

MARYLAND Suffrage News

Published Weekly by the
JUST GOVERNMENT LEAGUE OF MARYLAND,
817 N. Charles Street

DEDICATION

To the poor women without homes, to the little toilers who should be in the schools and playgrounds, to the white slaves in their tragic bondage, and to the children who die, these pages are dedicated! May every woman who is not too idle to have a thought, or too vain to have a soul, or too rich in gold to have a heart, join in the great struggle for women's freedom!
Purity, Liberty, Justice—these we must work for!

"WOMAN, BEAST AND PEON"

"WITHIN a year," says Signor Alvarado, a representative of the de facto government in Yucatan, writing to General Carranza, "the liberation of the women of Mexico will be seen." He reported a congress of 700 women in Merida, Yucatan, "the first congress of women ever held in the Republic of Mexico. In commenting on this report, the *Christian Monitor*, March, 1916, says: "This is only one of many recent announcements tending to show that 'everything' is not 'going to pieces' in Mexico at present, as the publicity bureau would evidently have the world believe. Everything can hardly be going to pieces in a country which finds opportunity as well as occasion for sending 700 women clear around the Gulf crescent to discuss matters looking to the betterment of woman's condition." "The congress," says Signor Alvarado, "has helped to prepare the women of Mexico for a great civic battle." The revolution in Mexico, of course, cannot be complete until democracy is thoroughly established in the republic, and democracy with the peon on a level with the beast of burden and woman on a level with the peon would be a sham.

MR. ELIHU ROOT SEES A CHANGE

SPEAKING to the alumnae of the Graham School in New York at its one hundredth anniversary, Mr. Elihu Root said: "When I look back 50 years and remember how many poor creatures were then entirely dependent upon grudging relatives, with no hope of escape from their position, and see the increased opportunities for women made for them by education, it seems that unheralded, unproclaimed, a change has been wrought which has brought freedom to one-half of the race." "Unheralded? Unproclaimed?" said a listening suffragist. "Scarcely so quick as that. Women's education was fought for by thoughtful and progressive women and men, and was bitterly opposed by the change-fearing conservatives, exactly as woman suffrage is opposed by them today."

IN REFUTATION OF MRS. GARRETT'S STATEMENT

COULD anything be more astonishing than the statement by the president of the Maryland Association Opposed to Woman Suffrage in the *Sun* of March 28? She denies Mr. Sunday's assertion that the opposition to woman suffrage comes from the brewers, and maintains that "the opposition comes, and comes only, from those who are endeavoring to preserve to the nation and society the highest interests of all." As a matter of fact, the most formidable opponents to woman suffrage are the liquor forces. Almost every State which has voted on a suffrage amendment has furnished conclusive evidence of their organized opposition.

Progress, official organ of the Wisconsin State Retail Dealers' Protective Association, Milwaukee, is a publication which describes itself as "a journal devoted to the interests of every department of the liquor trade." In the number issued August, 1912, are these headlines: "Give

Ballot to Women and Industry Goes to Smash," illustrated with an anti-suffrage cartoon and a strong appeal to vote against the amendment. "Have You Stopped to Think What It Means to You for the Women of Wisconsin to Secure the Ballot?" "Have You Considered What It Means When Women of Wisconsin Can Vote on Every Question That Comes Up?" "If Women Get the Ballot, It Means Prohibition." "It Means That the Breweries Must Suspend Business, It Means That the Saloons Must Close." "A Campaign Against Woman Suffrage and Other Dangers of the Brewing and Affiliated Industries That Threaten the Trade Is to Be Waged by *Progress* from Now on Until the Fall Election."

When the suffrage amendment was to be voted on in Montana the *National Forum* of Butte in a leading article of the April number said:

"Right now the question of woman suffrage is before the people of this State. If it carries, the saloons and the breweries are doomed. The suffragist advocates have announced it and the history of suffrage States has proven it. Whether you like it or not, it is a fact which must be faced. If suffrage carries, the advocates of the movement will not be to blame. The blame will be at the door of the saloon man and brewer. Together we assist, and by united effort woman suffrage can be defeated."

In this case the whole responsibility for defeat rests with the brewers, as they admit. On page 6 is the following warning: "Who is going to oppose woman suffrage in Montana if you don't? It is up to you to fight this question at the next election."

It was to the editors of this paper that Miss Clara E. Markeson, sent by Mrs. Arthur M. Dodge, president of the National Association Opposed to Woman Suffrage, came and conferred during the campaign, advising them that they should lie low, continuing their opposition in secret, but letting the open and ostensible campaign be carried on by the women whom the National Association Opposed to Woman Suffrage should send out to Montana. She told the liquor men that their open and active warfare against suffrage was turning many people the other way. The publishing of this interview brought some ridicule upon the publishers of the *National Forum*, and they gave out a printed statement admitting the main facts, but saying that they had not agreed to Miss Markeson's proposal for a gumshoe campaign. They said that Miss Markeson suggested that her mission to Montana should be kept strictly confidential and secret, but they believed the people of Montana were too intelligent to be deceived as to the attitude of the liquor interests toward woman suffrage, and that the *National Forum* would continue to fight suffrage openly in the future as it had in the past.

In the Michigan campaign in 1913 a leaflet of the Michigan Association Opposed to Woman Suffrage bearing the name of the association and officers appeared as a paid advertisement in a number of the Macomb county newspapers. A few days later the *Detroit Journal* published an article revealing the fact that it was the Macomb County Retail Liquor Dealers' Association that had placed and paid for this material. The copy for the advertisement, together with the letter of instructions, were sent by the editor to Mrs. Clara B. Arthur, president of the Michigan Woman Suffrage Association, and it is now in her possession.

This is but a small part of the evidence that has come from the campaign States showing that the liquor interests are the most formidable foes of suffrage. Indeed, so much has been said and published on this subject that it would hardly seem necessary to point out the inaccuracy of such statements as those made by the president of the Maryland Association Opposed to Woman Suffrage.

Instead of the opposition coming only from those who are endeavoring to preserve the nation and society, the main opposition is coming from the organized forces most destructive to nation and society. The Rev. Billy Sunday knows whereof he speaks.

M. LEM. ELLICOTT, President Equal Suffrage League.

NEW WAR SECRETARY A SUFFRAGIST

Perhaps it is because his wife has been "not only his inspiration, but his active helper as well," in all his ideals of good government, that Mr. Newton D. Baker, the new Secretary of War, is a strong believer in votes for women.

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