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The Sun.

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WOMAN SUFFRAGE IN FACT.

PRACTICAL WORKING OF WOMAN'S RIGHT TO VOTE IN WYOMING.

Women Are Keen, and Men Candidates Must be Respectable—Never Wife Beaters—Heretofore the Women Have Been Republicans as a Rule, but in the Last Election Several Matters of Sentiment Turned Them to the Democrats—Their Treatment of Candidates of Their Own.

CHEYENNE, Dec. 25.—Not more than a quarter of the vote of this State is cast by its women, and every woman who enjoys the right of suffrage exercises it religiously. In this direction they are not at all excelled by the men. There are in Wyoming a number of collieries and mining camps where the gentler sex is absent, to say nothing of the wide expanse of cow country where all the housework is performed by males.

The Wyoming woman is every inch a politician. She has membership in her partisan club, she reads, she attends the primaries, the conventions, and the mass meetings, and rides in carriages in the processions. She makes speeches and she runs for office and gets elected by a big majority. One place is conceded to women on each of the twelve county tickets. That is Superintendent of Schools, a post worth from $[illegible] to $1,500 a year. They are deputy clerks and deputy treasurers, and enjoy a division of the national and legislative spoils. One of them was State Librarian until her demise a few months ago. It is a little dangerous to pit a woman against a woman in a canvass, but it has been done without serious results. When a man opposes a woman he makes a perfunctory and hopeless campaign. There is no denying that youth and beauty add much to the strength of a woman candidate, but there is no rule that personal attractiveness wins always.

A thing inexplicable to the female suffragists outside the State is the passive position of the women of Wyoming on most questions. The Cheyenne delegates to the National W. C. T. U. Convention at Denver were reprimanded on this score. They resisted with spirit and to the point. Their answer was to the effect that they were not hankering for advice from short-haired women and long-haired men; that they knew their business, and would not brook interference. There has never been in the State a prohibition movement of any consequence. Gambling is licensed, and there are games in every saloon in every town. Every settlement has its bawdy houses. There is not an institution or a society for the celemation of fallen women. There are no women lawyers or doctors. In business there are about the same number of women as elsewhere. Women have more property rights here than in other States. One of the sex, a notable lady of many charities, is a director of the Fires National Bank of Cheyenne.

In the ballot the women recognize and use a weapon which they value as an endowment of nature, which they believe should be wielded with calm judgment. There never is in the field a candidate a man who drinks to excess, who neglects his families, who abuses his wife or children, or one whose associations are not what they should be. It is not at all necessary for a politician to be a church member to have the support of the women, but he must be a man of character and integrity. A man who had married a second wife in the counties this month was accused after his nomination of having at one time beaten his wife. He suffered a most humiliating defeat. Scarcely a woman voted for him. On another occasion there was revived against a candidate a scandal that the wheel had turned full circle, in which she pledged herself to see that morals were taught in the public schools. The other nominee issued a counter proclamation, in which she promised that under her [illegible] morals should not be taught in the schools. The latter was elected by a big majority.

In their clubs, where held weekly sessions, they study parliamentary law, political economy, political history, party history and platforms. The ideal of a perfect woman at one of these gatherings is a combining and amalgamment of the oratorical ability of Anna Dickinson, the executive ability of the wife of a President, and the [illegible] of the Queen of England. The ideal man is the man who can stand on the platform and argue for his party, who can stand the rough and tumble of political warfare, who can take