labor. Probably a slight reason should be given why such legislation is asked for by the organized and unorganized workers of the State. One reason is this: That the women are constant in numbers in industry—growing in numbers in industry; but the units are not constant. Women are attracted to the finer field of home life. Women are going out of industry to be married, to set up their own home, and their places are being taken by other

one-third of it, even as against his will.

When a woman dies leaving a widower, he is entitled to a life-estate in *all* of her lands, provided she has not by her will given such lands to other persons, and provided a child was born to them during the marriage. The wife may, in her lifetime, convey her lands without the husband's consent and thus defeat his rights in her lands at her death.

In regard to personal estate, the widower is entitled to one-third of such personal property if the deceased leaves children or descendants of children. If there

women, either forced by the necessities of their own immediate families into work, or by death and calamity. This constant turnover among the women workers of the State, militates against a compact continuous organization; and the lack of that organization is expressed, in low wages and long hours of work. Therefore, when the women workers seek a limitation of their hours by law, they are following the logical line of accomplishment.

We appear to ask for the enactment of the Mastick-Shonk Bill (8-hour bill for women only) . . . we appear against the Boyle-Thompson Bill (a bill to limit to 48 hours the work of persons) . . . because it strikes down protective legislation in certain of the laws of this State at the appeal of the women workers of this State, and returns them back to the slavery of night work, as does also the Stapley Bill, that we appear in opposition to. (The Stapley Bill, sponsored by the Woman's Party, would permit night work by women the same as by men).

All of the labor organizations here represented by men turned over all of their time to me, and asked me to record that the Central Labor body and the local members of all the labor organizations in this State, ask me to record with you their endorsement of the position that I am taking here, and ask for a favorable report on the Mastick-Shonk Bill.

Mr. Boyle: You represent the New York State Federation of Labor?

Mr. O'Hanlon: I do.

Mr. Boyle: What unions are there in which women are admitted to equal privileges with the men in your organization?

Mr. O'Hanlon: The one of which I am a member, the Typographical Union; and many others.

Mr. Boyle: You refer to the slavery of night work—that this proposed bill of mine would rehabilitate or restore the slavery of night work? Does not your union regulate the hours of labor of men and women alike?

Mr. O'Hanlon: It does.

are no children or descendants of children, the widower gets one-half. In case there is neither child, parent, grandchild, brother or sister, or the child of a brother or sister, the widower gets all of the personal estate. The wife can dispose of her personal estate during her lifetime without her husband's consent thereto. However, if she dies leaving personal estate, he may take one-third of it, even as against her will. (Code Sec. 1159. 41 U. S. Stats. at Large, 563, amending Secs. 374 and 375 of the Code. 41 U. S. Stats. at Large, 567 amending Sec. 1173.)

Mr. Boyle: It is not true that there are now women members of the Typographical Union, Big Six, who are working at different intervals during the 24 hours?

Mr. O'Hanlon: They work an 8-hour day within the law of the State.

Mr. Boyle: Are there not, subject to the jurisdiction of your Union, complying with all of the terms of the Union, and the law, women who work between the hours of 9.00 o'clock P. M. to 4.00 o'clock A. M., on newspapers in New York City?

Mr. O'Hanlon: Not that I know of—unless they are employed as proofreaders.

Mr. Boyle: Are there no members of Typographical Union No. 6 (Big Six), who are employed on newspapers in New York between the hours I have suggested?

Mr. O'Hanlon: Undoubtedly, as proofreaders.

Mr. Boyle: No other people but proofreaders?

Mr. O'Hanlon: No. Those who work linotype machines, and set type, or have any other mechanical work to do, the State law does not permit it.

Mr. Boyle: Is there associated with your organization, the Garment Workers' Union?

Mr. O'Hanlon: Yes.
Mr. Boyle: Is that Garment Workers' Union composed of men and women?

Mr. O'Hanlon: Both.

Mr. Boyle: Is there any distinction made between the hours of labor of the men and women?

Mr. O'Hanlon: Not by the union.

Mr. Boyle: Is there any distinction in favor of the men as against the women, in the union?

Mr. O'Hanlon: No.

Mr. Boyle: Is the statement that Mrs. Stevenson read, that they are now operating on a 40-hour week, correct, if you know?

Mr. O'Hanlon: What is the organization referred to there?

Mr. Boyle: The Garment Workers' Union.

Mr. O'Hanlon: There are several kinds.

Mr. Boyle: In other words, you are not prepared to state whether that information is correct, or not?

Mr. O'Hanlon: There are representatives of the Ladies' Garment Workers. International Union of the United Garment Workers of America, and other garment workers' unions present here, who will answer any questions on the affairs of their organizations.

Mr. Boyle: Did I not understand that you represented all those unions affiliated with your organization?

Mr. O'Hanlon: I do.

Mr. Boyle: Then you can not answer that question?

Mr. O'Hanlon: Which question?

Mr. Boyle: That is all. Thank you.

Mr. O'Hanlon: The question asked me—am I aware of a 40-hour week of the Garment Workers?

Mr. Goodrich: As to these joint unions, where there are men and women in them, have they the law in the union that the women can work overtime, at time and a half pay?

Mr. O'Hanlon: Every union scale provides for overtime work, at extra pay; and the extra pay is for the purpose of penalizing overtime work.

Mr. Goodrich: Does that apply to the women as well as to the men?

Mr. O'Hanlon: It does.

Mr. Goodrich: They can work overtime, at time and a half.

Mr. O'Hanlon: If they are members of the union.

Mr. Goodrich: Are contracts made forbidding any women working time and a half overtime?

Mr. O'Hanlon: Not if the men are permitted to work.

Mr. Boyle: Then why do you want to draw a distinction between men and women?

Mr. O'Hanlon: There is none drawn.

Mr. Boyle: But you are asking us to legislate for an 8-hour day for women, and women alone.

Mr. O'Hanlon: It is an 8-hour day that we have got there—

Mr. Boyle: But why do you want the law?

Mr. O'Hanlon: The women are not all members of our union. We are talking about the great masses. We are talking for the great masses of women who are not organized.

Mr. Boyle: Why are you opposed to my bill, seeking to make men and women equal, making a basic 8-hour day as the day upon which labor shall be computed, and allowing for the privilege of working overtime?

Mr. O'Hanlon: For the same reason that the four great brotherhoods of the railroad organizations opposed the bill that undertook to make a basic 8-hour day for them.

Mr. Thomas E. Ryan: I am here representing the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen of the State of New York. I have been requested, also to represent today, the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers of the State of New York, owing to the fact that their chairman is detained otherwise and can not be here.

I am simply going to say that our organization is in favor of the 48-hour work week.

Mr. Boyle: Are there any women included in your Union?

Mr. Ryan: No.

Mr. J. W. Fitzgibbons: I represent the Brotherhood of Railroad Enginemen of the State of New York, and also the Railway Conductors, the regular representative not being able to be here.

In regard to the statement just made by Mr. Boyle, I think it is very important that this point should be covered now. He asked Mr. O'Hanlon why he was opposed to equal rights between men and women. I believe Mr. Boyle or any other member of this committee that is familiar with the constitution of the State, will readily see and determine that it is impossible to legislate for men . . . every lawyer sitting in that circle there knows that well.

The constitution today prohibits legislation for men. This legislation today the Legislature has the right to legislate on—for women; but not for men. . . (This statement caused a great deal of commotion at the Committee Hearing).

Mr. Boyle: Will you repeat that last statement?

Mr. Fitzgibbons thereupon elaborated this point, which was clear to no one but himself.

Miss Lydia Sayre: I am executive secretary of the Consumers' League of New York. I will confine my few remarks to explaining certain things that have been brought out by the opposition. . . They have argued this legislation for men as well as women. I am in doubt as to whether that is out of kindness to men, or not. Practically all of the Supreme Court decisions upholding the limitation of hours, have been based upon the difference in function of men and women. I can not take the time to quote them, but I will refer to one California decision, based upon women's physical structure, her maternal functions, and the vital importance of her protection, in order to preserve the strength and vigor of the race. I know that is old-fashioned—as old as Adam and Eve, but I do not know how we are going to change it. It has been said on the other side, "Let us begin with the child." But how can we begin with the child? If we do not protect the mother during maternity, will you have any children to begin with? That is what our regulation does mean. That is the basis on which all the legis-

lations of hours throughout the United States are based. Practically every State has regulations of the hours of women's work. I am not discussing whether the hours of women shall be regulated. That has been settled.

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt: I represent the Joint Conference, which has 16 organizations in it . . . It seems to me that, in all the things that have been said by the women who have appeared here today, there is one basic thing which we must remember. It is not sob stuff. I am the last person to go into any kind of sob stuff. But women are women, and they need the protection of the government, in the interest of the government; because on them depends what the future citizens shall be; and the government is particularly interested in seeing that women, whether they are organized or not, work under the very best possible conditions. (Applause.)

Mrs. Catherine Williamson: representing Woman's City Club, and New York Typographical Union.

Mr. Goodrich: You are a member of Big Six?

Mrs. Williamson: I have been a member of the Typographical Union for many years. I am now a member of Big Six.

Mr. Goodrich: How many hours do you work?

Mrs. Williamson: We work only 48 hours a week.

Mr. Goodrich: What hours of the night?

Mrs. Williamson: Oh, the hours differ. Some nights one hour, and another night another hour; but we are usually there by three o'clock every morning, 7½ hours' work.

Mr. Boyle: Is there any distinction made between the men and the women as to the hours within which they do their 8 hours' work?

Mrs. Williamson: No, there can be no distinction, since the law of the International Typographical Union set out that equal laws for men and women shall prevail, as governed and controlled by the laws of the several states.

Mr. Boyle: I have here a memorandum that was handed to me that says that practically all the papers of New York City have women night-time operators as well as proofreaders. Do you know that to be true?

Mrs. Williamson: I can only tell as to the New York Times. I am employed by the New York Times, and there are women operators.

Mr. Boyle: And they work between 6.00 P. M. and 3.00 A. M.?

Mrs. Williamson: Yes; I think that is perfectly legal in the State.

Mr. Boyle: I am not questioning the legality of it at all.

Mrs. Williamson: If at any time a law were introduced to deprive women of the

opportunity to work nights, however, I would say: Hurrah! I want to get out of it, and give other people a chance.

Honorable Seabury C. Mastick, sponsor of bill in the Senate: From the standpoint of the physical and social advantages to women—for it is on those points that the bill appeals to me—no one can convince me that, after working for eight hours, there is very much time or energy left for physical recreation or for social improvement *on the part of working men or women.*

I am in favor of this bill for women, because I do not now see that we can pass

a similar bill for men, but I think the time will come when there will be an 8-hour day restrictive law for men as well as for women. (Applause.)

There are some small matters which bear upon the woman-end of it that a man does not realize, and I have taken occasion to ask a good many questions of friends of mine, women engaged in various occupations, as to what they do with their spare time after they have been working all day. They have told me that they do various household duties in their rooms, for their families, or in the homes. I would like to have you tell me if you

know of any man who comes back from eight hours' work or nine hours' work, who busies himself in washing his shirt. I do not know of any man who has done any work of that kind. He leaves it to the women members of his family, or does not do it at all. That is not a very large point, perhaps, but it does appeal to me as throwing some light on one angle of the situation where women are concerned—that they do these things, and have to do them after they get through with their day' work; and they do them because their wages are low, and they must economize.

From The Press

Miss Paul to Meet Deputies Paris, New York, Herald.

PARISIAN women may be given the right to municipal suffrage sooner than they hope as a result of a conference which

will take place tomorrow between Miss Alice Paul, American feminist, and several members of the Chamber of Deputies. Miss Paul has been invited to tell at the conference some of the results of giving the vote to women in the United States.

"Perhaps when they hear that nothing very dreadful has happened to the United States Government since women have had the suffrage they will be willing to give municipal suffrage for women a trial in Paris. I hope to be able to convince them that no one element has been given too much influence at home by giving the women the vote. Political parties and affairs continue to work out much as they did before, I tell them; only women now have the privilege of taking part in political issues which affect them later as much as they do the men."

Miss Paul hopes to develop a new phase of the "hands-across-the-sea" relationship between women in the United States and those in other parts of the world who have not yet gained the suffrage.

"We discovered during the fight for suffrage in the United States that men—most of them—were not actually opposed to giving women the vote. But they were oblivious to the whole question. They just didn't think about it. If the suffrage had been extended State by State, some of the Southern States and Ohio, for instance, might not have the vote yet. It was concerted action that did it; concerted action by a minority will eventually give French women the vote in the same way."

Miss Paul leaves Paris next week to visit Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence. They will

discuss plans for the international conference of women in Washington which it is hoped will be the outcome of the Equal Rights Convention to take place in Washington in December.

Equal Rights Work In a Strange Fashion From New York Evening World,

HERE is a new angle of equal rights for women in business. A woman office assistant in a publishing business let it be known among her friends that she

was going to be married and, having a vacation coming to her, took it. Before she went away the boss of the department asked her if she was coming back after the wedding.

"I certainly am," was her reply, and, after a two weeks' honeymoon, she returned to work. Two days after she drew her first week's pay following her return she surprised the boss by asking for a raise in salary.

"Well, why?" was his answer.

"I've been doing a lot of work around here for a long time and haven't been paid what I was worth. Men around here have been getting more."

"Some little," conceded the boss.

"Well, it's just this way now," she said smilingly, "a married woman can't afford to work for the wages of a single girl residing at home."

Taken off his feet, the head of the department blinked as he asked again, "Why?"

"Because she doesn't have to. She's got a husband and can afford either to get what she is worth or quit and wait until she gets another job that does pay."

"That opens up a new line of thought," replied the boss, but the next week she got a raise.



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