

Labor 100 Years Ago - Feb. 19, 1916

A look back at the front page stories of the Oregon Labor Press, Feb. 19, 1916. A digital version of the front page can be seen on our web site at www.nwlaborpess.org

* Preparedness For Women

There is one question to which every woman should be able to answer yes. It is this: "Can you earn a living if you should need to do so?" If there is one lesson more than another that has been emphasized in recent years, it is that the untrained suffer most when a pinch comes. Another lesson that is not sufficiently understood is that there is

practically no security in fortune.

Preparedness should be the watchword for women. Train your daughters, your mothers, to something that will pay a return sufficient at least for a livelihood. It can do no harm, and it may mean just the dif-

ference between happiness and misery in later life.

There is nothing more pathetic than the sight of some unfortunate woman, brought up utterly unprepared to support herself, who has been suddenly reduced to poverty. We all know some such woman.

Pottering along at things that are of no real use, at work given by pitying friends or strangers, more ore less dazed by contract with a world that is foreign to her, sinking little by little to meaner surroundings and more desperate makeshifts, she at last disappears, sucked under in the maelstrom she has neither the strength nor the training to resist.

Surely you don't want to run even the faintest chance of becoming such a derelict: you don't want your daughter to run any such risk. So be prepared. Be fit for something, trained to something, ready to take hold if you must.

Know at least one thing so well that people will be glad to pay you for doing it. Be able to say yes if the world should ask you if you can return fair value for a living. It is the surest of human safeguards.

The knowledge that, in any eventuality, one need not suffer, will add confidence, pleasure and assuredness to every undertaking in life.

From Page 2:
"Women's Department"
by Lena Pittman Stahl

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