

WHY PROFESSIONAL WOMEN WANT VOTES

Successful Women Find Numerous Reasons Why Males and Females Should Cooperate in Running the World

A number of women who have been asked by The Sun to tell why they are in favor of woman suffrage. The professions represented include literature, art, the law and the drama. Their reasons for wanting to vote are given below.

Cooperation Needed.
By EDITH WYANNE MATHISON.
(Portrait painter.)

After all has been said pro and con on the subject of woman suffrage, I find that the argument which appeals to me most strongly, in fact the only incontrovertible argument in its favor, is the eternal and inherent difference between man and woman.

Democracy Means Votes.
By ELLEN GLASGOW.
(Author.)

I believe in woman suffrage because I believe in democracy, and democracy, if it means anything, means neither class government nor sex government, but government by the people.

Women Aid in Reforms.
By CRYSTAL EASTMAN BENEDICT.
(Lawyer.)

The importance of having women voters to support reform legislation, especially legislation looking toward human health and happiness, has been pointed out again and again. Further, it has been proved by the rapidity with which suffrage States have advanced in social and industrial legislation as compared with other States in a similar stage of development.

Indeed, it is women, the wives and mothers of working men, who realize most keenly and most completely the economic disaster that almost inevitably follows every work accident. The rail-roader's widow facing life with two or three little children to support becomes a stirring advocate of workmen's compensation.

Yes, the economic aspect of industrial accidents comes closer to women than it does to men. As voters, I think women could have been counted on not to lose sight of its pressing importance in the general maze of politics.

Women, except the very rich, don't like to take chances. They're not very adventurous. I don't know whether this is a fault or a virtue. But in many homes I know this quality is needed as a balance wheel. And if women had counted in politics it would have been felt as an unswerving influence on the side of workmen's compensation.

Thus we come back to the same inevitable conclusion: Men and women are different. We need both to achieve the highest human wisdom in government.

Women Certain to Vote.
By EDITH WYANNE MATHISON.
(Actress.)

I think that women should have the vote in 1915 because a woman is a responsible human being, and if we believe in the highest good of the people, the surest equal suffrage is necessary to genuine democracy.

And if one must disfranchise anybody, let it be the willfully idle. If any man will not work, neither let him vote.

Suffrage will surely come to women. It is beyond argument. It is a question of time.



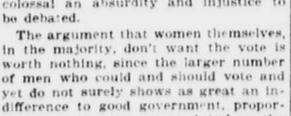
MISS ELLEN GLASGOW, AUTHOR.



MISS RACHEL CROTHERS, PLAYWRIGHT.



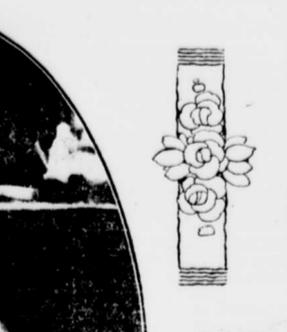
MISS WYANNE MATHISON, ACTRESS.



MAY WILSON PRESTON, ILLUSTRATOR.

of simple human right and simple human duty.

Work has no sex and money has none, and work in the market of the world, the world which is made of both men and women, gains its own recognition and stands on its own feet in the long run, whether those feet be masculine or feminine. We have not yet passed the milestone where condescension, faint praise and irritable criticism of woman's work are never heard from the masculine side, but this always comes from weak sources. As surely as



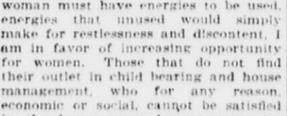
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any capacity or need unsatisfied or unfulfilled can only be a lasting element of unhappiness and disintegration to society as well as to the individual.

Government, the one sphere in which women have fully held their own with men, is the one from which they are most rigorously debarred.

"Why I Believe in Woman Suffrage."
By ALICE DIER MILLER.
(Author.)

First, because it seems to me that the benefits of representative government far outweigh its defects. Our government is not representative while almost one-half of the adult population have no vote.

Second, because women are better fitted than men to decide many points concerning the household and children, which are now coming up as political questions. There seems to be no inherent reason why men should not understand these matters too, but

their prohibition law, while Maine barely escaped the same fate, and is constantly threatened with it. The action of the South is primarily because of the havoc caused among the negroes by intemperance, and that of the West is principally due to the fact that most reform movements originate there.

The vital point, however, is that men themselves instead of leaving work for temperance mostly to women as heretofore, have come to recognize the widespread evils of the liquor traffic and the strong necessity for eliminating it or for restraining it as a preliminary step.

At present the four classes of American citizens not allowed to vote are idiots, criminals, children and women. It will be a satisfaction to withdraw from this group.

Woman Handicapped Now.
By JANET SCUDDER.
(Sculptor.)

As a working woman I have found my happiness, my satisfaction in life to be dependent on a sense of free play for my energies.

And since every healthy normal woman must have energies to be used, energies that unused would simply make for restlessness and discontent, I am in favor of increasing opportunity for women. Those that do not find their outlet in child bearing and house management, who for any reason economic or social, cannot be satisfied in the home, must have opportunity for work.

WOMAN SUFFRAGE AS ALLY OF PROHIBITION

Ida Husted Harper Points Out Three Important Reasons in Favor of Giving Women the Vote

By IDA HUSTED HARPER.
THE general trend of public events at the present time is distinctly in favor of woman suffrage. An example in point is seen in the large increase of States that have amended their constitutions to prohibit or restrict the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors.

Ten States now have absolute prohibition, and the number is likely to be increased, as five more vote on the question next month. Through local option eighteen others are said to be over 50 per cent. "dry". Wyoming, 90 per cent., and Utah with only one "wet" county. Of the ten named by the Anti-Saloon League as in the prohibition column women can vote in only one, Kansas, and its law was secured before its women were enfranchised. The others are Georgia, Maine, North Carolina, North Dakota, Mississippi, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia. Of those with the large "dry" area Utah, Wyoming, Colorado and Idaho are woman suffrage States. Women can vote in four out of the five States that will submit a prohibition amendment in November, California, Oregon, Washington and Colorado; the fifth is Ohio.

What inference in regard to woman suffrage and temperance is to be drawn from the above list? It will be noticed that seven of the ten prohibition States are in the South, two in the West, one in the East, among the eighteen named as over half dry seven are Southern, nine Western, two Eastern, Vermont and New Hampshire. The last two by deliberate act of the voters repealed

the prohibition law, while Maine barely escaped the same fate, and is constantly threatened with it. The action of the South is primarily because of the havoc caused among the negroes by intemperance, and that of the West is principally due to the fact that most reform movements originate there.

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Equal Pay for Women.
By MAY WILSON PRESTON.
(Illustrator.)

I am not a suffragist because I think personal gain will come from being able to vote. But I firmly believe that the vast army of self-supporting women in shops and factories will be far more apt to change conditions at present prevailing, where women get paid less than the men for the same amount of work equally well done, in many cases supporting just as many at home as the men.

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States, Kansas, the incubator of reforms, and the rural communities of Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine. They could not hold the second two and the heroic effort of their president, Mrs. Stevens, to save Maine, her home State, when the question went to the voters doubtless hastened her death.

Twice when attempts were made to obtain woman suffrage in New Hampshire it was fought to a finish by the liquor interests, who openly admitted that it would permanently restore prohibition. The temperance elements in Maine now recognize that they must enforce prohibition or lose the State. Both houses of the last Legislature gave a majority for submitting an amendment for this purpose, but lacked a few votes of the necessary two-thirds.

When such an amendment was before the voters of Wisconsin two years ago the official organ of the liquor dealers declared repeatedly in double-edged editorials that if it passed every county would vote "dry". Into each of the seven States that are to vote next month on woman suffrage amendments the liquor interests are pouring thousands of dollars and are sending out printed appeals to the "business", declaring that it will be ruined if these amendments are carried.

"But," the doubters say, "look at the States where women cannot vote who are getting prohibition and local option." True, but they cannot hold their ground, as is fully proved by experience. Everywhere men are commencing to recognize that for economic reasons, put on no others, a check must be put on the liquor traffic. This is expressed by big corporations and heads of Government in demanding strict abstinence from their employees. Tax-payers are beginning to count the cost. Genuine political reformers are resenting the domination of the liquor interest in politics.

Temperance workers, taking advantage of this sentiment, are securing favorable action from Legislatures and its endorsement by voters. It is a more temporary reform, however, unless the laws are constantly and relentlessly enforced, and this is utterly impossible unless the officials are supported by a public sentiment with votes behind it. It requires eternal vigilance, and the business men of the community have not time for it. Having voted for a temperance law they turn to their own affairs, while those whose business interests require that it shall not be enforced keep closely on their job.

Another condition which is working directly toward the enfranchisement of women is the general indifference of men to their political duties. A New York paper which continually opposes giving the ballot to women because the majority do not want it, has for weeks been imploring the male voters to improve their first choice to select their candidates at a primary election, but saying: "To judge by the recent experiences of other States only a minority will take advantage of the opportunity offered them." The greatest effort was made in New York city and the returns indicate that not more than 10 per cent. of the voters went to the polls, while in the State at large only about 25 per cent. voted at an election that determined the candidates for United States Senator, Governor, the framers of the new Constitution and many other important offices. The paper also said: "The chances are that voters will make no inquiry concerning the candidates, but will see their names for the first time when they get to the polling booth—and this although the daily papers for weeks have had columns concerning them."

The Sun deplores the fact that so many men vote for one candidate simply because of personal dislike for another without any regard to the fitness of either. The Washington Post voices the general opinion in a leading editorial showing that the candidates of the party "organization" are always practically sure to win over-all competitors.

Here are three important points distinctly in favor of woman suffrage: First, statistics of the States where women are enfranchised show that in all elections of consequence a very large proportion of them vote and the number of men who do so increases.

Second, women criticize the character and fitness of candidates very closely and pay little attention to their party affiliations. Third, women voters show such an utter disregard of the mandates of the political organizations that they have incurred the enmity of the party "machines" in every State. Individual exceptions may be found to all of these assertions, but they are in the main so thoroughly proved that they form an unanswerable argument in favor of adding women as a much needed improvement to the electorate.

have the women not done more for temperance where they have the ballot?

The local option record has been cited for a number of years. They have had it for a number of years. Nearly two years ago Washington had 145 "dry" towns after two years of woman suffrage, and California in the first two years changed 345 towns from "wet" to "dry". These States and Oregon will vote on prohibition next month and if it does not carry this will be because some of the women believe that local option is the more effective way of controlling the liquor traffic.

The temperance victory in Virginia called out a number of editorials lamenting the deficit the State would have to meet when deprived of the \$720,000 revenue heretofore received from this business. A large part of the revenue of this State, as of all others, is used to maintain the costs of prisons, almshouses, charitable institutions of many kinds, largely made necessary by intemperance. Men are the principal beneficiaries of these and yet women have to pay their full share of taxes for maintaining them.

When men become less criminal and more industrious because of enforced sobriety women will demand that a balance sheet show the actual showing whether the State has not actually gained in finances by losing that revenue. And when the men who have secured prohibition find the ground slipping from beneath their feet, as they soon will, they will then be readier than they are now to listen to the demands of women for a vote on this and all other public questions.

The situation in all such matters was summed up a few days ago by New York City Commissioner of Police James P. Kelly in a trial at Police Headquarters. "The exise law can be enforced, but the people don't want it enforced," he said. This will be the case with all such laws so long as that half of the people who do want them enforced are prevented from making their wishes known and always the mutual affinities, said Kelly, have strong mutual affinities. Mr. Roosevelt in Ohio recently when discussing the liquor dealers' "home rule" amendment pending in that State, "The brewers and distillers," he said, "have taken the field against woman suffrage because they regard it as a danger to the dominance of liquor in politics." This is a true in all States and it is the result of the political indifference and that of the party "machines" which is causing many of the States to turn to woman suffrage for relief.

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SUBWAY BLOCK ALARM SIGNALS.

Persons who use the subway and elevated systems are sometimes puzzled by the ticking off on a small brass gong at a station of a series of numbers, much after the fashion in which the brass gongs in firehouses click off the numbers of the fire station from which the alarm comes. It is in this way that station agents are notified of blocks.