

Number and Variety of Offices Held by Women

IT HAS been shown that whether or not women have the suffrage, they are holding office in ever increasing numbers; that, in fact, although it seems a paradox, more of them appear to be officeholders in states which give women no political rights than in those in which they enjoy the franchise. In many states where women have not the ballot they hold offices (which might be plums for voters) entirely because of their

ability, which must be of an unusual kind in order to overrule men's desire to reward their own sex for political service. But here are some of the good things performed by women in states where they do vote, which consequently do not indicate whether they are more or less deserving than men. Mrs. Mary A. Wright, member of the last Idaho legislature, has been unanimously elected chief clerk of the house of representatives. Five other women in the house

and two in the senate were elected to important positions.

Mrs. Evangeline Heartz, member of the Colorado house of representatives, was made chairman of the committee on enrollment and a member of the committees on appropriations and expenditures, education, state institutions, temperance and public health. She introduced a bill providing for the submission of a constitutional amendment under which the next legislature would be able to establish compulsory arbitration of labor disputes. Mrs. Heartz also acted as speaker of the house for an entire day. The speaker desired to take part in a debate and called her to the chair. Many difficult parliamentary points came up for decision, which she met with intelligence and dignity.

Miss Permeal French, whom Governor Steunenburg called the best state superintendent of public instruction that Idaho ever had, was re-elected. Women were elected county superintendent in fifteen counties and treasurer in six counties.

Mrs. Helen Grenfell was re-elected state superintendent of public instruction in Colorado by the largest vote cast for any candidate in the state. She ran 7,000 votes ahead of the governor and 361 ahead of the candidate for president of the United States, which called forth a eulogy from the Denver News upon efficiency versus partisanship in educational affairs.

The office of commissioner of the court of claims in Santa Fe, N. M., where women have not even school suffrage, is held by Grace Kennedy. She has authority to take depositions anywhere in the country in cases pending in that court. Previously she was secretary of the bureau of immigration and also of the republican central committee.

Another girl of 20, Miss Holmes, is assistant superintendent of the Chicago Board of Charities. This position in that great city is one of extreme responsibility. Miss Julia Lathrop has just resigned from the Illinois State Board of Charities.

Chicago has several women inspectors of streets, garbage, etc. Mrs. A. Emmagene Paul being the well known and very successful superintendent of the First ward. Miss Jane Adams of Hull house revolutionized the sanitary conditions of the slum districts of Halstead street. Now the ranks of society have been invaded and Mrs. Horatio May has accepted the position of inspector in her precinct. Mrs. Potter Palmer was offered this position, but was too much occupied to accept it. It is the woman's duty personally to inspect garbage boxes, enforce the law requiring

metallic cans and report on cleanliness and hygiene. Mrs. May is a widow, a lover of art and a traveler. Her father and husband were distinguished and public-spirited men.

The office of deputy prothonotary of one county in Pennsylvania is filled by Mrs. Belle Wood. She has full charge of the business when her superior is absent and also is clerk of the quarter sessions and common pleas courts, administers the oath to jurors and witnesses, records verdicts, etc.

Mrs. Cornelius Stevenson, president of the Civic club and Acorn club of Philadelphia is a member of the two sub-committees of the National Export committee. She is a trustee of the Philadelphia museum, the secretary of archaeology in the university and a member of several philosophical, scientific and Oriental bodies. She was placed by the mayor upon an advisory committee, to consider a \$11,000,000 loan bill.

The Treasury department has appointed a woman as clerk to the comptroller, Miss Clara Greenon of Michigan. She will write legal opinions for the government. This is a distinct innovation in the Treasury department.

The corporation of Sheffield, England, employs four women as health inspectors at good salaries, appointing an ex-inspector, Mrs. Greenwood, to train women for this office.

A long list might be given of women in public office and almost without exception the testimony is highly favorable as to their ability, honesty and conscientious faithful service.

Nebraska Candidates

(Continued from Second Page.)

declined the offer. He still holds the position of assistant land commissioner of the Burlington.

Mr. Ernst was always a republican, but never an office seeker. In 1893 he was nominated as a member of the Lincoln school board, without his seeking. He was elected by the largest popular vote up to that time cast for that office in Lincoln. He served one term of three years, one year as president, but declined re-election. While holding that, the only public office he has ever held, he devoted most of his time and energy to the business and financial affairs of the school district and succeeded in putting the business machinery of the school board, particularly its system of contracting for supplies, its manner of

scrutinizing and approving vouchers and keeping the accounts, onto a different and better basis.

Although he has been for many years greatly interested in the State university, considering it to be "the biggest thing in Nebraska," he had not thought for a moment of becoming a candidate for regent until Mr. Morrill positively declined to run for a third term and himself suggested Ernst as a suitable man to take his place, which suggestion at once seemed to take unambiguously and with considerable enthusiasm with the people acquainted with his record on the Lincoln school board.



CROWD AT ENTRANCE TO STREET FAIR.—Photo by a Staff Artist.

Girl Philosopher's Story

"You know, Tom," began the girl philosopher, twisting a new ring about her third finger, relates the Chicago News.

"Yes," exclaimed the other two in chorus, "when is it to be?"

"You know, Tom," began the other again, who would tell things in her own way or not at all. "And you know there was a fire at our house, in which the old maiden lady on the third floor had her nose seriously burned. What I am going to tell you is related both to the fire and to Tom. It was the evening after and I was practicing at the piano, trying to appear as though I were not awaiting him. Formerly, when waiting for the man whom I was going to marry, I would have been reading a book. But they all seemed to see through that. They know very well that the book was a ruse and that I was just making up my mind what to say after the first greeting. So I ceased reading, and nowadays practice on the piano."

"It is hard to know what to say after that first greeting," remarked the fluffy-haired girl.

"Is it?" asked the sallow young woman innocently.

"Yes," replied the philosopher. "One is apt to grow red and look silly. Then he always says, 'Well, what are you laughing for?' and you always reply, 'Nothing at all,' and then you giggle. He laughs in his jerks, and asks you, 'how you are. You say, 'All right. Hasn't it been a perfectly lovely day?' I used to get a book just before he came and think out things to say during such trying moments, but now I play the bumble-bee song or something which is not too noisy, for I always manage to hear every footfall on the veranda. That evening after the fire was singing—"

"What risks you take!" ventured the sallow young woman. "So I failed to step for the foot-steps as usual," proceeded the speaker. "I had just reached

a high note and was endeavoring to get that vocal quiver that is so fetching when someone directly behind my chair coughed slightly. It was so sudden that I forgot all about the line of action I had planned. I had intended to be cool to him, for you see I was most—er—cordial the evening before. You should never be too cordial to a man twice in succession, you know."

"I know," answered the fluffy-haired girl with a conclusive nod.

"But it was awfully sudden," said the sallow young woman. "Did you mistake him for a book agent?"

"No such good luck or good behavior, either," admitted the philosopher. "I just said, 'Oh, Tom!' and I am afraid I left some of my new powder on his coat. He seemed to be about as surprised as I, for he backed away several steps and, removing my hands gently from his shoulder, remarked: 'I am afraid you are mistaken.'"

"What!" exclaimed the listeners.

The philosopher nodded vigorously and bit her lip, as though she was about to laugh or cry. "It wasn't Tom at all," she

finally gasped weakly, "but an accident insurance man who had come to see about the maiden lady's burned nose. The maid answered the door, you know."

"What did you say?" inquired the fluffy-haired girl.

"I must have stammered a little, but I remember saying that I thought he was someone else."

"And he?"

"He said he wished he were."

"Impudence!" ejaculated the sallow young woman. "You really should tell Tom at once, for as long as you are wearing his ring—"

"But it is not his ring," said the philosopher, defiantly holding up her hand. "It's the accident insurance man's."

Her companions looked at each other in speechless surprise. The fluffy-haired girl finally managed to inquire:

"When?"

"Since one week after he came out to inquire about the injuries of the maiden lady. Wasn't she a dear to poke her nose into the fire?"



PRESIDENT DAY, TRANS-MISSISSIPPI EXPOSITION, OCTOBER 12, 1898—PRESIDENT MCKINLEY AND OTHER DISTINGUISHED VISITORS, WITH MILITARY ESCORT ENROUTE TO THE GROUNDS—VIEW ON DOUGLAS STREET.—Photo by Lancaster.



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