

The Bee's Home Magazine Page

Votes for Women?

Conducted by MRS. DAINY DOANE For the Douglas County Equal Suffrage Association.

The "Unanswerable Argument" Answered

By Mrs. Lida Calvert Obenchain (Lida Calvert Hall).

"It is asserted that the average good American woman's indifference to woman suffrage is an unanswerable argument against the movement."

"If this be true, there is an unanswerable argument against every good work and every reform movement of the present day, or of any past day, for it is a fact that the average good American woman, and her brother, the average good American man, are shamefully indifferent to the things that make for the public good."

"A knowledge of sanitary science is a good thing. The average American woman living in a town without a drainage system will permit the cook to throw dishwater and kitchen garbage into the back yard, and the average American man, unless deterred by law, does not hesitate to expectorate on the public pavement and the floors of public buildings. Is this indifference to sanitary precautions an unanswerable argument against sanitary science?"

"The men and women who are working to abolish child labor encounter a vast indifference to this subject on the part of legislators and the people at large. Is this indifference an unanswerable argument in favor of child labor?"

"Seventy-five years ago women did not go to college. When the agitation for the higher education of women began the indifference of the average American citizen arrayed itself against education for women. Was this indifference an unanswerable argument in favor of illiteracy for women?"

"There was a time when a married woman could not make a will, and a married woman's wages belonged to her husband. So indifferent were the average men and women to this injustice that it was years before married women obtained property rights. Was this indifference an unanswerable argument against granting women the right to dispose of her own possessions by, and to collect and spend the wages earned by her own toil?"

"But why go further in citing parallel cases? There are two classes of people in the world. In the women of one class a keen sense of justice is developed. In the other class the sense of justice is so undeveloped that women belonging to this do not object to a condition of disenfranchisement that reduces them to the political level of the idiot, the lunatic, the felon, the minor and the illiterate negro of the south."

"This large class of women is well described as 'average,' and by mere force of numbers these average women can continue for a long while to have things their own way. But human progress means the setting aside of the opinions and wishes of average people, and in the long run the world is governed by the small first class, the men and women who love justice, who know what justice is and who, by this love and knowledge, are raised above the 'average.'"

Are Women Represented?

American men are the best in the world, and if it were possible for any good to represent women, tonight heads and good will of the American men would do it. But a man is by nature, too different from a woman to be able to represent her. The two creatures are unlike. Whatever his good will he can not fully put himself in a woman's place and look at the things exactly from her point of view. To say this is no more a reflection upon his mental or moral ability than it would be a reflection upon his musical ability to say that he can not sing both soprano and bass. Unless men and women should ever become just alike (which would be regrettable and monotonous) women must either go unrepresented or represent themselves. In the Woman's Journal, Alice Stone Blackwell says:

"The anti-suffragists tell us that things are going pretty well, so well that there is no need of the introduction of any new element to make them better. A group of well-to-do women who made an anti-suffrage 'pilgrimage' through Massachusetts uttered this declaration again and again. Their complacency recalls an old Spanish proverb: 'To the man who has shoes, the world seems to be paved with leather.' One of their spokesmen boasted that they all had good homes, and indicated that they were abandoning them for a tour of public speaking only under a strong sense of duty to save their country from the impending horrors of equal suffrage. None of them had children working in the mills. If other people's children were working there, these ladies were not unhappy about it. Their favorite epithet of scorn for the suffragists is 'discontented women.' While children are needlessly worn out, used up and made old before their time, have women any right to be contented?"

Forty Years Put in Six Months

In a letter to Dr. C. E. Ford, head of the public health department of Cleveland, O., Dr. William J. Mayo, the noted surgeon of Rochester, Minn., says: "Mrs. Caroline Bartlett Crane of Kalamazoo, Mich., came here a tour of public health and sanitary matters. And a result of it was that a civic league of women was formed, and this league has done more for this town in six months than the men of the community have done in forty years."

"It would seem that the best sentiment and the only hardworking consciences are in women rather than men of this country, as women appear to be the only ones to do things that are right because they are right."

Conducted by MRS. MARJORIE DORMAN For the Nebraska Association Opposed to Woman Suffrage.

Why I am an Anti-Suffragist

By Kate Douglas Wiggin.

I am probably an anti-suffragist by instinct and temperament, but all the experience of my busy life has confirmed my natural attitude of mind. I would not for the world retard the development of woman nor hamper her in her struggle for still greater freedom than she now possesses, though to my mind she has not at any time gone to the limit of her powers under present conditions, but I cannot believe that the ballot is the first or the next or the best thing to work for. I want her to be a good homemaker, a good mother, and a loyal, intelligent, active citizen, but above all, to be a helpful, stimulating, inspiring force in the world rather than a useful and influential factor in politics. I do not question a woman's ability to concentrate her mind on political questions, to grow steadily in knowledge and power, and to vote wisely and conscientiously, but I would prefer her to develop still higher powers, for there are higher ones.

It is even more difficult to be an inspiring woman than a good citizen and an honest voter, and if you declare your ability to be all three I shall continue to believe that the first of the three will continually be lost in the development of the other two. Nobody can say that the services of local or national government demands as concentrated a use of woman's powers as the service of humanity.

A woman's "job" to my mind is with other women, with children, and with men, who, next to children, are most dependent upon what she thinks and says and does and is. Her peculiar "job," I say, is with men, women and children—their bodies, their hearts, and their soul. I would have women strong enough to bear the burden of the weak, to rescue and educate derelicts, to make life cleaner, safer, easier, more upright than it is now. I would have her strong enough to keep just a trifle in the background. She spoils the composition of many a good picture just now by wanting the center of the stage and all the limelight that the electric can furnish. The limelight never makes anything grow; it only causes the thing to look a little different than it is. If woman is as strong as she ought to be she should be called continually in council to advise, to consult and co-operate with men wherever her peculiar gifts are valuable. If she enjoys and uses these rights and privileges she does not need the ballot.

Explain

Can suffragists tell why women fail as prohibition voters? The vote in Virginia, September 22, makes ten states that have gone prohibition on the votes of men alone. Of the nine suffrage states none is prohibition but Kansas, and it went dry many years before women got a vote there. Colorado, Oregon, Washington, California and Wyoming all rejected prohibition, and Wyoming, where women have voted forty-five years, never voted even one county dry, while California has but one dry county. Can Dr. Anna Shaw or any of the other suffrage leaders tell us why these are not prohibition states when the very strongest argument the suffrage advocates use is "Give us votes and we will give you prohibition." If but 58 per cent of the Colorado women had voted against the saloons in 1912 prohibition would have won by over 6,000 votes without one male ballot in its favor. Why didn't the female voters there accomplish what male voters have in male suffrage states? Why are Denver, Chicago and San Francisco wide open on Sunday? Will the suffragists please explain?

Judge Lindsey, in an interview in the Boston Post of July 26, said: "Here is another point in which men are mistaken. They believe, most of them, down to their hearts, that women would at once close up the saloons. That is absolutely disproved by what has happened in Colorado. Colorado is a wet state and Denver is a wretchedly wet city. The wets won in Colorado last year with women voting. Women—good women—got out and worked for the wets. Thus you have Colorado, with equal suffrage, going wet by 50,000, while West Virginia, where the women can't vote, goes dry by 100,000."

Enforcing Laws

Arthur Evans Wilcox, in an able article in the September number of the Midwest Magazine, says: "Laws have their origin in the wishes of the electorate, but those laws are only enforceable because of the knowledge that behind them it is possible to bring to bear the pressure of as many bayonets, practically, as there were votes to bring this about. It is therefore clearly the duty of every voter who insists upon the enactment of law to be ready to enforce those laws with the strong arm of might should the necessity arrive. Let us submit a purely supposititious case: In a certain country where men and women alike enjoy the franchise there are 10,000 female voters and 10,000 male voters. A certain law is submitted to the referendum and the affirmative vote reaches 15,000, of which number 10,000 are votes of women and 5,000 the votes of men. Further suppose that the 5,000 men voting in the negative absolutely refuse to abide by the law—what would happen in such a case? How could the law be enforced? Having assumed the obligation of government, would it be the duty of the 10,000 women voters to enforce the law by bringing to bear the pressure found only in the rifle and the bayonet? And if they tried it, what headway would they make against the 5,000 male opponents?"

AN OPINION.

Francis Parkman—it has been claimed as a right that women should vote. It is no right, but a wrong that a small number of women should impose on all the rest political duties which there is no call for assuming, which they do not pretend to assume and which if duly discharged, would be a cruel and intolerable burden.

Birds of a Feather : Snowbirds : By Nell Brinkley

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Snowbirds are fluffy little chaps, who begin to be seen on the great highways when the brown leaves are skipping and the first soft, gentle white flakes are drifting silently out of the gray heaven. Sometimes the little chap is a tiny, perky gay bird, making dainty little tracks, begging for a bit of a crumb, looking a bright eye at you, puffed up around the throat as if he had a fur-

boa on and was nestling into it to keep his chin warm; he matches the snow and the murmuring dark water that sings in a silver voice under a shroud of ice, and he swings on the bare boughs and utters a cry—call.

Sometimes the snowbird is a perky little girl, also making dainty tracks, with crumbs in her muff for her little name-brothers, she, too, looking a bright eye at you, nestling her pinky-

chin into the black fur at her throat; and she matches the snow and the last fall leaves, for her hair is russet gold and her throat and hands are white, and she stands beneath the winter boughs and answers the call above her with a laugh and a whistle. What do we care for the nip of winter when "we got snowbirds, we have?"

NELL BRINKLEY.

Advice to Lovelorn

By BEATRICE FAIRFAX

Girls and Letters.

Dear Miss Fairfax: A girl friend of mine quit writing to me, although she liked my company. The only reason I can see is that she does not find much interest in writing. Would I act manly by calling on her without asking her permission? (No telephone). I don't come to her town too often.

A friend of mine is corresponding with a nice girl of 15 years without her parents' consent (she gets her letters on my address) although her parents know that they might quit writing (then) or to continue to send letters on my address? Kindly advise as soon as possible before I visit my friend's town.

O. C.

If your relations with the young lady are friendly, there is no good reason why you should not call on her when in the town where she resides. However, you would better assure yourself she is not averse to your calling. One very good way to do this is to call. As to clandestine correspondence, it is wrong at any and all times. If the girl's parents do not object, why should there be any cancellation? It is quite likely, however, that they would object to their 15-year-old daughter carrying on a clandestine correspondence with a man, and you may be sure that if it ever comes to light you will very likely receive a call from a righteousness indignant father.

Thirty and in Doubt.

Dear Miss Fairfax: I am 30 years old and have been keeping company with a gentleman for the last ten years who is five years older than myself. He is madly in love with me, but I have come to realize that my affections have slowly drifted from him to his nephew, who is seven years younger than myself. I have tried to tell the said gentleman of my transferred affections, but of no avail. Will you kindly come to my rescue and advise me.

"PIRT."

When a woman reaches 30 she ought to be able to know her own mind. The fact that you were able to keep company with a man for ten years without reaching a serious understanding makes it very plain that no deep attachment ever existed between you. As to falling in love with a younger man, that is not at

Complexion and Face Powder.

Dear Miss Fairfax: "Would you please tell me if putting witch hazel on the skin after washing will clear the complexion? Also, if putting upon the skin the rinsing water will clear the complexion? Also, what is good for a shiny skin? And what is a good face powder?"

B. X. Z.

Face lotions are only serviceable in the matter of removing surface blemishes. The cause of muddy or poor complexion usually lies much below the surface. Eat moderately of plain food, keep regular hours, get plenty of sleep, dress properly, bathe frequently, and wash your face with good soap in warm water, rubbing the lather in well with the hands, and then wipe the skin dry with a soft towel, and you will soon find your complexion much improved. A good cold cream, rubbed in with the finger tips, and then wiped off with a soft towel, will serve to clear out the pores of the skin. Many kinds of good face powder may be obtained at any well stocked drug store. Simply ask the druggist for one.

Too Young to Wed.

Dear Miss Fairfax: I am a young girl of 18 and dearly in love with two young men; one of them is 19 and the other 23. As both of them have asked me to marry them, I am in doubt of which one to marry.

BABE.

Neither of you three is old enough to marry. When the right man comes along you will not need to be told. Better send them both about their business if you can't tell which one you care for. At any rate, put off getting married for a couple of years.

Widowhood and Courtship.

Dear Miss Fairfax: I am a young widow of 29. My husband has been dead for two years, and do you think it is too soon for me to receive attentions from men? There is a young lawyer that has been very attentive for the last two months. Do you think I should encourage him, or should I wait a while longer before receiving the attentions of men? Soberly perplexed.

J. H.

Two years would seem quite long enough to remain a widow, and unless you are vowed to perpetual widowhood, no good reason exists why you should not encourage the serious attentions of a man whom you would be willing to wed.

Little Mary's Essays :

Reason Widowers Always Seem to Be So Care Free

By DOROTHY DIX.

Widowers are men who look like the picture's in mamma's Bible of the martyrs that have just come through great afflictions. Only, of course, the martyrs have halos, but widowers are mostly bald-headed, so it's just the same, and they look like you feel after you've had a tooth out, and you are that calm and happy that you love all the world.

Widowers are always telling you their troubles, but widowers look like they haven't any troubles to tell.

Widowers are clean dressers and have lots of good clothes. When a man is a married man he does not care how he looks, and he wears trousers that sag at the knee, and comfortable collars, and any kind of necktie. But when a man becomes a widower the first thing he does is to go out and buy himself a lot of good clothes and the latest thing in neckties and collars.

I do not know why this is so, but it is so.

There is also another curious thing about widowers that I do not understand, and that is that when a man becomes a widower he looks about twenty years younger than he did while his wife was alive. When his wife was alive he walked with his shoulders hunched over, and he was grumpy because he had the rheumatism, but when he becomes a widower he stands straight up and takes fancy lessons.

There are two kinds of widowers, widowers with children and widowers without children. Ladies prefer the widowers without children, but all of the old maids and widows are very kind to the poor little motherless children of a good looking widower, and they take the children to ride in their automobiles, and bring them dolls and call them little loves, and say they are so interesting.

I wish my papa was a widower, and then the ladies would take me to the matinee and bring me candy like they do Marjorie Graham, whose papa is our preacher, and who is tall and handsome, and a widower.

Widowers don't stay widowers long. I expect they get into some for somebody to quarrel with and blame for everything that goes wrong. Also, there isn't any fun in doing things that you hadn't ought to when nobody notices whether you do them or not. Also it is most expensive to hire cooks and nurse girls, and people to take care of your children and make their clothes. Also servants are always giving notice and leaving, while a wife is cheap, and has got to stay whether she likes her place or not.

Widowers have only one eye. I know this, because my mother says that it is so easy to get on the blind side of a widower. Also she says that anybody can catch a widower with any kind of bait. Also she says that she hopes that when I'm grown I'll marry a widower, and when I asked her why, she said it was because widowers have been house broken and domesticated by some other woman, and that a man's first wife was a good, kind lady, who saved up money for the second wife to spend.

The Bible is full of promises and consolation for widows, but there are none for widowers. My papa says that widowers don't need any help. They can console themselves.

Madame Ise'bell Says Calluses Are Marks of Neglect—May Be Easily Prevented

The Care of the Feet—Part II.

Some feet seem peculiarly subject to callous spots which give them considerable pain, but as a rule these are brought about by loose shoes that rub the foot, first causing an irritation and then the skin thickening to protect the sore portion. A barefooted child can have calluses without discomfort; it is only when they are pressed into the sensitive flesh that they are painful.

Never cut or scrape away a callous spot with a sharp instrument. To remove them soak the feet well at night in hot, soapy water, rub thoroughly dry with a rough towel and then with an every board or piece of pumice stone rub the callous spots until they are less thick. Repeat this nightly until the entire foot shows a skin of equal thickness.

If the feet are properly cared for there should be no callous spots; they are a mark of neglect. A daily foot bath is imperative and feet that perspire easily should be thoroughly washed twice a day. Of equal importance with the foot bath is proper drying. The feet should be wiped until the skin is perfectly dry, paying particular attention to between the toes, the seat of soft corns and all dead skin rubbed away. If the feet are inclined to be dry, massage them with a little vaseline; if too soft and inclined to over perspire, follow the hot bath with a cold salt bath or a rub with witch hazel.

Callous spots sometimes become so thick on the sole of the foot and the under part of the toes that they turn into corns and must be treated as corns as described in the following lessons. For this reason never allow a callous spot to continue, but rub it away as soon as it appears. A peculiar form of foot trouble called vascular corns sometimes appears on the soles and under part of the toes. These have very deep roots; they appear almost like warts, and they contain blood vessels. For this reason it is dangerous to cut them, although they may be rubbed down with pumice stone. For any more drastic treatment a skilled chiropodist should be consulted.

I know of a case of bad vascular corns both on the soles of the feet and the under side of the toes that was permanently cured by a few months of the seashore. The patient was a boy of 13 and the cure simply took the form of allowing him to go in the water when he liked and to remain bare-footed all day. The soaking that the feet got by being so much in the water, the antiseptic effect of the salt and the friction of the sea sand effected the cure. At the end of the summer the toes and soles of the feet were quite smooth and normal.

Mrs. Ise'bell
(To Be Continued.)

A Great Secret.

Little Lillian's parents were well-to-do and kept several servants. She was allowed to go for a visit to a friend's house whose family did their own housework. When Lillian returned home she was telling her mother about the good time she had.

"But, mother dear," confided the child, solemnly, "they do one thing that is very dreadful! I hate to tell you about it, for it is really kind of cruel, and I'm afraid you won't let me go there again."

"Why, Lillian," urged the mother, in some alarm, "you must tell me, dear."

"Well, mother," replied the child, in a shocked whisper, "they use their own grandmother for a cook!"—Harper's Magazine.

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