

# Equal Rights

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FIVE CENTS

SATURDAY,  
OCTOBER 31, 1925



*National Photos*

## German Women Honor American Pioneer Feminists

With a simple and beautiful ceremony, the five women members of the German Reichstag in America for the Interparliamentary Union placed flowers on the statue of Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Susan B. Anthony, and Lucretia Mott in the Capitol. From left to right they are: Antonie Pfülf, who spoke for Equal Rights at the conference; Louise Schroeder; Christine Teusch, who expressed, as she placed the flowers on the statue, the joy of the women of Germany in being able to co-operate with American women in the worldwide movement for Equal Rights; Clara Mende; and Thusnelda Lang-Brumann



## Feminist Notes

### Qualifies for Appointment as Judge

THE first woman to qualify for appointment as a judge in Germany is said to be Dr. Aenne Kurowski of Dantzig, who recently passed her final professional examination.

### Studies Engineering

FOR the first time in twenty years, a woman has registered in the University of Texas School of Engineering for a course in civil engineering. She is Helen Fursman of Bromide, Oklahoma.

### British National Council

THE British National Council of Women, in its recent annual conference, adopted a resolution to the effect that protective legislation should be based upon the nature of the industry, not the sex of the worker, but added that pending the legal regulation of working hours for men, the present "protective" legislation for women should not be abolished.

The president of the Women's Freedom League, Anna Munro, spoke to an amendment to this resolution, emphasizing that occupation, not sex, should be the basis of the future.

### Young Woman Leases Building

A TWENTY-ONE-YEAR-OLD girl in New York City has leased a large store and apartment building, where she will conduct a hair-dressing business established by her father. Her name is Emilie F. Lehnert.

### Woman Conveyancer in England

THE first woman conveyancer in England is Kathleen Britter, a London stenographer who learned in her employer's business how to draw deeds and transfer property titles.

### Woman U. S. District Attorney

ELLAMARYE FAILOR, formerly of Texas, has been appointed assistant to United States District Attorney Emory R. Buckner of New York City. Miss Failor is only 26 years old, and in this position will be pitted against some of the ablest criminal lawyers in the country.

### Woman in Air Meet

RUTH GILLETTE of Los Angeles was again the only woman to enter the annual air races. She participated in the On-to-New York race, flying from Washington, D. C., to Mitchell Field.

### Another "Unusual" Occupation

MAE WOODS of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, earns her living as a bootblack.

### Women Inventors

NEARLY 1,400 devices have been patented by women in the United States.

### Oregon Assistant Attorney General

OREGON'S first and only woman assistant attorney general is Grace E. Smith. She taught school for three years, and served as deputy recorder in Guthrie Center, Iowa, before studying law in night school while carrying on her job in the office of the Secretary of State of Oregon. She was admitted to the bar in 1917.

### The Interests of the Housewife

THE Austrian Council of Women has begun propaganda for the establishment of "Chambers of Housekeeping" and will energetically continue this action in the coming months. "Chambers of Housekeeping" endowed with official rights and powers of authority, will have as their purpose to stand for the interests of the household in public and legal life, to promote its development, to advise it, to cultivate household education, to discuss and regulate all professional questions of the household and to instigate the establishment of institutions serving the progress of the household (technical testing stations, experimental stations for food science, advising offices on housing question, etc.), and finally to organize an international contract among housewives for the purpose of learning by exchange of experiences.

### Oldest Surgeon a Woman

THE oldest practicing surgeon in England is Dr. Mary Scharlieb, who is nearly 81 years old.

### Women Students Excel

GIRLS are brighter than men in Indiana University if results of an examination conducted recently in the English department are to be taken as an indication.

The department held an examination to select a number of students for advanced classes. Thirty-six women were chosen for the group and only fourteen men.

However, the prize awarded for the best composition written in the examination has been won by the men three times, and only once by a woman student.

### Mrs. Irwin Heads Authors' Guild

INEZ HAYNES IRWIN, eminent novelist, an associate editor of EQUAL RIGHTS, and a member of the National Council of the Woman's Party, has been elected president of the Authors' Guild of the Authors' League of America, Inc. Ruth Hale, another associate editor of EQUAL RIGHTS, and chairman of the Journalists' Council of the Woman's Party; Edna Ferber, Louise Saunders Perkins, Gertrude Atherton, Virginia T. van de Water, and Juliet Wilbur Tompkins, vice-president, are women on the Guild Council. Mrs. Irwin is author of "The Story of the Woman's Party."

### Women Lawyers

FOUR women were among the fifty-nine lawyers admitted to the District of Columbia Bar recently. Among them were Mary E. Crosby and Jennie O. Berliner, members of the National Woman's Party.

### Women Pass Highest Examinations

TWO out of thirty-four women who competed in the examinations for the junior grade of the administrative class of the English Home Civil Service, to which they were admitted for the first time this year, succeeded in passing the examinations. Only twenty-two of the entire list of candidates taking the examinations were successful.

In spite of the Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act, the following discriminations against women still exist in the British Civil Service:

1. All posts in the Diplomatic Service and in the Consular Service are reserved to men.
2. All posts in the Government services of the colonies and protectorates are reserved to men.
3. All posts in the Civil Services of His Majesty in India are reserved to men.
4. All posts in the commercial diplomatic service and trade commissioner service are reserved to men.

### Best Homemaker Interested in Politics

VISCOUNT ASTOR recently declared in a speech that more homes are wrecked through women's concentrating on clothes and gossip than through their taking an interest in public affairs. He urged men to encourage their wives to take part in politics, saying that women interested in politics make the best homemakers.

## Why Can't Daddy Help?

By Rebecca Hourwich

FAITH, my six-year-old daughter, as behooves a woman of the freer type, meets life serenely and unafraid: Everything interests her, and much puzzles her. Of some things she frankly disapproves, and I, her mother of the older generation, am never sure when my matronly calm will be shamed or shattered. True to her creed, Faith challenges all that she regards as a discrimination, or disability, because of her age, or her sex.

Were I a parent first, and a Feminist second, I might regard this attitude of my daughter's as distinctly tiresome, and make an effort as an earnest pedagogue to divert her to better ways. At that I am doubtful of what my results would be, for this is an age of determined women, and it is almost impossible to maintain the older order in a single establishment. Fortunately I am spared that struggle for I am a Feminist first, and a parent only second, and when I see a young female of immature years showing signs of healthy rebellion, my parenthood is forgotten in my genuine rejoicing, "another recruit to the ranks." What difference that she shines not as a child, for her childhood should be given up to a preparation for life, and what better training can any woman give her daughter, than that which in later life indelibly stamps her as a Feminist?

This is not by way of apology, but as explanation to any stray male eyes that may meet with this. Though I run the risk of being indelicate, I must also explain the housekeeping relations of my husband and myself. We have peripatetic maids, laundresses, and all the domestic service our fluctuating and meagre income permits. In the absence of adequate assistance, there is an unwritten agreement that the head of the house and myself share equally in those tasks of home-making not usually regarded as of sufficient scope or dignity for men to partake in. I have done my best to create this as a cardinal principle in our home, and wherever I have failed, it is through no lack of good and bad tempered insistence.

I did not realize how deep in our life this rule existed, until I called my small daughter to help dry the dishes. Reluc-

tantly she came, looked around the kitchen, where were already assembled a grandmother, an aunt, and a mother; noted those present, and those absent, and promptly inquired, "Why can't Daddy help?" While the grandmother was busy explaining the larger life led by the father, I turned my back to enjoy my giggle in private.

As usual Faith's question summed up the situation for me, and led my thoughts along the path she had suggested. Of more than twenty million homemakers in this country, less than ten per cent have any form of professional domestic assistance. The American wife of leisure, pampered and indulged by her husband, predominates in fiction, but not in statistics. More than half our population is still rural, and except for exceptional cases of expensively equipped farms, the farmwife is frequently a highly sensitized beast of burden. Women of the working class do not fare any better.

It is usually asserted that the husbands of women so situated work equally hard, but that is obviously untrue. At whatever hour the husband must begin his day, the wife must start a bit earlier in order to get his breakfast; through the day each keeps pace with the other, but at evening when the man's work is done, mother must still serve the dinner, do the dishes, clean up, and get the children to bed. If she is a good manager she may be able to fit in a couple of quiet hours' of mending or sewing by the lamplight before bedtime.

If there are children, and the American woman presumably has a quota of three and a third children, there are apt to be nights of toil as well as days. Only the wife and mother is supposed to be concerned with these purely feminine tasks. And ignorance of history prevents either the men or women from knowing that traditionally these were the tasks of slaves, and when men threw off slavery and the performance of menial tasks for others, democratic society divided itself into those men who pay for service, and

those men who, no longer forced to serve, unwilling to be stamped with the stigma of menials, could preserve their social status by taking unto themselves wives who were menials, but who, for the sake of preserving the new order, were flattered into believing that they were nobly fulfilling the destined duties of woman.

We fail to realize that only the gentry, men or women, can afford to have others look after them, and that every human being requires a certain amount of feeding, laundering, and cleaning after, and that each person is responsible for that work that makes his continuance on this earth possible. Wherever men are not economically able to have the household duties of their establishment curtailed to a decent workingday for their wives, it seems that the only remedy is a fair division of overtime between the husband and wife.

It is here that women most often fail to stand by women. Invariably I hear a Feminist say, "It is too late to change my husband, he was brought up in another generation, and he simply cannot understand my asking him to help. Oh, he helps with the dishes, but I never ask him, I wait for him to offer to do them, and I never argue with him if he does not; at first, when we were just married I did, but I have stopped, because it is not worth quarreling about. I would far rather do it myself and have peace in the family. But I am certainly not going to have my son that way. I am teaching him to do everything, and help in every way, and some woman, someday will thank me for a good husband."

The pity of it is that little boys pattern themselves after their fathers and no amount of mother's training is eventually successful, if father is a person free of household responsibility. The boy merely marks time until he can take his place as father, and escape the dreary tasks of the past. There are exceptions, but this is generally the rule.

I prefer Faith's reaction and method, and I think it holds more promise for women. A constant and unceasing household motto: "Why can't Daddy help?"

## Tenth I. W. S. A. Congress

THE Tenth Congress of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance will be held in Paris, May 23-30, 1926. The arrangements in Paris are in the hands of Mme. C. L. Brunschwig, president of the French Auxiliary, and Mme. Malaterre Sellier, a member of the executive committee of the Alliance, and a member of the International Advisory Council of

the National Woman's Party. The president, Mrs. Corbett Ashby, who spoke at the International Tea in National Woman's Party Headquarters last May, will make her address of welcome on Sunday afternoon, May 23.

International committees will meet the first three days of the Congress, and the full sessions will begin on Wednesday, May 26, when delegates will be seated,

and new societies will be admitted. On this day discussions on whether women in unenfranchised countries should enter political parties, and on whether the grant of municipal suffrage is a help or a hindrance in gaining parliamentary franchise, will take place.

The next day will be devoted to the problems confronting women voters, and to an enumeration of their successes.



# Equal Rights



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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.

## Keeping the Issue Clear

A WORD of explanation with regard to the Woman's Party's attitude toward protective labor legislation is *à propos* in connection with the Arizona Wage Law decision. Although its membership includes large numbers of labor women, the Woman's Party does not in any sense profess to be a labor organization. Consequently it would be officious and out of place for the Party to attempt to dictate labor policies. These matters can be better taken care of by bona fide labor groups.

On one point, and on only one, does the Woman's Party take a stand, and that is on the right of women to enjoy complete equality in every field of human activity. This is the beginning and the end of the Party's program. The issue is clear and will remain so.

## Penalizing Motherhood

ON October 15 the Board of School Commissioners of Baltimore City passed a new rule to become effective the following day. The implication of this new rule is so astounding that the mind hesitates to give it credence. Yet there it is, in plain black and white, a peremptory ban placed on parenthood for married women teachers. The rule reads:

"As soon as a married woman teacher becomes aware of her pregnancy she shall immediately apply for a leave of absence, without pay, which leave of absence shall continue for a period of at least two years beyond the date of the birth of the child.

"Failure to do so shall be considered neglect of duty and shall be dealt with accordingly.

"In the case of the death of the child, the period of leave of absence may be shortened on the discretion of the Board of School Commissioners."

As one completes the reading of this rule pictures of the Ganges with the hapless victims of infanticide float through the mind, for "in the case of the death of the child the leave of absence may be shortened on the discretion of the Board of School Commissioners." Not only is a premium of two years' and eight months' salary put upon birth control or sterility for married women teachers, but in addition a bonus is actually suggested for infant mortality!

Until June, 1924, the Board of School Commissioners penalized marriage for women school teachers by instant dismissal. This lapse in social conscience was corrected by Act of the Legislature and a beneficent decision handed down by City Solicitor Perlman. Since that time celibacy has not been regarded by the School Board, at least officially, as essential to proficiency in the profession of teaching.

Now it may be assumed that the learned members of the School Board know that one of the natural results of marriage is children; they indicate as much in their new rule. Thus their attitude leaves us at a loss. Wifehood, widowhood or divorce-hood are all right, but motherhood, no! A woman shall apply for leave of absence, without pay, in other words, she shall be dismissed, from the first recognition of her pregnancy until at least two years after the birth of her child.

A more ignoble and inhuman rule cannot be conceived. In no other profession in the world does it apply. How do the School Commissioners know that during this long period of time the husband of the woman will continue in health or even in life, or that his earning capacity will be unimpaired? How can they tell that the mother and her child can abstain from an income for thirty-two months or even longer? Wise as they are, the School Commissioners cannot foretell these things. Nor can the married school teacher. From an eugenic viewpoint this rule is clearly most insidious. Whether one believes in birth control or not, it is plain that parenthood should be encouraged, not penalized among the more intellectual groups. To place a premium running up into the thousands of dollars on sterility among married teachers is an anti-social act of no small moment.

We believe that this rule will be found to be wholly out of line with the teachers' Equal Rights law, for if parenthood does not constitute "neglect of duty" for men, surely it cannot be so construed in the case of women. Thus once again the School Commissioners of Baltimore City may have to learn that the lawful private life of professional women is something quite apart from their jurisdiction.

# Arizona Wage Law for Women Unconstitutional

By Ruby A. Black

THE United States Supreme Court has again declared that a minimum wage law for women only is unconstitutional. On Monday, October 19, the court declared the Arizona law, setting \$16 a week as a minimum wage for female laborers, in violation of the United States Constitution when it affirmed the decisions of the lower courts, from which the State of Arizona had appealed.

This is another indication that women are coming to be considered persons, entitled to rights and responsibilities equal to those of other adult persons, rather than a class of incompetents, comparable to minors, who require special protection. The Woman's Party, while taking no stand either for or against minimum wage legislation, stands for the principle that wage legislation, and all other industrial legislation, if enacted, should be on a non-sex basis, as is already the case in various foreign countries.

The National Woman's Party opposes a sex basis for industrial legislation because minimum wage laws applying to women but not to men give recognition to the idea that women are a class apart in industry who can enter the industrial field only by permission of the government and under various restrictions laid down by the government. There is no more reason for a minimum wage law applying to women only than for such a law applying to one particular race or one particular creed. If it is true that women have less bargaining power in the economic struggle than men have, it is equally true that certain races and certain creeds also face economic inequalities. Correction of these inequalities, and relief from the ills they bring, lie not in recognizing inequality by special laws, but in bringing about complete equality by wiping out all discriminations against women in law, in custom, and in economic life.

In holding the Arizona law unconstitutional, the Supreme Court referred to the decision in the District of Columbia case, which said:

"We cannot accept the doctrine that women of mature age \* \* \* require or may be subjected to restrictions upon their liberty of contract which could not lawfully be imposed in the case of men under similar circumstances. To do so would be to ignore all the implications to be drawn from the present-day trend of legislation, as well as that of common thought and usage, by which woman is accorded emancipation from the old doctrine that she must be given special protection or be subjected to special restraint in her contractual and civil relationships."

Attorney General John W. Murphy of Arizona admitted the basis of industrial

legislation based on sex when he said in his brief presented to the United States Supreme Court:

"Such laws have been sustained upon considerations relating to woman's physical structure, her maternal functions, and the vital importance of her protection in order to preserve the strength and vigor of the race, and further upon a consideration of woman's dependence on man."

Mr. Murphy then quotes Justice Brewer on the same subject:

"Still again, history discloses the fact that woman has always been dependent upon man. He has established his control in various forms, which, with diminishing intensity, has continued to the present. As minors, though not to the same extent, she has been looked on in the courts as needing special care that her rights may be preserved. \* \* \* Even though all restrictions on political, personal, and contractual rights were taken away, and she stood, so far as statutes were concerned, upon an absolutely equal plane with him, it would still be true that she is so constituted that she will rest upon and look to him for protection; that her physical structure and a proper discharge of her maternal functions — having in view not merely her own health, but the well-being of the race—justify legislation to protect her from the greed as well as the passion of man."

This choice bit is quoted for the benefit of readers of EQUAL RIGHTS who may have forgotten that they need protection as "a class apart," to quote Justice Brewer again.

IN presenting his case A. Sardell, who brought suit for an injunction against the enforcement of the minimum wage law, said that he would be precluded from employing the women then working in his two stores if the law should be enforced. He pleaded further that the law was in violation of the freedom of contract secured by the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution.

Leon B. Lamfrom of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, as a friend of the court, presented a brief against the validity of the law. In addition to bringing out legal points showing the unconstitutionality of the law, he gave as his first reason for holding that the Arizona law fell under the same condemnation as the District of Columbia law, the fact that "it fixes the price of wages of adult women, legally as capable of contracting for themselves as men."

Mr. Lamfrom said in another place in his argument:

"The physical nature of woman does not justify the taking from her of her property without any process of law. It

would be absurd so to contend. So woman's physical nature does not justify the unconstitutional taking of other citizens' property so that she may add to her private wealth. Besides, minimum wage laws for women apply to women who are employers as well as to women who are employees.

"Women are citizens and protected by the Constitution just as men are protected.

"The physical nature of women has no relation to the question whether the property of one citizen may be required to be turned over to another citizen merely to give the other citizen more property."

THE following editorial from the Washington Herald, while it does not express the stand of the National Woman's Party, is interesting in that it shows that the editorial point of view is veering around toward that point which holds that women are as capable of taking care of themselves as other adults are:

"The news that the Supreme Court of the United States has knocked out the minimum wage law of Arizona is not at all surprising, in view of the fact that it had already knocked out our own minimum wage law. It will be regretted, however, by men and women of humanitarian impulses, who question whether 'liberty of contract' means much in a condition of such unequal bargaining as exists between an individual worker and a large corporation. The 'liberty' of a woman to take a job which pays less money than she needs for bare existence does not seem a very desirable sort of 'liberty,' and the Washington Herald questions seriously whether it was that the American soldiers fought for in 1776.

"There are excellent legal reasons underlying the action of the court, but the morals of a community are usually in advance of its laws, and morally the American people are opposed to the exploitation of defenceless working women.

"This much is to be said, however. Progressive leaders of organized labor, such as Miss Margaret Bondfield, now a member of the British Parliament, do not set much store by the minimum wage system, for they consider it a makeshift at best. According to Miss Bondfield, it is much better for working women to be able to protect themselves, through their organizations, than for them to be dependent upon the protection of the law.

"It would be interesting, and not altogether pleasant, perhaps, for the corporations who induce girls who don't know what it is all about to attack the law, if the result of the destruction of the law's protection should be the establishment of militant organizations of working women."

The Woman's Party, as is clear, neither supports nor opposes protective legislation. It insists that such legislation, if adopted by the State or the nation, be equally applicable to men and women.



# The First Feminist in the New World

By Dorothy Schons

*Miss Schons is a member of the Faculty of the Department of Romance Languages at the University of Texas, and has just returned from a visit to Mexico, spent studying the life of Sor Juana.*

ALMOST two hundred years before Susan B. Anthony initiated the Feminist movement in this country, there appeared in the New World a woman who was undoubtedly the first American Feminist. Though she lived in Mexico, she was an American by birth, the daughter of a Spanish father and a Mexican mother. This remarkable woman, Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz, lived from 1651 to 1695, and is commonly known as "the Mexican nun." She was not only the leading poet of her time but was also one of the outstanding scholars in the Spanish-speaking world. She was also a musician of no mean ability and is said to have made some important contributions to the theory of music, though her book on the subject has been lost.

But even more remarkable than her literary or intellectual achievements is the fact that she was a great independent thinker. When one considers that it was the day of the Inquisition in the Spanish colonies, and of stocks and whipping-posts in the English colonies, it is rather remarkable that any section of the New World should have produced a woman who did her own thinking and was not afraid to say what she thought. In her world no one was supposed to have original ideas, least of all a woman, least of all a nun. That such a strong champion of women should have arisen, then, in Mexico is almost unbelievable. And though she was hampered by her sex and by that terrible instrument of the faith, the Inquisition, nowhere more intolerant

than in the New World, her mind was never shackled. She felt keenly the limitation of woman's sphere and advocated education for women. Learned women were needed, she said, to instruct young girls. Well did she know, for she herself had suffered from the lack of proper instruction. It is no exaggeration to say that she was a self-made woman, for she was obliged to educate herself.

Sor Juana Inés actually wrote a defense of education for women. She defended their right to read and study. The right to intellectual activity must be governed, she said, by ability and not by sex, for mind is not a matter of sex. Let educational opportunities, then, be offered to those who have talent. She goes on to say that the education of women is a national necessity. An educated group of women would bring prestige and honor to the State. Why should not Mexican women rival those of other lands and other times? What better proof of the benefits of education than that learning gave the world a Saint Gertrude, a Saint Brigit?

Sor Juana was far in advance of her times. In an age of license and immorality she advocated a single standard of morality. This is the more remarkable when one

considers that she was a nun and that the attitude of the church toward women was medieval. Women were considered a constant menace to man. One must not even look at them lest one be tempted. What better way of guarding the morals of society than to shut women up in nunneries and other institutions? No one thought of reforming the men. The double standard was taken for granted.

It was not taken for granted, however, by Sor Juana. She boldly came to the defense of women. In her most famous poem, the *Redondillas*, she called men to task in no uncertain terms. What fools men are to blame women for the sins that they themselves encourage! How silly to set up a standard of morality for women that men themselves will not abide by! Why expect women to be virtuous? Men get what they want from women and then themselves point the finger of scorn.

"Be she bold naught gaineth she  
Men revile and curse her name;  
Ingrate she, nor free from blame  
If she would o'er cautious be."

How shall women conduct themselves?

"If the cautious one offend  
And the bold one anger thee,  
How shall her love tempered be  
Whom your heart and hand pretend?"

Who is more blameworthy, she who sins for pay or he who pays for sin? Men, she says, strive to attain their ends by all means, fair and foul.

A remarkable woman she who could in such an age challenge man, the ruler of the earth!

cording to changes made in the marriage ritual adopted at the triennial convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church. It was deemed necessary by the deputies and the bishops, however, to adopt as a part of the marriage ceremony a prayer that the union be blessed with children.

Commenting on this action, the *Washington Post* said:

"The Episcopal Church votes to strike that obsolete little word 'obey' from the marriage service, with that profound sagacity which prompts the wise man to recognize when a condition has superseded a wornout theory."

The bishops refused to authorize the licensing of women as lay readers, though the deputies had approved this step forward, and the House of Deputies refused to admit women to membership in the general convention of the church.

The word "obey" was eliminated from the marriage ceremony by a bare majority.

## Toward Equality in Marriage

IN the Austrian Parliament the women members, Adelheid Popp and Gabriele Proft, have introduced a bill aiming at the total equality of women in marriage. The following demands are contained in this bill: The right of the woman who marries a foreigner to keep or change her nationality; Equal Rights and duties for husband and wife, especially to the support of the common household, to mutual provision in case that one of the couple cannot earn, to the temporary dissolving of matrimonial life in case that the health of the economic situation of one party is endangered by the other party; choice of a common family name at the conclusion of the marriage (the name must be either the name of the husband or that of the wife); change of the domicile only in case of mutual consent; Equal Rights and duties towards the children; the right of the wife to a share in the common earnings, if the origin of the income cannot be ascertained.

The bill has caused a great sensation in Austria, as in some points the demands are so radical that even many convinced Feminists do not agree with them, particularly the demand for a common marriage name and the demand for the temporary dissolving of matrimonial life, in case that health or economic situation of one party is endangered by the other party, writes Gisela Urban of the Austrian National Council of Women. But Austrian women are very grateful to the two women members of Parliament who stand up for these demands, as they have shown by this bill how important the reform of the matrimonial laws is, she adds.

America also records a short step toward equality in marriage. The wife need no longer promise to obey, and the husband need no longer declare "with all my worldly goods I thee endow," but the wife is still "given away" by father or friend to her husband, ac-

## Press Comment

**Mothers are Barred** BALTIMORE—A new rule first adopted by the Board of Education here permits married women to teach so long as they do not become mothers.

If a teacher becomes a mother, she must take a vacation for at least two years.

Until 1924 no married woman was permitted to teach in Baltimore public schools unless separated from her husband by divorce or death.

**Thinks It a Joke**

Kansas  
*Woman's Journal*

ANOTHER Woman's magazine thinks Anthony M. Ludovici's "Lysistrata," an attack on Feminism, a joke. Here is what the *Kansas Woman's Journal* says of it:

"The book is a scream, yes, literally. Poor Ludovici, because he cannot have his way with the women, is absolutely buckling on his arms ready for this sex-war. Listen to his terrible prophecy of the time when poor grandmothers shall emerge from their lavender and old lace and go screaming 'peace! peace! when there is no peace—'"

"Occasionally this bitter rivalry will lead to riots and savage street-fighting, in which, owing to the fact that moral indignation will always be on the side of the women, the men are certain to be routed, and to lose credit, prestige and lives. In any case, owing to the continued besotment of men, the female domain will steadily corrode and eat into the male, and soon men will cease to be employers altogether, and become the poorest paid workers in an industry run entirely by women."

"Dear Duttons how could you? *Life* or *Puck* or *Judge* should have done it. Perhaps—it's an awful thought—but perhaps this is a humorous ambush you are leading us unwary reviewers into. Dare we ever trust you implicitly again? However, as the most delicious bit of humor extant, we'll recommend Ludovici to the Feminists themselves and the National Woman's Party."

**Wages for Wives**

*Washington Post*

THE president of the Laundry Owners' National Association, who has risen in eloquent championship of the housewives of the United States, asserting that if they were placed on a salary basis the plan would prove to be an economical move of far-reaching benefit, did not pursue the logic of his argument. He estimated that the weekly payroll of the 22,000,000 wives and home managers in this country would be \$330,000,-

000 at the rate of \$15 a week each, or \$17,000,000,000 a year. To make his statement the more significant, he said that half that sum would be sufficient to pay all expenses of running the governments of the United States, both State and Federal. Then, half in criticism of the wives themselves and the husbands who would be their employers, the laundryman said that the reason why women do not receive pay as home managers is because the average woman is lacking in business sense. Women do not demand a business arrangement because they are used to sentimental relations, he added.

One flaw in this proposal is that a husband is as much entitled to wages as a wife, if they are to establish their relations on a business basis. Another more serious flaw is that the plan takes no account of household expenses. Who is to pay them? If the wife is to be a salaried person, keeping the house as a business proposition, she should pay her own board and buy her own clothes. She shares responsibility for the children and should pay one-half of the cost of their living.

But it is impracticable to put into effect any plan which attempts to make a wife a paid agent instead of a partner of her husband. They are partners, whether they realize the fact or not. One of them gains more cash for the firm than the other, but he is not entitled to regard this cash as his own. It belongs to the partnership. All the husband makes should go into a common pot, leaving him without salary, and all that the wife does should constitute her contribution to the partnership, also without salary. Then, after deducting expenses, if there is anything left, they should share it fifty-fifty.

**Women Auto Drivers**

*Washington Post*

DR. F. A. MOSS of George Washington University recently made interesting tests to determine the comparative efficiency of men and women drivers of automobiles. In an article in the *American Motorist* he writes:

"What is the truth about the woman driver? It is simply this, that as regards some of the most important qualities necessary to make a competent and safe driver the woman stacks up higher than the male of the species. Actual experiments conducted under conditions that tested the qualities of both sexes in emergencies will be adduced to support the truth as stated.

"Take, for instance, one of the most important and essential qualities in driving, namely, the speed at which the indi-

vidual reacts to danger. How important this matter of reaction time is will be seen from the fact that if it takes an individual one and a half seconds to move his foot from the accelerator to the brake after he perceives a dangerous situation, he or she, in a car going at the rate of 30 miles an hour, will have traveled 66 feet from the time the danger is first seen until the brakes are applied. But if it takes only half a second for the same operation, the distance traversed by the car is only 22 feet. It is readily apparent that a difference of 44 feet in distance traveled may often mean the saving or the losing of a life.

"Now, how do men and women compare as regards this important factor of speed in getting the message to the brain, as it were, and applying the brakes to prevent an accident?"

"In order to answer this and other kindred questions, such as the variability of the same individual, the relation between reaction time and the speed of the car, and how the speed is affected by such factors as age, race and general intelligence, a series of experiments were conducted by me in co-operation with H. H. Allen of the United States Bureau of Standards.

"The apparatus devised to carry out these consisted of an automobile with two revolvers mounted on the under side of the running board. One revolver was fired by the examiner as a signal and the other was fired automatically when the person taking the test made the initial motion to apply the brake pedal. The shells were loaded with red lead, so that when either revolver was fired a bright red spot was made on the road. In order to secure maximum accuracy a chronometric tachometer was used instead of the ordinary speedometer.

"And the result? Well, here it is. Thirty-five students from George Washington University, 25 men and 10 women, were put through the tests, and the average reaction time of the 10 women was 0.56 seconds, while that of the 25 men was 0.59 seconds. Therefore, if ability to act quickly in an emergency means anything in good driving—which it certainly does—it seems certain that the woman should be as good or a better driver than the man. In order to forestall possible questions, it should be stated that precautions were taken to see to it that the men and women had approximately the same amount of prior experience in handling an automobile. So much for the comparative speed with which the two sexes respond."



# News From The Field

**D. C. Branch Holds Benefit Bridge Party**  
**A** BRIDGE and five hundred party will be given by the District of Columbia Branch of the National Woman's Party at National Headquarters on Wednesday afternoon, November 4, at two o'clock. Following the card party, tea will be served.

Hostesses for the party include Mrs. C. C. Calhoun, Mrs. Emile Berliner, Mrs. Harvey Wiley, Mrs. Appleton Clark, Miss Sheldon Jackson, Mrs. Richard Boeckel, Mrs. Andrew Stewart, Mrs. Legare O'Bear, Mrs. H. C. Easterday, and Mrs. Nell Gravatt. Mrs. Wymond Bradbury, chairman of the District of Columbia Branch, is in charge of the committee on arrangements.

This is the first of a series of activities planned by the District of Columbia Branch as benefits for refinishing and furnishing the dining-rooms at the historic headquarters on Capitol Hill. Sara Grogan is in charge of reservations.

### Luncheons in New Mexico Cities

**M**RS. ARTHUR A. KELLAM, State Chairman of the New Mexico Branch of the National Woman's Party, reports that the branch is planning to hold a series of luncheons for the Equal Rights campaign in all the larger cities of the state. Mrs. Kellam was a visitor at National Headquarters last week, on

her return from Europe where she has been studying the status of women. The Legal Research Department of the Woman's Party has completed a digest of the laws of New Mexico affecting women, and is now drafting Equal Rights bills for introduction in the state legislature to fit New Mexico's needs. Mrs. Kellam is an author and song-writer, one of her recently published songs being "The Santa Fe Trail."

### Kansas Branch Holds Luncheon

**A**N organization luncheon of the National Woman's Party was held in Kansas City, Kansas, on October 22. Plans are under way for carrying on more intensive work for Equal Rights, both state and national. Members of the Kansas City, Missouri, Branch co-operated with the Kansas women in this first large meeting of the fall in Kansas City, Kansas.

### Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence Speaks

**E**MMELINE PETHICK-LAWRENCE, a member of the International Advisory Council of the National Woman's Party, is speaking before several branches of the National Woman's Party during her visit to the United States. In October she speaks at a meeting in Los Angeles, California, presided over by Genevieve Allen, California orangizer. In November she

will speak in New York City. While in Washington for the conference of the Interparliamentary Union, Mrs Pethick-Lawrence spoke at National Headquarters and at a reception for the Maryland Branch.

### Writer Handles Foreign News

**R**UTH HUDNUT, who with her husband, H. Baker Crothers, is author of "The Problems of Citizenship," has come from Hanover, New Hampshire, to Hyattsville, Maryland, to live, and is active in work at National Headquarters. She is sending news of the Woman's Party's campaign for Equal Rights to the Feminist papers of Europe. Miss Hudnut and Mr. Crothers included the Feminist program in their book, which has already been adopted by more than thirty colleges for use as a text.

### New York State Activities

**A**S clubs and organizations meet there is a demand for speakers on the question of Equal Rights for men and women. The New York State Chairman of the Woman's Party spoke on Equal Rights before a meeting of the Iowa Society at the home of Mrs. Paul Jones, 435 Riverside Drive, on Friday, October 9. The meeting was well attended and much interest was taken in the entire program of the Woman's Party.

## 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 September 5, 1925, \$1,308,586.12.

Contributions, membership receipts and other receipts, September 5, 1925, to October 9, 1925:

Mrs. Minnie L. Alband, D. C.	\$1.00
Mrs. Pope Yeatman, Pa.	300.00
Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont, N. Y.	250.00
Miss Lavinia Dock, Pa.	10.00
Miss Elizabeth R. Hooker, Conn.	50.00
Mrs. F. R. Hazard, N. Y.	110.00
Miss Anita Pollitzer, S. C.	1.00
Mrs. James W. Algeo, R. I.	10.00
Mrs. Mary Greenewalt, Pa.	1.00
Dr. Olive Wilson, Ark.	1.00
Mrs. Buena C. Shaggs, Ark.	1.00
Mrs. Clarence R. Dunn, D. C.	1.00
Miss Edith Cornelia Low, Calif.	50.00
Mrs. M. H. Murray, N. Y.	5.00
Mrs. Emily H. Bright, Minn.	5.00
Mrs. Lillah B. Gray, Mass.	50.00
Mrs. Jane Potter Bliss, Minn.	10.00
Mrs. Adele P. Blauvelt, N. Y.	25.00
Miss Florence E. Ranger	5.00
John Pries, Colo.	5.00
Mrs. Rebecca Winsor, Pa.	100.00
Miss Louise C. Sturtevant, R. I.	2.00
Miss Ernestine Parsons, Colo.	8.00
Miss Carrie L. Gill, D. C.	1.00
Mrs. Louise Atherton Dickey, Pa.	10.00
Miss Anita LeSueur, D. C.	1.00
Miss Elizabeth Garnett, D. C.	1.00
Miss M. Masten, D. C.	1.00
Mrs. Lucy Cooper Shaw, D. C.	6.00
Miss Elizabeth Gant, D. C.	1.00
Miss Mathilda Ammen, Mont.	2.50
Miss Eva Ammen, Mont.	2.50
Dr. Clara L. Nicolay, Miss.	1.00
Mississippi Branch	80.00
Per Colorado Branch:	
State Treasury	58.50
Dr. Caroline E. Spencer	25.00
Mrs. Karl C. Schuyler	25.00
Mrs. William H. Evans	25.00
Mrs. Henry Sachs	10.00
Mrs. Frances L. Glassell	15.00

Mrs. Mary A. Hollan	5.00
Mrs. O. H. Shoup	5.00
Mrs. Kingsley Ballou	5.00
Mrs. Lillian H. Kerr	5.00
Mrs. E. M. E. Solly	5.00
Mrs. Clarence P. Dodge	5.00
Mrs. Mary Aldrich	2.50
Mrs. Helen T. Miller	5.00
Miss Ernestine Parsons	5.00
Per Colorado Branch:	
(Colorado Branch retaining one-half of fees)	
Dr. Caroline E. Spencer	5.00
Mrs. Helen T. Miller	5.00
Miss Ellen S. O'Connell	5.00
Miss Hattie E. Bromagen	.50
Miss Mary Winsor, Pa.	100.00
Miss Mattie L. McMorris, D. C.	5.00
Per New Jersey Branch:	
(New Jersey Branch retaining half of fees)	
Mrs. Charles Enders, Jr.	.50
Mrs. R. L. McBride	.50
District of Columbia Branch	127.00
Miss Rose C. Grimes, Md.	1.00
Mrs. Ellen B. P. Crump, Miss.	8.00
Mrs. Elizabeth B. Culbertson, Pa.	30.00
Mrs. Brenda Soule Clark, D. C.	1.00
Miss Lenora M. DeGrange, D. C.	1.00
Miss Hattie F. Graves, Mass.	1.00
Senora Muna Lee de Munoz Marin, Porto Rica	10.00
Mrs. M. Kuyper, Va.	1.00
Dr. Margaret Eck, D. C.	1.00
Miss Edith H. Porter, D. C.	1.00
Vera Fowler Lewis, D. C.	10.00
Miss Mary Reimensnyder, D. C.	1.00
Mlle. Ceza Nabaraoui, Egypt	1.00
William V. Mahoney, D. C.	1.00
Miss Lottie F. Magee, D. C.	.50
Miss Jessie F. Magee, D. C.	.50
Per Minnesota Branch:	
(Minnesota Branch retaining one-half of fees)	
Miss Mynnie Martinson	.50
Mrs. Boardman Cooley	.50

Mrs. W. Van Court	.50
Miss Louise C. Frary	.50
Miss Katherine S. Kendall	.50
Mrs. Julia Brown Mattingly, D. C.	1.00
Miss Virginia C. Bedford, Tex.	1.00
Mrs. Lawrence Lewis, Pa.	25.00
Miss Laura M. Bragg, S. C.	1.00
Miss Lois Hayden Meek, D. C.	1.00
Mrs. Elizabeth Wallace Clark, D. C.	25.00
Miss Anna K. Stimson, Pa.	112.25
Mrs. H. L. Wilmarth, D. C.	2.00
Mrs. Sumner C. Perkins, Md.	1.00
Miss A. E. Earp, D. C.	1.00
Mrs. Anna S. Hamilton, Colo.	1.00
Mrs. Meleta B. Spelshouse, D. C.	1.00
Mrs. Frances Walker, D. C.	1.00
Mme. Hoda Charaoui Pasha, Egypt	1.00
Mrs. Florence Bayard Hilles, Del.	1.00
Miss Marie Comeau, D. C.	1.00
Mrs. Magdalena E. Gale, D. C.	1.00
Miss Antoinette L. Barlow, D. C.	1.00
Miss Eleanor Boswell, D. C.	1.00
Mrs. Helen D. Heime, D. C.	1.00
Rent of rooms at Headquarters	153.00
Deposits on keys	1.00
Refunds	59.30
Telephone receipts	5.50
Sale of "Jailed for Freedom"	6.00
Per Equal Rights Committee:	
Mrs. Elinor M. Levey, N. Y.	\$25.00
Dr. Donald R. Hooker, Md.	200.00
Mrs. J. W. Algeo, R. I.	5.00
Mrs. Flora R. Brimhall, Utah	.50
	230.50

Total receipts, September 5, 1925, to October 9, 1925.....\$2,264.55

Total receipts, December 7, 1912, to October 9, 1925.....\$1,310,850.67

**DAY PRINTING COMPANY**  
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