

# Equal Rights

VOL. XII, No. 18  
FIVE CENTS

SATURDAY,  
JUNE 13, 1925



Miss Esther Sayles Root

Writer, Feminist and Member of the National Woman's Party who, with her husband, Franklin Pierce Adams, the distinguished journalist, is traveling in Italy. She is the first married woman in America to go abroad on a passport issued in her own name.

## Feminist Notes

**A** RESOLUTION on "protective" legislation for women was passed at the April meeting of the Executive Committee of the St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance of Great Britain, it reads:

"The St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance stands for equality as between men and women in industrial legislation. It opposes all so-called "protective" legislation which applies to women and not to men, believing that all such restriction should be based on the type of work and not on the sex of the worker."

The St. Joan's Alliance is a non-partisan feminist organization in Great Britain, composed of Catholic women. It publishes a monthly organ, "The Catholic Citizen," in the next number of which the above resolution re "protective" legislation will be published, with an added note.

### A Woman's Forum

**T**HROUGH the efforts of Mme. Laparcerie the "Free Tribune for Women" has been established in Paris. This is apparently a free forum in which only matters of interest to women will be discussed. The announcements indicate, however, that much time is to be taken up with frivolous talks. Some of the subjects mentioned may have been suggested as a jest, as, for instance, "Are Women Right in Making Themselves Look as Young as Possible."

### Would Humanize Government

**A** LEADING member of the group of independents in the Canadian Parliament is Miss Agnes McPhail. She has explained her political position as follows:

"What am I trying to do here in Parliament? I am trying adequately to represent my people back home. Although I was elected as a direct representative of the United Farmers of Ontario, I must needs, I think, represent them in my peculiar woman's way. I mean by that just this—whereas men naturally place business values, economic values, first, we women naturally place the emphasis upon human values. So I wish to push human values to the forefront in politics with human welfare as our goal. I believe that this is to be the fundamental effect of the political enfranchisement of women."

On being asked what policy the Dominion Government should pursue to help her constituency, Miss McPhail replied: "I would say that all political governments, provincial as well as national, may best do one thing for them. Take the political and legal obstacles out of our way."

**M**ISS ELIZABETH GILMAN of Gardner, Mass., is the first woman to receive appointment as research assistant in chemistry at Yale University.

### Rapid Increase of Welfare Centers

**T**HERE were 1986 maternity and child welfare centers in England in February, 1924. In May of this year the number had increased to 2112, with proposals for 30 additional centers under consideration.

### Is History Repeating?

**I**S there in Morocco a Moorish Joan of Arc responsible for the stubborn war waged by the Riffs against the Spanish and French invaders of her country? A report to this effect seems to have been circulating among some of the European troops, although nothing has yet been said about positive evidence as to its truth. Some skeptics have explained the story as a natural effort on the part of the defeated troops to account for their humiliating failure. It would be a strange coincidence if France, once saved by a woman warrior whom she now worships, should find herself engaged, like the English of the fifteenth century, in putting down in a similar way a woman following in Joan's footsteps.

### A Woman Fights to Enfranchise a City

**M**RS. E. W. BEMIS, member of the Board of County Commissioners of Cook County, Illinois, containing the City of Chicago, is leading a citizens' fight for just representation. Although Chicago contains more than half of the State's population, it has less than 40 per cent. of the representatives in each house of the Legislature.

Although the State constitution requires a reapportionment of seats every ten years and awards to each county representation in proportion to population, the Legislature has refused to obey. So Mrs. Bemis introduced a resolution which the Cook County Commissioners adopted unanimously. It ordered Cook County's share of State taxes to be withheld until the Legislature obeys the constitution. As by far the greater part of State revenue comes from Chicago, this action must embarrass the State government seriously. "No taxation without representation" is the slogan under which Mrs. Bemis is urging the citizens to punish the law-breaking Legislature. As Illinois is not the only State in which the larger cities are disfranchised, Mrs. Bemis may be looked to as a leader outside of her own Commonwealth.

### Women Employed in Coal Mines

**H**INDU women are being used in the coal mines of India, the Department of Commerce has been informed. Male miners work in the mines between seasons or when crops are light.

This situation results in an unsteady coal production. In 1920 about 40 per cent. of the miners were women. In 1904 it was only 29 per cent.

### Passing of a Pioneer Leader

**R**OSE SCOTT, pioneer of women's movements in Australia, has passed on. She successfully led the agitation for equal suffrage and was also largely responsible for much other legislation. Early closing of shops and prison reform are two accomplishments to her credit. She had reached the age of 78.

### Proving the Case

**S**ECRETARY OF STATE FRANK B. KELLOGG asked Burnita Shelton Matthews when she took to him the case of a married woman maintaining her legal right to her own name on her passport, "How many women would want to use their maiden names on a passport instead of their husband's names?"

He is now being answered in the most practical and effective way. Almost immediately after he had decided in the case of Ruby A. Black that a married woman who has not assumed her husband's name has a right to her own name on her passport, Esther Sayles Root, bride of Franklin P. Adams, applied for and obtained a passport in her own name, appealing through Mrs. Matthews of the National Woman's Party to G. L. Brist, chief of the division on passport control, over the decision of the New York Customs Office.

Only a few days later Viola Lea Walker, a District of Columbia member of the Woman's Party, wrote to inquire what advantage it would be to a woman to have to indicate, immediately after her signature, the name of her husband. She said, "I cannot understand how a woman who has assumed the names from time to time of two or more husbands can be identified by this change, but I can understand that one name, the surname of her family, must identify her for once and all times. I have been following the case of Miss Black, and now note Miss Root's case, and to me it is hardly believable that a woman in our free land should be made to affix her husband's name to her own passport."

Others have also applied for passports in their own names subsequent to the new ruling of the State Department.

## The Women Voters of Germany

By Margaret Leland

**T**HERE is no question but that the German women were an important factor in the election of Hindenburg. Separate polls for men and women were maintained only in a very few isolated districts, so the actual number of women's votes cast for the Field Marshal will never be known. One hears frequent accusations from Republicans and proud assertions from the Right parties that it was the women who turned the scale in favor of Hindenburg. It is undoubtedly true that the great bulk of German "Hausfrauen" are more or less adherents of the old regime. It is ironical that so many women voted for the candidate of the German National Party, the members of which from the first, were the chief opponents of suffrage in this country. In a recent article Dr. Elizabeth Lueders, Democratic member of the Reichstag replied to members of her own party who accused the women of spoiling everything by their "political immaturity and by their sentimentality." Dr. Lueders asks these

men, and rightly so, what else they expect as long as they "oppose the participation of women in public affairs," and as long as they refuse their moral and financial support in the political education of the large mass of German women.

There is a lot of truth in what Dr. Lueders says. No laws exist in Germany preventing women from taking part in any public affairs, but in practise it is still made so difficult for them that only the strongest survive. In every Federal Ministry there are at least two women "experts," but, no matter what their ability, their opportunities for independent work are usually limited. The outward recognition of their work is given almost grudgingly. One woman, Gertrude Baumer, has reached the rank of "Ministerialrat," though undoubtedly she is more able than a great many "Ministerialdirektors" in the hierarchy. But most women who were taken into the

government service after the revolution are still "Regierungsraete," the lowest class of government official, and, what to us, at least, is perhaps more important, they are still living on a Regierungsrat's salary!

It is not quite as bad any more in private business concerns, but there are still a great many German men, who would rather see their concern succeed less quickly, than admit a woman on their board of directors or even on their staff. Unfortunately, with few exceptions, the German women are no fighters, and those who are do not always stage a battle tactically or strategically. I agree with Dr. Lueders that many German women need education—and need it badly—but it's the German men who need it a great deal more. Many of them have never learned the rudiments of the proper attitude. And the sad part of it is that even many intelligent German women have never thoroughly discarded their innate reverence for the "Herren der Schoepfung."

## Women Jurors

By Hon. Charles L. Guy,  
Justice of New York Supreme Court  
for the New York County Grand  
Jurors' Association, 1925.

sex. We have travelled a long distance from the time when it was deemed unwomanly and denounced as possibly immoral for women to act as teachers or trained nurses, to own property or hold any public office.

There is nothing about jury service for which women are unfit because of their sex, and in some respects they are possibly better qualified than men of the same age, intelligence and experience. In the first place, women on the average are better educated because, by reason of their past exemption from a large number of duties performed by men, they have had greater opportunities for attendance at school or high school or college and have been able to continue such attendance for a longer period than young men, but have been by reason of such exemptions deprived, through lack of personal experience, of one of the most vital factors in education; and they seriously need that kind of education which heretofore has been limited largely to men, the education which comes from larger experience in the affairs of life.

In the next place, I think women are less emotional than men, though, perhaps

by lack of experience, less logical, but they are certainly better qualified to act as jurors and reach a more accurate conclusion in cases where one or all of the parties litigants are women, or where testimony is given by women witnesses; and I think no one will question that they are fully as conscientious as men in the performance of their duties. The majority of men seem to be anxious to avoid jury service, and it is probable that, after the first novelty wears off, women will show a similar inclination; but so far as the State is concerned the best citizens are those who perform some service for the State. Jury service should be regarded by both men and women as a very high form of public service, though a very easy one compared with the military service which is required of citizens of nations less fortunately situated than this Republic, and such service should be willingly given in a patriotic spirit. We have women lawyers, women physicians, women governors, women bank officers, heads of departments, presidents of realty corporations,—women in every vocation in life for which they have shown their fitness. Whatever disqualification still remains is due to lack of experience which, as has been the case with men, will disappear with the performance of their duties. I see no reason why the State should not use their services wherever it will promote the welfare of the State.

# 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. B. ANTHONY.

## History Repeats Itself

IN an announcement digest issued by the United States Civil Service Commission on June 4, 1925, there appears the following:

"Trained nurse, at \$120 a month for women and \$125 a month for men. Trained nurse (psychiatric) at \$135 a month for women and \$140 a month for men, Panama Canal Service. Certain specified education, training and experience required. Receipt of applications will close July 11. The date for the assembling of competitors will be stated on the admission cards sent to applicants after the close of receipt of applications. Subjects to be rated: Questions in anatomy, physiology, hygiene and nursing (general, surgical and obstetrical), 80 per cent.; education, training and experience, 20 per cent."

Why the five dollars a month difference in salary between men and women? Here is an instance of the same jobs, in the same service, under the same requirements and conditions—and the Civil Service Commission, which pretends to no discrimination on account of sex, announces salaries for men higher than for women.

It was shown several weeks ago in our columns that the Civil Service Commission had barred women from examination for highly paid positions in the Interstate Commerce Commission without any reason for doing so. Now we see the Commission discriminating in favor of men in the rate of pay in positions not so highly paid.

These are but straws. If the truth could be known, it would undoubtedly be found that the real wind that blows throughout the Civil Service, affecting examinations, ratings, advancements, promotions—everything—is upon the assumption that men are to be favored. S. S. W.

## Is There Equity In The Women's Court?

A SEVERE criticism of the night court for women in New York City is put forth by the *Woman's Leader* of London in the issue of May 15. This is contained in an article by Mrs. Bethune Baker. She mentions that while special night courts for women have been established a similar court for men has not materialized. "English visitors have remarked," she says, "that women are convicted on the unsubstantiated testimony of a police officer." But the principal indictment against the court is the encouragement it gives to agents provocateur to lure women into committing offenses and to obtain credit for their detection. This charge is strengthened by a quotation from a report by Mr. Whitin, secretary of the "Committee of Fourteen." Mr. Whitin says:

"To repress prostitution further in New York City additional advances are required. First, the removal of the technical difficulties of entrapment. When the women's courts were originally a punitive institution public opinion was much opposed to the punishing of those who were induced to commit prostitution. \* \* \* It would seem that the existing limitations regarding entrapment should be removed, for the woman or girl who would fall for the inducements of the police officer would similarly fall for those made by the civilian."

After quoting this Mrs. Baker points out that the charge of "soliciting" usually placed against the girls would more aptly apply in the case of such entrapment to the agent provocateur who, in fact, is never held as a criminal. The fact that girls found guilty by this court have sometimes on appeal been proven innocent is another count in the indictment, especially in view of the practice of subjecting all prisoners to the indignity of examinations. These complaints bear on practices which have been allowed to become firmly established here. Mrs. Baker's article makes it possible to see how they appear to a disinterested foreign observer.

The fact of the matter is that public opinion still regards prostitution as an offense of the female sex alone. While this attitude of mind persists the repression of prostitution is clearly impossible. The State cannot, on the one hand, permit men to pay women, whatever it costs, to become prostitutes, and then, on the other hand, hope to keep women out of the business. Although it is old-fashioned, the law of supply and demand still operates. Until commercialized vice is regarded as an equal offense in the man who buys and the woman who sells, and until this fact is reflected in the law and its enforcement, prostitution will continue. The "further advances" necessary to the solution of the problem of the social evil are equal rights in every avenue of life from the home and the factory to the law courts.

# Marriage Fails to Bar Teachers

DR. FRANK P. GRAVES, State Commissioner of Education, in handing down a decision on May 28 to the effect that a married woman may occupy the position of a teacher in the public schools of the city of Albany, has established a precedent that will probably be followed in a number of cases dealing with this question under consideration in other parts of New York State.

Mrs. Emma McCollom Thomas, Albany school teacher, reinstated by the order of the State Department of Education, was until her dismissal last November a teacher in the third grade of School No. 14 here. Mrs. Thomas had continued to teach

under her maiden name, Emma McCollom, after her marriage, but when questioned readily admitted that she was married.

When this fact was substantiated, Dr. C. Edward Jones, city superintendent of schools, directed that Mrs. Thomas be dismissed and a substitute placed in her class.

At the hearing before the appeals department of the State Education Department, Dr. Jones said that the teacher had been dismissed for signing her maiden name to pay checks and because the City Board of Education had ruled against married teachers in public schools.

The by-laws or regulation of the Albany

Board of Education enacted in 1897 reads, "Should a woman teacher marry, her place shall thereupon become vacant. No married woman shall be appointed a teacher or principal or act as a substitute."

In rendering the decision, Mr. Graves takes the stand that the State law in educational matters is higher than the city law; that there is nothing in the State law to prohibit a married woman from teaching in the public schools and that she has a right to sign her maiden name to checks.

—*Christian Science Monitor.*

## Is Woman's Place the Home?

By Crystal Eastman

AS a public character Rebecca West is getting to be a good bit like Bernard Shaw; if she consents to make a speech she can be counted on to say something so fresh, so impudent and challenging that the press carries it right round the world. No doubt a sentence or two from her celebrated debate with Duff Cooper on "Is Woman's Place the Home" has appeared in the American papers. Perhaps it was only the Oxford trousers joke: "I have known women," said Miss West in support of her thesis that men are becoming more like women in dress and physical type every year,— "I have known women so feminine that they could not wear breeches. 'I am too feminine,' they said, 'I must wear a skirt.' But I have never known a woman so feminine that she insisted on wearing two skirts, which is what the Oxford trousers are."

These so-called "debates," so popular in London as a means of money-raising are in no sense expected to be a serious setting forth of two points of view. No continuity of thought, no consistency, seems to be called for and no meeting of the minds, just a series of clever and if possible humorous or satirical comments. Their unique value as entertainments, in my opinion, lies in the fact that they commence at 5.30 and finish at 6.30 so that one does not have to eat a bad dinner or lose a good evening to hear one. This measuring of wits on the old theme of "Woman's Place" between Mr. Duff Cooper, member of Parliament and husband of Lady Diana Manners, and Miss Rebecca West, novelist and celebrated critic, was second in a series of "Debates" held at the London School of Economics in aid of the King Edward Hospital Fund.

In the twenty minutes of sparkling inconsequential chatter with which Rebecca West opened the debate, I remember two rich thoughts.

"There are some remarks," she began, "which though they are not meant to be offensive, are in fact somewhat offensive. One of them is the proposition that 'woman's place is in the home.' There is really nothing offensive in it at all, it is a self-evident truth. As the mass of women between the ages of sixteen and forty-five get married they naturally live in homes. But when people say woman's place is at home they really mean that the home is a symbol of a state of resignation to the male will."

I was startled. "There is a thought almost too good for this debate," I said to myself, "too wise and sad and true. How will she get herself back to the light bantering note expected of her?" And then she went on, "Personally, I have no objection at all to a resignation to the male will, because I am distinctly lazy; I would rather resign my will to anybody than use it."

A few minutes later she struck a rich vein of satire in describing man's special faculty in guiding public destiny, "*the faculty of virile failure*," she called it. "Of course, we always exalt what we should like to be ourselves. When we choose a god we choose one as much like ourselves as possible, or even more so! Now there is one man whom men do really admire, and that is Napoleon, and the cause of their admiration of Napoleon is that he was an enormous and very expensive failure, who at his death had not only lost everything, but had also shorn his country of power, and had greatly diminished the vitality of the French people by calling for so much of their best for his army.

"Who, for instance, is the most invincible and popular of our contemporary politicians—who keeps on being popular

no matter what he does? Winston Churchill. He has an extraordinary genius for failure. I think his popularity is due to the fact that he is so richly a failure in everything he does; he has that great power, which counts for nothing, of being full of beans—a power man has chiefly admired in the past.

"The Great War was a supreme example of the failure of men. We ought therefore to be sympathetic to men when they realize their failure and want to throw up their hands in the sphere of politics and go back to the home. After all, men do lose a lot by doing too much. One of the first consequences of overwork is lack of charm, and I ask, what is man when he has lost his charm?"

Mr. Duff Cooper supported his side of the question with some humor, but his contention was essentially the bald one that since a well-run nursery, two well-cooked meals a day and a drawing-room in which he can be quietly and comfortably entertained are essential to a man's well-being, therefore woman's place is in the home.

A lively exchange occurred when Mr. Duff Cooper introduced the name of Jane Austen as a supremely great "stay-at-home."

"It may be thought by some that I have put the task of the woman too low," he said, "but I am prepared to admit that there are none of the higher functions of the human race which woman is not adequately equipped to perform. Perhaps the greatest thing which men or women can do is the production of scientific or artistic work. In my opinion, however, that too can always be done better in the home. There is no greater exponent of the art of literature in England, or possibly in the world, than one who never left the home for a moment—Miss Austen—

and who probably spent more long and weary hours in the home, and in a small home, than any novelist or artist has ever done. Yet she found in these humble surroundings sufficient material to produce five complete masterpieces. I do not believe that our more travelled novelists have gained anything from their explorations which has put them on a footing with the stay-at-home artist."

"Mr. Duff Cooper has mentioned Miss Austen," said Rebecca West when her turn came again. "But there never was a spirit who stayed at home less than Jane Austen. She never accepted a state of resignation to the male will which, I repeat, is what they mean by 'home' in this connection."

And Mr. Duff Cooper's reply to this, while it was the obvious and inescapable

reply, gives the whole case away. "If," said he, "when a man gets home from his work in the evening, his wife is actually there in the flesh waiting for him, *he doesn't care where her spirit is!*" This seems finally to dispose of any lingering notion that a man's desire to keep women in the home is a romantic or idealistic notion.

## Ancilla's Share—An Indictment of Sex Antagonism

"ANCILLA'S SHARE," Anonymous, but known to be written by Elizabeth Robins, is a book that brings joy to the hearts of all feminist readers. Never has the case of women been so clearly and forcefully presented as by this gifted author. The short, pregnant sentences, and concise, telling paragraphs are a style all the author's own. Unfortunately for American women, the book, published in London sells here for \$6.00, and is in consequence beyond the reach of many of us. It is hoped that an American publisher may soon put it out in a new edition at a lesser cost.

After a graphic preface setting forth the present economic and social status of Europe as a result of the war, which alone is worth the price of the book, the author opens her case like a lawyer pleading a case at bar by stating the reasons which impelled her to write this history of sex antagonism; the reasons follow:

1. To make the fact of men's antagonism as clear to the many women as it is to the few.
2. To examine the origin of that antagonism.
3. To state with plainness its effect.
4. To decide how most quickly it may be overcome.

The book is too long to attempt a general review of each of these four points, but the following excerpts are a few of the high lights taken at random:

"The world over, in the high realms of politics and the learned professions the mass even of educated women are for the most part merely forgotten. They are not daily called on to acquiesce in, to share, to inculcate in their young, the theory and practice of feminine inferiority, that is reserved for the humbler sphere of action where the common mind functions without taking thought. \* \* \*

"Man's sex antagonism arises from his uncorrected vision, which is but a form of ignorance, expressing itself either by contempt or by fear. Women have mechanically accepted insult and eventually it becomes unconscious with them. This becomes the foster mother of his unconsciousness and the first step is to make women more conscious."

"We can begin at once the process of

waking him from his long dream that woman accepts contempt as her fair desert. To nerve her for refusal let her remember every time she insists that, if insult is to be, it shall at least be conscious."

"Man is bewildered and helpless at this new attitude of women. He shows it by his anger and galled wincing when the sure way is taken to scotch his sex contempt. Clearest of all this is so when he takes refuge in cruelty for he then shows woman his heart of fear."

"Man has insisted on seeing in women what he wished to see and what he wished to see was her resigned inferiority."

The author comments on the fact that one can hardly pick up a book, either poetry or history, but to find that it passes slighting and condemnatory judgment on women. The daily papers, likewise. As to this last, she remarks with respect to the so-called woman's column, which most leading newspapers now carry, that this is the "twilight of contempt" and is referred to in England as the Caveman's Corner, being largely read by men.

"In a modern history of a progressive country, women are mentioned on four out of five hundred pages."

"Man's concern with woman has begun with her sex function and culminated in her use as a cheap and docile servant."

"Men like to encourage women to think meanly of their own sex. It is reassuring to them." To the average man, according to the writer, there are "exceptions and instances" so far as women's measuring up to the standards of men are concerned, but the rest of the women of the world are lumped into one class of inferiors.

Concerning woman's attitude toward her own sex the author has some very telling comments. For instance:

"There are three types of women who have the temptation to adopt man's assumption of his own sex superiority: First, the woman who undervalues her own capacity and therefore undervalues that of other women; second, the woman who knows she has capacity and shrinks from the discipline of using it; and, third, the woman who is pursuing her own path

in some field not hitherto trodden by women and who likes to think herself exceptional."

"Women inherit man's distrust of woman in any public office. Domesticity or prostitution are the beaten ways. The preponderance of masculine influence, conscious and unconscious, combines with every feminine influence to make women doubt achievements which are out of those beaten ways. \* \* \* Women have a great deal of natural caution, which makes for underestimation of their own sex." But, in the author's opinion, the reason for this woman's instinctive distrust of her own sex in high positions is that man has for so many centuries held the apparition of the inferiority of her sex over her that she has unconsciously accepted it as true, without question.

"Women voters are encouraged to believe that their contribution to public affairs is most effectually made by means of the machinery through which men make their contribution. This is so obviously the easier way that it will greatly tempt newly enfranchised women."

"Lacking leadership women find their political power released only to be harnessed anew to the purposes of man,—mainly to his personal ambitions."

The author recites an instance in New Zealand where a bill was up for putting women justices of the peace on the local bench. The bill was thrown out and the only reason the legislative council passed out to the public was "that the reform had not been pressed."

"The women who can see and properly appraise the achievements of other women have yet to educate the women who do not see. Until education has done its work the minority who see have to bear the dead-weight of the blind."

It was a woman who invented the Jacquard loom; the printer's roller and the printer's press were invented by farmers' wives; Mrs. General Green invented the cotton gin and Whitney siezed it; Mrs. Howe invented the sewing machine, and a West Virginia woman invented the reaper. But in history credit with respect to all of these is passed to men.

"Man is not ashamed, not yet, to entreat women by their personal self-denial and

June 13, 1925

by every conceivable form of organized effort to constitute themselves the financial backbone \* \* \* of the vast system of public charities, many of which are necessitated largely by the exclusion of woman's view from public affairs. She is asked to support by money or menial labor, to subscribe for the very hospitals which debar women from practicing medi-

cine or so much as studying."

"In his fear of her publicly delivered judgment in the sphere of politics she has come upon his weakness and her strength."

"It would seem as though man had long known that when he could no longer successfully obstruct the power of women she would take war from him and if he were deprived of the power to inspire fear

## News From The Field

THE New York City Committee is fairly launched on its summer campaign of vanishing parties. Recently each New York member of the National Woman's Party found in her mail an attractive little folder outlining the plan and rules of procedure for giving vanishing parties. On Monday, May 18, Mrs. Alfred S. Rossin gave the first vanishing party, a musicale, to which she invited seven guests. Each of her seven guests pledged to give a vanishing party for six guests within ten days. Parties already arranged for the next week are:

A tea in her studio, Mrs. Marguerite Clarence Smith, hostess.

A tea at the Colony Club, Mrs. John Winters Brannan, hostess.

A garden tea in King Street, Miss Marie Bruere and Mrs. Cornelia Bruere Rose, hostesses.

A tea in her studio, Mrs. Marguerite Harrison, hostess.

A tea at the Scarsdale Country Club, Mrs. William H. Blauvelt, hostess.

Within ten days forty-two new hostesses will be giving vanishing parties, and so on until by the first of August 5040 hostesses should be giving parties for one guest each. No individual pays more than one dollar to the vanishing party committee, but the sum total should be a considerable contribution to the treasury. Even more important, however, is the continuous discussion of the equal rights

program which will be under way and the likelihood of adding names to our membership.

Copies of our vanishing party folders will be mailed to any member of the National Woman's Party upon receipt of four cents in stamps to cover cost. Address Vanishing Party Committee, 698 Lexington Avenue, New York City.

MRS. RUTH M. BILLIKOPF, Pennsylvania chairman of the National Woman's Party, addressed the Quota Club of Philadelphia at a dinner held June 1 at the Arcadia. The Quota Club is made up of women representing various professions, industries and commercial enterprises, and is somewhat similar to the Rotary Club. Some of the members of the club had been unaware of the many discriminations against women both in law and in custom, though others had actually come up against disabilities in the various fields of their activity.

MRS. FLORENCE BAYARD HILLES, chairman of the Headquarters Furnishing Committee of the National Woman's Party, was elected president of the Business and Professional Women's Club of Delaware at the annual meeting of the club, held on May 28 in the duPont Building, Wilmington, Del. Mrs. Hilles succeeds Mrs. Mary A. Bruce, who presided over the session.

## Press Comment

### Married Women Teachers

New York Times, May 29.

THE decision of the State Commissioner of Education in the case of a public school teacher in Albany, dismissed because she was married while she continued to receive her salary under her maiden name, answers only the question as to her right to be a teacher, though married. It is to be inferred that the fact of her marriage was known and that she was not deceiving the authorities. The decision simply settled the question whether a woman teacher could under the general education law continue to teach in the public schools after marriage.

There could be but one answer under

the statutory provision that a teacher, after the probationary period of three years, may not be dismissed "except for cause." Cause is inferentially defined as bad behavior or incompetency. This cannot be interpreted to include the act of marriage by itself. The Court of Appeals has specifically decided that marriage after entering the service cannot itself be made a ground of dismissal. The Supreme Court of the State of Oregon goes further and implies that, since marriage is fostered by a sound public policy, it should be looked upon rather as a qualification.

Commissioner Graves does not assume to determine whether it is a sound educational policy to exclude married women from the teaching service. But he allows

what refuge from the fear in his own soul, *i. e.*, the fear that he will lose his home if he cannot compel a slave class to keep it for him; the fear that he will lose his food supply if he can not find a low-paid low-living labor to cultivate his fields; and the fear that he will lose his country if he can not compel conscripted men to fight—conscripted men."

DR. CAROLINE E. SPENCER of Colorado Springs, Colo., writes: "The following note was inserted in the corner-stone of Grace Episcopal Church, Colorado Springs, May 24, 1925":

*Alice Paul, distinguished feminist, attended service in St. Stephen's Church, September 9, 1923.*

*Bishop Capers, locum tenens, alluded in his sermon to the Equal Rights memorial to be held in the Garden of the Gods, Colorado Springs, September 23, 1923, in commemoration of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the first Equal Rights Conference held in Seneca Falls, New York, in 1848.*

"The Rev. Chauncey H. Blodgett, rector of the United Parishes of Grace Church and St. Stephen's, who had charge of the corner-stone enclosures, courteously acceded to my request that this should be done.

"The presence of Alice Paul in the old church and the Bishop's passing word of Equal Rights seemed prophetic of the day when church and state alike shall recognize the human equality of men and women, and, therefore, I thought it fitting to record the fact in the corner-stone of the new church which, we believe, is destined to be one of the most beautiful in the West."

it to be inferred that a married woman may possess the required qualifications and perform the duties of teacher with as great efficiency as an unmarried woman, and that therefore any legislative act or administrative rule barring a married woman from teaching would be unfair and unwise. Under the former by-law of the Albany Board of Education, no married woman could be appointed as teacher, and if a woman teacher were to marry her place would thereupon become vacant. But the provision of the general education law, enacted in 1917, makes impossible dismissal for this reason. And if marriage is not to be a bar after appointment and service, it should not be a bar to those of competence seeking appointment.

**Do Women Reason?**

*Washington Post, By M. D. Win. June 1, 1925.*

IT is often said that women never reason — they only jump to conclusions. It is certainly abundantly evident that a woman's mind works in an unaccountable way

—from the point of view of a man. Why, for example, was Von Hindenburg, the arch-militarist, put into office by the woman's vote?

The root of the difference between masculine and feminine ways of thinking lies probably in the essentially different "tuning" of the two natures. A woman is most strongly attracted by her "opposites." A gentle woman marries a blustering, aggressive man, while her stronger-minded, stronger-willed sister takes as her partner some one whom she can dominate. And very often such marriages are very happy; for woman's intuition helps her to perceive subconsciously that in married life each should be the complement of the other.

A woman, too, is more prodigal of haloes than is the less impressionable man. This partly explains the popularity of a man like the new German president. Once the hero of the German nation, he still holds sway over the imagination of the women. His lonely, austere figure appeals to their innate love of contrast. Their own more yielding, affection-ridden hearts admire his ruthlessness, his iron will.

Nevertheless, feminine instinct is quick to scent falseness. An uncompromising man often commands allegiance just because "we know where he is."

Woman is credited with having a tortuous mind, but in public affairs she always wants straightness and a definite, clean-cut policy.

**Petrova Remarks—**  
*Philadelphia Ledger, Sunday, May 31.*

“MEN of today should feel complimented when women that have known economic freedom consent to marriage,” states Madame Olga Petrova, whose play “Hurricane,” at the Broad Street Theatre, has been so well received that the engagement has been extended a week.

“The marriage vow then is kept because of genuine physical and mental compatibility—not because one is a meal ticket for the other,” continued the dramatist and star of “Hurricane.”

“There is no loss of companionship because both have business interests,” she answered in response to a question. “For that very reason there is a surer common interest. A man is home only in the evenings so that his wife's absence during the day does not affect him.”

“What about the care of children?” she was asked.

“All women that are fitted physically to be the mothers of children are not necessarily as well fitted to train and educate them,” she answered practically. “Isn't it better in such cases that they should be given into the hands of one that is an expert on the care and raising of children? A business woman can earn enough to provide for that as well as help her husband provide a better home for the children. Of course, it depends entirely upon the type of woman. I do not see how the home is in danger. Surely a man and woman should feel closer mentally and spiritually because there is not the old domination of one over the other. It is a truer partnership.”

“They say that business equality means a passing of the old chivalry,” some one observed.

“I should miss the old spirit of chivalry in a man as much as anyone,” said Petrova, and then added, “But I would rather have a man keep his hat on in the elevator and grant me or any woman an equal wage with himself, than to have him take his hat off and at the same time regard me as his inferior in mental ability.”

“I do not say that men and women are yet equal before the law. When a man can receive compensation for his wife's services in case she is injured, when a man can sign away his unborn child, when a woman must follow her husband's domicile—how can one say we are equally recognized? But these things will change just as other things have changed.”

“It is the American business woman that is helping so much to bring about these changes. Her progress in the years during and since the war is remarkable, for during the war women of a class that had never worked before entered into activities that brought them in closer contact with men of the business world. They found their own place more surely and, since then, have not only kept it, but have advanced rapidly.”

**Putting Woman in Her Place**

*The Milwaukee Journal, Friday, May 29.*

WYOMING'S Governor, Mrs. Ross, devotes an interview to saying that woman's place is in the home and wifehood is her noblest career. That is hardly original. We have heard it so often. And it must be a bit wearying to keen, mentally alert women to be forever reminded that society has cut their duty out for them and tied it to their shoulders. We are not doing that for men, are we?

Woman's rightful quest lies in searching for the happiness that comes from

making the most of her life, doesn't it? She may find it in a career that includes washing dishes and running the carpet sweeper, or she may not. She may find it in wifehood, or she may not. That depends on the woman and the circumstances of her life.

Most women, no doubt, do find their greatest happiness in home and children. But a good part of the reward of any quest comes from the voluntary character of the hunt. People like to feel that they have accomplished something themselves instead of just following the rules. If those who hand out advice to woman would spend less time trying to put her in the place they have decided she ought to be in and more time trying to help her find the place she feels she ought to be in, there would be less difficulty on this road to feminine readjustment.

**Two Million Dollar Fund  
Treasurer's Report**

SHELDON JACKSON, *Treasurer*  
NETTIE TRAIL: *C. P. A., Auditor.*

RECEIPTS of National Headquarters, December 7, 1912, to June 1, 1925, \$1,302,429.88.

Contributions, membership receipts and other receipts, June 1, 1925, to June 5, 1925:

Per New Jersey Branch:	
Miss Leila Enders.....	\$5.00
Mrs. Louisa F. Strutmatter.....	5.00
Miss Alida W. Wheeler.....	2.50
Mrs. Christine Helmsen.....	2.50
Mrs. Grace Mary Lawton.....	.50
Mrs. Nina Allender, D. C.....	10.00
Mrs. Clara Miller Brennan, N. Y.....	10.00
Mrs. Cornelia Abbott, Ohio.....	1.00
Miss Mattie L. McMorris, D. C.....	5.00
Mrs. Herbert S. Grimes, Conn.....	10.00
Miss Mignon L. Poste, Ohio.....	1.00
Miss Viola Lea Walker, D. C.....	10.00
Miss Emma Wold, D. C.....	10.00
Mrs. Jessica Henderson, Mass.....	25.00
Miss Mary E. McKenney, D. C.....	1.00
Miss Anna Beatty, Pa.....	100.00
Per California Branch:	
Mrs. L. A. Clairmonte.....	.50
Mrs. Charles A. Oatman.....	.50
Miss Selina Solomon.....	.50
Mrs. Charles Lemme.....	.50
Mrs. W. Bruce Phillips.....	.50
Mrs. Sara Bard Field.....	5.00
Mrs. R. M. Loeser.....	5.00
Mrs. William Kent, Jr.....	1.50
Mrs. Elizabeth Gerberding.....	1.00
Mrs. Augusta Jones.....	.50
Miss Eva Duetsch.....	.50
Telephone receipts at National Headquarters..	.40
Sale of stamps.....	.26
Sale of photographs.....	10.00
Sale of literature.....	2.00
Room rent at National Headquarters.....	30.00
Per Equal Rights Committee:	
New York City Committee, National Woman's Party .....	25.00
Mrs. Townsend Scott, Md. (silhouettes).....	2.00
Mrs. Robert Walker, Md.....	5.00
Mrs. George C. Smith, Md.....	5.00
Mrs. William Kent, Cal.....	100.00
Total receipts, June 1, 1925, to June 5, 1925 .....	
\$394.16	
Total receipts, December 7, 1912, to June 5, 1925.....	
\$1,302,824.04	

**CORRECTION**

In last week's issue the contribution of \$59 credited to Mme. Helene Romniciano of Switzerland should have been rent of rooms at Headquarters, \$59.

**DAY PRINTING COMPANY**  
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