

Votes for Women

I have been an advocate of woman's suffrage for many years. I am proud of the fact my mother and only sister live in a state which has unlimited suffrage, the state of Oregon. I am sure that state has not suffered at the hands of the women, neither has the citizenship deteriorated on account of their having had the right to vote.

From 1898 to 1902 I served as city clerk in the city of Lafayette, Ind. It was my duty to make the tax duplicates for the city. There I found a very substantial reason why women should be permitted to vote. Many women in that city carry a considerable burden of taxation. Yet it is a case of "taxation without representation."

Women the country over are breadwinners. They have taken their positions in the business world and they ought to have the right to give expression at the polls on the things that affect them.

IF WOMEN CAN TEACH MEN, WHY NOT VOTE?

I think I am safe in saying 90 per cent of the teachers in the graded and high schools are women. They are prepared to instruct the youth and to fit them for higher education. Is it not good reasoning to suppose they know as much or more about the fundamental principles of government than do the men? If this be true, then why are they not entitled to equal suffrage with the men?

We have three classes of people in the states which have not adopted equal suffrage, who are not entitled to vote, namely, idiots, criminals—persons convicted for crime and incarcerated in the jails and penitentiaries, and who in some instances are disfranchised on account of crimes committed—and women.

I am in favor of taking the women of the state of Indiana out of this class and putting them where they rightfully belong — on an absolute equality with men.

I am opposed to those who are responsible for women not having the

PREMIUMS AND DEPOSITS

No one ever heard a savings bank depositor talk about what his deposits cost him. He never says: "It costs me \$120.00 or \$360.00 a year to keep up my savings bank account." His deposits are savings, just that much to the good.

It is almost as absurd to talk about the cost of keeping up the premiums on life insurance. While in one view, premiums for life insurance are an expense, it is only in the sense that it costs present money; but all this money, and in most cases much more, will at some time be paid to the widow, children, or the estate of the insured. Insurance premiums are not an expense within the meaning that clothing, fuel or groceries are an expense. By the way, this is an excellent time to take a policy in

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right to vote. You will find these opponents to suffrage representing the special interests of the country. The strongest force in our state against suffrage is the liquor interest. This same interest is against all progressive legislation. These are the men who take the position that women are not properly educated to vote on questions of government. This is not their real reason. If you could get a brewer or distiller or a saloon keeper to tell you his real reason, it would be that women, with equal suffrage, would put him out of business.

My opinion of equal suffrage has been strengthened within the last few weeks. When the woman's suffrage bill passed the senate a few weeks ago, the following Sunday evening, after the passage of this bill, the opponents of woman's suffrage came to Indianapolis from all parts of the state.

As I sat in the lobby of one of the leading hotels that Sunday evening and the following Monday evening and studied that crowd, I thought what a wonderful opportunity the democratic party had if that party would only take advantage of it. The democrats could have traded the brewers and distillers, and those who profit on account of the liquor traffic, for the support of the women of the state of Indiana.

I think the rank and file of the democratic party of the state of Indiana were, during the legislature, and are now, in favor of making this exchange. But the special interests, with the assistance of those charged with political power in the state oppose such an amalgamation.—James Kirby Risk, in the Indiana Daily Times.

HERALDS OF BETTER TIMES

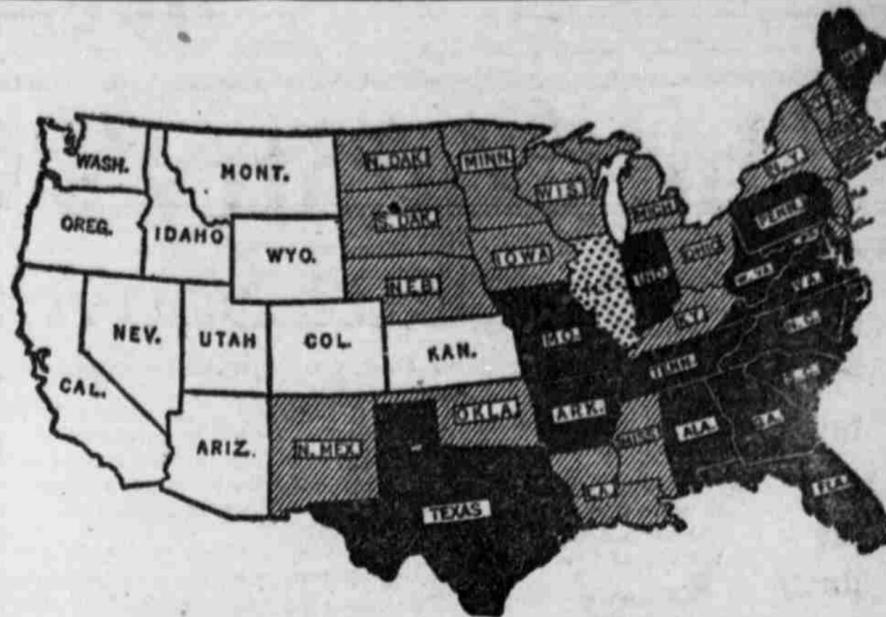
Industrial Revival is Taking Place and Business is on the Mend

That the Pennsylvania railroad is arranging to buy and build a total of 10,000 freight cars while not less than 50,000 cars are idle on the system is a curious instance of the manner in which a railroad must endeavor to forecast the future and be prepared for it. This equipment will hardly be ready for service before August 1. There may be no pressing use for it for some weeks thereafter. Much of the material and labor entering into construction will be an unproductive investment during all that intervening time, to say nothing of the \$50,000,000 or more in existing equipment that is for the present earning nothing.

Evidently the theory is that the railroad can afford to carry any amount of unproductive investment through months of light traffic better than shippers can afford to wait for cars when the traffic is heavy. The theory would not be so bad if due recognition were given it in the rough and ready methods by which railroad profits are regulated.

But all that is by the way. For the general public the chief interest in the Pennsylvania's car and material orders is that it indicates a settled belief on the part of the Pennsylvania management that an industrial revival is taking place. The crop outlook is promising, but that by itself is not enough to account for the road's desire for more cars. Last year's crops were bountiful, but the railroads moved them, without anything approaching a car shortage, except for a temporary condition due entirely to the lack of ships at Atlantic and Gulf ports early in the war.

Other signs are not lacking that railroad business is on the mend, from which it follows that other business, which originates traffic, is gain-



THE MAP THAT GROWS WHITER EVERY YEAR

White States: Full suffrage. Shaded states: Taxation, bond or school suffrage. Dotted state: Presidential, partial county and state, municipal suffrage. Black states: No suffrage.—From the Suffrage Number of the New York Evening Post.

ing in like proportion. It is important to bear in mind, of course, that the only figures by which the situation can be tested make comparison with the depression of this time last year. This is particularly true of the net earnings and gives the large net gains of February and those that some roads will report for March a somewhat exaggerated effect. Nevertheless, if the present season is even a little better than a poor corresponding season last year, this year as a whole is so much the more likely to turn out satisfactorily. And such tendencies in business, as is well known, are usually cumulative.

Hence the decision of the Pennsylvania to provide more cars without waiting for the old ones to be filled with freight. The judgment of the Pennsylvania directors is not necessarily conclusive as to what is immediately ahead of us. But that road has more than once taken a lead in the resumption of constructive activity which other roads have followed.—Wall Street Journal.

DANIELS VINDICATED

It is only about one year since Secretary Daniels of the United States navy issued an order banishing intoxicating liquors from the navy and naval stations. When the order was issued there was a great fuss made about it in some quarters. Many naval officers sneered at it; many republican papers and republican speakers made fun of the "grape juice navy." The Wilson ad-

ministration, of which Secretary Daniels is a part, came in for a share of ridicule and adverse criticism from the liquor interests and from opposition political sources. But Secretary Daniels held to the order and the navy went dry. And now we see the position of this democratic secretary vindicated by the action of other countries, where rum is being prohibited in army and navy ranks. Other countries, profiting by the stand taken by this democratic naval secretary, have come to see that the efficiency of fighting men is decreased by the use of liquor and it is being abolished. Russia has banished vodka to the end that the army may be more efficient; France has placed a ban upon absinthe drinking for the same reason; Great Britain now asserts that the drink peril is greater than the perils of war and is considering severe restrictive legislation. In Canada we see two provinces moving toward the closing of all saloons during the war.

Foreign governments, disposed to criticize Secretary Bryan as the "grape juice statesman," and Daniels as a "tea drinking naval secretary," have quit scoffing and are urging steps to restrict the drinking of strong liquors in their army and navy. A democratic administration in the United States set an example which all the world is now glad to follow—and you will note that it remained for a democratic administration to set this example.—Mankato (Kansas) Western Advocate.



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