

MARYLAND SUFFRAGE NEWS

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Editors:
DR. AND MRS. DONALD R. HOOKER,
Chilhurst, Mt. Washington, Md.

Contributing Editors:
MRS. JOHN G. WILSON, DR. O. EDWARD JANNEY,
DR. THADDEUS P. THOMAS, DR. FLORENCE R. SABIN,
MRS. B. J. BYRNE, MISS MILDRED RANKIN.

Managing Editor:
MISS M. B. DIXON,
817 N. Charles Street.

Business Manager:
MRS. CHARLES JOSEPH OGLE,
2513 N. Charles St., Baltimore, Md.

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BREAD AND BUTTER LIVING

IT was a scorching day in August. The sun beat pitilessly down. In the narrow streets rank odors rose from the filthy gutters, where numberless flies buzzed and basked themselves in the radiating heat. Before a green grocer's shop beyond the edge of the curb stood a large low chicken coop of the sort used by farmers in shipping live poultry to market. All of the cocks and hens save one were hunched down exhaustedly in their final prison, their beaks open, their sleek feathers clinging dejectedly to their parched sides. Only one hen retained her native energy—oblivious to the heat, unmindful of her approaching doom, she craned her long neck through the wooden grating and pecked enthusiastically at a discarded watermelon rind. In a moment she would be borne squawking to undergo the universal transformation; meanwhile she lived, shall we say, as most estimable people live?

She reconciled herself to circumstance, she endured the heat, the cramped discomfort, with fortitude; she made the most of the situation by enjoying the available watermelon rind. She behaved really in a most exemplary manner, according to ordinary standards. Still it seemed strange that in such cruel entanglement she could enjoy the watermelon rind. With immediate death before her, with abject suffering on every wing, her unquenchable delight in bread and butter living seemed almost human. She turned her back on her fellows; she accepted the inevitable; she repudiated the future and addressing herself to the moment forgot all else in the satisfaction of her appetite.

As a hen she doubtless fulfilled her destiny as bravely and as philosophically as could well be expected. So much, however, cannot be said of her human prototypes—the myriad human cocks and hens who peck their watermelon rinds day after day with perfect mental comfort, while their fellows sweat their lives out and unendurable circumstance, axe in hand, momentarily approaches. Better to beat one's life out against the grating than to live according to the philosophy of a hen.

THE REWARD OF VIRTUE

IN all of the various and sundry press reports regarding the unprecedented circumstances of two brothers' being elected college presidents within the short space of 24 hours, much is made of the fact that the father of these two distinguished men, Dr. Henry Mitchell MacCracken, was himself a university president at one time, and is now a man of great intellectual distinction. The reader is led to infer that the eminence of the two sons, Dr. John Henry MacCracken, president-elect of Lafayette College, and Prof. Henry Noble MacCracken, president-elect of Vassar College, is in a sense the hereditary outcome of the father's greatness. The remarkable

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part of the reports, from the feminine point of view, is the way in which they consistently fail even to mention the mother of the two sons. Her part in their heredity, her contribution toward their development is passed over silently, and yet without doubt these two able young men represent the life work of their mother.

There is a strain of tragedy in events such as this, as there would be were the painter of a great canvas to give his work over to the public and to receive in return not even the mention of his name. Oblivion as the reward of master work seems unjust, even though the master work be but human beings. The truth of the saying that "every great man has a great mother" has long been recognized, but women's greatness has been too much confined to humble tasks and personal sacrifice to pass current in the coin men honor. May the time soon come when women's share in the upbuilding of the race will not be so lightly considered!

A NUMBER OF OPPORTUNITIES

THAT Baltimoreans are becoming more and more aroused to the necessity for learning not only what the task of social work is, but how to do it, is strikingly evidenced in Prof. Frank A. Manny's recently published pamphlet entitled "Opportunities for Training for Social Service." The opportunities listed include six lectures on Social Construction by Edward T. Devine; eight lectures on the Ethics of Distribution by Prof. Arthur O. Lovejoy of Johns Hopkins University; courses offered jointly by Johns Hopkins University and Goucher College in political economy, hygiene, education, English, history and psychology; the Goucher College course in philanthropy by J. W. Magruder, general secretary of the Federated Charities; Morgan College courses for colored social workers in economics, political science, sociology and philanthropy; the regular course for recreation leaders offered by the Children's Playground Association; the training course in practical philanthropy given by the Association of Jewish Women; courses open to the public in public health, housing and hygiene given by the Instructive Visiting Nurse Association; field work with the Federated Charities; a four-months' course in Medical Social Service offered by the Johns Hopkins Hospital Social Service Department in affiliation with the Federated Charities; a three-months' course in family rehabilitation offered by the Federated Charities; a course of lectures on social problems of general interest under the auspices of several agencies; courses in music, handicraft and story-telling.

These courses are heartily recommended to suffragists, for, as those who are working for the franchise well know, the ballot is but a means to an end, and a background of sound social knowledge is essential to the achievement of the suffragists' ideals.

THE FEDERAL AMENDMENT

THE fact that the Rules Committee has determined that the woman suffrage amendment to the United States Constitution shall be voted on in Congress in the near future gives great encouragement to suffragists all over the country. Hitherto it has been impossible to get the lower house at Washington to regard this amendment seriously. The Senate has voted on it. Last session it obtained a majority in the upper house, though not the requisite two-thirds majority. The friends of woman suffrage are proportionately more numerous in the Senate than in the House; but whatever the vote may be this first time that the House of Representatives votes on the question, the country will know that the question has arrived at the point where it is in practical politics, and that there will be no rest for either Democrats or Republicans until the question is settled right.

No one can possibly imagine that an adverse vote in either the House or the Senate will end the woman suffrage agitation, especially in view of the fact that where women are already voting there is a solid majority in favor of extending the right to women in the other States. That the votes of men elected by men only will be accepted as final by unrepresented women is unthinkable, especially in view of the ever-increasing agitation for woman suffrage all over the United States, and the fact that there is no agitation whatever for the withdrawal of the suffrage from women in any one of the eleven States where women have full suffrage, and that in Illinois, where they enjoy presidential and municipal suffrage, there is an immensely strong movement for the full enfranchisement of the women.

A bill to authorize the Legislature of Hawaii to extend the right of suffrage to women was introduced in the House of Representatives on December 29 by Delegate Kalanianolole. The measure would permit the Legislature to submit the question to a popular referendum.