

# IN THE WOMAN'S WORLD

## NEW VOCATION FOR WOMEN

Of the various vocations for women that have come into being in recent years one in which they have made signal records of success is that of publicity agent. In the theatrical profession this success dates back to a decade ago, when play producers first began to discover that a woman could be the "man in front of the show" to good advantage. In the interim several women have handled the publicity work of "big shows" to good purpose.

Women's club work has been for years a sort of training ground for women in the handling of the publicity detail for a given cause or organization. The "press chairman" has become more or less institutional in the notable organizations for women all over the country. She sends out notices and "stories" and forwards the case of her organization along the lines of public interest, in so far as she can. Any one who has occasion to handle many of these reports of press chairman is likely to be impressed by the professional ease with which the work is turned out, the sense of newspaper and magazine fitness that is acquired by those amateurs, and their facile adaptability to arbitrary literary forms.

Graduating sometimes from this sort of work, sometimes stepping directly forward from private life, are the women who have in charge the publicity work in the campaigns for equal suffrage in the various states—Oregon, Kansas, Arizona, Michigan and Wisconsin all have the publicity interests of their state organizations in the hands of wide-awake chairmen. In Connecticut, Mrs. Edward Porritt

has developed a press service of extended range.

The Ohio campaign was marked perhaps by a more extensive and intensive attention from periodicals than any other that has been part of this year's programme. This was partly due, no doubt, to the fact that the issue was a very live one in Ohio, violently opposed by the honor interests, and projected into the civic consciousness with a suddenness that was stimulating. And partly due, too, to the fact that the press bureau of the Ohio state suffrage headquarters was thoroughly organized and not disposed to let slip any opportunity to "agitate" for its cause through the medium of the state press.

One of the headquarter officers was Miss Elizabeth Houser, long identified with suffrage publicity work, and the press chairman was Miss Mary Gray Peck, who left a university position to take up suffrage work. Miss Peck was born and reared in a part of New York state of historic associations in the suffrage struggle. Her first diploma was won from Elmira College, which is the oldest chartered college giving women degrees for the same work as that done by men. Subsequently she did post-graduate work in Cambridge University, England, and was a member of the faculty of the University of Minnesota for eight years. She has served as secretary of the National Suffrage Association, and was a fraternal delegate from the National Women's Trade Union League to the international congress in Stockholm last year. Some of her attention has been given to investigation of industrial conditions in Chicago last winter and the "enamellers' strike." At the recent meeting of the board of directors of the National Federation of Women's Clubs, she was appointed secretary of the drama section of the literature committee. She is a journalist and lecturer, and her knowledge of the history of the suffrage movement

### A WOMAN OF THE HOUR IS AT WORK

Congress appropriated \$50,000 for the maintenance of the work of the children's bureau, and although it has not yet been definitely organized—that is in its finer details—its purposes are being quickly defined. Every condition surrounding the children of this country will be thoroughly investigated by the agents of the new bureau, who will in turn report through the secretary of commerce and labor to congress with a view to effecting legislation to correct whatever evils present themselves in the moral and physical surroundings of children. That it is going to take a long time to gather this information in its entirety nobody doubts, but as each condition manifests itself its immediate correction will be urged.

Miss Lathrop is a graduate of Vassar college and a member of its board of trustees. She has made a wide study of sociology, has worked in Hull House, Chicago's famous social settlement; has studied the conditions in hospitals; insane asylums, institutions for the deaf, dumb and blind; has gone into factories and other similar places where women and child labor is employed, and has gone down to the very bottom of conditions surrounding the poor and working classes in various sections of the country. She loves children, and this attribute is the basis for her enthusiasm in their welfare. She knows all about baseball and can discuss the fine points of the game with the most "hard fan" among the boys with whom her work has brought her into contact. She has a whispered word of comfort for the little tot who has broken her doll, and with the sturdy little boys whose interests are centered in steam engines and kites. She has all the intricacies of these mystifying inventions at her fingers' ends. She knows how to play and knows practically every child's game that was ever invented. Fifteen years ago she was appointed a member of the state board of charities of Illinois, a position she has held ever since. As a means of fitting herself more thoroughly to help the cause of child welfare Miss Lathrop has familiarized herself with the laws relating to children, not only those on the federal statutes, but those of various states throughout the country.

"Carmen" will doubtless meet with considerable approval.

Other changes will be made by the balance of the vaudeville talent, while a special feature is made of the moving picture program.

This will be the last week of vaudeville at the Nuuanu street playhouse for some time to come, as beginning Saturday the Hughes Musical Comedy Company will hold sway for two weeks, following this a dramatic stock takes issue for patronage.

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### SENIOR WILL WEAR \$1000 COSTUME

From advance notices of tonight's change of bill at the Liberty theater it would appear that the particular feature of the program will be the costume to be worn by Senor Pia. This particular object is a "Toreador" dress that cost over one thousand dollars and valued by Senor Pia in excess of that amount.

That the costume is unquestionably the most elaborate ever seen on a local vaudeville stage there is little doubt, but it is a question if it will appeal for notice as greatly as the singing of the wearer, and his selection for tonight's bill of numbers from

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