

Co-operation Necessary in Suffrage Movement

[From the Miami, Fla., Metropolis, Jan. 15.]

"Women must learn to co-operate."

This quotation from Mrs. William Jennings Bryan's talk at the suffrage luncheon yesterday best expresses the very thing Miami women did do when 200 of them assembled at the Green Tree Inn dining room in the interests of "ballots for both."

This assemblage, called to honor Mrs. Bryan, (who recently returned from Washington, where she attended the annual convention of the National Equal Suffrage Association), and to honor the state suffrage president, Mrs. Frank Stranahan, was the second of its kind to be held in the Magic City, and it is probable that such a suffrage luncheon will be an annual event here. Other honor guests to be introduced as speakers were Mrs. H. L. Woodburn of Maryland and Mrs. W. G. Fletcher.

The speakers' table was centered with roses, ferns and American flags, fetchingly arranged in a bronze bowl. At this table were seated Mrs. A. L. Andrus, president of the Miami Equal Suffrage league; Mrs. William Mark Brown, who, as chairman of the social committee, introduced the speakers; Mrs. Bryan and daughter, Mrs. Richard L. Hargreaves of Raleigh, N. C., Mrs. Stranahan, Mrs. Woodburn and Mrs. W. G. Fletcher.

Playing her own accompaniment, Mrs. F. M. Hudson sang "Keep the Home Fires Burning," — sang with such feeling that all were deeply impressed. As an encore (for of course she was encored) she sang "Don't Cry, Little Girl." This was the first number on the program, the second feature, coming in company with dessert and coffee, being an opening address by Mrs. A. L. Andrus. The two-fold purpose of the luncheon, to honor Mrs. Stranahan and Mrs. Bryan, and to rejoice over the splendid victory on January 10, was explained by Mrs. Andrus. She continued with a brief history of suffrage in America, mentioning a number of the leading suffragists. Later in the afternoon Mrs. Andrus commented upon the interesting decorations, which consisted chiefly in suffrage posters, pennants and the state suffrage banner.

Mrs. William Mark Brown compared her duties as chairman to Rebecca of Sunnybrook farm when she said her new parasol was her dearest possession but her greatest responsibility. She proved to be a clever and gracious toastmistress.

The struggles of women in their march for political liberty, over desert sands of indifference and scaling mountains of opposition, were outlined by Mrs. Fletcher. "We trust that the suffragist will bring with her sweet gifts, pure from every taint of greed and selfishness," she said.

Mrs. Stranahan Talks

The seeming indifference of Tampa at the time the suffrage convention was held there constituted a part of Mrs. Stranahan's talk. Quoting Mrs. McAdoo, she said, "It is a wonderful thing in these days of world crises to be an American citizen." "Some day," she said, "it will be possible to look back to this time when history is in the making and say, 'Verily, it was good to be alive then, and to be young it was heaven.'"

"I think it especially wonderful to be a woman citizen, because America has a great part to play and women are being given for the first time the

opportunity to show what they can do to help."

Mrs. Woodburn Makes Impression

The war as woman's opportunity constituted the subject of Mrs. Woodburn's talk. She said that the early man looked upon his muscles of steel and upon the delicate flesh of woman and took by force what he wanted. He wrote over woman "Thou shalt not" and made might make right, and has been taking what he wanted ever since.

"If women had voted, would the war have taken place?" Mrs. Woodburn asked. "Yes. Civilization would not have been enough for the German man. The German women are trained and developed along the same lines of brutal force that the German men are and if left to them, they would not have prevented the war." Among her concluding remarks was the following: "Man's war of blood — the killing of the body — is passing. The time will come when we will fear not him that killeth the body but him that killeth the soul. Woman's war will be waged against white slavery, conditions social, conditions political and conditions peculiarly connected with woman's work."

"The men have worked 12 years to make William Jennings Bryan president; but I don't believe it would take the women 12 years to make Mrs. William Jennings Bryan president." This remark, made by Mrs. Woodburn, was greatly applauded by the 200 women present.

Mrs. Brown's Comments

Before introducing Mrs. Bryan, Mrs. Brown gave the following facts: "Lincoln once said that this republic was founded on the rule of 'root hog or die,' and women are no less amenable to that principle than men. The theory that it is man's function to provide and women's to be sheltered is a living lie. Sometimes man provides and sometimes he does not. The woman who is sheltered today may be out on the world tomorrow. Hunger knows no sex, want knows no sex, necessity knows no sex, law knows no sex, property knows no sex. Only the ballot knows sex. There are in the United States half a million stenographers, half a million teachers and professors. There are more than a half million in various trades. There are nearly a million women in agricultural pursuits. There are 2,000 women journalists, 7,000 physicians and more than 1,000 women lawyers. Created equal with man, woman, deprived through long centuries of her rights, by degrees is conquering the place beside man where God placed her at the very hour of her creation."

"Organize" Says Mrs. Bryan

"It is a great pleasure for me to be here today," Mrs. Bryan said. "I can't think that you came just to honor me; however that may be, I am pleased to see so many old friends here and after adjournment I'm going out in the lobby and I wish you'd come and shake hands because I might not see you again this year."

Right here Mrs. Bryan told of her difficulty in finding time to prepare a talk to give to the women at the luncheon. The Lord had not smiled on her efforts, she said. Mr. Bryan was burned when he turned the gas of their heater on full, "and so the time I should have spent fixing a speech was spent in fixing eyebrows, clipping hair and patching him up generally. I told him I was going to tell you how my time was spent, and

he asked me to present you with his compliments and tell you women that while he has joined the order of singed cats he is not seriously hurt."

Mrs. Bryan continued with an account of the national suffrage convention, and some of her experiences as a lobbyist and national suffrage worker. "Perhaps the most interesting single session of the convention was held when New York women told how they carried New York. Each woman who spoke emphasized the same point—'organize, organize, and again organize.' They had button-holed people, organized clubs, had gone to almost every office, and had done everything that could be done.

"Militant suffrage has always appealed to me in one way. I was always pleased and delighted with their ability to think up things." Mrs. Bryan continued with humorous anecdotes, and examples of the splendid organization in New York. Especially humorous was her account of a reception which she attended in Washington, and her clever imper-

sonations. "And now," finished Mrs. Bryan, "having said everything I think Mrs. Andrus told me to say, I want to add one or two things on my own account." These things consisted of some of the experiences of the suffragists at Tallahassee when the suffrage amendment was before the Florida legislature, and of the splendid work done by Mrs. Stranahan.

"Men are like the forces of evil which unite and women are like the forces of good which divide," Mrs. Bryan concluded. "Women divide and split hairs instead of standing together. Women must learn to co-operate. They must carry a less Pharisaic attitude. Men recognize a great brotherhood and stand by each other. Women must learn to be tolerant and helpful. When one of our number goes wrong we must not kick her down, but give help where it is needed."

"I couldn't serve as a juror, judge; one look at that feller convinces me he's guilty." "Sh-h—that's the attorney for the state."—Passing Show.

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