

# Equal Rights

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SATURDAY,  
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Edith Ainge

Treasurer of the National Woman's Party, who is now making a tour of Northern New York State, Connecticut and Rhode Island in the interests of the National Finance Committee.

## Feminist Notes

### Turkish Women Take Up Sports

THE press reports that Turkish women are becoming ardent sportswomen, particularly in tennis and swimming, since they have begun to discard their veils and adopt Western habits of dress. Under the Sultan's Government, women could not appear in public sports, but recently under the sanction of the Angora Government a swimming race for girls was held, with both men and women as spectators. For the first time, pictures of girls in swimming costumes appeared in the press.

### Women on Railways in Great Britain

RECENT official statistics show that 1,784 women are employed on railways in England and Wales as station masters, yard masters, shunters, pointsmen, level crossing workers, porters, etc. There are also women plumbers, riveters, safe-makers, sandblasters, and gunsmiths, and 22,500 women electrical apparatus makers, fitters, and electricians. The Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen's Women's Society in England now has 90 branches and 5,000 members.

### More Equality in Japanese Marriage

GREATER equality between the sexes is a part of the new marriage laws which will be promulgated soon in Japan, according to press reports. Heretofore a woman in Japan has not been able to sue for divorce on grounds of infidelity, while a husband could get a divorce on these grounds as well as many others. In the new code, while ordinary infidelity is not made grounds for divorce, "immoral conduct" is. Unofficially it has been stated that this means that a man with a barren wife could have children by other women. Divorce is not made easier under the new code, however. Under the old code, a simple statement of a wish for a divorce, signed by both husband and wife, was all that was required. Under the new code the consent of the parents and grandparents of both husband and wife is necessary. It is explained that while a man might coerce his wife into consenting to a divorce, he would find it more difficult to coerce all her living ancestors. The new code forbids foster parents of a daughter to sell her into geishadom, but they may still sell their blood daughters. There is to be no such thing as an illegitimate child under the new code, if the father of the child is known. A child born out of wedlock will have all the rights of a child born in wedlock.

### Equality in Marriage in Austria

PROPOSALS have been introduced by the Social Democratic Party in the Austrian National Assembly for equality in marriage. The proposals include: Maintenance of a woman's nationality on marriage; equal duty of husband and wife to support each other, according to earning capacity; the name of either the bride or the bridegroom to be chosen as the new family name upon marriage; equal right to choice of residence, the wife not being forced to have the same legal residence as her husband; equal rights in the control of their children; equal rights in the control of family property.

### Margie the Icewoman

MARGIE NUNEVILLER has delivered ice regularly to the inhabitants of Neshaimy Falls, Pennsylvania, for the last two years. In Ohio Miss Nuneviller would not be permitted to engage in this outdoor occupation, because it might require "frequent or repeated lifting of weights over twenty-five pounds," and in Pennsylvania women are not permitted to earn their living in some occupations requiring the lifting of weights of fifteen pounds or more, but "Margie the Icewoman" looks healthy despite her lifting.

### Goucher Studies Woman Movement

DR. MARY W. WILLIAMS, professor of history at Goucher College, gives a course which is quite unique, but which might well be found in every college curriculum. It is on the History of the Woman Movement in the United States. The content is presented in the form of lectures, which the students supplement by extensive outside reading, particularly in the form of biographies of great women. After a brief consideration of the reasons for woman's inferior status, the struggle for equal educational opportunities, equal political, legal, industrial, and professional rights, and related topics, are taken up. Conditions and developments in other countries are studied in a comparative way, by which the students acquire a bird's eye view of the woman movement throughout the world. When the course was offered experimentally four years ago, eighteen students enrolled; last spring the number had increased to sixty-two.

### Woman Heads Dental Service

DR. IVY HOWARD DETWILER is in charge of the preventive dentistry service of the Chicago *Tribune*, which serves the large number of employees of this newspaper.

### Committee Cares for Statue

EIGHT women, headed by Helen S. Rapley, have undertaken to keep the women's statue in the Capitol in good condition, and decorated with green palms and wreaths. Mrs. Rapley's committee consists of herself as chairman, Marie L. B. Baldwin, Lucy Shaw, Annie C. Gilbert, Annabel Ruth, Metta Hunt, Fannie I. Peter, and Marion Smith. A beautiful memorial has been placed on the statue of the three pioneers, Lucretia Mott, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and Susan B. Anthony, consisting of three palm leaves bound together with purple, white and gold ribbons, the colors of the National Woman's Party. In the knot is a bunch of immortelles, brought from the home of Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton. This statue, which two other committees had attempted to finance before the National Woman's Party took over and achieved the project, was made by Adelaide Johnson and presented by the Woman's Party to the people of the United States.

### Wisconsin Policewomen

POLICEWOMEN are now employed in eight Wisconsin cities. Eau Claire, Green Bay, Kenosha, Oshkosh, Wausau have one policewoman each, Madison and Superior have two each, and Chippewa Falls has engaged a temporary policewoman on trial. Although Janesville, Milwaukee and Racine have ordinances providing for city policewomen, they have none at present.

These facts, with complete information on the work and history of the employment in Wisconsin, are told in the first revision of the report on "Municipal Policewomen," recently issued by the Municipal Information Bureau of the Wisconsin University Extension Division. Portland, Oregon, in 1905 was the first city in the country to employ a woman in the police department. Los Angeles followed in 1910. By August, 1921, some 300 cities had joined in the movement.

### Where Equal Rights Might Work Both Ways

PERHAPS Michael Fedor of Trenton, New Jersey, is now a convert to Equal Rights. The New Jersey Supreme Court recently held him liable for slander his wife uttered, even though he was not present when the incident occurred. If the Equal Rights Amendment to the United States Constitution were adopted and in effect, a husband would not be liable for a wife's acts.

## London Post Card

By Ernestine Evans,  
Associate Editor of Equal Rights

As for London, so proud to be called a "Man's Town," I could fill ten post cards with little superficial gossips of changes I discover since I came here last three years ago.

I am delighted with an advertisement for an insurance company that hangs on the wall of the post office at the top of the strand.

"Arm your daughter with a good education, a marriage dot, and as an anchor, a professional training by the aid of British Dominion Insurance."

To be sure professional training for girls is commended as an anchor, not as a sail, but the step is far for this country where the sons have had most of the education, and almost all the preferment. The wind blows certainly in a new direction when a great commercial institution urges fathers to plan something else than fairy princes and stalwart oaks for their baby daughters.

Lady Rhondda's *Time and Tide*, a dignified weekly with the self-respecting principle that even a magazine definitely feminist should not confine itself to what men call (and some women, too) women's interests, greets the eye at 88 Fleet street \* \* \* a very "good address." To those who do not know it, let me commend it for the way it keeps track of the legislation at Westminster, and its thorough news of the international political situa-

tion. Its politics are conservative except where women are concerned, but they are honestly conceived, and I need only supplement their comments with more dashing and radical analyses of European economics. Their so-called personality articles (the journalist's trade name for an article dealing with eminent careers, characters and idiosyncrasies) often seem to me drab because the writer (whoever she or he may be) pens the portraits largely in the mood of too humble respect. The judgments are not intimate enough, the anecdotes not new and illuminating and saucy. There used to be a woman journalist in London, who wrote for the *Observer*, if I remember correctly. She signed herself Xantippe, a libel on herself, but her writing and her judgments had an essentially feminine and personal ardour. She was not a careful St. Peter, rendering final and juiceless judgments. She was a witty commentator, reacting on her contemporaries, reminding me easily of some of the French and British women letter writers of the eighteenth century. There is no reason why I should not wish publicly for her flavor in *Time and Tide*, which is a magazine I mean to subscribe to.

I was surprised to find that Stella Wolfe Murray covers the House of Commons for the *Manchester Guardian*, and feeling that a woman in the press gallery counts as much as an M. P. on the floor, though I did not see her, I felt as if another borough had been heard from.

## Marriage and a Profession

IN an article on "Education of Women and Race Betterment," written by Louis I. Dublin, and reprinted by the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, the following interesting statements are made as part of the author's recommendations for larger families among educated people:

"The program we have outlined will not succeed if, in its emphasis on marriage and maternity, it attempts to hinder or even discourage educated women from pursuing professional work. College women will insist to an even greater degree on making themselves efficient professionally and independent economically. This tendency should have public approval.

"But, two things should be kept in mind, both of which are too easily overlooked. First, homemaking must be recognized as an important profession and one requiring long and arduous preparation. The successful management of a

household has larger possibilities for personal development than most folks appreciate, and its devotees deserve much more respect than they now receive.

"Second, when women have chosen other careers, such as teaching, medicine, law, business, whatever it is, it shall not be assumed that this service is incompatible with married life. But we must educate public opinion to look with favor upon the continuation of married women in the many positions of responsibility they are now filling so capably. The public must meet the professional woman more than half way and encourage her through concessions of various kinds to marry and bear children, and practically demonstrate that marriage does not necessarily mean her withdrawal entirely from professional activity.

"Thus, the half million women who teach school, most of whom will remain unmarried under present conditions, should be actively encouraged to marry, and should undergo no penalties for so

doing. It should be thoroughly approved for married women to teach, since the community vitally needs married women teachers. It needs them as mothers because they make good ones and because, as mothers, they make infinitely better teachers. The experience of maternity gives them a more sympathetic understanding of child nature, more patience and consideration in dealing with the intricacies of child psychology. Boards of Education should realize all of this and make every adjustment necessary to attract qualified married women to the educational field. \* \* \*

"To a greater or less degree, the same principle should guide the community with reference to women in other lines of professional work. A woman should no longer be confronted with a choice of either matrimony or a career, because the two are by no means mutually exclusive. A full life involving both motherhood and active participation in affairs is quite possible with good management."

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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.

## Two Sides of the Shield

CRYSTAL EASTMAN'S article on Lady Astor's solicitation bill, which appears in this week's issue, points out the palpable fact that one group of women known traditionally as "prostitutes" are, and for ages have been, regarded as beyond the pale of justice.

These women, who were until recently considered by many people as essential to the physiological normalcy of men, have by arbitrary rulings been set apart from the rest of the human family. They have suffered penalties not exacted from their masculine partners and have been deprived of constitutional guarantees commonly supposed to inhere in all humankind. For example, in the United States where class legislation is directly in defiance of the Constitution, laws have been passed and enforced involving specifically this unconstitutional principle. Such, for instance, was Clause 79 of the Page Bill in New York State, and more recently some of the pitiful laws and regulations having as their object the sanitation of vice. To vex matters still further, prostitutes have been permitted openly to infringe the written statutes as where a red light district is "kept under control" by the police.

AN enlightened human being coming unawares upon this chaotic situation might well question the mental status of those who had brought it to pass. Yet a little study elucidates the fact that stark, unmeasured selfishness and not feeble-mindedness is at its root. The dominant male desiring complete license for himself in matters of sex and at the same time requiring chastity from the female members of his family has indicated a rare degree of astuteness in the formation of the "moral code." It is written in total disregard of justice, without a thought of the rights of women or even of children and, *mirabile dictu*, it is acceptable to vast numbers of sensible human beings of both sexes even today.

As an example of the way in which chivalry actually operates, as an instance of the way in which men treat women when they have full power over them, the institution of prostitution is vividly enlightening. There is perhaps no other factor making so directly for the degradation of the human race as venal sexual promiscuity. Yet for their own gratification men pour out millions of dollars annually to keep the institution of prostitution alive.

IF there were no other reason for a Federal Equal Rights Amendment, the plight of the disinherited prostitute would justify the demand. For those who desire to repress the social evil the Equal Rights Amendment offers a weapon of unparalleled strength, for its provisions effectively bar the sex-linked type of legislation under which alone prostitution can exist. Those who accept "special privileges" for women as being superior to equal rights by their own admission set aside the claims of justice. Yet it is to be recalled that in all human history "special privileges" have always exacted an enormous price. The concept of woman as a sub or super-human being is at the basis of the community's lazy acceptance of the social evil. "Protection" and prostitution are but two sides of the same shield. One cannot be preserved without the other, for they both spring from the same root. The abrogation of constitutional guarantees which permits the enactment of special legislation "for women only" also permits the continuation of the double standard of morals as exhibited in the enactment and enforcement of the law.

The demands of the Woman's Party in this respect are concisely stated as follows:

THAT a double moral standard shall no longer exist, but one code shall obtain for both men and women.

THAT exploitation of the sex of women shall no longer exist, but women shall have the same right to the control of their persons as have men.

THAT women shall no longer be discriminated against in treatment of sex diseases and in punishment of sex offenses, but men and women shall be treated in the same way for sex diseases and sex offenses.

## Justice For the Prostitute---Lady Astor's Bill

By Crystal Eastman

NO more astounding relic of the subjection of women survives in western civilization than the status of the prostitute. In the United States for instance, where her trade is nominally illegal, it frequently happens that in case of detection, she alone is arrested and her "customer," the man who bought what she offered to sell, not only goes scot free and escapes all publicity, but has the money he paid to the prostitute refunded by the State. In connection with what other illegal vice is the seller alone penalized, and not the buyer?

In those countries of Europe, such as France for example, where the system of legalized prostitution still maintains, the prostitute "enjoys" a certain protection from the State, even encouragement in her trade, but at what a cost! She is registered, she must submit at frequent intervals to compulsory medical examination and treatment; she is marked, set apart by the State for one purpose only, caught in a net from which she can never escape. And under this system, too, the "buyer" comes and goes as he likes. Of all ugly, foolish, and cruelly unjust institutions designed by man for his own protection, the so-called system of "regulated vice" seems to a casual inquirer the worst.

For fifty years and more reformers have been active in the field of "morals" legislation, but today I believe,—certainly in England—there is a new note in this agitation, a feminist note. Women are beginning to demand as a first step *justice for the prostitute*. On July 9 last a bill was introduced in the House of Commons by Lady Astor for the "Repeal of the Solicitation Laws." A bill as simple and direct as Lady Astor herself, a bill as honest and daring as the feminist movement must always be.

In England, solicitation is not illegal nor is prostitution itself illegal. However, there are three provisions in the law under which prostitutes are arrested for solicitation, loitering, etc., and convicted on the evidence of the police officer alone. Thus in theory prostitution is not a criminal offense, but in practice here in England as everywhere else it is a *one-sided* crime; *i. e.*, it takes two to commit it but only one is penalized.

These solicitation laws which Lady Astor's bill would repeal provide as follows: (1) Every common prostitute wandering in the public streets or public highways or in any places of public resort and behaving in a riotous or indecent manner is liable to one month's imprisonment on police evidence only; (2) Every common prostitute or night-walker loitering or being in any thoroughfare or public place

for the purpose of prostitution or solicitation to the annoyance of the inhabitants or passengers is liable to a penalty of 40 shillings or a term of one month; (3) Every common prostitute or night-walker loitering and importuning passengers for the purpose of prostitution is liable to be arrested by a constable without warrant and on summary conviction to be fined 40 shillings or to be imprisoned for 14 days.

The new bill, known as the Public Places (Order) Bill, would substitute for all the above these two clauses:

"Every person who in any street or public place wilfully causes annoyance to any person by words or behaviour, shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding 40 shillings for each offence."

"Any constable or other peace officer may arrest without warrant any person committing an offense against this act, provided that no person shall be taken into custody for such offense except upon complaint by or on behalf of the party aggrieved."

Lady Astor said in moving the bill, "Our present laws on street offenses go right in the teeth of British justice in two respects. First, they discriminate against one particular class of persons; and secondly they permit the conviction of a person for a grave offense on the evidence of one police officer alone, with no evidence as to whether annoyance has been caused, or how it has been caused." She made a plea that the prostitute should be given "what we want everyone to have, common justice in the eyes of the law."

NOW everybody knows that a bill of such sweeping character is not brought to the stage of being introduced by a prominent member without years of effort and study and organization. For the last two years the drafting of this bill, the preliminary work connected with it, and the creating of a body of public opinion behind it, has been the chief work of the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene of which Alison Neilans is secretary. She more than any one other person is responsible for it.

Miss Neilans was a militant, who suffered three imprisonments, and knew the hunger strike. Later she was an organizer for the Woman's Freedom League, which she left to become secretary of the A. M. and S.-H., as it is called. This society was founded in 1870 by Josephine Butler, a great woman of the last century who led the fight against State regulation of prostitution throughout Europe. Unlike some enthusiasts for social purity, Josephine Butler had a real feeling for liberty and a passion for justice. Alison Neilans is her true disciple.

I will quote a few paragraphs from a memorandum prepared by Miss Neilans from which the reader may judge of the importance of the new Street Bill, and get some conception of the strong intelligence and clear purpose behind it:

"The object of our bill is to repeal the special laws against 'prostitutes,' and to substitute an equal law applicable to all persons who annoy or molest others in the streets or public places, and to provide that such persons shall be taken into custody only on complaint by or on behalf of the person annoyed. \* \* \* Most people would agree that respectable men and women should not be convicted on a charge of molesting or annoying persons of the opposite sex on police evidence only, but they may think that known bad characters should be convicted on police evidence. But 'annoyance' is annoyance, whether the person who annoys us is of good or bad character. The law is not concerned with people's moral character, but with what they *do*."

"Moreover, the question of character and previous convictions is not in order until the defendant is convicted of the offence of which he is at the moment charged. This legal protection is, however, not accorded to the prostitute; the very fact that she is charged as a 'known common prostitute' is in itself evidence as to character."

"We contend that there is no reason for special legislation against alleged prostitutes. They should be subject to the same restrictions on their conduct in the streets as are applied to other people, but not to special restrictions. \* \* \* The existing law against solicitation differentiates not only between men and women, but also between women and women, *e. g.*, three of the sections which our bill proposes to repeal do not refer to men nor even to all women, but only to 'common prostitutes.' And no statutory definition exists of the words 'common prostitute,' nor of the word 'prostitution.' (Yet if 'solicitation for immoral purposes' is to be made an offence, it is obvious that prostitution itself should be made an offence. It is totally illogical to make it a legal offence to solicit a person to an act when the act itself is not an offence.)"

"Under the Vagrancy Act alleged 'common prostitutes' convicted of 'riotous or indecent behavior' are liable to one month's imprisonment on police evidence only. '*Riotous or indecent behavior is, in practice, interpreted to mean mere solicitation.*' The effect of repealing this clause is to put the common prostitute under the same laws as other people. There seems to be no reason why 'common

prostitutes' should be especially forbidden to behave in a riotous or indecent manner. Such conduct should be an offence in all persons equally."

In another article, Alison Neilans has said: "The prostitute is the scapegoat for everyone's sins, and few people care whether she is justly treated or not. Good people have spent thousands of pounds in

efforts to reform her, poets have written about her, essayists and orators have made her the subject of some of their most striking rhetoric; perhaps no class of people has been so much abused, and alternatively sentimentalized over as prostitutes have been *but one thing they have never yet had, and that is simple legal justice.*"

## Newspapers to the Defense

By Ruby A. Black

IT is indeed encouraging to find newspapers coming to the defense of business women against women who accuse their own sex of failures in the business world. Eighteen months ago the newspapers seemed to be the bitterest enemy of the idea of economic independence for women. Two recent women speakers have attempted to explain why women fail in the businesses and the professions. Apparently neither of these women had observed that women fail either for the same reason as men, or because of an attitude of hostility on the part of men or other women who are placed under the administration of women. The *New York Times* pointed out the former fact in commenting on some of the accusations against women:

"Speaking at Dallas before the Federation of Professional Business and Women's Clubs, its national Vice-President listed nine reasons why women fail. It is a formidable array. Upon serious contemplation the marvel grows that any women succeed—if any do. There is only one ray of hope. With possibly a single exception, it is *precisely for the same reason that men fail. If male and female are sunk in the slough of despond, at least they are there together.*

"Women, it appears, lack seriousness, lack vision, lack initiative. Also, they lack outside interests. It would be difficult to picture more vividly a cerebral region with nobody home. It seems scarcely necessary to add that women lack confidence in other women, even that modicum of tolerance which is needful to co-operative effort. Nature's abhorrence of vacuums is a mild and negligible phenomenon when compared with the way one vacuum abhors another. And withal women lack self-control. It is the marvel of the ages, obviously, that they form clubs, convene in national conference, and hear what they are from the lips of their Vice-President without rising in tumult and riot.

"The ninth reason why women fail is that they use too much rouge. Herein, it appears, lies man's only indisputable title to superiority. It would be a hardy champion of his sex who claimed for it high vision and eager initiative combined with a catholic outlook upon the interests

of other men, or the broad faith in humankind that begets tolerance and self-control in co-operation. He would be nonplused in finding one example that did not fade into insignificance when compared with the forbearance of the women at Dallas who did not mob their Vice-President. But it is otherwise with rouge. Since the days of the dandies, men have not used it too much or at all. The cheeks of the bilious are sallow without shame. The blue lips of the heart-depressed know no inspiring fleck of carmine. Toddy blossoms burgeon untouched by *poudre de riz.*

"Possibly an injustice was done to Miss Florence Sands by the brief report of her speech. *In such a presence she can scarcely have ignored the 'vision' of the suffragists and their power of successful co-operation.* Nor can she have forgotten the invasion of industry by so many accurate and indefatigable secretaries, so many original and masterly executives."

SUSAN S. DIBELKA, manager of the Woman's National Journalistic Register, Inc., at Chicago, was reported by the press as saying that a tendency to "fussiness and bossiness" engendered by housekeeping on an individual basis causes women to fail as executives.

The *Kansas City Journal-Post*, commenting editorially on this charge, says: "Perhaps few women will agree with Mrs. Susan Shaffer Dibelka, a speaker at the annual Journalism week at Columbia. She claims that her experience as manager of a bureau obtaining positions for women who desire to enter newspaper work taught her that, as a general proposition, and not merely as a feature of her own particular work, women are losing out in obtaining executive positions. They fail because, she asserts, they do not display the broadmindedness of men, but carry with them into their business life the traditions of woman's sphere in the home, a certain fussiness, a desire to boss, and an insistence upon the special privileges which have been granted to women from time immemorial.

"Now all this will be vigorously disputed by many women who have entered business life and so many of whom have

IT would be hard to exaggerate the legal and social and feminist significance of Lady Astor's bill. *Time and Tide* says, in an editorial of July 17, "The Bill would if it were passed constitute on the legal side the biggest step forward which it is possible to take towards doing away with a recognized prostitute class." And I think this is no exaggeration.

succeeded to an unusual degree. Those women employes will not be slow to contend that men bosses are quite as fussy and bossy as Mrs. Dibelka charges women with being, even though they may not insist upon any special privilege. They have been appropriating and monopolizing all the privileges extant from time when the memory of women employes runneth not to the contrary.

"Mrs. Dibelka may quote statistics until her bobbed hair grows out—assuming that she is in the mode on that score—but she will not convince women that they are losing out and especially that they deserve to lose out, in their efforts to invade the business field—a field all full of shell holes where the invasion has been successful."

EVEN the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, which refuses to employ women journalists on its city staff, does not view with alarm the 8,500,000 women wage-earners reported by the Women's Bureau. It comments:

"We still have over 33,000,000 male wage-earners, so there is little reason in the cry of some envious persons of the sterner sex that women are 'taking men's jobs.' That is about as true as the other familiar cry that 'the country is going to the dogs.'"

Rupert Hughes, in an article syndicated in the Hearst newspapers, goes even further. He reproves the women who take costly professional training, often at the expense of the State or some endowed institution, and then quit their professions when they marry.

He says:

"It would have been considered either insanity or infamy to suggest a few years ago that a woman should not let her home interfere with her doing something useful. It is plain common sense today. Countless women are refusing to be held in the ancient voluntary slavery.

"But there is one gross accusation against the women who have been recently pouring into public life. Too many of them rush in, dally a while, then fade out into marriage. The solution will come not by neglecting marriage but by adjusting it to the demands of the new society.

"There is no more reason for a bride

to retire from the world into a shell after the honeymoon than for the bridegroom to give up his business and take up fancy stitching, kitchenetting or housekeeping. There is no more reason why the wife should cook for the family than the husband. Perhaps neither should cook. Perhaps both should. It all depends.

"BUT there is one serious flaw in the new life of womankind. There are too many volunteers who desert when the battle begins.

"These are startling figures: In a certain state university supported by taxes there is a medical department open to women. Since women were permitted to study there they have crowded in until they equal the men in numbers.

"For the entire course, including graduation with a diploma, the student is charged just \$1,000. The State pays the balance of the expense, and it costs the State \$14,500 to carry a student through to graduation. In other words, it costs the taxpayers \$14,500 for every prospective doctor they add to the ranks.

"Now comes the rub: Fifty per cent of the medical students are women, and three years after graduation from 75 to 80 per cent of the women cease practicing medicine and retire to private life, thus robbing the State not only of needed physicians but of the magnificent sum of \$14,500 a piece.

"The total loss mounts up to millions of

dollars of the taxpayers' money, not counting the waste of the time of the professors.

"In a sense it is a swindle upon the public. The women who take the money and quit just as they learn how to practice are exactly like soldiers who take the government's support and training and then desert.

"Nothing in life is more beautiful, more blessed or more worth while than a home of happiness and virtue, but virtue does not consist in burying oneself alive, nor is happiness attainable to its highest degree unless the wife as well as the husband, is making the utmost of the personality inherited and acquired.

"OF course, if a woman is best at cooking, waiting on the table, making beds, mending clothes and darning socks, she should go in for domestic work. But she should seek to earn money by her skill in the humble professions of the cook, the chambermaid, the seamstress, and the housekeeper. She should not stay at home as an amateur and waste all her talents on one man or a few children. The hotels and boarding houses, hospitals, and other public institutions are crying aloud for just such ability. They will pay handsomely for it.

"If Mme. Curie had been a good, old-fashioned housekeeper and stuck to her knitting instead of fooling around the laboratory and getting in her husband's way, the world would not have had radium and all it has meant to medicine, science,

and scientific theory. Vast fortunes have been made from her discovery and incalculable misery removed. She shared the Nobel prize with her husband and thus brought into the household of a modest professor \$40,000 in cash.

"IF Mary Roberts Rinehart had been content to keep house for the physician she married she would not have written the novels, plays, stories and articles that have not only delighted millions, but brought into the home an annual income surpassing on occasions, according to reports, \$250,000, and paying the Government an annual income tax many times higher than the yearly income of 95 per cent of the men of the nation.

"If Kathleen Thompson, who married the eminent novelist, Charles G. Norris, had felt it was enough to run the big ranch that she and her husband own, and that she could not be expected to write stories, novels, and syndicate articles, she would not have added to her husband's income the immense amount of money that is paid for her ink.

"So those thousands of women who rush into and through the universities and professional schools and get their pretty heads filled with expensive information, have no excuse for running off with amorous young men and throwing their highly trained souls into the discard."

And, he concludes:

"Let us have fewer meddlers with charity and more sisters of dentistry."

## Press Comment

There is rarely any blame attached to brother in this situation. The family felt that way and the neighbors thought that way and the whole scheme of things was set that way. The boy goes first. He is to establish a family. He is to support five others. And the girl? Oh, she will have her husband.

Maybe she will and maybe she won't. Before she gets there she should have had her chance to prepare for any situation that life may thrust upon her. Life is usually thrust upon girls. Seldom are they allowed much choice in the matter. Once the children come to them they are tied fast twenty years at least and the preparation for those twenty years of grilling service has been what she could snatch from the crumbs of her brother's table.

I think things might be a little bit fairer and a whole lot more reasonable if from the beginning the children were taught that it was to be a case of mutual assistance, mutual understanding, mutual living. They must plan and work and

share together. They are to be partners in this business of preparation for the future and the interest of one is the hope of the other. Why not?

The brother or sister who looks ahead and lays his plans to meet those of his partner in distress is gaining a mental and spiritual growth that no amount of submissive acceptance of deprivation will give him. If, when the time draws near for the children to go to the higher schools or to launch out on some broader field of usefulness than the accustomed routine, they take it as a group problem and consider ways and means for each member, the result is a great gain for all concerned.

But if sister says, "No, brother, we both cannot go to college; I will give up my career for yours," the result is two stunted personalities, the one that took as well as the one who gave. One has not the right to surrender his talents without making a real effort to increase them. Give the girl her chance, even though you may have to combat her inborn sense of sacrifice. Some sacrifices are undignified.

### The Girl's Chance

Angelo Patri, in the *New York Evening Post*

AGAIN I beg for the girl's chance. Most people would say, "Why, the girls have everything their own way. They have every chance in the world now. Look at their dress; look at their jobs; look at their colleges."

I have looked at them all. That is why I am saying again, "Give the girl her chance along with her brother." Take the family in which are a boy and a girl, equally gifted. The family income is limited to the quick. Both children need education and training. Both of them need opportunities for culture and growth. What happens usually?

The boy gets the preference. He is sent to college and he is helped to set up in business. The girl gets as much as the family feels they can afford—a high school education and perhaps the last two years are given to stenography and typewriting. She gets a job and helps out. Brother goes on his way.

# Mothers Are More Important

By Rebecca Hourwich

**F**AITH pursues a hard and active life of zoology and the drama, theatrical performances in the barn. At the end of the day as becomes a person of occupation, she settles to her bowl of cereal and milk, and tells the little woman the doings of the neighborhood. Often she varies it with comments on life in general.

There was a period in Faith's life when she took all the mysteries of life for granted. I was a little worried that she was backward in asking the usual questions as to why is an eel, and all those others that seem to disturb the younger generation. Simultaneously with the question avalanche came a period of dogmatism; the answers given by older people had apparently left only the impress of that quality, so that Faith's comments are issued in a convincing manner, tinged with dogmatism. I am partial to the subject, and do not mind the manner. I listen with the interest of the woman left behind at home, appreciative and smiling, sufficient factors to produce a soliloquy in people of affairs.

It may be partiality that gives me gen-

uine enjoyment and profit from an evening's exchange of ideas with my daughter. I find her point of view free of the prejudices of those longer on this earth. I like her critical disapproval and her refusal to respect the accepted. There are many things Faith does not see with the eyes of others. There is the custom of maids eating in kitchens. Faith thinks that Miss Prouty ought to dine with us, if she is a member of the household. Kate Gibbons, the laundress, is far too old to be working for us, when I am strong and able, according to Faith. And there are a long list of other complications that are all wrong, and that Faith intends to straighten out.

This particular evening Faith announced, in between full capacity mouthfuls, in her best *ex cathedra*, "Mothers are more important." Maybe it is a tiresome habit, but one that my mother taught me when under the early influence of Dewey: I always ask "Why?"

"Mothers are more important," contin-

ued Faith, ignoring me, "because they do the cooking." I was disappointed. I had hoped for something on a higher plane. Relishing her cereal, my daughter proceeded. "We can't live without food, and mothers prepare the food."

"But I don't do the cooking, and lots of mothers don't. Your father can cook far better than I can," I protested in the interests of accuracy.

For almost a minute Faith looked stumped.

"You get the food, even though you don't cook it, and you tell Miss Prouty what to do. You go round and see things, and you keep things going, kind of. Besides mothers born babies, and they look after them, and feed them, and that's important. I don't care," floundered Faith. "I think mothers are more important."

I lay no claim to my own importance as a mother. But Faith's conversation had its usual wholesome effect. I started thinking. Perhaps Faith saw a few of the facts of life straight and clear, minus the sophisticated furbelows. Perhaps—and who can say—perhaps—mothers are more important.

## News From The Field

### Miss Pollitzer Returns

**A**NITA POLLITZER of South Carolina, National Secretary of the National Woman's Party, was at National Headquarters last week conferring with Alice Paul on methods of presenting the question of Equal Rights to the Inter-Parliamentary Union, which meets in Washington in October. She left on Friday to confer with Edith Ainge, National Treasurer, and other officers in New York City.

Miss Pollitzer will return before October 1 to take part in the work for equality during the meeting of members of parliaments from all over the world, in whose hands the speed with which women may gain Equal Rights lies.

"Every day while I was away," Miss Pollitzer said, "I found new evidence that women can never be sure that the rights they have won are permanent until the principle that men and women shall have Equal Rights throughout the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction is written into our Constitution. Just before I left Charleston a young woman came to me, saying that she was going to be married, and that the school board had just issued a ruling that teachers' positions should be deemed vacant when they marry. She was faced with

the problem of not only losing her present position, as were three other young women of my acquaintance there, but also of being virtually prevented from practicing her profession in her home city. That is only one of many examples of newly arising discriminations against women I have come across this summer."

During her visit to Washington Miss Pollitzer, Miss Paul and Elsie Hill of the National Council, who was also in Washington, conferred on the campaign for Equal Rights.

### Significance of Wisconsin Equal Rights Law

**E**MILY H. BRIGHT of the Minnesota Branch of the National Woman's Party characterized the adoption of the Wisconsin Equal Rights Bill as the most significant achievement of woman's suffrage at a luncheon celebrating the fifth anniversary of the ratification of the Federal Suffrage Amendment in St. Paul, Minnesota. "This could not have been accomplished," Mrs. Bright said, "without the power of the women's vote behind the demand for the law." Mrs. Bright was a leader in the campaign for suffrage in Minnesota, and is now a leader in the national campaign for Equal Rights.

### Two Million Dollar Fund

#### Treasurer's Report

EDITH AINGE, Treasurer

NETTIE TRAIL: C. P. A., Auditor.

**R**ECEIPTS of National Headquarters, December 7, 1912, to August 29, 1925, \$1,307,796.57.

Contributions, membership receipts and other receipts, August 29, 1925, to September 5, 1925:

Miss Mary Winsor, Pa.....	\$300.00
Mrs. Edwin B. Jones, Del.....	100.00
Miss Mary Gertrude Fendall, Md.....	5.00
Mrs. Gaillard Stoney, Calif.....	40.00
Miss Jessie Dell, D. C.....	1.00
Per Colorado Branch:	
Mrs. Lillian H. Kerr.....	5.00
Mrs. W. H. Green.....	.50
Mrs. Emily West.....	.50
Mrs. Clara Meservey.....	.50
Deposit on house key.....	.50
Telephone receipts.....	.55
Rent of rooms at National Headquarters.....	116.00
Per Equal Rights Committee:	
Freda Kirchoway, N. Y.....	10.00
Dr. Donald R. Hooker, Md.....	200.00

Total receipts, August 29, 1925, to September 5, 1925.....\$789.55

Total receipts, December 7, 1912, to September 5, 1925.....\$1,308,586.12

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