

# Equal Rights

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FIVE CENTS

SATURDAY,  
NOVEMBER 8, 1924



Woman's Party Conference With Director Of Public Safety Butler  
On Securing An Honest Election In Connection With  
The Women For Congress Campaign

## Feminist Notes

### English Teachers Ask For Equal Pay

THE National Union of Women Teachers in London held a mass-meeting at Australia House, London, on October 20, to demand equal pay for men and women teachers.

The following resolution was moved and carried unanimously:

"This meeting protests against the differentiation between the salaries of men and women teachers, and in view of their equal professional training and duties calls upon the government, the local education authorities and the Burnham Committee to establish the principle of equal pay for men and women teachers of the same professional status by raising the women's scale to that of men."

### The Political Parties In England And Women

THE manifestos issued by the Labor, Conservative and Liberal Parties in Great Britain, stated the October 17th issue of the *Vote*, had nothing containing a promise to secure equal voting rights for women with men. In the same issue indignation was expressed over the failure of the defeated Labor Government to support the Equal Franchise Bill at the last session of Parliament. The article also stated that the Conservative Party was content to deal with women's interests in a paragraph under the heading, "Women and Children," and the hope was expressed that the Conservative Party would soon realize how keenly women resent their rights as citizens being mixed up with protective measures for children.

The Liberal Party had not one word to say about women's interests. While its manifesto appealed for electoral reform, nothing was said about any steps to secure voting rights for the five million voteless women in England over 21 years of age.

### English Women Support Women Candidates

THE Women's Freedom League of England supported women candidates of all parties in the recent Parliamentary elections. Volunteers helped canvass, organized indoor and street meetings, distributed handbills and spoke at the meetings. The Election Committee of the Women's Freedom League issued a leaflet on "Why Women Candidates Should Be Sent to Parliament."

During the election campaign the members of the Freedom League also attended meetings of all men candidates and secured public statements from them on their position regarding equal voting

rights for men and women, equal opportunities and equal pay for both sexes in the Civil Service and the teaching profession, on women's unemployment, the necessity of equal right of guardianship of children for fathers and mothers, and on all other demands for equality.

Articles and bulletins issued by the League expressed the conviction that the return of women to Parliament was the surest and quickest way to secure the reforms for which the organization is working—equal franchise, equal opportunities, equal responsibilities and equal rewards for women with men in all branches of the national life.

The women re-elected to Parliament were Lady Astor, the Duchess of Atholl and Mrs. Philipson. Miss E. Wilkinson, the only new woman elected, represents the Labor Party.

### Women's Liberal Federations In England

THE Women's National Liberal Federation of England has outlined a program of work for the coming year. It includes intensive organization plans in the interests of the Equal Franchise Bill, Equal Guardianship, Improvement in status and numbers of women police, the Extension of the Probation System and Children's Courts.

### Cairo Women Demand Rights

MRS. ZAGHLUL PASHA has gathered together a little band of progressive women in Cairo to fight for the social and political equality of women with men. The Ladies' Guild and the Union of Egyptian Women are working in conjunction with this newly organized group for measures affecting women.

The Union of Egyptian Women is the oldest suffrage society in Egypt. Its president, Mrs. Hoda Charaoui Pasha, is a noted figure in Cairo. Its program includes the higher education of women, their social and political equality with men, the reform of laws and customs relating to marriage, the raising of the age of marriage, and the fight against immorality. As a result of the work of this organization, the Egyptian Society of Ministers passed a law making illegal all marriages of boys under 18 and girls under 16. The deputation of women who secured this reform marked the first occasion on which Egyptian women formally approached a minister.

The Union of Women is now concentrating on educational work among Egyptian women in order to prepare them for their political enfranchisement. This suffrage campaign is proceeding side by side with those earlier welfare activi-

ties for which the Egyptian women are famed.

### Woman's Congress At Belgrade, Serbia

THE Belgrade Congress of the Women's Little Entente, with delegates from Serbia, Poland, Greece, Rumania and Czecho-Slovakia, convened on November 1st. It opened with a reading of reports of delegates on the entente work in the struggle for women's political rights. These showed that the Czech and Polish women have gained the most. The Congress lasted a week.

### Beethoven And Woman's Movement

IT has been announced by a student of the life of Beethoven that his great work "Fidelio" was composed under the influence of the woman's question—which came to the front in the last years of the eighteenth and the first years of the nineteenth centuries. Beethoven was determined if he ever wrote an opera that the story should be one of high ideals. He was anxious at this time to find a story which demonstrated the true power of women. Hence "Fidelio," which was performed for the first time in 1805.

Beethoven deplored the librettos of Mozart's famous "Marriage of Figaro" and "Don Giovanni," etc., as being unworthy of the music set to them.

### Women's Ship of Friendship

ON November 10th the Women's Church Committee on International Goodwill will send Christmas packages to Germany on the "Ship of Friendship." This committee is a permanent organization that will work to relieve the people of Germany from want. The purpose of the committee, according to its announcement, is three-fold:

"1. It aims to build channels for the expression of the friendship of the women of America for the women of other lands that their faith may endure after the suffering of the past.

"2. It plans to establish practical means of sending relief from the women of America that the women of other lands may have the courage to face the present.

"3. It aims to found a basis of spiritual understanding so firm and so complete between the women of America and the women of other lands that it shall render future wars impossible."

Distribution of clothing and food is to be handled through the churches of Germany, just as the gathering of this material will come through the churches of America. Carolena M. Wood is the chairman of the committee.

## Mrs. Ferguson Elected Texas Governor

ON November 4th a woman, Miriam Ferguson, was elected Governor of Texas. Her initial victory was in the first Democratic primary, when she ran second in a field of eight candidates. Next she defeated Judge Felix Robertson, leader in the first primary, in the run-off by almost 100,000 majority. Full reports have not yet come in regarding Mrs. Ferguson's lead over her Republican opponent in the November elections, but the latest figures give a majority of 50,000.

After her nomination the question of her eligibility as Governor was raised by Charles M. Dickson of San Antonio, who sought an injunction to keep her name off the ticket in the November election. She was returned the victor in this proceeding in the District Court, whereupon Mr. Dickson appealed to the Third Court of Civil Appeals. This court certified the questions involved to the Texas Supreme Court, which answered them all, on October 18th, in favor of Mrs. Ferguson.

THE decision of the Texas Supreme Court is a distinct victory not only for Mrs. Ferguson and the women of Texas, but for women throughout the land, as it is among the first cases to involve the eligibility of enfranchised women to high public offices, and will serve as a wholesome precedent for those states which, like Texas, have not enacted legislation expressly declaring women eligible for public office.

Regarding the contention that the Texas constitution excludes a woman from the governorship because of her sex, the Supreme Court pointed out that the voters are at liberty to choose any person to office who is not made ineligible by the constitution; that as the constitution does not make sex a qualification for office, the voters are free to choose a governor without regard to the sex or marriage of the person of their choice; that it is expressly stated in the constitution who shall be eligible and who shall be ineligible for governors; that Mrs. Ferguson possesses every affirmative qualification which the constitution declares requisite to eligibility, as, for example, the qualification in regard to age, citizenship and residence; that she comes within the terms of none of the constitutional provisions stating who shall not hold the office of governor; and therefore that it must be held that she meets every test prescribed for the governor by the supreme law of the state.

MRS. DICKSON'S counsel laid much stress upon the fact that the words "he" and "his" are used in the constitution in the defining of the governor's qualifications. The reply of the Supreme Court is that since we have no English word which in the singular number includes both "he" and "she," the most ap-

propriate word, under common usage to include both sexes while using the singular number, is the word "he"; and that the context of the constitution as a whole plainly reveals the sense in which the word "he" is used.

Other questions involved in the Ferguson case were these:

Is Mrs. Ferguson ineligible because of her being the wife of an impeached governor?

Does the record establish as a matter of law that Mr. Ferguson is the real candidate and that the use of his wife's name is a subterfuge?

Did the District Court err in holding it had jurisdiction over the case?

Did the plaintiff, Mr. Dickson, as a private citizen, have sufficient interest to permit him to bring the suit?

To the first two questions the answer was no. The court said that, although Mrs. Ferguson's salary as governor would belong to the community estate of her husband and herself, still Mr. Ferguson would not be receiving or sharing any profit derived from any state office held by him; and that his impeachment did not impose any penalties on his wife. To the remaining two questions the court answered that the District Court did not have jurisdiction to hear the case, and that Charles M. Dickson, plaintiff, had no legal authority to bring the suit.



MIRIAM FERGUSON  
GOVERNOR OF TEXAS

THE Woman's Party prepared a brief to be filed in the Ferguson case in support of the theory that Mrs. Ferguson is not, on account of her sex, ineligible to the office of governor. All the court decisions from the earliest times and from every state involving the eligibility of women to public office were read in the preparation of this brief.

MRS. FERGUSON'S election means that the largest state in our Union will be under the direction of a woman governor. It is one of the historic events of our country's life. The old era, when it was taken as a matter of course that only men could be governors of states, has now gone by forever.

FURTHERMORE, the court held, the fact that the supposed reasons for the rule against married women holding of-

# 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.

## The Elections

THERE are two outstanding features of the elections which are just over. One is the election of two women as governors—the first time that we have ever had any woman in a governor's chair. The other is the uniting of women from all parts of the country in a concerted effort to elect women who are interested in the woman's movement to our highest legislative body—the first time that women have ever made a real campaign for women for office.

While the elections have not carried the woman's cause far ahead, it is nevertheless an advance to have two women in governors' chairs. There should, however, be a large number of women governors, and they should be chosen for their own merit and not merely to take the place of a husband who has died or been impeached. And it is an advance to have had a nation-wide campaign by women in support of women candidates, even though this first campaign was not sufficiently strong to effect the election of the women.

But while the elections did not accomplish much in the way of concrete progress, future generations will probably look back to the 1924 elections as a landmark in the woman's movement because of these two features—the election of the first woman governors, and the rallying of women for the first time in a nation-wide campaign in support of women for office. From these small beginnings in 1924 there is destined, we believe, to grow a great movement.

## The Beginning of a Movement

IT is difficult for the student just leaving college to realize that he has not reached the end. A truly inspirational thought was it on the part of one of our ancestors to call it Commencement—this ending of the school period, and how often has this name been the cause of jest. The sudden cessation of one's immediate activities, the sudden swerving to another line of thought, the sudden descent from the uplift of the exciting climax—all tend to a reactionary depression, a feeling of hopelessness, a calculating wonder whether it has been worth while. The student cannot at once realize that he is not at the end of things; that he is only entering the greater school of life.

So is it with the WOMEN FOR CONGRESS campaign just finished. It takes some adjustment to bring the full realization that the WOMEN FOR CONGRESS fight has not been ended; that in coming to the end we have only reached the beginning—the commencement of a bigger campaign. And it is hard to recall throughout defeat the heartening recollections of ground gained.

But the ground has been gained. There has been an awakening of greater sex solidarity among women. There has been an awakening of a sense of responsibility among women that goes beyond the immediate home. Women have begun to realize that it is not only a right owed them by men to have representation in office, but a duty which women owe as right-thinking citizens.

## Women For Congress

THE Congressional elections resulted in the election of one woman, Mary P. Norton of Jersey City, N. J. All of the other women who received nominations and went before the electors on November 4 were defeated.

Mrs. Norton, the one victorious candidate, ran on the Democratic ticket. Her election had been conceded ever since her nomination, as she had the backing of the Democratic machine in one of the strongest Democratic districts in the country. Mrs. Norton is the first Eastern woman to be elected to Congress.

THE remaining women nominated for Congress, all of whom were nominated in districts conceded to their opponents, went down to defeat.

The five Pennsylvania women for whose election the Woman's Party was working particularly were all defeated by their Republican opponents in the Republican landslide that swept Pennsylvania. All of the five Pennsylvania candidates made a good showing at the polls and all polled many votes beyond the regular number that went with the particular ticket on which they ran. The complete returns have not been received, so that it is not possible as yet to state exactly what inroads they made on their opponents' usual majority.

THE active campaign of the Woman's Party for the women running for Congress was brought to a climax with a mass-meeting Sunday afternoon at the Broad Street Theatre in Philadelphia. It was marked by an atmosphere of high purpose. Throughout the program the thought was uppermost in the thoughts of speakers and listeners that this campaign was the beginning, and not the end—that the idea set in motion with this active campaign will grow and crystallize till, in a few years when women are in Congress as a matter of course, the present workers and supporters of this campaign will look back proudly on their connection with the commencement of the movement as do now the early exponents of woman suffrage.

Crystal Eastman came down from New York to preside at the meeting and spoke with pride of the Woman's Party and its loyalty to the cause of women. Mrs. Arthur Cramer of Detroit, formerly chairman of the Wayne County Women's Republican Club and a national officer of the Woman's Party, presented the view of the Republican woman who still must put the interests of womankind ahead of any party.

Hannah Clothier Hull, national president of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, a distinguished member of a distinguished Quaker family, followed, stressing the importance of women in Congress that the cause of international peace may be pre-



JESSIE COLLET—CANDIDATE FOR CONGRESS  
VALIANT FIGHTER IN A LOSING BATTLE

served and given its due place of prominence. Maud Younger of California, Congressional chairman of the Woman's Party, spoke most happily on the importance of women in Congress, and pointed her tale with incidents showing the changed attitude toward lobbying and toward many public questions since women have entered political life. Personal sidelights on Congressman Graham brought much laughter and applause from the appreciative audience.

Mabel Vernon of Delaware, executive secretary of the Woman's Party, followed with a telling appeal for funds. She offered to the assembled people an opportunity to be among the pioneers in supporting this movement, which she said must inevitably grow to such strength that it cannot be crushed.

THE last week of the campaign was a busy one. Congressman Graham, whom Mrs. Collet opposed, made his first speech of the campaign. A delegation of Woman's Party members stationed themselves on the sidewalk outside the hall where he was speaking and carried placards calling attention to his record on suffrage and other measures.

A few days before election a large deputation called on Director-General

Smedley Butler at the City Hall to ask his co-operation in seeing that there was a fair election. General Butler acknowledged the part women are playing in public affairs, with the statement: "Law enforcement will never be complete until women like you have charge of public affairs." Mrs. Grammer, state chairman of the Woman's Party, headed the deputation and introduced Mrs. Edwin C. Grice as spokesman. Other members of the deputation were Doris Stevens, campaign manager; Anita Pollitzer, national secretary of the Woman's Party; Miss Mary Burnham, a life member of the Woman's Party, and Mrs. Robert Bradford, head of the Lighthouse Settlement in Philadelphia.

Meetings were held throughout the various districts of the five women candidates up to the very last moment before the election.

Every worker obtainable was sent to the polls on election day. Those who were qualified as residents of the wards had watchers' certificates. The others accosted voters at the voting booths and asked for votes for the women candidates for Congress. Many exciting incidents were added to the personal records of the members of the Woman's Party. Threats of arrest from the hostile "bosses" who ruled their wards availed nothing with the courageous workers. They remained at their posts till closing time. Everywhere was seen the influence of a powerful and corrupt machine, and while the women were able to do little against it, their continued presence registered a constant protest against existing conditions.

THE results of the election as written down in cold figures in the official records will never tell the whole results. They will in no wise tell the greater results of the awakening of a national feminist consciousness.

Weeks upon weeks of preparation and effort brought the WOMEN FOR CONGRESS campaigners to the morning of election day with the feeling that whatever the outcome of the local issue, the national issue was not lost. From all parts of the country and from other countries had come words of hope and cheer, expressing the world-wide union that is growing up among women who are seeking a better world for women. Among the most interesting of these messages was one from Lady Rhondda of England, the peeress who was denied a seat in the House of Lords. Lady Rhondda cabled: "Very best wishes for the election of your women to Congress."

## From The Press

Alice Paul  
Again

*Haddonfield,  
N. J., News.*

“ACCORDING to a Washington dispatch in the *Public Ledger*, ‘the prospect looms that nine-tenths of women’s organizations will oppose the program’ for another constitutional amendment sweeping away all the legal distinctions between men and women. However, the article says that Alice Paul is in favor of the amendment, and it is little she reckons of opposition from any organization, male or female; and when she is in the field, it is little that the politicians reckon of them, either.

“We are conscious of an informality in calling her ‘Alice Paul.’ It is customary to refer to her as ‘the National Woman’s Party.’ But as the rest of the National Woman’s Party follow blindly where she leads and accord to her the same devotion that has attached to all great historic leaders with a single object, it is only sense to discard the form and reach for the substance.

“Alice Paul is a frail little thing to look at, but you do not see the invisible hundreds of pounds of steel that make up her personality. Her methods are those of intimidation such as not one politician in a hundred can stand against. If Hunter MacNider would resign and put her in command of the bonus movement—though he is pretty good at intimidation himself—not even the President could stop it. But she is a general, with an instinctive knowledge of where Tophet is going to break loose next and a genius for having exactly the right woman on the spot twenty-four hours before.”

Here’s Service  
*Judge,  
October 4, 1924.*

“THE question whether a married woman shall continue to use her maiden name if she chooses is not a very exciting one. The Lucy Stone League was having a desperate time keeping it alive—until Controller-General McCarl promulgated his order that all married women on the Federal payroll should enroll under their married names. With one stroke of his pen he presented both the Lucy Stone League and the Woman’s Party with a militant cause, and in return they owe him, at the very least, an automobile amply endowed with shares in a biscuit factory.

“The controller-general thinks he has legal precedent to support his ukase. He hasn’t. All he has is a personal dislike

of the new woman and a desire to dictate in matters of private conduct that are none of his business. He’s just another one of the impertinent meddlers, official and unofficial, for which this country is famous. The thing is worse than a disease; it’s an epidemic.”

Choosing  
One’s Name  
*New York Sun,  
September 16.*

“IF, as the National Woman’s Party says, every man and every woman has a right to his own name, every child ought to have the right to choose between parents’ names. For that matter, why not have real freedom by giving a choice among the names of all known ancestors?”

Women  
Candidates  
*Washington  
(D. C.) Herald,  
October 20.*

apparently, don’t think much of them in public office.

Thirty-nine women are candidates for Parliament in this election. They include ‘noble-women,’ with assorted titles; one lady formerly a domestic servant and one stenographer. Whatever you think about the British, you must admit that they possess a genuine brand of democracy.”

Has Woman The  
Inferiority  
Complex?  
*Ida Clyde Clarke  
In September  
Pictorial Review.*

“WE really need woman’s viewpoint in the management of public affairs. Men need the co-operation of women in the working out of our national and international problems. We want to hear the voice of the American woman speaking in our councils. This much we can and should insist on.

“English women have not the full franchise. Only women who have reached the age of thirty can vote. And yet by co-operative effort on the part of all women’s organizations English women have placed eight women in Parliament, while we, with full suffrage, have but one representative in our national Congress, and she was not sent there because we knew anything or cared anything about her candidacy. Why should we continue to plead at the feet of men for what we want done in regard to our national legislation? Why cannot we say our own say and have our own way?”

“The very least that we women can do is to demand unequivocally that woman’s voice be heard in national and international councils. We should no longer be satisfied with ‘advisory,’ ‘auxiliary’ sop that men have been in the habit of handing us. We don’t wish to advise. We wish to do.

“No, we will never bring about world peace until we sit in on the discussion, until we have a voice and a vote in the meetings where decisions are being made.”



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