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THE CAUSE IN YAMHILL.

THE SENIOR RETURNS FROM OLYMPIA AND VISITS NORTH YAMHILL AND HILLSBORO—WOMAN'S CAUSE BOOMING.

PORTLAND, November 22, 1881.

TO THE READERS OF THE NEW NORTHWEST:

The officers of the Yamhill County Woman Suffrage Association honored the undersigned, some weeks since, with an invitation to visit the above-named classic shades (where all the great men of the State have from time to time "got their start") for the purpose of participating in the deliberations of the seventeenth quarterly convention and enjoying the whole-souled hospitality of the friends of liberty. The minutes furnished by the secretary are so full and complete that we have cause for little further comment except to urge upon the women of other counties the necessity of like active, organized and thorough work. One woman like Mrs. Loughary is needed in each county to work up conventions and hold auxiliary meetings quarterly in connection with the State Association. Why can they not come to the front? If they could know how tired we get, and how large the area of Oregon and Washington seems to us, and how rested and encouraged we feel when women go ahead in county associations and do the preliminary work, surely they would not wait, as they so often do, till we appear in their midst before making preparations for meetings. We are glad to say that Yamhill is not the only county where meetings are regularly held whether we are present or not, for we recall pleasant memories of Grant, Baker, Union, Umatilla, Wasco, Marion, Polk, and formerly Linn and Clackamas conventions, excellent reports of which have from time to time been furnished the columns of the NEW NORTHWEST; but Yamhill is the only county that has held seventeen quarterly conventions.

Think of it, friends in the different counties, and go to work, we pray you. The people need educating. A little thorough agitation of the question in Washington Territory would have placed her in the lead and settled the crown of liberty upon the heads of her women forever. Her opposing legislators, like those in Oregon who vote "no," were ignorant of the facts concerning the general demand for their affirmative votes, or they would have rendered a wiser verdict. Such men will not learn willingly, and it is the work of these conventions to make our plea so plain that he who runs—for the Legislature—must read; whether he will or not.

Nor must we omit the gallant aids we have in Yamhill county among the gentlemen. To Hon. Lee Laughlin, our able champion in the Legislature in the House of Representatives in 1880, more than to any other man, may be ascribed the success of the late convention. Mr. Laughlin secured the valuable services of Messrs. Draper and Leiser as lecturers, furnished a free hall, and secured the band for the first evening and vocal music whenever wanted. Mrs. Laughlin royally entertained a crowd of visitors in their elegant home during the convention, as also did our venerable friend, Mrs. Higgins, and our wide-awake allies, Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds.

The convention concluded its labors on Thursday evening and adjourned amid much enthusiasm, the large audience adopting Woman Suffrage by a rising vote with only one negative—a lady who voted "no" for the purpose of showing how ridiculous is the assertion of our opponents that women must vote against voting to prove to the world that they do not want to vote! We declared the vote unanimous—everybody having voted—and "brought down the house." Excellent order prevailed throughout the entire proceedings. Cries of "No! no!" were heard from many voices when the President declared the meeting adjourned, and the multitude slowly dispersed to their homes, happy in the conviction that

"The good time coming is almost here."

Business is brisk in North Yamhill this winter. Mr. Laughlin has bought the stock of merchandise lately owned by Mr. Fryer (who has gone to Independence) and largely added thereto with everything adapted to the country trade. Mr. Reynolds has enlarged, refitted and repainted his excellent variety store. Senator W. J. McConnell, who has removed his immense mercantile business to Moscow, Idaho, is still a semi-occasional resident here, and is engaged with Mrs. McConnell in the laudable work of rearing Woman Suffragists, of which they have a brand new and very superior specimen on hand. The North Yamhill band, under the able teaching of Professor L. C. Thompson, of Carleton, aided by Mr. E. H. Anderson, leader, has reached a marvelous stage of accuracy in playing, the time being perfect and the music difficult and well executed. Miss Sedlak has proved herself an accomplished teacher of vocal, piano and organ music,

and takes commendable pride in her pupils, with all of whom she is a prime favorite.

Train time came round on Friday, and we were hurriedly despatching a noon lunch at Mrs. Laughlin's and waiting for the hack to come by, when Mr. Laughlin came in with the information that he had failed to catch the driver's attention and we were left. Hillsboro friends were looking for us and we couldn't wait, so our obliging host, nothing daunted by the abounding mud, brought out his elegant buggy and spanking team, and driving at double quick through the sloppy thoroughfares, landed us at the depot on time, well bespattered but happy. We're glad we didn't have to wash that buggy or groom those horses. Mr. Laughlin ought to go to Congress. A man who could keep his temper under such circumstances would be an invaluable auxiliary in breaking a "dead lock." If one plan wouldn't work, he'd try another and succeed.

Two hours, and Hillsboro. The day is damp and chilly, and the Yamhill mud adhering to our clothes and wraps suggests reminiscences of the Free Soil party. We accompany Thomas Handly, Esq., to his pleasant home, where an hour is spent in agreeable chat with his happy wife, who wants to vote. We then repair to Mrs. Tozier's, where we spend the night in the enjoyment of the genial hospitality of wide-awake Woman Suffragists. We wish the member of the Washington Council who said that working women do not wish to vote could see Mrs. Tozier's fruit dryer, and note the amount of well-earned, honest "toll" she has in store as trophy of her prowess in reducing ton after ton of apples, pears, plums and corn to a condition of combined durability and esculence. He'd find that she could converse intelligently on any subject, too, from molecular action to politics, and from the vicarious atonement to baked potatoes.

Brother Judy was holding a protracted meeting, and we did not wish to interfere with lectures; so we spent the evening at church, and the next forenoon in making business calls upon enterprising subscribers to the People's Paper. Met Mrs. Leathers, another capable and womanly suffragist, in the well-ordered Tualatin Hotel, up to her eyes in business, but as genial and social as all ladies are who prize the boon of liberty. Called at Mr. Pittenger's prosperous and extensive mercantile establishment and found a bevy of bright-eyed clerks of both sexes, as busy as so many bees, among them the pretty and accomplished daughter of Hon. W. D. Hare, ex-Collector of Customs at Astoria, and the Misses Brown, one of whom is the efficient postmaster of Hillsboro. We also enjoyed a pleasant call at the office of the County Clerk, where we found Mr. Luelling busily engaged among deeds and mortgages, though he is never too busy to speak a good word for the enfranchisement of women who are debarred from the privileges through which he reached his position because denied the "equal protection of the laws." But then, a wise man couldn't help being an advocate of equal rights when his wife is as bright and capable as Mrs. Luelling is. Next called at the home and drug store of Dr. and Mrs. Brown, where we found another happy and prosperous equal rights couple, who eminently deserve the success they enjoy, the former as a physician and druggist, and the latter as an amiable and affectionate wife and home-keeper. Mr. T. G. Waters, jeweler, keeps a corner in this building, where he may always be found in business hours, ready to wait upon his numerous customers. A pleasant interview with Mrs. M. F. Parrish at her first-class millinery store revealed a handsome stock of goods, of superior quality and latest styles. Our last call was at the happy home of our efficient agent, Mr. L. L. Williams, and his wife and children, where we sank down from sheer exhaustion and enjoyed a few minutes' refreshing sleep, from which we were awakened by previous order in time to catch the afternoon train for Portland and home. If anybody thinks our work is easy, let him try it. A. S. D.

The Pacific Christian Advocate, speaking of the defeat of the Woman Suffrage bill in the Council of the Washington Territory Legislature, said: "We notice that such men as Evans, Sharpstein, and Stratton, among the ablest in the Territory, spoke and voted for it."

Mr. Thurston Daniels has changed the name of the Pacific Censor to the Register, and will make it an exponent of the business and life of Vancouver and Clarke county. It will favor temperance, but give attention to other topics. It is enlarged to a 28-column paper.

Mr. T. M. Draper, editor and proprietor of the Wasco Sun of The Dalles, was in the city on Monday and gave the NEW NORTHWEST a call. He purchased a quantity of material to be used in the publication of his journal as a daily.

The Albany Herald has commenced its third volume. It is a creditable paper.

Y. C. W. S. A.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE QUARTERLY CONVENTION OF THE YAMHILL COUNTY WOMAN SUFFRAGE ASSOCIATION.

The Yamhill County Woman Suffrage Association met, pursuant to adjournment, in the town hall at North Yamhill on Wednesday, November 16th, at 2 o'clock P. M., to hold its seventeenth quarterly convention.

Called to order by the President, Mrs. H. A. Loughary.

Minutes of previous session read and approved. The President submitted the following quarterly address:

Members and friends of the Yamhill County Woman Suffrage Association:—At no former meeting of this Association has the outlook for our enfranchisement been brighter than today. And yet, our work is the same; our hopes, our fears and patient waiting are the same. We have the same unanswered arguments to offer, the same objections to meet that have been met a thousand times. And yet all this is not enough to satisfy a prejudiced and miseducated people. The work before us is not an easy or pleasant one. It would be far more desirable would the men of this nation assume this responsibility and prosecute this work, and by the right of the power in them invested thrust the full and free use of the ballot upon us as they did upon the black men. But since they have not done so, notwithstanding the constant and urgent appeals from us, it only remains for the wronged and unrepresented women of the country to assert the right to these claims themselves, and labor and wait, patiently bearing all the scorn, calumny and unjust accusations that have been hurled at them by a prejudiced and ignorant class of persons. In all these struggles we have endeavored to maintain such a high standard of intelligence and morals as cannot be discredited.

We are rejoiced to believe that the prize so long contended for is almost within our grasp. One fact we are assured of, at least—we have arrived at that point where the majority of the better class of men are showing themselves willing to step on to our platform when invited and render such aid as only men can give. It is a question that our law-makers expect to meet in all our State and Territorial Legislatures, and in every session of the United States Congress.

A prominent young politician in the city of Portland, in the recent suffrage convention, said, "The most promising feature of the movement at present is the willingness of the young men of this nation to take a bold stand for the enfranchisement of woman." This we believe to be true to a very great extent. The young man of an average degree of intelligence who has any aims or aspirations for his future that will ignore woman's claims must be a very short-sighted man indeed. For the women will vote in this government. They will vote in Oregon, will vote in Yamhill county, and that ere long.

Young men of Yamhill, we appeal to you especially to give this question due consideration. Doubtless you will soon be called upon to cast a vote for or against the liberties of your mothers, sisters and wives. Dare to do right. Let this county secure such a reputation in this matter, and in all other matters of education and reform, that in the future you will not regret nor be ashamed of it.

We are already proud of what Yamhill has done for us. In the last Legislature, every member in both Houses of both parties voted for the proposed amendment. Of no other county can we say so much. And, such is our faith in the fidelity of our voters, that we believe another set of legislators will be sent from among us who will ratify the amendment bill now pending.

Members of this Association, permit me to urge the importance of much united, earnest work during the pending of this question. I would recommend the holding of special conventions in every voting precinct in the county, and thus by every means within our power keep this question before the people; and last, though not least, let us not forget the power of the press. "Remember that the pen is mightier than the sword." The columns of the NEW NORTHWEST, the great agitator of this question on the Pacific Coast, are always open to us. But that journal is not in every family—as we wish it was. Therefore it is not sufficient for our needs. Our county papers are both, we believe, in full sympathy with the movement, and with us, we are assured, render us such aid in publishing our proceedings as will greatly facilitate the work by introducing our claims from time to time into almost every family in the county. The Portland Oregonian is so thoroughly cosmopolitan in character that it generously gives the movement valuable space on every proper occasion. With these auxiliaries we have ample means to reach the public, and it will be our fault if the public is not properly educated.

Let our cause be advocated strictly from a standpoint of justice and right. The expediency and results—"whether all the women wish the ballot or would use it if allowed; whether or not it would produce any great changes in the moral, social or political status of the people"—are matters which should not enter into the discussion of the question. All such objections can with equal force be applied to men; yet no one dares to question their right to vote because of possible results. They have an inherent right to the ballot that no one can question; and this same inherent right, independent of all results, is our plea for our own enfranchisement.

Mrs. Duniway suggested that mention ought to have been made in the President's address of the other daily papers of Portland, the Telegram and the Standard, which were both friendly to the movement and disposed to treat it fairly.

Mrs. Loughary accepted the suggestion, and it was ordered to be spread upon the minutes.

Mr. T. M. Draper, editor of the Wasco Sun, gave a hopeful account of the movement in Wasco county.

Mr. Stillwell, of Tillamook, made a like report for his county. His people were not organized into an association as in Yamhill, but the cause was popular.

Mrs. Stewart, of Washington, and Mr. Woods, of Columbia county, submitted like reports.

Mrs. Duniway, of Multnomah, said that the State Association had overshadowed the county

society, but the cause was prosperous and permanent.

The President said it was pleasantly suggestive of the spread of the movement to note a representation from five counties in a little afternoon meeting.

Hon. Lee Laughlin made a brief address. Adjourned to 7 P. M.

EVENING SESSION.

Met pursuant to adjournment, the President in the chair. A very large audience present.

After excellent music by Prof. Thompson's North Yamhill cornet band, a bevy of little girls—with Miss Buffington at the organ—rendered a pleasing chorus.

Mr. T. M. Draper, the "boy orator from Wasco," was then announced by the President. This gentleman's address was replete with logic, highly embellished with pictures of home power and mother influence, as applied to the national house-keeping.

Excellent band music was again followed by a chorus of well-trained little girls.

Mrs. Loughary and Mrs. Duniway each gave a brief address—the former dealing in logic that held the audience spell-bound, and the latter in illustrations that "brought down the house."

After a third rendition of music by the band, the Convention adjourned to 2 P. M. Thursday.

SECOND DAY—AFTERNOON SESSION.

Convention met at the hour appointed.

Minutes of first day read and approved.

The following resolutions were offered and adopted, after considerable discussion:

WHEREAS, Woman Suffrage meetings and conventions create the liveliest enthusiasm in all sections of the country whenever and wherever held, every advance step being hailed with delight among thinking people; therefore, Resolved, That Woman Suffrage is no longer regarded as an unpopular *ism*, but is, instead, a recognized principle, which all lovers of liberty are ready to accept with thankfulness.

Resolved, That the members of this Association believe that if the question of Woman Suffrage should be submitted to the voters of Yamhill to-day, it would readily receive a majority of all the votes in the county.

Resolved, That the progress of Woman Suffrage in Washington Territory is hailed with satisfaction. Washington, of all the States in the Union, should be the proper one to lead in this great principle of equality and justice. As General Washington was the Father of his Country, the great State of the future that is to bear his name should be entitled to the no less glorious cognomen of Mother of her Country. And we hope her law-makers will yet be constrained to do their duty in this direction before their present legislative session shall close, because of the enlightened public sentiment that we know is urging them forward.

Resolved, That the voters of Yamhill county will proudly do their duty toward placing the honor upon the brow of Oregon that should, by right of name, belong to Washington, if the latter shall fall through its present Legislature to do their manifest duty.

Resolved, That Woman Suffrage does not mean woman's "rights" or "wrongs," but the recognition of the equal rights of men and women, under a government that professes to guarantee to every citizen the "equal protection of the laws," and yet denies to half of its citizens the right to a voice in making the laws which all are taxed to sustain, and to which each sex is held amenable.

Mr. Draper offered the following resolutions, which were adopted without debate:

Resolved, That we hold the Oregon Legislature of 1880 in grateful remembrance because of its honorable action in proposing to so amend the State Constitution that women may be admitted to equality of citizenship.

Resolved, That we look confidently to the Legislature of 1882 to ratify the action of the Legislature of 1880, by submitting to the people the proposition to amend the Constitution, and thus place upon them the responsibility of adopting or rejecting it.

Adjourned to 7 P. M.

EVENING SESSION.

Called to order promptly on time. A packed audience present.

Vocal music of a spirited character was rendered by Miss Sedlak's class of eight charming little girls.

Mrs. Loughary again announced the "boy orator," who gave a second address, full of historic parallels to the present agitation, and evincing much investigation of the subject.

This address was followed by another well-rendered chorus, and this in turn by a lecture from Prof. W. H. Leiser, of Forest Grove, which was delivered in that gentleman's happiest vein. The address was at once historic, classic and practical, and evoked the profoundest attention.

More music by the choir of little girls was followed by more logic from Mrs. Loughary and more illustrations from Mrs. Duniway.

Rev. Mr. Morgan then delivered a brief address. The little girls sang a concluding song and chorus, entitled "Woman's Rights," to the tune of "Not for Joe."

Votes of thanks were tendered to Mr. Draper, of the Wasco County Sun, and Prof. Leiser, of the Forest Grove public school, for lectures; to L. C. Thompson, leader, E. H. Anderson, director, and all members of the cornet band, for instrumental music; to Misses Buffington and Sedlak and their choruses of little girls for vocal music; and to Hon. Lee Laughlin for free use of hall and other valuable services rendered the convention.

Adjourned to meet in McMinnville in February, 1882. NANCY MARTIN, Secretary.