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# History of the Woman's Movement in Tennessee

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*University of Tennessee - Knoxville*

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To the Graduate Council:

I am submitting herewith a thesis written by Elizabeth Stone Hoyt entitled "History of the Woman's Movement in Tennessee." I have examined the final electronic copy of this thesis for form and content and recommend that it be accepted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Arts, with a major in History.

P. M. Hamer, Major Professor

We have read this thesis and recommend its acceptance:

ARRAY(0x7f702f9e12d8)

Accepted for the Council:

Dixie L. Thompson

Vice Provost and Dean of the Graduate School

(Original signatures are on file with official student records.)

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August 14, 1931

To The Committee on Graduate Study:

I submit herewith a thesis by Miss Elizabeth Stone Hoyt, "Some Phases of the History of the Woman's Movement in Tennessee." I recommend that this thesis be accepted for nine quarter hours credit in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Arts.

R. M. James

Major Professor

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At the request of the Committee on Graduate Study, I have read this thesis and recommend its acceptance.

W. Neil Franklin

Accepted by the Committee

R. M. James

Chairman

SOME PHASES OF THE HISTORY  
OF THE WOMAN'S MOVEMENT IN TENNESSEE

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A THESIS

Submitted to the Graduate Committee  
of  
The University of Tennessee  
in  
Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements  
for the Degree of  
Master of Arts

ELIZABETH S. HOYT

August 1931

30 Jan 1932 N.L.B. 1,25-

(Miss Mary Crozier, Knoxville, Tennessee, gave me this photograph of Mrs. French.)

Women Voters, July 14, 1927.  
Mrs. John Kenny, President of the Tennessee League of  
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paid the penalty of the law; namely, arrest -  
and in closing the biggest trail, she has, of course,  
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or more intelligent fight for the progress of women  
"In all Tennessee no woman has made a longer, finer,  
Mrs. Lizzie Crozier French

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Mrs. Lizzie Crozier French

"In all Tennessee no woman has made a longer, finer, or more intelligent fight for the progress of women than has Mrs. French. In promoting her principles and in blazing the pioneer trail, she has, of course, paid the penalty of all such leaders; namely opposition from those with whom she has clashed; unpopularity with those who have not agreed with her opinions...." Mrs. John Kenny, President of the Tennessee League of Women Voters, July 14, 1923.

(Miss Mary Crozier, Knoxville, Tennessee, gave me this photograph of Mrs. French.)

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## PREFACE

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My first purpose is to trace the development of the woman's movement in Tennessee, comparing and contrasting it with the trends of the general movement. A secondary purpose is to supplement the histories of Tennessee which have omitted to a great extent facts concerning women in Tennessee.

The introductory chapter is a summary of the Woman's movement in the United States. The four chapters which follow are studies of the four phases (intellectual, political, economic, and humanitarian) of the movement in Tennessee.

Much helpful secondary material on the general woman's movement, and source material on the woman's movement in Tennessee has been found. The best treatments of the woman's movement in the United States, which I have found, and which I chiefly used in the introductory chapter, are: Thomas Moody's History of Women's Education in the United States, History of Woman Suffrage (Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Susan B. Anthony, and Matilda Josely Gage, eds., I-III; Susan B. Anthony and Ida Husted Harper eds., IV; Ida Husted Harper, ed., V, VI), Carrie Chapman Catt and Nettie Rogers Shuler's Woman Suffrage and Politics, and Arthur Meier Schlesinger's New Viewpoints in American History and A Political and Social History of the United States, 1829-1925. The chief sources which I used in

the chapters devoted to the woman's movement in Tennessee were: newspapers, the acts and journals of the Tennessee legislature, pamphlets published by the National League of Women Voters and the National Woman's Party, the United States census reports, statistical bulletins published by the United States Government, newspaper clippings and miscellaneous material furnished to me by many people, and information gained from letters and interviews with people having a knowledge of the different phases of the movement.

Acknowledgement is due to many. If this thesis is of any merit it is because of the inspiration and helpful suggestions and criticism of Dr. P. M. Hamer and Dr. Marguerite B. Hamer of the Department of History, University of Tennessee. Sincere thanks are extended to the staffs of the Lawson McGhee and University of Tennessee libraries for their assistance. The following have replied to my letters of inquire: Mrs. James H. Anderson, Mrs. Robert F. Armstrong, Mr. B. J. Ault, Miss Irene Bewley, Mr. Robert E. Bondy, Mr. Harry T. Burn, Mrs. Lyon Childress, Mrs. Elizabeth D. Collins, Mrs. George W. Denney, Mrs. Margret P. Duggan, Mr. H. O. Eckel, Miss Mary A. Elliott, Mrs. Clara Cox Epperson, Miss Sarah Frazier, Rev. C. C. Grimes, Miss Marion Griffin, Miss Lydia M. Hoath, Dr. O. W. Hyman, Miss Katherine Ingram, Dr. Elizabeth C. Kane, Mrs. Julia S. Lucky, Mrs. Lou Lusky, Mrs. L. S. Mayer, Mr. George F. Milton (for Mrs. Abby C.

Milton), Miss Mable Moore, Miss Libbie Morrow, Miss Emma Pate, Miss Adelaide C. Rowell, Mrs. Rutledge Smith, Mrs. Edith O. Keefe Susong, Dr. Ada Bell Stapleton, Mr. O. E. Turner (for Dr. F. F. Brown), Henrietta Wald (for Carrie Chapman Catt), Mrs. Minnie Alison Welch, and Miss Sue S. White. Those who have given me valuable information in interviews are: Dr. C. E. Barbour, Miss Mary Bignall, Mr. Harry T. Burn, Miss Lucy Crozier, Miss Mary Crozier, Miss Alice Clemmens, Judge John Crawford, Miss Ada Fanz, Mrs. D. M. Goddard, Dr. Samuel M. Glasgow, Miss Ann Jones, Miss Emma Justus, Miss Kate White, Mrs. Joseph McTeer, and the Y.W.C.A. Secretary for the Knoxville Chapter.

E.S.H.

Maryville, Tennessee,  
August 8, 1931.

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION: SOME ASPECTS OF THE WOMAN'S MOVEMENT  
IN THE UNITED STATES

The discussion of the woman's movement in this thesis will not refer exclusively to feminine operations for equal suffrage, but will include, also, the intellectual, the political, the humanitarian, and the economic development of women.

One cannot say dogmatically that on such a day in such a month of such a year woman started to free herself from her inferior position. The woman's movement, like other great movements, has been in the process of evolution during a long period of time. In practice, woman's position has varied from age to age; but, in theory, woman has not been considered an equal of man until recently. In the first quarter of the nineteenth century a tangible movement was initiated for the emancipation and development of woman. Some aspects of this movement in the United States will be discussed in this chapter. In later chapters some aspects of this movement in Tennessee will be discussed.

The Intellectual Phase

The development of woman in the intellectual field was one of the first progressive steps in the woman's movement. The educational opportunities for woman gradually increased. Clubs gave woman a chance for expression. One finds, too, that in the field of art and literature woman soon compared favorably

with man.

### Education

Educational opportunities for girls were decidedly limited in the early years of the nineteenth century, but gradually they were given an opportunity to receive an education in all types of schools. The elementary public schools, to some extent, were co-educational at the beginning of the nineteenth century, and by the last of the century they were universally coeducational.<sup>1</sup>

The academies, or seminaries, many of which were "female" or coeducational, flourished particularly during the nineteenth century. A few academies were in existence at the beginning of the century. Many were incorporated during the period from the 1800's to the seventies,<sup>2</sup> but in the years following the number gradually declined. The curricula of the "female" academies included a wide range of subjects; therefore, the girls were afforded a liberal, though to some extent, superfluous education during the period characterized by academies. Thomas Woody, professor of the history of education in the University of Pennsylvania, makes the following classification of the subjects taught in these institutions: "elementary English studies, advanced English studies, mental science, Latin,

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1. Ellwood Patterson Cubberly, Public Education in the United States, pp. 219-221; Thomas Woody, History of Women's Education, II, 225.
  2. Cubberly, op. cit., pp. 184-186; Woody, op. cit., I, 329-341, 363, 457.

Greek, German, French, Spanish, mental science, Italian, mathematics, pure and applied religion, science, history and political science, ornamentals, business preparation - only a few taught bookkeeping and shorthand - and calisthenics."<sup>3</sup>

High school training for girls was instituted in the nineteenth century. As early as 1824, a girls' high school was established at Worcester, Massachusetts. Other high schools for girls soon followed the one at Worcester.<sup>4</sup> Gradually<sup>5</sup> coeducational high schools were established.

In modern times, higher education for women is a product of the nineteenth century. Many colleges for women were opened during the latter half of this century. The Georgia Female College, later called Wesleyan College, opened in 1839. This college "has the distinction of being the first chartered college for women in the world to confer a degree upon a woman."<sup>6</sup> Mary Sharp College, established in Winchester, Tennessee, in 1851, was the first "female" college to confer a degree comparable to a Bachelor of Arts degree from colleges for men.<sup>7</sup> Vassar, Wells, Wellesley, and Smith were among the colleges established which offered a high type of classical training for women.<sup>8</sup> The number of women's colleges increased with such rapidity that in 1888 there were as many as 198

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3. Ibid., I, 411.

4. Ibid., I, 519, 520.

5. Ibid., II, 228, 229.

6. Bulletin of Wesleyan College, 1930, pp. 18, 19; see, also, post, pp. 37-39.

7. Woody, op. cit., II, 161; see post, pp. 37, 38.

8. Ibid., II, 148, 149, 178-184.

9  
in existence.

In date, the coeducational colleges preceded the "female" colleges, but they did not become popular until later. In the early nineteenth century, women were admitted for a few years to Blount College,<sup>10</sup> which later became the University of Tennessee. Oberlin became coeducational in 1833. In 1850, the University of Utah received women.<sup>11</sup> Seventeen years later Maryville College opened its doors to women students,<sup>12</sup> and in the same year Wisconsin University received women into its Normal Department.<sup>13</sup> Near the close of the nineteenth century, and continuing in the twentieth century, the idea of co-education in institutions of higher learning became more and more popular. In 1920, there were about 350 coeducational colleges and universities in the United States.<sup>14</sup>

The professional and specialized schools were slower to admit women; the real advancement in this field of education came in the twentieth century. In 1848 Elizabeth Blackwell<sup>15</sup> graduated from a medical college. Elizabeth Peabody started a kindergarden teacher's training school in 1868. About this time Catherine Beecher conceived the idea that women needed

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9. Woody, op. cit., II, 185.
  10. Moses White, Early History of the University of Tennessee, p. 14.
  11. David A. Robertson (ed.), American Universities and Colleges, p. 11.
  12. Maryville College Catalogue, 1867-68, p. 16.
  13. Arthur Meier Schlesinger, A Political and Social History of the United States, 1829-1925, p. 316.
  14. Schlesinger, New Viewpoints in American History, p. 149.
  15. Ibid., p. 141.

training in domestic science.<sup>16</sup> In 1870 Ada Kepley graduated  
from the Union College of Law.<sup>17</sup> Today, women may receive  
training in theological schools, osteopathic schools, nursing  
schools, medical schools, engineering schools, dental schools,  
educational schools, technological schools, veterinary medical  
schools, pharmacy schools, library science schools, journalism  
schools, business and commercial schools, and forestry schools.<sup>18</sup>

The graduate schools have been liberal in receiving  
women, and the number of women attending such schools has  
increased rapidly. The graduate schools needed students when  
they were first instituted; therefore, many of them admitted  
women.<sup>19</sup> The splendid graduate school of Bryn Mawr did much to  
prove that women were capable of doing graduate work.<sup>20</sup> The  
graduate school of Johns Hopkins University was the last im-  
portant graduate school to admit women.<sup>21</sup> From 1892-93 to  
1919-20 the number of women graduate students increased more  
than five thousand.<sup>22</sup>

Today there exist few educational discriminations against  
women. In elementary and secondary education there are equal  
opportunities for both boys and girls.<sup>23</sup> Many women receive

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16. Charles Beard and Mary Beard, The Rise of the American Civilization, I, 818.

17. Woody, History of Women's Education in the United States, II, 373.

18. Huber Hurt, The College Blue Book, pp. 284, 447.

19. Woody, op. cit., II, 333, 334.

20. Ibid., II, 334.

21. Ibid., II, 337.

22. Ibid., II, 338.

23. Cubberly, Public Education in the United States, p. 454;  
Woody, op. cit., II, 225, 229.



higher education in women's colleges, yet more money is donated to men's colleges than to women's colleges. In some of the universities women have separate regulations; for example, higher entrance requirements are demanded of women in a few cases. Many of the professional and graduate schools have been opened to women, yet Harvard's law school is closed to women. Willystine Goodsell, professor of education in Columbia University, stated:

Inequalities there may be and demonstratively are, ...~~that~~ the progress made by women in the direction of equality of opportunities to learn and to achieve is far greater and more significant than the inequalities that still remain to be righted.

#### Clubs

The organization of women's clubs was another important cog in the wheel of her development. Until the middle of the nineteenth century, women's organizations were largely educational and philanthropic. For example, there existed such women's organizations as religious societies, charity organizations, literary societies in the seminaries, societies for the instruction of the poor, and educational associations. After 1860 women's clubs were of universal interest. At first the clubs were primarily for the purpose of self culture but later

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24. Willystine Goodsell, "The Educational Opportunities of American Women - Theoretical and Actual", The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science, May, 1929, pp. 1-13.
25. Woody, op. cit., II, 453-457.

many of them existed for the purpose of securing social re-  
forms.<sup>26</sup>

Many clubs of the self-cultural type followed the organization of two literary clubs in the East. These were the New England Woman's Club in Boston and the Sorosis, organized in New York City,<sup>27</sup> both of which were organized in 1868. From this time women's clubs rapidly increased; therefore, a need for federation was soon felt.

The organization of the federation took place in 1889 and 1890. The Sorosis called a convention in the spring of 1889 to discuss federal organization. At this convention it was decided that delegates from the women's clubs should meet in April of the following year for the purpose of organizing a national federation of women's clubs. At the meeting, in April, 1890, delegates from more than sixty clubs completed the organization of the General Federation of Women's Clubs.<sup>28</sup>

In 1891 Mrs. Charlotte Emerson Brown, president of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, thus pointed out advantages of women's clubs:<sup>29</sup>

One of the special advantages of the club movement is that it brings into close relation and co-operation, and often into closer sympathy and mutual friendship those who previously were apart from each other and strangers; - persons who were often separated

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26. Woody, *op. cit.*, II, 457.  
27. Schlesinger, *New Viewpoints in American History*, p. 150.  
28. *Woman's Journal*, Boston, Feb. 21, 1891 (in Miss Temple's papers, U.T. Library).  
29. *Ibid.*

on account of one's understandings and consequent prejudice. Thus the club, especially in smaller towns, breaks up clamorishness and brings women together who ought to know each other, and whom to know is to love.....

Another line of benefits flowing from women's club organizations is the practical education and mental discipline which they impart to their members.

Then again, women, as a rule, are not familiar with parliamentary methods in deliberative assemblies...The club is...an admirable school for training in parliamentary usage.

The number of women's clubs, after the organization of the national federation, steadily increased. By 1911 there were so many women's clubs in each state that a state federation was in existence in every state of the Union. 30

Especially in the twentieth century women's clubs have effected many reforms. One person stated, in the early twentieth century, that women's clubs were "beginning to exert a powerful directive influence upon social, political and educational affairs." Much of the recent social legislation has been passed through the influence of these organizations. 31

#### Art and Literature

Women are found as contributors in all fields of art. Women have shown their literary ability in their worthwhile contributions to all types of literature. In music, painting,

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30. Woody, op. cit., II, 460.

31. Ibid., II, 468.

sculpturing, designing, and acting they have displayed  
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talent.

### The Political Phase

#### The Suffrage Movement

The first woman's rights' convention had its direct origin in the World's Anti-Slavery Convention, which met, in 1840, in London. Some women delegates were sent from the United States, but they were not accepted as delegates by the convention. Because of this unjust treatment, Lucretia Mott and Elizabeth Cady Stanton resolved to organize the women in the United States for the purpose of securing woman's equal rights. Several years passed before a meeting was called to organize, but in 1848, Lucretia Mott, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and others made plans for a convention. As a result, the following announcement appeared in the Seneca County Courier,  
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July 14, 1848:  
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#### Seneca Falls Convention

Woman's Rights' Convention. - A convention to discuss the social, civil conditions and rights of women, will be held in Wesleyan Chapel, at Seneca Falls, N.Y., on Wednesday

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32. Ida Clyde Clarke. (ed.), Women of 1924, pp.162-166, 169-176; Frances Gilman, "Woman's Achievements Since the Franchise," Current History, XXVII, p. 12; Miriam Simons Leuck, "Women in Odd and Unusual Fields of Work", The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science, May, 1929, pp. 166-179.
33. Carrie Chapman Catt and Nettie Rogers Shuler, Woman Suffrage and Politics, pp. 17, 19.
34. Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Susan B. Anthony, and Matilda Joselyn Gage. (eds.), History of Woman Suffrage, I, 67.

and Thursday, the 19th and 20th of July, current, commencing at 10 o'clock A.M. During the first day the meeting will be exclusively for women, who are earnestly invited to attend. The public generally are invited to be present on the second day, when Lucretia Mott, of Philadelphia, and other ladies and gentlemen, will address the convention.

The convention that met as a result of this announcement was important both for its far reaching and its immediate influence. It led to the definite organization of women for the purpose of seeking their rights and privileges. The most significant work of the meeting itself was its approval of the Declaration of Rights, which had been written by Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Lucretia Mott, Ann McClinton, and Martha C. Wright.<sup>35</sup>

This declaration of independence for women read in part as follows:<sup>36</sup>

When in the course of human events it becomes necessary for one portion of the family of man to assume among the people of the earth a position different from that which they have hitherto occupied.. ..a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes that impel them to such a cause.

We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men and women are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.....whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of those who suffer from it to refuse allegiance to it....The history of mankind is a history of repeated injuries and usur-

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35. Catt and Shuler, op. cit., pp. 19, 20.

36. Schlesinger, New Viewpoints in American History, pp. 138-139.

pations on the part of man toward woman, having indirect object the establishment of an absolute tryanny over her. To prove this, let facts be submitted to a candid world.

He has compelled her to submit to laws, in the formation of which she has no voice.....

He has made her, if married, in the eye of the law civilly dead.

In the covenant of marriage, she is compelled to promise obedience to her husband, he becoming to all intents and purposes her master - the law giving his power to deprive her of liberty, and to administer chastisement.....

He has monopolized nearly all the profitable employments.....

He has denied her the facilities for obtaining a thorough education, all colleges being closed against her...

He has created a false public sentiment by giving to the world a different code of morals for men and women.....

He has usurped the prerogative of Jehovah himself, claiming it as his right to assign her a sphere of action, when that belongs to her conscience and to her God.

He has endeavored, in every way that he could, to destroy her confidence in her own powers, to lessen her self-respect, and to make her willing to lead a dependent and abject life.

Now, in view of this entire disfranchisement of one-half of the people of this country, their social and religious degradation,.....we insist that they leave immediate admission to all the rights and privileges, which belong to them as citizens of the United States.

Progress was made in the woman's rights' cause before the Civil War. Another convention of women was called to meet at Rochester, New York, two weeks after the one at Seneca Falls. In the same year, in South Bristol, New York, a local suffrage

society was formed.<sup>37</sup> Other suffrage organizations and many discussions prepared the way for the meeting of a national convention, in October, 1850, at which delegates were present from eleven states. This meeting proved so satisfactory that for ten years, with the exception of 1857, a national suffrage convention was held every year.<sup>38</sup>

After an interim, during the Civil War period, the suffragists resumed their fight to secure enfranchisement. A petition for woman suffrage was sent to Congress in 1865.<sup>39</sup> The following year a suffrage convention was held, the first one since 1860. At this convention, the American Equal Rights' Association was organized with universal suffrage as its object. Although the association approved of state suffrage, it bent its efforts toward securing a federal suffrage amendment.<sup>40</sup>

The Equal Rights' Association became too broad in its scope to serve the suffrage cause,<sup>41</sup> and two other suffrage organizations were formed. One of these, organized in 1869, was the National Woman Suffrage Association, "whose special object should be a sixteenth amendment to the Federal Constitution, securing the ballot to the women of the nation on equal terms with men."<sup>42</sup> Elizabeth Cady Stanton was the first

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37. Catt and Shuler, op. cit., p. 20.

38. Ibid., p. 26; Knoxville Register, Dec. 18, 1856.

39. Ida Husted Harper, Life and Works of Susan B. Anthony, I, 250.

40. Ibid., I, 256-260.

41. Ibid., I, 326.

42. Ibid., I, 326, 327.

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president of this association. The Equal Rights' Association merged with this organization in 1870. The other suffrage association, formed in 1869, was the American Woman Suffrage Association. In November, 1869, Lucy Stone, Julia Ward Howe, Caroline M. Severence, T. W. Higginson, and George Vibbert called a convention to meet in Cleveland, Ohio, and the result of the convention was the formation of this association. The object of this suffrage organization was to secure woman suffrage through state constitutional amendments.

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The introduction of the federal Woman's Suffrage Amendment into Congress was in 1878. The amendment was written by Susan B. Anthony and others. It was introduced into the Senate on January 10, 1878, but received an adverse minority report from the committee, and the Senate ordered it and the "views of the minority" printed.

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The territory was so extensive, and the workers were so few, that for a while the two national suffrage organizations did not overlap in their fields of work; but as the work pro-

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43. Catt and Shuler, op. cit., pp. 267.

44. Harper, Life and Works of Susan B. Anthony, I, 348-350.

45. Harper (ed.), History of Woman Suffrage, V, 1.

46. Journal of the Senate of the United States, 1877-78, pp.

75; 693; Catt and Shuler, Woman Suffrage and Politics, p. 228; The Susan B. Anthony Amendment reads (ibid., p. 495):

Section I. The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex.

Section 2. Congress shall have power, by appropriate legislation, to enforce the provisions of the article.



gressed it was necessary to join forces to prevent conflict-  
ing. Union was brought about in 1890, and the new organization  
was known as the National American Woman Suffrage Association.  
Elizabeth Cady Stanton was made its first president. The object  
of the association, as stated in its constitution, was "to  
secure protection in their right to vote to the women citizens  
of the United States by appropriate national and State legis-  
lation."<sup>47</sup>

The Federal Suffrage Association, the International  
Suffrage Alliance, and the National Woman's Party were the  
most influential women's organizations, in addition to the  
National American Woman Suffrage Association, that worked to  
secure suffrage for the women of the United States. The  
International Council of Women, while not primarily a  
suffrage organization, was organized by women suffragists, and  
later adopted a suffrage program. It was organized, in 1888,  
in Washington, under the auspices of the National Suffrage  
Association. The object of the International Council of Women  
was to unify every department of woman's work.<sup>48</sup> In 1904, the  
council formally adopted woman suffrage as one of its objects.  
This was an important move in favor of suffrage because the  
Council represented twenty countries with millions of members.<sup>49</sup>

The Federal Suffrage Association was organized in Chicago

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47. Catt and Shuler, op. cit., 268.

48. Harper, Life and Works of Susan B. Anthony, II, 633, 639.

49. Ibid., III, 1324.

on March 3, 1892, "to secure the passage of a Law by Congress authorizing women to vote for members of the House of Representatives". It was reorganized, in 1902, as the Woman's Federal Equality Association. The organization ceased to exist when the Nineteenth Amendment was passed. 50

The International Woman's Suffrage Association had its origin in the United States. Carrie Chapman Catt and Susan B. Anthony advocated such an organization for many years before it was formed. In 1902, delegates from foreign countries were asked to be present at the National Suffrage Convention. Meetings were held to discuss the probability of forming an international suffrage association, and a committee was appointed to formulate plans for such an organization. In 1904 this committee made a report in favor of an international organization. 51 An International Suffrage Association was immediately formed whose object was "to secure the enfranchisement of women of all nations and to unite the friends of woman suffrage throughout the world in organized cooperation and fraternal helpfulness." 52

Another American suffrage organization, the Woman's Party, was organized late in the history of the suffrage movement; nevertheless, it played an important part in securing the passage and ratification of the Suffrage Amendment. It was

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50. Harper, (ed.), History of Woman Suffrage, V, 656-659.  
51. Harper, Life and Works of Susan E. Anthony, III, 1246-1247.  
52. Ibid., III, 1326.

organized in 1913 as the Congressional Union, but in 1916 it changed its name to the Woman's Party. The main difference in the National American Woman Suffrage Association and the Woman's Party was in the tactics which they used. The Woman's Party, the militant organization, used "picketing", while the other suffrage association used less militant means.<sup>53</sup>

During the last of the nineteenth and first of the twentieth centuries, societies opposed to suffrage were organized. In 1871 a woman's anti-suffrage society was organized in Washington, D.C. The national woman's anti-suffrage organization was formed in 1911.<sup>54</sup> In New York, in 1913, a men's anti-suffrage association was organized. Soon other states had similar anti-suffrage organizations for men.<sup>55</sup>

As the years went by, in spite of opposition, the suffragists' work began to show definite results. By 1910,<sup>56</sup> eleven of the western states had equal suffrage. In 1917 New York added a suffrage amendment to the state constitution, and in the same year five other states gave women the right to

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53. Catt and Shuler, Woman Suffrage and Politics, p. 269;  
54. Knoxville Sentinel, July 28, 1920.  
54. Harper (ed.), History of Woman Suffrage, V. 678, 679.  
55. Ibid., V, 680, 682.  
56. Catt and Shuler, op. cit., p. 280; Schlesinger, A Political and Social History of the United States, 1829-1925, p. 313; Knoxville Daily Chronicle, Sept. 21, 1870. The Wyoming Territory granted equal suffrage to women in 1869, and it became the first state with equal suffrage when it was admitted as a state in 1890.

MAPS OF THE UNITED STATES ILLUSTRATING THE EXTENSION  
OF WOMAN SUFFRAGE



MAP I.

"The Suffrage Map from 1869 to 1893, Wyoming as a Territory in 1869 and as a State in 1890 gave equal suffrage to women."



MAP II.

"The Suffrage Map from 1893 to 1910, Colorado gave equal suffrage to women in 1893, Utah in 1895, Idaho in 1896."



MAP III.

"The suffrage map when Congress submitted the Federal Amendment June 4, 1919. In the White States women had full suffrage; in the dotted States Presidential; in Illinois, Nebraska, North Dakota, Tennessee and Vermont municipal also; in the first three County besides."

(Ida Husted Harper (ed.), History of Woman Suffrage, VI)



MAP IV.

"The Legislatures of all the white States ratified the Federal Woman Suffrage Amendment; those of the black States rejected it except that of Florida, whose Governor said it would do so if he called a special session."



MAP V.

"This is what Tennessee did to the Suffrage Map. The suffrage map after the ratification of the Federal Amendment - universal, complete woman suffrage in every State."

vote for the president of the United States and one other gave women ~~the~~ indirect enfranchisement - that is, the right to vote in the primaries of a one-party state. In the next two years several states gave the women full or partial suffrage. Another suffrage gain was made when the Democratic and Republican committees began working for the passage of the amendment.<sup>57</sup>  
<sup>58</sup>

Finally the Suffrage Amendment was passed by Congress, forty years after its introduction into Congress. On May 21, 1919, the House of Representatives passed it by a vote of 304 to 90.<sup>59</sup> The Senate passed the amendment on June 4, 1919, by a vote of 56 to 25.<sup>60</sup>  
<sup>61</sup>

After the amendment was passed by both houses of Congress, it was submitted to the states for ratification. The goal of the suffragists was to secure ratification before the presidential election of 1920. During 1919 it was ratified by twenty states.<sup>62</sup> By June 2, 1920, thirty-five of the states had ratified the amendment, eight states had rejected it, and five had not taken action on it. Of the five which had not taken action on it two "indicated an adverse majority" in their

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57. Catt and Shuler, op. cit., pp. 298, 299.

58. Ibid., p. 329.

59. Ibid., p. 322.

60. Ibid., p. 496; Congressional Record, LVIII, Part I, p. 93.

61. Catt and Shuler, op. cit., 496; Congressional Record, LVIII, Part I, 635.

62. Catt and Shuler, op. cit., pp. 345, 346, 350, 371.



legislatures; the governors of two more would not call special sessions; and as regards the one remaining state, Tennessee, some thought that it could not ratify an amendment because the members of the legislature had not been elected since the amendment had been passed by Congress. <sup>63</sup>

In the end, Tennessee seemed to be the only state in which there was a chance for ratification before the presidential election. After legal opinions had been secured, it was decided that ratification by the Tennessee General Assembly would be legal. <sup>64</sup>

The final ratification followed. The extra-ordinary session of the Tennessee General Assembly convened on August 9, 1920. The Senate passed the resolution of ratification by a large majority on August 13. <sup>65</sup> The real opposition came in the House. Not until August 18 was the final vote taken, and then it was carried by a majority of one. <sup>66</sup> Governor Roberts signed the certificate on August 26. Thus the Suffrage Amend-

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63. See, post, pp. 63, 64 ; Catt and Shuler, Woman Suffrage and Politics, pp. 422, 423; Tennessee Blue Book and Official Directory, 1929-30, p. 149, Constitution of the State of Tennessee, Article, II, Section 32, reads: "Amendments to the constitution of United States. - no convention or general assembly of this state shall act upon any amendment of the Constitution of the United States proposed by Congress to the several states; unless such convention or general assembly shall have been elected after such amendment is submitted."

64. Catt and Shuler, op. cit., p. 425; see, post, p. 68.

65. Ibid., p. 445.

66. Ibid., p. 449; See, also, post, pp. 69-72,.

ment became a part of the Constitution. Connecticut and Vermont were the last states to ratify the amendment. 67

### The Political Organizations

Today, three national women's political organizations are functioning: the Woman's Joint Congressional Committee, the League of Women Voters, and the National Woman's Party. The Woman's Joint Congressional Committee promotes legislation. Twenty-two national women's organizations belong to it, and if five of its members endorse a measure a sub-committee is appointed from the members of these organizations to promote the bill. Before 1925, five Congressional acts were passed largely because of the influence of this organization. 68

The League of Women Voters, a non-partisan political organization, formed in February, 1920, at the dissolution of the National American Woman Suffrage Association, fosters "political education to promote Responsible Participation in Government." To carry out this aim organization has been necessary. The state and local leagues work in cooperation with the central organization. The League of Women Voters' three main lines of work are carried on by a department of efficiency in government, a department of international cooperation to prevent war, and a division of public welfare in

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67. Knoxville Journal and Tribune, Feb. 1, 1920; Catt and Shuler, op. cit., pp. 455, 460, 461.

68. Frances Gilman, "Woman's Achievements Since the Franchise", Current History, XVII, 7.

government. Of this last named department, six subdivisions exist: child welfare, education, legal status of women, living costs, social hygiene, and women in industry. 69

The National Woman's Party continued to function after the Nineteenth Amendment was ratified. Its main object since the ratification has been to obtain the same legal status for women as for men. The party is seeking to secure the passage of a federal amendment which will remove all discriminations against women. 70 This organization has drafted many equal rights' measures, which have been introduced in state legislatures; it has organized industrial councils which have had as their main object equal economic privileges for women, and it has worked for the election of women to Congress. 71

Woman's affiliation with political parties naturally followed woman's enfranchisement. Before national enfranchisement was achieved, in the states in which equal suffrage had been granted, women began aligning themselves with political parties. 72 As many as fifteen of the delegates to the National Democratic Convention in 1916 were women, and seven of the alternates were women. Ten of the alternates to the Republican

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69. The First Ten Years of the National League of Women Voters, 1920-30 (published by the National League of Women Voters).
70. Ethel M. Smith, Toward Equal Rights for Men and Women, p. 58. The proposed amendment reads: "Men and women shall have equal rights throughout the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction."  
"Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation."
71. Gilman, "Women's Achievements Since Franchise," Current History, XXVII, 7.
72. Clarke (ed.), Women of 1924, p. 185.

National Convention in that year were women. The real power in the parties comes through membership on the party committees. In 1920 the National Democratic Convention adopted a resolution which provided that one woman, as well as one man, should be elected from each state as a member of the National Executive Committee.<sup>73</sup> Although women were received as delegates, in 1920, to the National Republican Convention, they were not received into partnership until 1924 when women were given equal membership on the National Republican Committee.<sup>74</sup> Many of the state and local political organizations have given women equal membership on their committees.<sup>75</sup> Political clubs have been formed by women in many communities.<sup>76</sup> Theoretically equality reigns in the political organizations; in practice the men exercise the real power.<sup>77</sup>

#### Office Holding

Especially since the beginning of the twentieth century, women have been elected and appointed to many local, state, and national offices. Many local offices such as sheriff, mayor, justice of the peace, and notary public have been filled

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73. Emily Newell Blair, "Women in Political Parties", The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science, May, 1929, pp. 217, 223.

74. Ibid., p. 218.

75. Clarke (ed.), op. cit., pp. 186-188.

76. Ibid., p. 185; Miss Sue S. White's letter to the author, June 17, 1931; Democratic Bulletin, Aug. 1930, March 1931, May, 1931.

77. Blair, "Women in Political Parties", loc. cit., pp. 218-229.

by women.<sup>78</sup> Two states have had women governors.<sup>79</sup> Many women have been state legislators, and the number seems to be increasing. Only fourteen states were without a woman legislator in 1927. The first negro woman to become a member of a state legislature was Mrs. E. Howard Harper in West Virginia, in 1928.<sup>80</sup> Mrs. Jeanette Rankin, the first woman member of Congress,<sup>81</sup> was elected to the House in 1916. By 1931, eleven more women had been elected to the national House of Representatives.<sup>82</sup> Mrs. Rebecca Latimer Felton, the only woman Senator in Congress,<sup>83</sup> was appointed in 1922 to fill an unexpired term. Her term lasted about a month, but she only "sat in the Senate sessions" two days, November 21 and 22.

#### The Legal Status of Women

The inferior position in which woman has been placed is

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78. Marguerite M. Wells, "Some Effects of Woman Suffrage", The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science, May, 1929, p. 207.
79. Ibid.; World Almanac and Book of Facts, 1925, p. 34.
80. Dorothy Ashby Moncure, "Women in Political Life," Current History, XXVII, 639-641.
81. Ibid., 369; The World Almanac and Encyclopedia, 1917, p. 574.
82. Ibid., 1920, pp. 344-444; World Almanac and Book of Facts, 1923, pp. 233-235; ibid., 1924, pp. 284-288; ibid., 1927, pp. 42-44; ibid., 1928, pp. 46-48; ibid., 1930, pp. 44-46; ibid., 1931, pp. 234-236.
83. Moncure, "Women in Political Life", loc. cit., XXIX, 369; newspaper clipping belonging to Miss Ada Fanz, Knoxville, Tennessee.

clearly shown in the legal status of woman. The laws of all the states, except Louisiana, were based originally on the English common law in which "all women were, according to the common law, legally inferior to men, and during marriage a woman lost her legal identity. ~~The~~ married woman's property, her labor, and her children, belonged to her husband."

Legal reforms removing discriminations against women came slowly. In 1809 Connecticut passed a law allowing married women to will their property. Mississippi, in 1839, granted property rights to women, and soon Texas, Indiana, California, Wisconsin, New York, and Pennsylvania did the same. In Massachusetts and New York, since 1848, the laws for married women have been almost the same as those for unmarried women. Other states joined in this progressive movement of removing legal discriminations against women. By 1900 the legal position of women had been improved; for in many states "married women could own and control their property, make contracts, engage in business, and retain their own earnings."

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84. The Denial of Justice to Women (published by the National Woman's Party) p. 3; How Virginia Laws Discriminate Against Women (published by the National Woman's Party) p. 2.
85. Woody, History of Women's Education in the United States, II, 397.
86. Schlesinger, A Political and Social History of the United States, 1829-1925, p. 75.
87. N. Smithson, "Legal Rights of Women", Charter, Constitution and By-Laws Together with the Proceedings of the Bar Association of Tennessee, 1882, p. 66.
88. Schlesinger, op. cit., p. 318.

Much progress has been made toward legal equality, although today many discriminations remain in the laws of the states. A few examples will show something of the situation. The mother has guardianship rights, to some extent, over minor children in all states except Alabama and Georgia. Many states permit married women to collect their own compensation outside the home; but in forty of the states "the services of the wife to a greater or less extent belong to her husband." Women may not serve on juries in twenty-<sup>seven</sup> states. In many of the states women have the sole burden of supporting illegitimate children, while the father is not required to support them. Many disabilities are imposed upon married women "as though marriage on the part of a woman indicates lack of judgment." 89

### The Humanitarian Phase

Woman's interest in humanitarian reforms is manifested through her part in the anti-slavery movement, the temperance movement, the movement for prison and insane asylum reforms, the Red Cross work, and public welfare work.

### The Anti-Slavery Movement

Women organized societies early in the nineteenth century, in the interest of anti-slavery reforms. In 1833 a "female" anti-slavery society was organized. A Woman's National Anti-

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89. The Denial of Justice to Women (published by the National Woman's Party) pp. 3, 5, 6, 11, 14; Knoxville Daily Whig, March 9, 1870.

Slavery Convention was held in 1837. In 1839 a majority of the men in the Anti-Slavery Society agreed to let the "female" branch join the men's branch. The women's interest in the anti-slavery cause did much to advance the cause. On several occasions the women petitioned Congress to abolish slavery. Some of the women freed their slaves. Some of them were convincing lecturers on the subject of anti-slavery, and thus helped create anti-slavery sentiment. Others wrote "tracts" in which they advocated the abolition of slavery.<sup>90</sup>

### The Temperance Movement

The temperance movement was another reform movement in which the women worked earnestly. The first organizations to promote temperance reforms were temperance societies. About 1840 the Daughters of Temperance was organized. When the Sons of Temperance met, in 1852, at Albany, women delegates were admitted, but when Susan B. Anthony attempted to speak in the meeting she was not allowed the privilege. For this reason, the women left the meeting and organized the Woman's State Temperance Society. Women's temperance societies were soon organized in other states.<sup>91</sup>

Later in the century, a woman's temperance organization, the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, was organized and

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90. Catt and Shuler, Woman Suffrage and Politics, pp. 14-16.

91. Ibid., pp. 22, 23.



soon became a potent force in the temperance movement. It had its beginning, in Ohio, in 1873-74, when some of the women began a movement against the saloons in the state. In 1874, Frances Willard definitely organized the W.C.T.U. at a meeting in which delegates from eighteen states were present. Branch organizations of the W.C.T.U. soon spread throughout the United States.<sup>92</sup> It was due, in some measure, to the temperance education promoted by this organization that the prohibition amendment was passed. Today it is continuing temperance education in order that the Eighteenth Amendment may be enforced and not repealed and that the temperance ideals may be advanced.<sup>93</sup>

The Anti-Saloon League was organized in the last of the nineteenth century to promote temperance. Women, also, worked in this organization.<sup>94</sup>

Another reform movement in which women were interested was one that sought to secure the establishment of institutions for the insane and for criminals. Very little attention was paid to prisons and insane asylums before Dorothea Dix saw the need for reform. She advocated the separation of the insane from the criminals, and the proper care of both classes. She investigated the conditions and needs of the penitentiaries,

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92. Catt and Shuler, op. cit., p. 134; Knoxville Tribune, March 15, 1895.

93. Schlesinger, New Viewpoints in American History, p. 152.

94. Schlesinger, A Political and Social History of the United States, 1829-1925, p. 319.

jails, almshouses, and insane asylums; then for each case she offered constructive criticism. By 1847, she had visited eighteen states and pleaded for reforms in the state charitable institutions. As a result of her labors, twenty states established asylums, many added jails and almshouses, and some reformed the management of such institutions. As another result of her efforts a bill was passed by Congress, in 1854, "granting ten million acres of public land for the purpose of aiding the states to care for the insane", but President <sup>95</sup> pierce vetoed it.

#### War Relief and Red Cross Work

War relief and Red Cross work has interested many women. Before the organization of the Red Cross there was relief work. During the Civil War, there were the Woman's Central Relief Association of New York, the Sanitary Commission, the Christian Commission, the Ladies' Christian Commission, and soldiers' aid societies. In 1861 Elizabeth Blackwell organized the Woman's Central Relief Association of New York, which influenced the United States government later to authorize the Sanitary Commission. The duty of the Sanitary Commission was that of "sustaining the morale and protecting the health of the men in the camps, and of aiding in the care of the sick

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95. Schlesinger, A Political and Social History of the United States, 1829-1925, p. 77; Schlesinger, New Viewpoints in American History, p. 141; see, also, post, pp. 100-101.

and wounded." The Christian Commission, which was started in 1861, had evangelical work as its main object, and in addition it established diet kitchens for the injured soldiers. The Ladies' Christian Commission had as its special work the care of the traveling and wounded soldiers. In the South, soldiers' aid societies were organized both by Union and by Confederate women; nevertheless, the extent of the organization is uncertain. The Southern women did not always care for the sick and wounded through definite organizations.

Both the national and international Red Cross associations owe much to Clara Barton. She was the first president of the American Red Cross Society, which was organized in 1881. It was through her efforts that the United States joined the International Red Cross Association in 1882. Clara Barton was the author of the "American Amendment" which was added to the Geneva Treaty, in 1884, "authorizing the Red Cross to engage in peace time humanitarian work, in connection with floods, earthquakes, and other public disasters." In 1869, the nursing service of the Red Cross was started by Clara Barton.

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96. Schlesinger, New Viewpoints in American History, pp. 142-144.
97. Dr. Adonis's letter, Feb., 1863 in Frank Moore (ed.), The Rebellion Record, IX, p. 7; Schlesinger, A Political and Social History of the United States, 1829-1925, p. 207.
98. Schlesinger, A Political and Social History of United States, 1829-1925, pp. 321, 322; The Red Cross Courier, Nov. 1, 1928.

In the latter part of the nineteenth century the United States was benefited in many ways by the Red Cross. Many disaster stricken regions received aid from the Red Cross. During the Spanish American War, the United States had an occasion to receive war-time aid from it. The World War proved the efficiency of the war-time work of the Red Cross. During this war every local community was organized and cooperated with the central organization. The women through this organization furnished war supplies, provided for the soldiers and their families in the United States, and cared for the sick and wounded in Europe.

The peace time program of the Red Cross, since the World War, consists of first aid, life saving, nutrition, home service (for World War veterans and their families), home hygiene and care of the sick, disaster preparedness, public health nursing, volunteer service, and the Junior Red Cross.

#### Social Welfare Work and Social Legislation

Women have expressed themselves in many forms of social service work. Settlement work on an efficient basis was initiated, in 1889, when Jane Addams and Ellen Starr opened a settlement house in Chicago. The duties of the members of the

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99. The Red Cross Courier, Nov. 1, 1928.  
100. Ibid., Aug. 15, Sept. 1, Nov. 1, 15, 1928; Schlesinger, New Viewpoints in American History, pp. 156, 157.  
101. Robert E. Bondy's letter to the author, March 31, 1921.  
102. Schlesinger, New Viewpoints in American History, p. 152; Jane Addams, Twenty Years at Hull House, p. 89.

original Y.W.C.A. were to help working women by "procuring employment and in obtaining suitable boarding places, furnishing them with proper reading matter, establishing Bible classes and meetings for religious exercises." Today the Y.W.C.A. is continuing its social welfare work. Women, also, have been interested in the care of the dependent, and delinquent. Through organized efforts women are sponsoring social legislation. The Joint Congressional Committee, the League of Women Voters, and the National Woman's Party have social legislative programs.

### The Economic Phase

The economic phase of the woman's movement shows the gradual development of woman as do the other phases of the movement. The Industrial Revolution in the United States brought the first great change in the economic life of woman. Women and children were employed in factories in order that the men would not have to leave their farm work. The women and girls were "from two-thirds to three-fourths of the total number of factory workers in the first half of the nineteenth century, and in some places as much as nine-tenths."

Gradually other fields of work opened to women. "By 1840 women were employed in more than one hundred different occupa-

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103. Elizabeth Wilson, Fifty Years of Association Work Among Young Women, p. 23.

104. See, post, pp. 105-109.

105. See ante, pp. 19, 20 ; post, pp. 82, 83.

tions, although the great majority of women outside the factories worked as seamstresses and tailoresses, and teaching was the only field open to educated women." <sup>106</sup> In the last part of the nineteenth century a gain was made in the number of women employed and the number of professions opened to them. In 1870, one-seventh of the women were employed in gainful pursuits while, in 1900, one-fifth were so employed. Women could be fitted for professional careers because higher and professional education was easier for women to obtain. Although most of the professional women were teachers, a <sup>107</sup> few were lawyers, physicians, ministers.

In the twentieth century, the number of women employed in all occupations increased; the number of those employed in the professions increased; the number of married women employed increased; and new fields of employment were opened to women. From 1910 to 1920 there was an increase of five thousand in the number of women employed in all occupations. In the professions in 1910, 733,891 women were employed and <sup>108</sup> the number increased within the next ten years to 1,016,498. From 1910 to 1927 the increase in the number of married women <sup>109</sup> employed in industry was 41 per cent. A few of the new fields of employment in which women have entered may be noticed. One woman was employed as a transmission expert for the

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106. Schlesinger, New Viewpoints in American History, p. 134.  
107. Ibid., p. 144; Schlesinger, A Political and Social History of the United States, 1829-1925, p. 316.  
108. Fourteenth Census of the United States, 1920, Population, IV, 34.  
109. Gilman, "Woman's Achievements Since the Franchise," Current History, XXVII, p. 10.

General Electric Company, in 1927. Women have become expert aviators. In 1925, a woman was appointed as a cashier in a Wall Street bank. A bus manager, star cataloguer, and an orchestra conductor, were among the women employed, in 1927.

A history of woman's part in the organization of labor traces the change in her economic position, too. As early as 1825 women were forming trade unions. By the middle of the century women were taking part in the men's labor meetings. The Knights of Labor received women as members, in 1881. Since 1891, the American Federation of Labor has been the centralizing force for the labor organizations of America, and in 1883, Mrs. Charlotte Smith was seated as a delegate to a convention of that organization though she was denied the power to vote. In 1890, the first fully accredited woman member was received. The National Women's Trade Union League was formed in 1903.

The woman's movement has brought about a change in the position of woman. Through intellectual advancement, political advancement, economic advancement, and humanitarian advancement, woman has gained a position theoretically equal

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110. Gilman, "Woman's Achievements Since the Franchise," Current History, XXVII, p. 12.  
111. Alice Henry, Women and the Labor Movement, p. 40.  
112. Ibid., p. 44.  
113. Ibid., p. 50.  
114. Ibid., pp. 52, 53.  
115. Ibid., p. 110; Mollie Ray Carroll, Women and the Labor Movement in America, p. 7.

to that of man, but in fact, some discriminations against her remain.

The woman's movement is a national movement; therefore, it is perceptible, to some extent, in all the states. In Tennessee the woman's movement may be traced in its intellectual, political, economic, and humanitarian phases.



## CHAPTER II

### THE INTELLECTUAL PHASE

In Tennessee, the intellectual phase of the woman's movement was quite in line with the tendencies of the national movement. It included the promotion of feminine education, the development of women's clubs, and the achievement of artistic accomplishments by women.

#### Education

Early in the history of the state, the first educational institutions were the academies. The boys had the advantage of academy training at an earlier date than the girls, because <sup>1</sup> Martin Academy (the present Washington College) was chartered in 1783, twenty-three years before the first academy for girls, <sup>2</sup> Moses Fiske's Female Academy at Hilham in Overton county. Soon other girls' academies followed this one. The Knoxville <sup>3</sup> Female Academy was chartered in 1811; two years later, on May 1, the Maryville Female Academy was opened "under the tuition <sup>4</sup> of a lady from Kentucky"; and in 1817 a charter was granted <sup>5</sup> to the Nashville Female Academy. Some of the academies, in

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1. The State Records of North Carolina, XXIV, 536; Robert Stanley Rankin, "The Oldest College West of the Alleghanies", East Tennessee Historical Society's Publications, No. 1, p. 19.
  2. Scott (ed.), Laws of Tennessee, 1715-1821, II, 931; History of Tennessee, The Goodspeed Publishing Company, p. 417.
  3. Scott (ed.), op. cit., II, 62.
  4. Wilson's Knoxville Gazette, May 17, 1813; Scott (ed.), op. cit., II, 120.
  5. Ibid., II, 308.

Tennessee as in other states, were coeducational - for example, the Washington Academy which was established in 1827 at Nashville.<sup>6</sup>

The "ornamentals"<sup>7</sup> and the "solid" subjects taught in the "female" academies indicate the nature of the training and taken in progressive years show a tendency toward the offering of a broad and advanced education for girls. The "ornamentals" were music, drawing, painting, and needlework. The "solid" subjects ranged from such elementary subjects as reading, writing, arithmetic, and "polite learning" to such advanced subjects as astronomy, moral, intellectual, and natural philosophy, chemistry, rhetoric, Latin, Greek, and French. At first, the "ornamentals" were emphasized more in the advertisement than were the "solid" subjects. As time passed and the twentieth century approached, the advertisements placed the emphasis on the classics. In fact, in one particular case, the explanation was made that the graduates of a certain academy were able to enter Vassar, a college recognized for its high classical training.<sup>8</sup>

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6. Nashville Republican and Gazette, Sept. 18, 1827.
  7. Ibid. In the coeducational academies, it is probable that girls could not study all the subjects which the boys studied; at least in the Washington Academy girls could not study "algebra and the Dead Languages", though the boys could.
  8. Knoxville Register, Oct. 18, 1824, June 13, 1834, Apr. 4, 1838; Nashville Republican and State Gazette, Oct. 12, 16, 1827; May 6, 16, July 5, 28, Aug. 5, 1828; June 13, 1829; National Banner and Nashville Whig, Aug. 9, 1826; Catalogue of the Trustees, Instructors, and Students of

Tennessee's academies ran a course very similar to that of similar institutions in other states. The number of academies gradually increased until about the middle of the nineteenth century from which time a gradual decrease in number was to be observed. This outcome was natural inasmuch as the public schools were gradually displacing the private institutions.

In addition to the information concerning academies there is a little known concerning the unincorporated schools. It was not unusual in the nineteenth century for a teacher to "respectfully inform the public" that he would open a private school in a "front room", or at "father's home", or in some other place not particularly designed for a school; and that he would teach "all branches which usually comprises an English Education" and in some cases needlework, art, and music. This type of private school continued to some extent

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the Knoxville Female Academy, Summer Session, 1831; Catalogue of Officers and Pupils of East Tennessee Female Institute, 1847-48, 1848-49; Knoxville Tribune, March 15, 1895. On the advertisement of a female academy in Maryville, 1834, which is placed in the Maryville College Museum, are the curriculum and tuition:

Spelling, Reading, Writing and Arithmetic	5.00
English Grammar, Georgraphy, History, Natural Philosophy, Rhetoric, and Polite Learning	7.00
Needlework	1.00
Lace work	2.00
Marking on Canvass	2.00
Embroidiery	4.00
Painting	4.00
Music	15.00

9. Acts of Tennessee, 1900-1929; <sup>passim</sup> Coe, also, ante, pp. 2, 3.
10. Nashville Republican and State Gazette, March 11, Sept. 16, Nov. 25, 1828; National Banner and Nashville Whig, Aug. 14, 1827.

until well after public schools had come into existence.

The public schools which gradually took the place of the academies and unincorporated private schools had a long struggle for existence. From the beginning of the century to the outbreak of the Civil War, many acts concerning public education were passed by the Tennessee legislature, but these were either inadequate in their provisions or were not administered properly. The public school system was put on a firm basis by the Public School Act of 1870, and after that time the public schools gradually took over the work of the academies and unincorporated private schools as well as the education of the masses.

In colleges for women, Tennessee made progress. Wesleyan College in Georgia, called Georgia Female College when it was established in 1839, "was chartered as a higher institution of learning and authorized to 'confer all such honors, degrees, and license as are usually conferred in colleges and universities' ". However, Mary Sharp College in Winchester, Tennessee, opening several years after the Georgia Female College, saw fit to require four years of Latin and Greek for graduation while the other women's colleges at that time did not insist upon so much Greek and Latin. Therefore, Mary Sharp College was re-

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11. A. D. Mayo, "Common Schools in The South, 1830-60," Report of the Commissioners of Education, 1899-1900, 1553-561.
  12. Acts of Tennessee, 1870, second session, pp. 99-113; Cubberley, History of Education in the United States, p. 249.
  13. Bulletin of Wesleyan College, 1930, pp. 18, 19.

garded as ranking higher than the others. The president's<sup>14</sup>  
aim for Mary Sharp College was that it should be<sup>15</sup> " a school  
for young ladies of a higher grade than previous known to  
exist.....a college where ladies may have the privilege of a  
classical education.....the same knowledge, literary scienti-  
fic and classical, that has for so many generations been the  
peculiar and cherished heritage of the other sex.....on an  
equality with her brother, for developing and unfolding all the  
qualities of her mind thus making her what she was designed to  
be by her Creator, a thinking, reflecting, reasoning being,  
capable of comparing and judging for herself and depending upon  
none other for her free unbiased opinions."

Mary Sharp College has an interesting early history. In  
1848 the institution was chartered as the Tennessee Female<sup>16</sup>  
Institute. It was organized in 1850 and opened in 1851.<sup>17</sup>  
Then in 1852 it was incorporated as the Tennessee Baptist<sup>18</sup>  
Female Institute. The Institute soon became named Mary Sharp<sup>19</sup>  
College, so called because of a large bequest by Mary Sharp.  
Although the legislature did not recognize the change in title.<sup>20</sup>  
until 1857, it must have been designated as Mary Sharp College

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14. Thomas Woody, History of Women's Education in the United States, II, 164-171, 184.
  15. Mary Sharp College Catalogue, 1853-54, quoted in ibid., II, 142.
  16. Acts of Tennessee, 1848, pp. 290-292.
  17. Woody, op. cit., II, 141.
  18. Acts of Tennessee, 1852, p. 486.
  19. Woody, op. cit., II, 142.
  20. Acts of Tennessee, 1857, p. 30.

before that time because a diploma is still in existence which was issued in 1855 and bears the legend "Maris Sharpius Collegium."<sup>21</sup>

Following the establishment of Mary Sharp College the popularity of this type of school may be traced by the number existing at different periods. In the eighties there were no less than fifteen woman's colleges in the state.<sup>22</sup> The number gradually declined in the twentieth century. At the present time there are only four such institutions.<sup>23</sup>

Women received college training not only in women's colleges but also in coeducational institutions of higher learning. In the early part of the nineteenth century Blount College, which later became the University of Tennessee, admitted women for a few years.<sup>24</sup> There followed a period of many years during which no women attended the university, but in the meantime other colleges and universities in the state became coeducational. In 1867 "young ladies qualified to join any of the classes"<sup>25</sup> in Maryville College were permitted

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21. Facsimile of a Mary Sharp College diploma in Woody, op. cit., II, 172.

22. Southern Women in Recent Educational Movement in the South, p. 185.

23. State of Tennessee, Annual Report of the Department of Education, 1930, p. 290.

24. Moses White, Early History of the University of Tennessee, p. 14.

25. Maryville College Catalogue, for the academic year 1867-68, p. 16; Samuel T. Wilson, A Century of Maryville College, p. 195: "In ante-bellum times, while young women were nominally not admitted to the College, some young women did pursue and complete the full course of study under the direction of members of the faculty."

to do so. In 1875, Mary Tomilson Wilson was the first woman  
to receive the A.B. degree from this college. George  
Peabody College admitted women from the time of its establish-  
ment in 1875. The first diploma awarded to a woman by Vander-  
bilt University was in 1879.

In the nineties women began to ask permission to enter  
the state university, which had been closed for many years to  
women, and in the academic year 1892-93 a few were admitted  
by special permission. In June, 1893, the Board of Trustees  
declared its intention thereafter "to admit women of the full  
age of seventeen years to the full benefit and privileges of  
the school." Contemporary accounts of the entrance of women  
into the university indicate that the women proved that "they  
were to equal if not outstrip their brothers in scholarship,"  
and that they conducted themselves in such a laudable manner  
that "all anxiety as to the success of the experiment was  
soon quieted." They were found "as diligent in their work  
as the men"; furthermore, the freshman, sophomore, and  
junior scholarships were awarded to them the first year they  
entered. They were like Barbara Blount when she attended  
Blount College, "not only attentive, but also, diligent, and

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26. Maryville College Catalogue, for 1874-75, p. 7.  
27. Peabody College Bulletin, Sept. 1912, p. 19.  
28. "Women Students at Vanderbilt", Vanderbilt Alumnus,  
November-December, 1930, p. 35. In 1891 the first A.B. de-  
gree was conferred on a woman by Vanderbilt University.  
29. Knoxville Daily Journal, May 23, 1893.  
30. Ibid., June 9, 1893.  
31. Knoxville Tribune, March 15, 1895.  
32. Ibid.; University of Tennessee Register, 1894-95, p. 75.

also ingenious." <sup>33</sup> One contemporary described the conduct of the women in the University as follows: "They quietly took their places in class, and by their attention and interest soon removed any feeling of jealousy or rivalry which might have lurked in the hearts of their fellow students." <sup>34</sup> Judge Edward Sanford, in the commencement address in June, 1894, <sup>35</sup> remarked:

It would be inappropriate for me to fail to-day to make some reference to that formidable enterprise which was undertaken with such fear and trembling and reluctance one year ago: the admission of blue eyes and rosy cheeks within the academic halls.....The reports of the professors, if they have not been bewitched by the brightness of those eyes,.....indicate that the experiment has been most successful, and are full of encouragement to those who believe that the daughters of the State are entitled to be educated as thoroughly as her sons, and that giving to them of this education; side by side with their brothers and the brothers of other girls, will not detract from their feminine charms, nor deprive them of their graces, but will, on the contrary, in generous rivalry of the schools, stimulate both the young men and women to higher excellence.

It is interesting to take note of the first women graduates of the state university. In the spring of 1894, women having been admitted the preceding fall, two women, Jessie May Parmelee and Margaret Anna Pickle, received diplomas from the Teachers' Department. <sup>36</sup> The first A.B. degrees to be conferred on women by the University of Tennessee were those

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33. Edward Sanford, Blount College and the University of Tennessee, p. 78.  
34. Knoxville Tribune, March 15, 1895.  
35. Sanford, op. cit., p. 78.  
36. University of Tennessee Register, 1894-95, p. 76.



granted<sup>37</sup> to Elma Rachel Ellis and Elsie Lucy Ogden, in June, 1895.

In Tennessee, as in the nation, coeducational higher education has outstripped separate education. Today all the state institutions of higher learning are coeducational<sup>38</sup> and of the private and denominational colleges and universities 82 per cent are coeducational, 12 per cent are for women, and 6 per cent for men.<sup>39</sup>

In this state, today, women may receive specialized and professional training in dentistry, medicine, law, pharmacy, journalism, engineering, education, agriculture, and commerce.<sup>40</sup> Women can study dentistry in one school in the state, the University of Tennessee College of Dentistry.<sup>41</sup> A few women received Doctor of Dental Surgery degrees in the spring of 1904.<sup>42</sup> There are just thirteen coeducational law colleges in the United States, and four of them are in Tennessee. In addition to these four institutions there are some part-time coeducational law schools.<sup>43</sup> The four

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37. University of Tennessee Register, 1895-96, p. 77.

38. State of Tennessee, Annual Report of the Department of Education, 1930, pp. 252-277.

39. Ibid., p. 290. Percentage based on report.

40. The College Blue Book, 1928, pp. 250-447; Union University Catalogue, 1930-31, p. 14. In the College Blue Book Union University, located at Jackson, Tennessee, is listed as a co-educational theological school, but in the Union University Catalogue, 1930-31, there is a definite statement that it is not a theological school.

41. University of Tennessee Register, 1904-05, p. 128.

42. Ibid. In the spring of 1904, the Doctor of Dental Surgery degree was conferred on Miss A.L. Harrison, Miss E. Love, and Miss Burnice Sherrill.

43. Survey of Higher Education in Tennessee in 1924, p. 90.

regular law colleges in Tennessee that are open to women are the Chattanooga College of Law, Cumberland University Law School, Vanderbilt University Law School, and The University of Tennessee College of Law. The three medical schools in the state are coeducational. Meharry Medical College, for the colored, located at Nashville, has been co-educational since 1876.<sup>44</sup> The University of Tennessee College of Medicine has been coeducational since 1911,<sup>45</sup> and the Vanderbilt School of Medicine has been coeducational since 1925.<sup>46</sup> The School of Pharmacy of the University of Tennessee admits women as does the Meharry Pharmacy Department. Cumberland University has a coeducational Journalism Department. The College of Engineering at both the University of Tennessee and Vanderbilt are coeducational. A woman may receive professional training in education in specialized teachers' colleges: at George Peabody College for Teachers, in the East, Middle, and West Tennessee State Teachers' Colleges,<sup>47</sup> and in the College of Education of The University of Tennessee. The University of Tennessee's College of Agriculture and School of Commerce admit women students.

Graduate work is offered to women as well as men in only a few of the institutions of higher learning in Tennessee.

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44. Robertson (ed.), American Universities and Colleges, p. 131.  
45. Ibid., p. 130.  
46. Ibid., p. 131.  
47. Ibid., p. 290; University of Tennessee, Register, 1930-31, pp. 75-81.

In 1924, six institutions offered graduate work for women, Peabody College, Vanderbilt University, Cumberland University, Tusculum College, Southwestern Presbyterian University, and The University of Tennessee. The School of Biological Sciences of the University of Tennessee at Memphis now also offers graduate work. Peabody and Vanderbilt and the School of Biological Sciences of The University of Tennessee offer work leading to the Doctor of Philosophy degree;<sup>48</sup> and three women in Vanderbilt were working for this degree in the academic year 1930-31. Scarritt College, a woman's college established in 1924, offers graduate work leading to the<sup>49</sup> Master of Arts degree.

### Clubs

Before the beginning of women's literary clubs in 1885 in Tennessee, some other women's organizations were formed. Though their objectives were numerous, in a large degree they were philanthropic. Among these early organizations were the Female Tract Society,<sup>50</sup> the Daughters of Temperance,<sup>51</sup> the Mt. Vernon Association,<sup>52</sup> the soldiers' aid societies,<sup>53</sup> memorial

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48. Survey of Higher Education in Tennessee in 1924, p. 96; "Women Students at Vanderbilt", Vanderbilt Alumnus, November-December, 1930, p. 36.
  49. State of Tennessee, Annual Report of the Department of Education, 1930, p. 29; The University of Tennessee Bulletin, The College of Medicine, 1930-31, p. 21.
  50. Knoxville Register, May 8, 1844.
  51. Acts of Tennessee, 1847-48, p. 285.
  52. Knoxville Register, Sept. 10, 1857.
  53. History of the Confederate Memorial Associations of the South, p. 262; Dr. Adonis's letter, Feb. 1863, in Moore (ed.), The Rebellion Record, IX, 7.

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associations, and missionary societies,

The next step in the club movement was the development of literary clubs in the state. The first of these, Ossoli, has been prominent not only in the state but in the nation; therefore, one is interested in its organization, national connections, prominence in the state, and its development. Seventeen years after the Sorosis and New England woman's clubs were organized, before any others were organized in the South, Mrs. Lizzie Crozier French, on November 20, 1885, in Knoxville, effected an organization of a literary club with thirteen charter members. The club was formed "to stimulate intellectual and moral development, and to strengthen individual effort by organization." Miss Mary Boyce Temple was elected the first president. It was she that suggested the name, Ossoli, which was adopted by the club.

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Ossoli was not only prominent in the South but was nationally known. In fact, it was the connecting link between the North and South in the club movement. The only Southern

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54. History of the Confederate Memorial Associations, pp. 247, 266.

55. Mrs. Joseph T. McTeer's Statement in an interview with the author, Knoxville, Tenn., 1931.

56. Knoxville Journal, Feb. 9, 1896, in Miss Temple's papers in the U.T. Library; Woman's Work in Tennessee, p. 245. "By force of her example, as well as her writing, Miss Fuller stirred women to the realization of the untruth of the old doctrine of their incapacity." (Woody, History of Women's Education in the United States, II, 438); Margaret Fuller married the Marquis Giovanni Angelo Ossoli in 1847. (Clipping in Miss Temple's papers, U.T. Library.)

club represented at the discussion for a national federation of clubs in May, 1889, and at the formal organization of the national federation in April, 1890, was Ossoli. Mary Boyce Temple, a member of this club, was elected the first corresponding secretary of the General Federation of Women's Clubs.<sup>57</sup>

In the state, Ossoli was a leader. Just six years after the organization of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, Ossoli issued a call to the other woman's clubs in the state to meet at a specified time and organize a state federation. Twenty clubs responded to the call and the Tennessee Federation of Women's Clubs came into being in February, 1896.<sup>58</sup>

Ossoli has changed gradually from a purely literary club to one interested in the general welfare of the city, county, and state, and the change in the type of work accomplished by this club will show the evolution of literary clubs in general. For several years after its organization literary subjects were exclusively the topics for discussion. However, gradually the scope of its interests began to broaden. In 1899 Ossoli reported to the Tennessee Federation of Women's Clubs that two traveling libraries had been donated by it.<sup>59</sup> It was one of the first clubs to be interested in the mountain settlement work, being one of the four clubs which, in 1902,

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57. Knoxville Journal, Feb. 9, 1896.  
58. Woman's Work in Tennessee, p. 21. See Appendix II for charter members.  
59. Woman's Work in Tennessee, p. 27.

helped open a settlement school in Walker's Valley, and its interest in this form of social service work has continued.<sup>60</sup> Ossoli suggested the passage of one of the outstanding social legislation bills which have been enacted in the state. The particular bill was the one providing for the establishment of the Vocational School for Delinquent Girls.<sup>61</sup>

The growth and work of the State Federation in the twentieth century gives one an idea of the number of the clubs and of their work in general. By 1915, one hundred and fifty-seven clubs were affiliated with the State Federation.<sup>62</sup> In 1930 a hundred and sixty-three clubs were on the roster of the State Federation.<sup>63</sup>

The work of the Tennessee Federation of Women's Clubs is indicated in its pledge and departmental work. The federation pledges to strive for better homes, schools, lives, surroundings, scholarships, civic health and righteousness, forest and natural beauties conservation, and protection for the unfortunate children and women laborers.<sup>64</sup> The departments indicate the scope of the women's club work. In 1930, they were as follows: American citizenship, American

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60. Woman's Work in Tennessee, pp. 51-63.

61. Ibid., p. 47; Public Acts of Tennessee, 1915, p. 68.

62. Ibid., p. 21. See Appendix for roster.

63. Directory, 1929-30, Tennessee State Federation of Women's Clubs. See Appendix for roster.

64. Woman's Work in Tennessee, p. 7.

home, fine arts, public welfare, education, international relations, legislation, press and publicity, and mountain division.<sup>65</sup>

### Art and Literature

Art has been enriched by the contributions of Tennessee women. In this realm they have shown their ability as writers, painters, musicians, sculptors, and dramatic artists.

Tennessee women have been authors of all types of literature: novels, short stories, histories and historical sketches, poetry, journalistic writings, and dramas. Popular novels such as Miss Selina Lou and the Soap Box Babies,<sup>66</sup> The Melting of Molly,<sup>67</sup> The Circuit Rider's Wife, and Little Lord Fauntleroy<sup>68</sup> were written by women who lived for a part or all of their lives in Tennessee. The Prophet of the Great Smoky Mountains,<sup>69</sup> a well known mountain dialect story, was written by Mary Murfree ("Charles Egbert Craddock") of Murfreesboro. Children's stories, such as The Farrier Dog and the Island of Beautiful Things, were written by a Tennessean, Will Allen

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65. Directory, 1929-30, Tennessee State Federation of Women's Clubs.
  66. Library of Southern Literature, XVII, 195-219. These two novels were written by Maria Thompson Daviess.
  67. Ibid., XVII, 273-285. Cora Harris, author of The Circuit Rider's Wife, has been a resident of Tennessee but is now living in Georgia.
  68. Ibid., II, 555-583; Knoxville Daily Journal, Jan. 29, 1893. Frances Hodgson Burnett, the author of Little Lord Fauntleroy, lived near Knoxville for many years.
  69. Library of Southern Literature, VIII, 3721.

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Droomgoole. Early History of Nashville, written by Lizzie  
P. Elliott, <sup>71</sup> and King's Mountain Men, written by Kate White, <sup>72</sup>  
are historical books by Tennessee women. Notable Southern  
Families, <sup>73</sup> by Zella Armstrong of Chattanooga, contains valuable  
genealogical records. Some of the contributors to the  
Tennessee Historical Magazine <sup>74</sup> and the East Tennessee Historical  
Society's Publications <sup>75</sup> have been women. At one time the Poetry  
Society of the South had a Tennessee woman, Will Allen Droom-  
goole, as poet-laureate. <sup>76</sup> The centennial <sup>n</sup> prize poem,  
"Tennessee", which presents Tennessee history in the form of  
poetry, was written by Virginia Frazer Boyle. <sup>77</sup> The familiar  
poems, To a Water Lily and To a Wild Rose, which are set to  
music, were composed by Elizabeth Frye Page of Tennessee. <sup>78</sup>  
Mrs. Clara Cox Epperson has had many of her poems published  
in newspapers and periodicals. <sup>79</sup> Many of the editorial writers

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70. Clara Cox Epperson, "A Little Talk on the Writers of Tennessee" (manuscript, see Appendix IV).
71. Albert C. Holt, "Economic and Social Beginnings of Tennessee", Tennessee Historical Magazine, April 1924, p. 58.
72.  Knoxville Sentinel review of Kate White's "King's Mountain Men," reprinted in Tennessee Historical Magazine, Jan. 1925, p. 309.
73. Laura E. Luttrell, "Historical Activities in and Respecting Tennessee, 1923-29," East Tennessee Historical Society's Publications, No. 2, p. 103.
74. Tennessee Historical Magazine, passim.
75. East Tennessee Historical Society's Publications, passim.
76. Clara Cox Epperson, "A Tribute to Tennessee Poets." (manuscript, see Appendix V).
77. Ibid.
78. Ibid.
79. Clara Cox Epperson's letter to the author, June 27, 1931, inclosing some of her poems.



for leading newspapers in the state are women. Women have  
been among the periodical writers of Tennessee. Anne Rankin<sup>80</sup>  
edited the Southern Woman's Magazine from 1913 to 1918.<sup>81</sup>  
Edith Pope is editor of the Confederate Veteran, published<sup>82</sup>  
in Nashville. Since 1908 Zella Armstrong has been editor  
and publisher of a social and genealogical magazine, The Look  
Out.<sup>83</sup> Tennessee women have been periodical editors not only  
in Tennessee but also in other places. Ida Clyde Clarke, for  
example, was at one time associate editor of the Pictorial  
Review.<sup>84</sup> Mrs. Jeanette Greve has been an associate editor  
of McCall's Magazine.<sup>85</sup> Few Tennessee men or women have  
written dramas. Among the women drama writers are Mrs. David  
Cornelius, Miss Abby Crawford Milton and Miss Adelaide C.  
Rowell. Many of Miss Rowell's plays have been published in  
the Drama Magazine or in book form.<sup>86</sup>

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80. Clara Cox Epperson, "A Little Talk on Tennessee Writers;"  
Thirty-First Annual Convention, Tennessee Women's Press  
and Author's Club, 1930; Mrs. Edith O. Susong, letter to  
the author, Jan. 27, 1931; Anne Rankin, interview with the  
author; Mrs. Rutledge Smith, letter to author May, 1931.
81. Woman's Work in Tennessee, p. 125. Southern Woman's  
Magazine, 1913-18. Anne Rankin today is an editorial writer  
for the Knoxville Journal.
82. Clara Cox Epperson, "A Little Talk on Tennessee Writers";  
(Manuscript, see Appendix, VI); Confederate Veteran, Feb. 1931.
83. The Look Out, March 14, 1931.
84. Clara Cox Epperson, "A Little Talk on Tennessee Writers,"  
(Manuscript, see Appendix, VI).
85. "Directory of Contributors," East Tennessee Historical  
Society's Publications, no. 3, p. 186.
86. Miss Adelaide C. Rowell's letter to the author, July 30,  
1931; Chattanooga Times, March 3, 1929.

That Tennessee has two state organizations for women authors indicates the interest of the Tennessee women in writing. The Tennessee Women's Press and Author's Club was founded in 1899.<sup>87</sup> Tennessee has also a branch organization of the National League of American Pen Women. Mrs. L. S. Mayer was appointed state vice-president for Tennessee in 1922, and in 1924 she organized the Knoxville branch. A branch was organized in Memphis in 1926 and one in Nashville this past winter. In addition to the members of each branch organization there are members-at-large throughout the state. One of the aims of this organization is to secure as members all the women in the state, "who are doing professional work in each of the three lines - writing, art and music." This organization gives the women in Tennessee who are doing professional creative work an opportunity to be members of the largest organization of writing women in the world.<sup>88</sup>

Noteworthy sculpturing has been done by Tennessee women. The two statues representing Tennessee in the Hall of Fame in Washington were the co-work of Belle Kinney Scholtz, a Tennessean, and her husband. The sculpturing on the Parthenon in Nashville, the best replica of the original Greek Temple, was done by the same couple. The memorial to the Tennessee mothers and the war memorial in the capital of the State were

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87. Thirty-First Annual Convention, The Tennessee Women's Press and Author's Club (Program); Woman's Work in Tennessee, p. 125.

88. Mrs. L. S. Mayer's letter to the author, March 23, 1931.

sculptured by Belle Kinney Scholtz. The statue of John W. Thomas in the Centennial Park in Nashville, and the statue placed at the entrance of the capitol grounds were sculptured by Tennessee women.

Prizes and scholarships in America and prizes and honorable mention in Europe have been awarded to a few Tennessee women for distinguished work in painting. The Chase prize in France was won by Miss L. Pearl Sanders of Tennessee. In the Philadelphia Academy of Fine Arts, Miss Ella S. Hergesheimer, a Tennessean, won first perspective prize, first landscape prize, first anatomy prize, first Tappan prize for portraiture, and a One Thousand Dollar European scholarship prize. A Nashville woman, Miss Frances Ellison, won a year's scholarship in The Art Students' League in New York. One painting by Miss Minnie Gattinger, also of Nashville, received honorable mention from the French government.

The women of the state have shown their interest in music, in as much as they have many musical organizations, and the talent of a few has been recognized nationally and internationally. In 1916 twenty music clubs were affiliated with the Tennessee Federation of Women's Clubs. Two widely known

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89. Woman's Work in Tennessee, p. 143; Knoxville Journal, April 20, 1931; Mrs. Anne Rankin in an interview with the author, 1931.

90. Woman's Work in Tennessee, p. 143.

Tennessee pianists are Mrs. Tobey <sup>Memphis</sup> of <sup>91</sup> and Mme. Louise Bailey-Affelbeck. Kitty Cheatham is particularly noted internationally for her rendering of negro spirituals. <sup>92</sup>  
Tennessee has been represented by women in grand opera - for example: Ma. Charlotte Nelson Brailey of Knoxville for a while sang in grand opera, and today Grace Moore, <sup>93</sup> East Tennesseean, is singing in operas. <sup>94</sup>

Dramatic artists of Tennessee have gained fame nationally and internationally. Irene Bewley of Greenville not only reads in New York and tours the United States, but also has made a concert tour through Europe. <sup>95</sup> Mrs. Benton McMillin <sup>96</sup> of Nashville has appeared in New York University and Columbia University in dramatic recitals.

Progress in the intellectual aspect of the woman's movement is noticeable in Tennessee. In point of time, Tennessee was in the front ranks in the establishment of co-educational and "female" colleges. Girl's academy training was begun early in the nineteenth century, too. The Tennessee clubs for women were organized a little later than in the East, but they were early for the South; in fact, the first

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91. Woman's Work in Tennessee, p. 131. Mm. Louise Bailey-Affelbeck is a native Tennessean.

92. Ibid., p. 131; Apne Rankin, "Kitty Cheatham and Her Message", Southern Woman's Magazine, Sept. 1915.

93. Knoxville Sentinel, March 16, 1914.

94. Knoxville Journal, July 7, 1931.

95. Irene Bewley's letter to the author, June, 1931; Circulars, and program sent to the author by Irene Bewley.

96. Tennessee Clubwoman, March-April, 1928, p. 31.

Tennessee literary club was the first literary club in the South. Tennessee women have accomplished much, artistically, and some of them have been nationally recognized.

### CHAPTER III

#### THE POLITICAL PHASE

The history of the political phase of the woman's movement in Tennessee is a thrilling story of woman struggling to gain political and legal privileges. The story may be told by following the history of the suffrage movement, of woman's part in the political parties, of the non-partisan league, of customs and laws concerning woman's eligibility to hold public office, and of the gradual extension to women of equal legal rights with men.

#### The Suffrage Movement

The Tennessee pioneer suffragist, Miss Elizabeth Avery Meriwether, worked in the national movement; but, as far as can be ascertained, she did not attempt to initiate a local suffrage movement in Tennessee. In 1876 she sent a message to the National Democratic Convention requesting the inclusion of a suffrage plank in their platform. In 1880-81 she assisted the National Woman Suffrage Association by lecturing as a regular speaker of the association.<sup>1</sup>

The beginnings of suffrage organization in Tennessee were due, however, to the efforts of others. In 1885, Mrs. Elizabeth Lyle Saxon was appointed state president of

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1. Anthony, Stanton, and Gage, (eds.), History of Woman Suffrage, III, 822 (Mrs. Elizabeth Lyle Saxon furnished the material for the Tennessee section.); Miss Sue White's Suffrage Memorandum.

Tennessee by the National Woman Suffrage Association, and was succeeded the following year by Mrs. Lida Meriwether. The latter induced the Tennessee Woman's Christian Temperance Union, in 1889, to accept woman suffrage as part of its program. In the same year she organized, in Memphis, the first suffrage society in the state.<sup>2</sup>

Organization continued and suffragist speakers were welcomed during the next decade, which indicated some interest in the movement by Tennessee women. A suffrage society was organized in Nashville in April, 1894.<sup>3</sup> In 1895 Susan B. Anthony and Carrie Chapman Catt made a lecture tour through the South, and one of the points they visited was Memphis, where they were cordially received. In addition to speaking to whites, some lectures were delivered before colored audiences.<sup>4</sup> In 1897, Susan B. Anthony again lectured in Tennessee, this time at Nashville where she was attending a convention of the National Woman's Council.<sup>5</sup> During this convention the state suffrage organization was formed.<sup>6</sup>

An event of special interest in the history of the

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2. Anthony and Harper (eds.), History of Woman Suffrage, IV, p. 926. (Mrs. Lida A. Meriwether furnished the material for the Tennessee section.)
  3. Harper, (ed.), History of Woman Suffrage, VI, 596; Nashville Banner, May 1, 1930 (a suffrage edition). This suffrage organization, formed at Mrs. H. C. Gardener's, was short lived.
  4. Harper, (ed.), op. cit., VI, 596.
  5. Stanton, Anthony, and Gage (eds.), History of Woman Suffrage, III, 927.
  6. Harper, (ed.), History of Woman Suffrage, VI, 596.

suffrage movement occurred in 1900 when a suffrage convention was held in Memphis, at which Carrie Chapman Catt, president of the national association, was present. During the following five years interest evidently declined because the state organization dissolved and no conventions were held. In 1906, however, a conference of suffragists from the Southern states met in Memphis, and during this conference the Tennessee Equal Suffrage Association was reorganized.<sup>7</sup>

Many incidents attest the growing interest in suffrage throughout the state. In 1908 the State Federation of Labor endorsed woman suffrage.<sup>8</sup> Tennessee women began lecturing in the state on suffrage. For example, Mrs. I. K. Reno started lecturing in Nashville on suffrage, in 1908. Further evidence of the development of interest in the suffrage movement was the organization in 1910, by Mrs. Lizzie Crozier French, of the Knoxville branch of the Tennessee Equal Suffrage League,<sup>9</sup> followed in the next two years by the organization of six more branches of the state league.<sup>10</sup> Furthermore, in May, 1914, National Suffrage Day was celebrated by many of the Tennessee unions with demonstrations, and all of them signed a resolution, as did all the leagues throughout the nation, petition-

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7. Harper (ed.), History of Woman Suffrage, VI, 596.
  8. Ibid., VI, 597.
  9. Ibid., VI, 597, 607; Nashville Banner, May 1, 1930.
  10. Ibid., VI, 597, 608.



There on a soap box stood  
a woman with a vim ex-  
pression. She was a woman  
suffrage. She had on a  
red dress, brown hat, and  
large tan shoes. Beside her  
stood another woman, very  
tall with a large red nose,  
holding a banner. The words  
on this banner were these: "  
We will have our rights or  
we will die." Before them  
stood other women. And in  
the distance stood some  
men and offer

ONE TENNESSEE BOY'S IMPRESSION OF A SUFFRAGIST

(This suffrage sketch was written in 1913 by a boy living in Jackson, Tennessee. The original copy belongs to Miss Ada Fanz, Knoxville, Tennessee.)

ing Congress: <sup>11</sup> "to proceed without delay in the most feasible and practical manner to remove the barriers which prevent American women from the exercise of full franchise, and to make our country not a government in which half of the people are denied the right to participation, but in truth and reality a democracy."

When the suffrage interest was running high, during the period preceding the Tennessee suffrage victories, Tennessee had three state-wide suffrage organizations, the Tennessee Equal Suffrage League, the Tennessee Equal Suffrage League, Incorporated, and the National Woman's Party. The first two were branches of the original Tennessee Equal Suffrage League. In October, 1914, at the state convention of the Tennessee Equal Suffrage League, a dispute arose concerning the place where the National American Woman Suffrage Association should meet, and the dispute led to a split in the Tennessee league. A faction led by Mrs. Lizzie Crozier French, president of the Tennessee Equal Suffrage League, wanted the national association to meet in Nashville; the other suffragists wanted the convention to be held in Chattanooga according to the original plan. The Lizzie Crozier French group organized themselves into a league called the Equal Suffrage League, Incorporated, and elected their leader as president. The other faction, called the Equal

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11. Harper (ed.), History of Woman Suffrage, VI, 609; Knoxville Journal and Tribune, May 3, 1914. National Suffrage Day was May 2.

Suffrage League, elected Mrs. James M. McCormack as its president.<sup>12</sup> Despite the fact that the division lasted for four years, suffrage agitation and organization continued as whole heartedly as ever.<sup>13</sup>

Although the "left-wing" suffrage organization, the Congressional Union for Woman Suffrage, later called the National Woman's Party, was not organized until later in the suffrage history of the state, it became an important factor in the final stages of the Tennessee suffrage movement. The Woman's Party had a Tennessee state chairman in 1914, and a branch organization in Johnson City, and members and sympathizers throughout the state. On April 13, 1918, the National Woman's Party conducted a mass meeting of Knoxville citizens at which a resolution was passed demanding the immediate passage of the federal suffrage amendment. In the course of this year, 1918, an organizer was sent throughout the state, by the Tennessee Woman's Party chairman, to organize in places where no suffrage organizations were functioning.<sup>14</sup>

The men as well as the women had suffrage organizations. Chattanooga had a men's suffrage club which was formed in 1915; although many states boasted of similar organizations

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12. Harper, (ed.), op. cit., VI, 610; Nashville Banner, May 1, 1930.
  13. Harper, (ed.), op. cit., VI, 610-613.
  14. Suffrage memorandum of Sue S. White. She is a Tennessee National Woman's Party leader.

before that time.

Nevertheless, the real fight for woman suffrage was made by the women of the state, and they did their share of work in the movement outside the state. The Tennessee women worked to secure a suffrage plank, which was actually included by both parties in their platforms in 1916. Seven Tennessee women were sent to the Republican National Convention in Chicago. Eleven Tennessee women attended the National Democratic Convention in St. Louis. At this convention, Ann Dudley appealed to the Tennessee delegates to vote for the suffrage plank, and they voted "solidly" for it. The Tennessee suffragists encouraged Tennessee's representatives in Congress to vote for the Susan B. Anthony Amendment. In Washington, Ann Dudley, along with others, working through the National American Woman Suffrage Association, labored unceasingly to secure the passage of the amendment.<sup>16</sup> Also, Tennessee women worked in Washington through the National Woman's Party. During the militant campaign of this organization, Sue S. White was arrested and held in jail for five days because she helped in the watchfire demonstrations.<sup>17</sup>

The United States entered the World War in 1917, a year in which the suffragists in Tennessee were working energetically to secure the enactment of the Presidential and

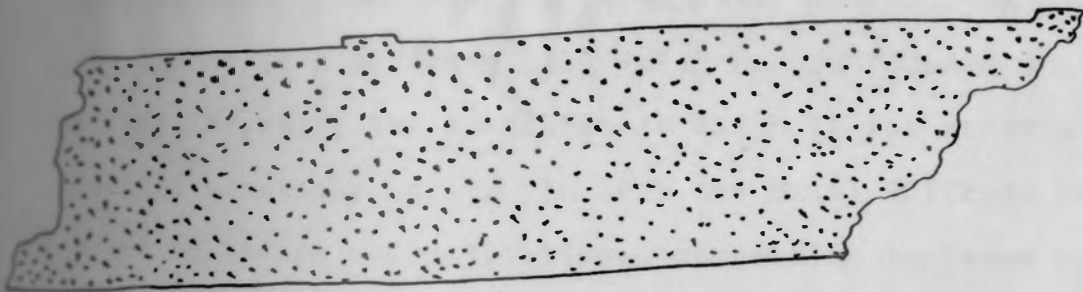
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15. Harper, (ed.), op. cit., VI, 611-613.
  16. Ibid., VI, 579; Newspaper clipping belonging to Miss Ada Fanz, Knoxville, Tennessee.
  17. Doris Stevens, Jailed for Freedom, 305-313, 370.

MAPS OF TENNESSEE ILLUSTRATING THE EXTENSION OF  
WOMAN SUFFRAGE IN THE STATE

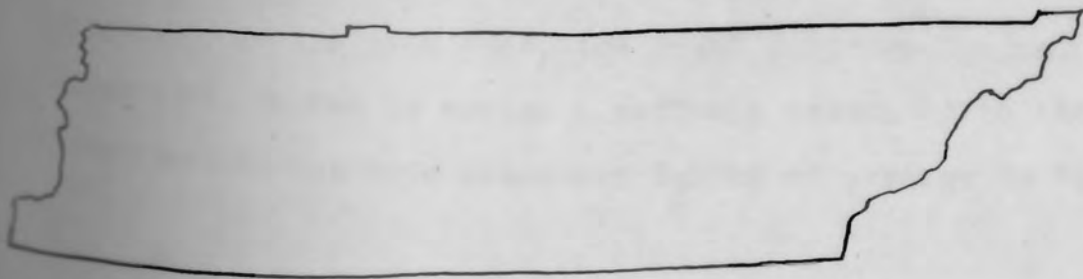


Lookout

MAP VI. MUNICIPAL SUFFRAGE, LOOKOUT, TENNESSEE,  
1917



MAP VII. PRESIDENTIAL AND MUNICIPAL SUFFRAGE,  
1919



MAP VIII. EQUAL SUFFRAGE, 1920

Municipal Suffrage Bill by the State legislature, and to secure the passage of the Susan B. Anthony Amendment by Congress. Nevertheless, the Tennessee "sufs", as well as those in other states, entered every field of war work in which woman could serve. They engaged in Red Cross activities both in the United States and overseas. One important national position, which was filled by a Tennessee woman, was the vice-chairmanship of the Woman's Committee of the Council of National Defense.  
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The Tennessee suffragists took steps to gain state enfranchisement by encouraging legislative action. In 1911 they supported a suffrage bill which was introduced in the General Assembly; the committee to which it was referred reported adversely on it. In 1915 the Equal Suffrage League worked to secure a constitutional convention to frame a new state constitution because it hoped that an equal suffrage clause would be included in a new constitution. The action of the legislature was favorable for a constitutional convention, but the measure was defeated by a vote of the people.  
20 In the same year, the Equal Suffrage League, Incorporated, worked to secure a suffrage amendment to the state constitution; but this amendment failed of passage in the

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18. Harper, (ed.), op. cit., VI, 613; Nashville Banner, May 1, 1930.  
19. Senate Journal of Tennessee, <sup>1911</sup> pp. 476, 490, 622.  
20. Harper, (ed.), History of Woman Suffrage, VI, 511, 615; Public Acts of Tennessee, 1915, pp. 314, 317.

21 legislature. The first franchise victories for the Tennessee women came in 1917 when a municipal enfranchise-<sup>22</sup> ment act was passed for a single town, Lookout. At this same session of the legislature, the House of Representatives passed the Presidential and Municipal Suffrage Bill, but the<sup>23</sup> Senate failed to pass it. In 1919, however, after thirty-four years of suffrage work in Tennessee, the suffragists were able to secure the passage of an act that gave the women of the state municipal and presidential enfranchisement.

In the same year, Congress adopted the Woman Suffrage Amendment and the states began the process of ratification. Therefore, the time arrived for the dissolution of the National American Woman Suffrage Association and consequently of the state equal suffrage leagues, and for the formation in their stead, of the National League of Women Voters and of the state leagues of this organization. In February, 1920, the National American Woman Suffrage Association met in a final convention in Chicago, during which the National League of Women Voters was organized. Tennessee was represented at this double conference by several delegates, among whom was

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21. Harper, (ed.), op. cit., VI, 615; House Journal of Tennessee, 1915, pp. 524, 578, 926; Senate Journal of Tennessee, 1915, pp. 432, 526, 1041.
  22. Private Acts of Tennessee, 1917, p. 1431.
  23. House Journal of Tennessee, 1917, p. 189; Senate Journal of Tennessee, 1917, pp. 309, 373.
  24. Public Acts of Tennessee, 1919, p. 519; House Journal of Tennessee, 1919, p. 920; Senate Journal, 1919, p. 1271.

SUSPENSE



A CARTOON APPEARING IN A TENNESSEE NEWSPAPER IN 1920

(Miss Ada Fanz, Knoxville, Tennessee, lent me this cartoon.)



Mrs. George Fort Milton, president of the Tennessee Equal Suffrage League.<sup>25</sup> The final state suffrage convention, and the first meeting of the League of Women Voters in Tennessee, met on May 18, 1920. At the time of the dissolution of the Tennessee Equal Suffrage League there were as many as seventy-five local leagues in the state.<sup>26</sup>

By the summer of 1920, thirty-five states had ratified the federal Suffrage Amendment, but ratification of this by thirty-six was necessary to make it a part of the Constitution. Certain circumstances made it impossible to hope for ratification before the 1920 presidential election by any of the remaining states except Tennessee.<sup>27</sup> Hence, all the friends of woman suffrage turned their eyes upon Tennessee where, however, there was a peculiar state constitutional difficulty with which to deal. Governor Albert H. Roberts sought legal advice as to the constitutionality of article II, section 32, of the Tennessee constitution<sup>28</sup> which provided that "no convention or general assembly of this state shall act

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25. Knoxville Journal and Tribune, Feb. 1, 1920.  
26. Knoxville Sentinel, May 18, 1920, Harper (ed.), op. cit., VI, 615.  
27. See ante, pp. 17, 18.  
28. Tennessee Blue Book and Official Directory, 1929-30, p. 149.

upon any amendment of the Constitution of the United States proposed by Congress to the several states; unless such convention or general assembly shall have been elected after such amendment is submitted." Attorney General Frank M. Thompson appealed to Solicitor General John L. Frierson for his opinion concerning this particular part of the constitution of Tennessee. Frierson thought that the decision of the Supreme Court in an Ohio case was applicable to the Tennessee question. This decision stated: "It is not the function of courts or legislative bodies, National or State, to alter the method which the United States Constitution has fixed."<sup>29</sup>

Roberts was urged from many sources to call an extra session of the Tennessee General Assembly. The president of the National American Woman Suffrage Association, the Tennessee chairman of the Woman's Party, the National Democratic Convention, the Tennessee Democratic Convention, many of Tennessee's delegates to the National Democratic Convention, and President Woodrow Wilson insisted that he call an extra session.<sup>30</sup> The governor yielded to the urging and called an extraordinary meeting of the General Assembly for August 9, 1920.<sup>31</sup><sup>32</sup><sup>33</sup><sup>34</sup>

The organization for ratification in Tennessee was planned

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29. Harper, (ed.), History of Woman Suffrage, VI, 617.
  30. Ibid., VI, 617.
  31. Knoxville Sentinel, June 21, 1920.
  32. Ibid., July 3, 1920.
  33. Harper, (ed.), History of Woman Suffrage, VI, 618.
  34. Knoxville Sentinel, June 29, 1920.

carefully. The Democrats organized a ratification committee with Mrs. Leslie Warner as chairman. The Republicans also formed a ratification committee with Mrs. James Beasley as chairman. Mrs. John M. Kenny was appointed state chairman for the ratification committee of the Tennessee League of Women Voters. <sup>35</sup> Mrs. Leslie Warner was made "State Chairman of the victory Committee of the Friends of Suffrage." <sup>36</sup> The Tennessee chairman of the Woman's Party, <sup>37</sup> Sue S. White, with her committee, also worked for ratification.

National suffrage leaders came to Tennessee and worked earnestly in behalf of the ratification, because Tennessee's action would vitally affect every woman in the United States interested in suffrage. The publicity chairman for the <sup>38</sup> National American Suffrage Association, Marjorie Shuler, was sent to Tennessee to strengthen the cause. Carrie Chapman Catt, president of the National American Suffrage Association, also came. Miss Charl Williams, who was a member of the National Democratic Committee, and Harriet Taylor Upton, who was vice-chairman of the Republican National Executive Committee, were among the many other suffragists <sup>39</sup> who came to Tennessee and worked for ratification.

On the other hand, numbers of those opposed to suffrage

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35. Harper, (ed.), op. cit., VI, 619.

36. Knoxville Sentinel, July 1, 1920.

37. Harper, (ed.), op. cit., VI, 621.

38. Ibid., VI, 619.

39. Harper, (ed.), History of Woman Suffrage, VI, 620, 621.

were working energetically to prevent the passage of the amendment. There ~~was~~ a woman's anti-suffragist's organiza-<sup>40</sup>tion at that time in Tennessee, and a man's anti-suffragist's<sup>41</sup> union was formed in Tennessee in 1920. Both men and women who were opposed to the Suffrage Amendment for any reason<sup>42</sup> worked unceasingly to keep Tennessee from ratifying it.<sup>43</sup>

Carrie Chapman Catt said:

Never in the history of politics has there been such a nefarious lobby as labored to block ratification in Nashville.....They appropriated our telegrams, tapped our telephones, listened outside our windows and transoms. They attacked our private and public lives. I had heard of invisible "government". Well, I have seen it work and I have seen it sent into oblivion.

The important work which the suffragists had to do before the General Assembly convened was to tour the state, lecturing in favor of ratification in order to bring about an overwhelming public sentiment to support it; and to visit the legislators in order to secure their pledges to vote in favor of the amendment. Some of the lecturers were<sup>44</sup> Betty Gram, Sue White, Ann Pollitzer, Marjorie Shuler, and Carrie Chapman Catt. Striking statements, such as the<sup>45</sup> following, were used by Carrie Chapman Catt in her addresses:

Tennessee can ratify the Susan B. Anthony Amend-

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40. Harper, (ed.), History of Woman Suffrage, VI, 621.  
41. Ibid., V, 682.  
42. Knoxville Sentinel, July 29, Aug. 4, 1920; Harper, (ed),  
op. cit., VI, 621, 622.  
43. Ibid., VI, 621, footnote.  
44. Knoxville Sentinel, Aug. 4, 1920.  
45. Ibid., Aug. 2, 1920.

ment if it will.  
Ours is a government professedly of the people,  
if women are not the people, what are they?  
This is not a democratic question, nor yet a  
republican question. It is an American obliga-  
tion.

By July, 26, Carrie Chapman Catt announced that through the  
efforts of the workers pledges had been secured from a majority  
of the members of the state legislature to vote for the ratifi-  
cation of the amendment.<sup>46</sup>

The attitude of the Democratic and Republican presidential  
candidates on the subject of the ratification of the Nine-  
teenth Amendment was very important. Two Tennessee women,  
Sue S. White and Mrs. Lizzie Crozier French, were on the  
National Woman's Party Committee which interviewed the can-  
didates, James M. Cox and Warren G. Harding, to ascertain  
their positions with respect to woman suffrage. Harding's  
attitude was uncertain at first; but he finally urged rati-  
fication by Tennessee.<sup>47</sup> Both candidates sent messages to  
Tennessee several times during the weeks before the meeting of  
the General Assembly. One message that Harding sent to Carrie  
Chapman Catt read:<sup>48</sup>

I am exceedingly glad to learn that you are in  
Tennessee seeking to consummate the equal suffrage  
amendment. If any of the republican members of  
the Tennessee assembly should ask my opinion as  
to their course, I would cordially recommend an  
immediate favorable action.<sup>49</sup>

A message that Cox sent to her read:<sup>50</sup>

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46. Knoxville Sentinel, July 26, 1920.  
47. IBID., July 14, 1920.  
48. IBID., July 5, 1920.  
49. IBID., July 23, 1920.  
50. IBID., July 23, 1920.

I am very much gratified at the news that you are to remain in Tennessee for the ratification campaign. It gives me added reason for expressing confidence that the Tennessee legislature will act favorably, which will...please the national democratic party.

The extra session of the Tennessee General Assembly met on August 9, to take action on the Nineteenth Amendment. On the day when it convened the Governor urged the General Assembly to ratify the amendment.<sup>51</sup> On the surface everything seemed to be favorable for ratification the day that the session opened. The headlines in one Tennessee paper read; "Governor and Speakers Favor Ratification."<sup>52</sup>

The ratification resolution was introduced in both houses the following day. The Speaker of the Senate, A. L. Todd, introduced it in the upper house. In the lower house, the Speaker, Seth Walker, failed to introduce the measure as he had previously agreed to do,<sup>53</sup> and to the Shelby county delegation fell this honor. The suffragists did not have to worry about the action of the Senate for the measure was rushed through that house with practically no opposition. The Senate finished the ratification on August 13, with the vote standing 25 in favor of the amendment and 4 opposed to it.<sup>54</sup>

An exciting time followed in the House of Representatives. Not only had the Speaker deserted the suffrage forces, but, on

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51. Acts of Tennessee, extra session, 1920, p. 9.

52. Knoxville Sentinel, Aug. 9, 1920.

53. Ibid., Aug. 10, 1920.

54. Knoxville Sentinel, Aug. 13, 1920; Senate Journal of Tennessee, 1920, extra session, p. 296.

the sixteenth, he claimed that fifty-three of the legislators  
were pledged to vote against the measure. <sup>55</sup> On the seventeenth  
the committee reported favorably on the amendment, but before  
action was taken a motion for adjournment was passed. <sup>56</sup> The  
next day was the eighteenth, the day on which the question of  
the amendment was finally settled. This day was not a common-  
place one, for the most unusual happenings occurred. The  
suffragists held their breath until the last minute of the  
proceedings. Two of the legislators who were present were  
there at a great sacrifice. R. L. Dowlen arose from his sick  
bed and went to the capitol to vote for the measure. <sup>57</sup> T. A.  
Dodson had received a message on the night of the seventeenth  
that his baby was dying. The train which he was to take was  
scheduled to leave Nashville at eleven o'clock the next morning.  
The ratification question was not called up before he found  
it necessary to rush to the train. His departure broke the  
quorum. There followed an exciting attempt to overtake him  
before he could catch his train. <sup>58</sup>

Another member [of the legislature] in a high-power  
car rushed to the station, signed a permit to get  
through the gates, bowled over the colored porter,  
rushed into the car and told Dodson he must get off  
or the vote would be lost. He hesitated, the train  
commenced to move and both men jumped to the plat-  
form. Back to the State House they sped where  
Dodson cast his vote and saved the day.

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55. Knoxville Sentinel, Aug. 16, 1920.

56. Ibid., Aug. 17, 1920; Harper, (ed.), History of Woman Suffrage, VI, 623; House Journal of Tennessee, 1920, extra session, pp. 88, 89.

57. Harper, (ed.), op. cit., VI, 623.

58. "Mrs. Upton's Story of the Tennessee Victory", reprint from Woman Citizen, Sept. 25, 1920.

The first vote on the resolution providing for the ratification of the amendment was on a motion to table it; and the vote was a tie. Next the roll was called on the original question, the passage of the ratification resolution. Harry T. Burn, one of those voting to table the resolution, changed his vote to "aye" on the second roll-call and the vote was then 49 to 47 in favor of the adoption of the resolution. There was needed one more vote for a constitutional majority, and Seth Walker added this needed vote by changing his vote from "no" to "aye", probably so that he would be privileged later to make a motion to reconsider the resolution. Thus the amendment was ratified.

An explanation of Harry T. Burn's vote on the resolution providing for the ratification of the Nineteenth Amendment is of particular interest, because his was the deciding vote. Burn had been in favor of the amendment all the time, but he thought that many in his constituency wanted him as their representative to vote against the measure. When the vote to table the resolution was taken he was willing thus to delay the measure though he personally favored it. According to Burn's statement, the reasons why he changed his vote when the original question was called, were as follows:

- (1) I believe in full suffrage as a right:

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59. Harper, (ed.), History of Woman Suffrage, VI, 623, 624; House Journal of Tennessee, 1920, extra session, pp. 91, 92, 94.  
60. Harry T. Burn's letter to the author, Feb. 22, 1931.  
61. House Journal of Tennessee, 1920, extra session, p. 95.



- (2) I believe we have a moral and legal right to ratify;
- (3) I know that a mother's advice is always safest for her boy to follow, and my mother wanted me to vote for ratification;
- (4) I appreciated the fact that an opportunity such as seldom comes to mortal man - to free 17,000,000 women from political slavery - was mine;
- (5) I desired that my party, in both State and Nation, might say that it was a Republican from the mountains of East Tennessee, the purest anglo-Saxon section in the world, who made National Woman's Suffrage possible at this date; not for any personal glory, but for the glory of his party.

There was a period of suspense immediately following the ratification by the lower house. Charges of bribery were made against Burn, but there was no evidence to support such charges. The opposition, also, tried unsuccessfully to get some of the "forty-nine" to change their votes. <sup>62</sup> The next move by those opposing ratification was to break the quorum by having 36 of their group leave the state and thus prevent the transmission to the Senate of the resolution and the certification of the resolution. This move came to naught because the legislature continued business without a quorum before the roll was called. The move to reconsider the action of the House on the resolution was defeated on August 21, and a motion to transmit the resolution to the Senate was adopted. The opposition took out a "writ of injunction" to keep Governor Roberts from certifying the ratification to the

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62. Knoxville Sentinel, Aug. 19, 1920; Harry T. Burn's letter to the author, Feb. 22, 1931.

Secretary of State at Washington. To counteract this move of the opposition, Governor Roberts got the Chief Justice of the State Supreme Court to issue "writs of certiorari and supersedeas," which dissolved the injunction. Secretary of State Colby received the certified ratification of Tennessee on August 26, and the Suffrage Amendment was proclaimed a part of the constitution of the United States.

After a period of work from 1885 to 1920, the suffrage phase of the political development of women in Tennessee ended with a suffrage victory, not only for its own state but for the whole United States.

#### Office Holding

Closely connected with the woman suffrage movement was the history of woman's public service. Prior to the twentieth century only two public offices in Tennessee were opened to women. In 1889, a law was enacted making women eligible for the office of county superintendent of education, and in 1895 a law was enacted making women eligible for the office of state librarian.

A period of twenty years elapsed before any other offices were opened to women, and the first office then opened was that

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63. Harper, (ed.), op. cit., VI, 624; House Journal of Tennessee, extra session, 1920, p. 117-121.  
64. Ibid., VI, 624, 625; Knoxville Sentinel, Aug. 19, 20, 21, 23, 24, 1920.  
65. Public Acts of Tennessee, 1889, p. 213.  
66. Ibid., 1895, p. 9.

of notary public. During the agitation for the opening of this office to women, Mrs. Lizzie Crozier French remarked: "At one time, a notary public was not regarded as one who held office. I don't know what you think of it, but it looks to me like it was hardly any more of an office than washing dishes." <sup>67</sup> On March 10, 1915, a bill was passed by the state legislature making women over twenty-one, with the same qualifications as men, eligible to hold the office of notary public in <sup>68</sup> Huston county. Within a few days acts were passed to <sup>69</sup> make women eligible for this office in two other counties, and on March 24, 1915 a general act, making women eligible <sup>70</sup> for this office in all the counties of the state, was passed. Furthermore, an act regarding this trust was passed March 30, 1915, reducing the age qualification to eighteen years for <sup>71</sup> women eligible to hold the position in Smith county. All these acts regarding the eligibility of women for the office of notary public were enacted within a month; so the women in all the counties of Tennessee had relatively the same advantage as those in the counties where the privilege was allowed first.

In 1915, women were given another public privilege, the right to serve on certain boards. They were made "eligible to election on Boards of Education in Cities and Counties and

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67. Proceedings of the Bar Association of Tennessee, 1912, p. 161.  
68. Private Acts of Tennessee, 1915, p. 182.  
69. Ibid., 1915, pp. 272, 275. The two counties were Hardeman and Hardin.  
70. Public Acts of Tennessee, 1915, p. 117.  
71. Private Acts of Tennessee, 1915, p. 728.

on Governing Boards of all State, County, and Municipal Institutions." This was applicable to most of the counties in Tennessee.<sup>72</sup> In 1915 and 1917 the legislature also granted to women the right to hold county offices in a limited number of the counties - namely: deputy clerk and master in McMinn county<sup>73</sup> and in Giles county,<sup>74</sup> deputy clerk and masters of the Chancery Court in Cumberland county,<sup>75</sup> and deputies in the office of a clerk and master of the Chancery Court in Hardin county<sup>76</sup> and Lincoln county,<sup>77</sup> clerk and master of the Chancery Court in Knox county,<sup>78</sup> deputy clerk and master of Trousdale county,<sup>79</sup> deputy county court clerk in Washington,<sup>80</sup> and register in Overton county.<sup>81</sup>

In 1919 many more acts were passed regarding women's eligibility to hold offices. Many of these permitted women to hold the offices mentioned above in additional counties.<sup>82</sup> Furthermore, on April 16, 1919, an act was passed making it legal for women over <sup>eighteen</sup> 18 years of age to act as deputy county

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- 72. Public Acts of Tennessee, 1915, p. 38; Thirteenth Census Report of the United States, 1910, Population, III, 728  
724, 725.
  - 73. Private Acts of Tennessee, 1915, p. 728.
  - 74. Ibid., 1917, p. 163.
  - 75. Ibid., 1917, p. 1069.
  - 76. Ibid., 1917, p. 960.
  - 77. Ibid., 1917, p. 786.
  - 78. Ibid., 1917, p. 704.
  - 79. Ibid., 1916, p. 944.
  - 80. Ibid., 1917, p. 25.
  - 81. Ibid., 1917, p. 817.
  - 82. Ibid., 1919, passim.

registers, deputy county court clerks, deputy circuit court clerks, deputy chancery court clerks, criminal court clerks, and deputy trustees in all the counties of the state. <sup>83</sup>

Although some public offices were thus opened to women before their enfranchisement, they did not have the legal right to hold all public offices until 1921. <sup>84</sup> The most important political positions to which women in Tennessee have

been elected are those of membership in the Senate and House of Representatives of the Tennessee General Assembly. One woman, Ann Lee Worley, has been elected to the Tennessee Senate from the Second District, composed of Sullivan and Hawkins counties. In a special election, she was elected

to succeed her husband in the Sixty-second General Assembly and took her seat February 8, 1921. <sup>85</sup> Three women have been

elected to the House of Representatives; Miss Marion Griffin of Memphis, Shelby County, elected in 1922 to the Sixty-third General Assembly; <sup>86</sup> Mrs. Ann. M. Davis of Knoxville, Knox county, elected in 1924 to the Sixty-fourth General

Assembly; <sup>87</sup> and Miss Sarah Frazier of Chattanooga, Hamilton county, elected in 1926 to the Sixty-fifth General Assembly. <sup>88</sup>

Ann Lee Worley, the first woman legislator in Tennessee,

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83. Public Acts of Tennessee, 1919, pp. 660, 661.

84. Ibid., 1921, p. 165.

85. Senate Journal of Tennessee, 1921, pp. 395, 396, 1458.

86. House Journal of Tennessee, 1923, p. 5.

87. Ibid., 1923, p. 4.

88. Ibid., 1927, p. 4.

took an active part in the work of the Senate. She served on the committees of charitable institutions, education, finance, ways, and means, pensions, public roads, and banks. While she was in the Senate she introduced twenty-nine bills and one additional bill along with some other Senators. Eleven of the bills she introduced passed both houses. It is interesting that the first woman legislator introduced the bill "to make women eligible to hold public office," which was enacted during this session. Both resolutions which she introduced were adopted.

In the first regular election in which it was possible to elect a woman to the Tennessee legislature there was one woman elected to the House of Representatives. The women in Shelby county, particularly the League of Women Voters, insisted that they have a woman representative and that she should be Marion Griffin. She had no opposition in the primaries or general election because the Democratic Party has such a large majority in Shelby county. This first woman elected to the lower house was a lawyer, who as a lobbyist had become well acquainted with the legislature.

Marion Griffin was an active member of the legislature during her term of office. She served on the committees on

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89. Senate Journal, 1921, p. 1458.  
90. Ibid., 1921, pp. 1494, 1498, 1503, 1504, 1507, 1513, 1516, 1520, 1521, 1536, 1538.  
91. Ibid., 1921, p. 1504.  
92. Ibid., 1921, pp. 1576, 1577.  
93. Miss Griffin's letter to the author, March 18, 1931.

commerce, banks, judiciary, public grounds and buildings, and  
as chairman of the committee on social welfare and public

health.<sup>94</sup> She introduced separately and with others many

bills.<sup>95</sup> She is given the credit for the passage of three

acts, which are: the Maternity-Infancy Act, the Joint  
Guardianship Act, and the Sunday Movie Act. Miss Griffin is  
given the credit for the passage of these, inasmuch as in the  
case of the first one she was made Speaker pro-temporary while  
it was up for final passage; in the case of the second one she  
called it up for the final reading at the "right moment"; and  
in the case of the third one her vote was the deciding vote  
on the committee which reported favorably on the bill.

Furthermore, she worked particularly hard to help secure the  
passage of a bill to make the mother and father inherit equally  
the property of a deceased child, and one to require the  
State Executive Committee of the political parties to consist  
of two men and two women.<sup>96</sup>

Mrs. Ann Davis was elected from Knox county in 1924 and  
served one term in the Tennessee House of Representatives.  
During her term she was assigned to the enrolled bills committee,

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94. House Journal of Tennessee, 1923, pp. 37, 38, 179, 180.  
95. Ibid., 1923, pp. 1214, 1218, 1227, 1229, 1231, 1236, 1252,  
1266, 1268.  
96. Miss Marion Griffin's letter to the author, March 18, 1931;  
Public Acts of Tennessee, 1923, pp. 167, 137, 123, 76.

the corporation committee, the pension committee, the liquor traffic committee, the commerce committee, the public grounds and buildings committee, the penitentiary committee, and the social welfare committee. <sup>97</sup> She alone and in conjunction with <sup>98</sup> others introduced six bills.

In the following legislative election another woman was elected to the lower house, Sarah Frazier, from Chattanooga. In her campaign she found everyone courteous and considerate even "in mines, factories, <sup>99</sup> ~~lms.~~ or mills." Her legislative activities were numerous. She served on the following committees: education and common schools, federal relations, labor, liquor traffic, municipal affairs, public health and sanitation, and social welfare. <sup>100</sup> She introduced nine bills alone, and together with other members of the legislature <sup>101</sup> thirty-two. She considers the "Frazier Pension Bill" the most important of her measures which were passed. <sup>102</sup> She introduced one House Resolution which was adopted, two Joint House Resolutions, both of which were adopted, but one was not <sup>103</sup> concurred in <sup>by</sup> the Senate.

Although no Tennessee women have been elected to Congress

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97. House Journal of Tennessee, 1925, pp. 59, 76, 85, 102,  
98. Ibid., 1925, pp. 1448, 1457, 1471, 1515.  
99. Miss Sarah Frazier's letter to the author, March 27, 1931.  
100. House Journal of Tennessee, 1927, p. 1675.  
101. Ibid., pp. 1675, 1697, 1698, 1700, 1701, 1706, 1713, 1714, 1719, 1722, 1725, 1726, 1730, 1731, 1764, 1775, 1766, 1749, 1754, 1755, 1756, 1763, 1767, 1733, 1735, 1739, 1743, 1747, 1734.  
102. Sarah Frazier's letter to the author, March 27, 1931.  
103. House Journal of Tennessee, 1927, pp. 1792, 1793.



there have been women candidates for Congress. Mrs. Mary  
Giles Howard at one time was nominated as candidate for the  
House of Representatives. Mrs. Lizzie Crozier French was  
unsuccessfully advocated for an appointment to the United  
States Senate to fill an unexpired term of office.

The Political Parties and The Non-Partisan League

As soon as women were granted the suffrage in Tennessee  
they began to align themselves with and to work in one of the  
two political parties. The Republican and the Democratic  
parties received the women into the organizations and provided  
channels in which the women might work.

In tracing the part of Tennessee women in the Republican  
Party one begins in 1920. In January of that year Mrs. J. S.  
Beasley was appointed state chairman of the women's Republican  
Executive Committee. This committee was made up of women  
appointed from each district. Its duties were "to organize  
and entice the republican women of Tennessee...in order to  
advance republican doctrines and place Tennessee in the re-  
publican column in the state and national election of 1920."

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104. Mrs. James H. Anderson's letter to the author, April  
29, 1931.  
105. Newspaper clipping belonging to Miss Mary Crozier,  
sister of Mrs. French.  
106. Knoxville Sentinel, Jan. 11, Mar. 6, May 6, 1920.  
107. Knoxville Journal and Tribune, Jan. 11, 1920.  
108. Ibid., Jan. 13, 1920.

Each county had a woman chairman to guide the woman's work in the party. The Republican women were given a special invitation to attend the convention of the Republican Party held in March, 1920, in Knox county. <sup>109</sup> Women probably were invited to all the county conventions in Tennessee. Some of the Tennessee women sat in the National Republican Convention the first year in which any women were permitted as delegates. The women attending this convention from Tennessee were: from the Fourth District, Mrs. Millard Hankins, Livingston, alternate; from the Fifth District, Miss Annie Caldwell, Shelbyville, alternate; and from the state-at-large, Mrs. Marshall F. Priest, <sup>110</sup> Buntingdon.

Since 1920 women have had an equal share in theory, at least, in the Republican party. There are women county and <sup>111</sup> district chairmen in Tennessee, and the vice-chairman of the state is a woman. <sup>112</sup> As from other states, one man and one woman from Tennessee serve on the National Republican Executive Committee. J. Will Taylor and Mrs. Beulah Hughes were the <sup>113</sup> representatives from Tennessee in 1930.

The Tennessee women began to work in the Democratic party in 1920. Miss Charl O. Williams of Memphis was appointed state chairman for the Democratic Woman's Committee. This committee

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109. Knoxville Journal and Tribune, March 6, 1920.  
110. Knoxville Sentinel, June 3, 7, 1920.  
111. Mr. Harry T. Burn's statement in an interview with the author, 1931.  
112. World Almanac and Book of Facts, 1930, p. 865.  
113. Ibid., 1931, p. 894.

was made up of two women from each Congressional district, and worked in cooperation with the Men's State Executive Committee.

A Democratic woman was appointed in each county of the state

to find out the potential women voters. In April, a

Democratic Women's Club was formed in Knox county; it is probable that one was organized in many of the counties in Tennessee.

At the meeting in Knox county a spokesman for the Democratic men's organization "welcomed the women into politics." He

also stated that the women would have equal membership upon the Democratic committees.

In 1920 the Tennessee Democratic women, for the first time, had a part in the National Democratic Convention. The significant fact is that it was the National Democratic Convention at which women were given real party power. Not only in the National Convention itself did the women have a part; but in Tennessee, in the party routine steps leading to the convention, they had an equal share. In the state the women took a part

in the county conventions, and some of the women at these conventions were elected as delegates to the Democratic State Convention.

Many of the Tennessee women acted as delegates from their state to the National Democratic Convention, and took an important share in its work. Mrs. Guilford Dudley was made a member of the permanent Committee on Credentials, and

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114. Knoxville Journal and Tribune, Jan. 13, 1920.

115. Knoxville Sentinel, April 15, 1920.

116. Ibid., May 6, 1920.

117. Ibid., June 7, 1920.

118. Ibid., May 22, June 9, 28, 1920.

Mrs. George F. Milton was made an honorary secretary. Miss  
Chal Williams of Memphis was elected as one of the two 119  
members from Tennessee on the Democratic National Committee.  
Every presidential candidate, except one, was seconded by a  
woman delegate. Mrs. Dudley seconded the nomination of John  
W. Davis. 120

At the present time the organization of the Democratic 121  
women in Tennessee as a whole is similar to that in other states.  
The vice-chairman of the Tennessee State Committee is a woman,  
Mrs. A. L. Childress of Nashville. 122 In theory, the men and  
women have an equal share in the county, district, and state  
organization of the Democratic party. On the National  
Democratic Committee, Tennessee is represented by one woman  
and one man. 123

The women voters, in Tennessee as in other states, have  
the opportunity not only to join the political parties, but also  
to become members of a non-partisan organization. This non-  
partisan league is called the Tennessee League of Women Voters.  
It had its birth, as in other states, in the dissolution of the  
State Equal Suffrage League. In Tennessee, the beginning of  
the League of Women Voters is dated from May 18, 1920. 124

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119. Knoxville Sentinel, June 28, 1920.

120. Ibid., July 1, 1920.

121. Miss Sue White's letter, June 17, 1931. She is a secretary  
in the woman's division of the Democratic National  
Committee.

122. World Almanac and Book of Facts, 1931, p. 917.

123. Ibid., 1931, p. 907; Mrs. A. L. Childress's letter to the  
author, April 6, 1931.

124. Knoxville Sentinel, May 18, 1920.

The purpose and organization of the Tennessee league illustrates the purpose and organization of the leagues in other states. Its purpose as stated in the preamble of its constitution is: "the education of ALL women in citizenship, to support needed Legislation and Efficiency in Government, and International Co-operation to Prevent War."<sup>125</sup> The organization consists of a state governing board under which comes the district, county, and local organizations.<sup>126</sup>

### Legal Status

In Tennessee as in other states, discriminations against women in ordinary legal matters have decreased as well as discriminations against women in suffrage and office holding. The legal status of women in 1850, 1900, 1912, and 1930 will indicate the gradual decline of discriminations against women.

Very little progress was made in Tennessee in the way of making advantageous laws for women before 1850. A lawyer remarked concerning the law in regard to women that it remained "as it was when our forefathers brought it here." A married woman had no legal existence. The father was the sole guardian<sup>127</sup> of the children. A divorce could not be filed

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125. Tennessee League of Women Voters, Fourth Convention (Program), p. 19.  
126. Ibid., p. 17.  
127. N. Smithson, "Legal Rights of Married Women"; Charter, Constitution and By-Laws, Together with Proceeding of the Bar Association of Tennessee, 1882, p. 67.

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directly by a woman. The dower of a married woman, when the husband died intestate, was only one-third of the real estate of the husband and a dwelling house up to the value of

\$1,000; while the husband received the "rents and profits" of his wife's real estate during his lifetime if she died

intestate. A married woman could only sell her property if the husband consented, while there was no law working the other way if the husband wanted to sell his property.

Tennessee was not one of the progressive states at this time. After 1848 in New York and Massachusetts a married woman had the same legal standing as a feme sole. In Alabama a married woman's property was her separate estate after 1848.

By the beginning of the twentieth century not much progress had been made in favor of women in Tennessee. All the wife's personal property belonged to the husband, and the real estate was virtually his. The father still had custody over the children.

In Tennessee the legal discriminations against women were so glaring in 1912 that action was taken to bring pressure on

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128. Acts of Tennessee, 1799, p. 55.  
129. Public Acts, 1823, p. 46.  
130. Robert T. Shannon, (ed.), Annotated Code of Tennessee, 1896, p. 1052, Sec. 4234.  
131. Ibid., p. 617, secs. 3323, 3324.  
132. Smithson, "Legal Rights of Married Women", loc. cit., p. 66.  
133. Stanton and Harper (eds.), History of Woman Suffrage, IV, 928, 929; Acts of Tennessee, 1850-1900, passim.

the state legislature to change the laws so as to provide that women and men should have equal legal rights. For the purpose of arousing public opinion and creating a sentiment against the Tennessee laws which discriminated against women, the Delineator sponsored an investigation of the Tennessee laws, and William Hard wrote an article, "Look at Tennessee", summarizing the investigation. Mrs. French appeared before the State Bar Association and called its attention to the discriminations against women and asked for their assistance in reforming the laws. The "tenancy by courtesy" provision attached to laws concerning married women virtually nullified the rights given to them by the laws. Not until 1903 could women file suits for divorce.

Today the Tennessee laws bring men and women closer to an equal position. In 1913 a law was enacted removing a married woman's disabilities, but in 1919 it was amended to include the husband's "tenancy by courtesy". The mother still bears the burden of supporting an illegitimate child. Since 1923 the parents have been co-guardians of the minor children, but the father if living is the guardian of any legacy or

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134. William Hard, "Look at Tennessee", Delineator, Dec. 1912.  
135. Proceedings of the Thirty-First Annual Meeting of the Bar Association of Tennessee, pp. 155-162.  
136. Public Acts, 1903, pp. 438, 439; Shannon's Code, 1917, pp. 1802, 2099, Secs. 4205, 4928.  
137. Acts of Tennessee, 1913, p. 59.  
138. Ibid., 1919, pp. 406, 407.  
139. Shannon (ed.), Annotated Code of Tennessee, County Edition, II, (1918), 6414-15, Secs. 7345, 7346.  
140. Public Acts, 1923, first session, p. 123.

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estate of a minor child. Women are still denied the right  
to serve on a jury.

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Woman's long struggle to gain political equality with man has been manifested in the history of the political phase of the woman's movement in Tennessee. From 1885 to 1920, Tennessee women contended for equal suffrage. Only theoretically has equal power in the political parties been gained. Ten years ago all offices were opened to Tennessee women, yet there have been no women Congressmen, no women judges of the Federal or State Supreme courts, and no women governors of the state. Finally, the legal discriminations against women have disappeared to some extent, though not entirely.

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141. Public Acts, 1923, first session, p. 5.  
142. Shannon (ed.), Annotated Code of Tennessee, County Edition, II, (1918), Sec. 5813.



## CHAPTER IV

### THE ECONOMIC PHASE

Similar to the gradual development of woman's place in the political life of the state was the gradual development of woman's place in the economic life. Beginning with no political rights in the early nineteenth century women gradually gained more and more, and at the present time, in theory, there is equality in political rights. Likewise, women's economic rights were of no consequence at first; but, today, there is also equality, in theory.

The economic position of women will be traced through three periods, the early period extending to the sixties, the second period from the sixties to the twentieth century, and the third period from the beginning of the century to 1925.

#### The Early Employment

The scarcity of material regarding the employment of women early in the nineteenth century is significant. To a great extent, the employment must have been confined to work in homes; in view of the fact that the home was considered the proper place for "females" few comments would be made on the employment there. The "circle of pursuits" was no doubt

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discussion of  
1. The economic development of the Tennessee women can not be brought up to date because the chief source, the occupational report, compiled from the 1930 census, has not been published.

small during this early period.

Women were early employed as teachers. In the first years of the nineteenth century women were employed in the academies; for example, a woman in 1813 taught in the Maryville Female Academy.<sup>3</sup> Women, also, were teaching in the private unincorporated school at an early date.<sup>4</sup> In 1837 a lecturer on popular education advocated that women "become the teachers or a portion, of them, in a system of education for the people."<sup>5</sup> Twenty-one years later women were employed as instructors in the city schools in Nashville, the first public city school system in the state.<sup>6</sup>

In this early period, as well as today, marked discriminations were made against women in regard to compensation. It was stated in 1837, for example, that ordinarily a man received for one day the wage for which a woman would work a week.<sup>7</sup> In 1858-59 the salaries of women school teachers in Nashville were decidedly less than those of men.<sup>8</sup>

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2. Knoxville Register, May 31, 1837. I have found no record of any professional women with the exception of teachers until the sixties, and in the case of the majority of occupations I have found that they were not invaded by women.
  3. Wilson's Knoxville Gazette, May 17, 1813.
  4. National Banner and Nashville Whig, Aug. 4, 1827; Nashville Republican and State Gazette, Sept. 16, Nov. 25, 1828.
  5. Knoxville Register, May 31, 1827.
  6. A Nashville newspaper item based on a report of the board of education, 1858-59, "Historical News and Notes," Tennessee Historical Magazine, Jan. 1922; Grace D. Robertson, History of Education in Tennessee Prior to the Civil War, pp. 73, 74.
  7. Knoxville Register, May 31, 1837.
  8. A Nashville newspaper item based on report of board of education, 1858-59, "Historical News and Notes", Tennessee Historical Magazine, Jan. 1922.

Employment in Last of Nineteenth Century

In the second period, the last of the nineteenth century, the pursuits in which women were employed are definitely known. Domestic and personal service, agriculture, manufacturing, and teaching were the leading occupations, and the period was marked by the entrance of women into a few professions other than that of teaching. Each one of these pursuits may be traced in a general way through this period.

An increase in the number employed in personal and domestic service is marked. In 1860, five hundred and ninety-six women were employed as laundresses.<sup>10</sup> Fifteen hundred and thirty-seven were thus employed, in 1870, and 20,701 were employed as domestic servants.<sup>11</sup> According to the 1890 census report, domestic service remained as the class of occupations in which the largest number of women were employed.<sup>12</sup>

Agricultural pursuits followed as the second class in which many women were employed during the latter part of the century. In 1870 nineteen thousand and sixty-seven were employed in agricultural pursuits.<sup>13</sup> Ten years later the number had decreased to 18,533.<sup>14</sup> However, in 1890, the number had increased

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9. Population of the United States in 1860, Compiled From the Original Returns of the Eighth Census, p. 471; Ninth Census, 1870, I, 757; Compendium of the Tenth Census, 1880, Part II, pp. 1356, 1357; Compendium of the Eleventh Census, 1890, Part II, pp. 432-434.

10. Population of the United States in 1860, Compiled From Original Returns of the Eighth Census Report, p. 471.

11. Ninth Census, 1870, I, 757.

12. Compendium of the Eleventh Census, Part III, p. 432.

13. Ninth Census, 1870, I, 757.

14. Compendium of the Tenth Census, 1880, Part II, p. 1356.

to more than twenty-three thousand.

During the last of the nineteenth century, the number of women employed in manufacturing increased because of the growing importance of Tennessee as a manufacturing state, and because of the increase in the number of women working outside the homes. Only 946 were employed in this occupation in 1860. A decade later about two thousand were employed thus. By 1890 the number was more than eight thousand.

Tennessee slowly fell into line with the national tendency of employing more women than men as teachers. In writing about "women" teachers the State superintendent of public instruction, in 1869, made the following statement: "Female teachers... have not been so generally employed as the interests of the State demands, or as is common elsewhere." A few hundred more men than women were employed as teachers in the state in 1870. Finally, in 1890 the number of women teachers exceeded the number of men teachers.

Near the end of the century women gained positions on faculties of leading institutions of higher learning. In Maryville College and in the University of Tennessee, for

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16. Compendium of the Tenth Census, 1890, Part III, p. 432.
  17. Senate Journal, 1893, p. 27.
  18. Eighth Census, 1860, Manufactures, p. 579.
  19. Ninth Census, 1870, I, 757.
  20. Compendium of the Eleventh Census, 1890, p. 434.
  21. Report of Superintendent of Public Instruction, (Tennessee), 1869, p. 43.
  22. Ninth Census, 1870, I, 757.
  23. Compendium of the Eleventh Census, 1890, Part III, p. 432.

example, women were placed on the faculties soon after the institutions became coeducational. In Maryville College, the first woman teacher of regular curriculum subjects was Miss Annie E. Alden, who began teaching Biology and French in this college in 1872-73. Although there was a domestic science teacher in 1896-97 in the state university, the first regular departmental teacher was Miss Florence Speffington, who began teaching English in 1899.

Women entered the medical profession in Tennessee in the nineteenth century. In 1870, there were three women physicians in the state. One of them, Dr. Ruth French of Knoxville, was probably the first trained woman physician in the state.

A recognition was accorded to the women in this profession when in 1880 Dr. Mary T. Davis of Knoxville was received into the Tennessee State Medical Association. This association took another step forward when it gave an opportunity, in 1884, to

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23. See, ante, pp. 39, 40.
  24. Maryville College Catalogue, 1870-71, p. 6. In this year one of the assistant teachers was a woman. Ibid., 1871-72, p. 6. This year a woman taught piano, organ, and "singing". Ibid., 1871-72, p. 6; Samuel Tyndale Wilson, A Century of Maryville College, p. 255.
  25. University of Tennessee Register, 1897-98, p. 4.
  26. Ibid., 1899-1900, p. 5. In the same year Florence Anna McCormack was an assistant in the botanical laboratory, and Anne M. Gilson was instructor in physical culture.
  27. Ninth Census, 1870, I, 757.
  28. Statement of Miss Aja Fanz in an interview with the author, 1931. Dr. French was the Fanz's family physician when Miss Fanz was a baby and Miss Fanz in 1931 is fifty-nine years old.
  29. P. M. Hamer (ed.), Centennial History of the Tennessee State Medical Association, 1830-1930, p. 77.

Dr. Mary T. Davis to read a paper before its annual meeting.

By 1890, fifty-one physicians and surgeons were women, but in comparison with the number of men in the profession at the time, the number was small, there being 3,385 men physicians and surgeons.

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The ministry was another profession into which women began to wedge their way in the last century. The Friends were liberal in allowing women to preach; so it would not be unusual to find a woman preaching in a Friends' Church at an early date in Tennessee. In 1868 Rachel Jones, who was probably the first woman resident minister in the state, began preach-

ing in a Friends' Church, and in 1873 she was recorded as a minister. A few women of other denominations began preaching, and by 1890 there were ten clergywomen in Tennessee.

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One of the leading professions, law, was not opened by a legislative enactment to Tennessee women in the nineteenth century; nevertheless, there were women practicing law in the state before the twentieth century. In 1893 Mrs. Martha D. Strickland was granted a license to practice in the federal courts during her temporary residence in the state. She was a lawyer from Michigan who was visiting Judge and Mrs. J. M.

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30. P. M. Hamer (ed.), Centennial History of the Tennessee State Medical Association, 1830-1930, p. 82.
31. Compendium of the Eleventh Census, 1890, Part III, p. 432.
32. Miss Lydia M. Hoath's letter to the author, March 18, 1931. She is a Friends' minister.
33. Compendium of the Eleventh Census, 1890, Part III, p. 432.
34. Harper (ed.), History of Woman Suffrage, V, 930.

Greer in Memphis.

Although opposition was manifested to the possession by women of an equal economic position with men, by the nineties they had a definite place in the economic system of the state. Even in as highly educated a body as the medical association the belief was stated at the annual meeting in 1895 that women were on too high a level "to go into the life man leads", and that furthermore her place should be that of the "silent helpmeet of man.....She is to sooth him in sorrow, providing the comforts of home, and by her gentle, kind, constant influence to make him all he should be, but not in any degree take up the burden of life and walk out as man to man." <sup>36</sup> Despite opposition women did become a part of the economic system. A con- <sup>37</sup> temporary description of the situation was:

They are filling up the shops and stores, and doing the same work for about half the price that men get, which is a clear gain to the shopkeeper whatever it may be to the home. And they are found in the courts, in the physicians office, on the platform, in the pulpit, on the tripod, everywhere except in civil offices, and they are manfully contending for them. It will be a good day for the old state when women get all their rights.

### Employment in The Twentieth Century

During the third period, the first quarter of the twentieth century, women made rapid strides in the economic world. The number of employed women increased; the number of different

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35. Knoxville Daily Journal, Jan. 2, 1893.  
36. Hamey (ed.), op. cit., pp. 114, 115.  
37. Knoxville Tribune, March 15, 1895.

occupations in which they were employed increased; and the number employed in the professions increased. In 1900, 116,204<sup>38</sup> women were employed in Tennessee in gainful pursuits, and by 1920 this number had increased to 152,108.<sup>39</sup> Women were employed in over a hundred more occupations in 1920 than the number of occupations in which they were employed in 1900.<sup>40</sup> Between 1900 and 1920 there was an increase of nine thousand<sup>41</sup> in the professional group of women.

Tennessee was slow in making it legal for women to practice law in all the Tennessee courts. In the first of the twentieth century, Misses Frances Wolf and Marion Griffin were allowed to practice law in Shelby county but were refused admission to practice in the Supreme Court of the state.<sup>42</sup> The decision by the Tennessee court concerning this case was similar to a decision rendered by the Illinois Supreme Court<sup>43</sup> about fifty years earlier. A summary of the Tennessee

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38. Twelfth Census, Occupations, 1900, p. 144.
  39. Fourteenth Census, Population, 1920, IV, 110.
  40. Ibid., IV, 110-126; Twelfth Census, Occupations, 1900, pp. 144-152.
  41. Twelfth Census, Occupations, 1900, p. 144; Fourteenth Census, 1920, IV, 124.
  42. Marion Griffin's letter to the author, March 18, 1931; Who's Who in Tennessee, 1911, p. 370.
  43. Supreme Court Reports, Ill., IV, 535-42, quoted in Woody, History of Women's Education in the United States, II, 377. The decision of the Illinois Supreme Court, in part, reads: "(2) the admission of a female to be attorney-at-law would not be in accord with the common law; (3) to license a woman would be to admit that women should be governors, judges, and sheriffs and this the court was not ready to accept."



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decision reads:

an opinion was delivered holding women ineligible - notwithstanding that provision of the Code which says that the word "he" shall include "she" etc. This opinion which was<sup>44</sup>...was based upon the theory that attorneys are officers of the government, and that it was contrary to the state policy to permit women to participate, as principals, in any function of government.

Misses Frances Wolf and Marion Griffin both lobbied at the state legislature to secure the passage of a law to permit women to practice law in Tennessee. On February 13, 1907, a law was enacted making it legal to grant license to women to practice law in the courts of Tennessee.<sup>45</sup>  
<sup>46</sup>

A list of the professions in which women were engaged in 1920 gives one an idea of the professional work of the Tennessee women. Women were employed as actresses, showwomen, architects, artists, sculptors, authors, editors, reporters, chemists, assayers, metallurgists, clergywomen, college presidents and professors, dentists, designers, draftsmen, lawyers, musicians, osteopaths, photographers, physicians and surgeons, teachers (school, athletics, dancing, music, art, etc.), trained nurses, librarians, and as "unspecified" professional women.<sup>47</sup>

By 1920 many women were employed as business executives. Mrs. F. J. Runyon was an outstanding example of a woman thus

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44. Marion Griffin's letter to the author, March 18, 1931; See Appendix VII.  
45. Ibid., March 18, 1931.  
46. Public Acts of Tennessee, 1907, p. 188.  
47. Fourteenth Census, Population, 1920, IV, 122.

engaged. She was a president of the "first woman's bank in Tennessee." It was located at Clarkesville. At the time, it was claimed that she was the "First and Only Woman Bank President in the U.S."<sup>48</sup>

Another form of employment in which women, only in a few instances, were employed before the twentieth century was the group of public offices which in 1921 was opened to women.<sup>49</sup>

Married women have become more independent economically since they have been able to claim the compensation due them when employed in a "gainful" pursuit. In 1913 a law was enacted by the Tennessee General Assembly which gave married women the right to receive the "payment of the wages, salary, or other compensation due for their services" if they notified their employer that they needed the compensation for their support or for their dependent children's support.<sup>50</sup>

Advancement of women in the economic fields is seen in the history of Tennessee. Gradually they have emerged from the homes and have entered most of the "gainful pursuits." This development has been slower in Tennessee than in the North.

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48. Knoxville Sentinel, June 9, 1920.

49. See ante, pp. 72-75.

50. Public Acts of Tennessee, 1913, first extra session, p. 45.

## CHAPTER V

### THE HUMANITARIAN PHASE

Women have been leaders in many of the humanitarian reforms in Tennessee as in other states. They have been interested in the anti-slavery movement, in the temperance movement, in insane asylum and prison reforms, in war relief and Red Cross work, and in social welfare work.

#### The Anti-Slavery Movement

An interesting anti-slavery experiment was tried in Tennessee by a woman. Frances Wright established a colony of negroes near Memphis, in order to put into effect her idea that the solution to the slavery problem was to give the negroes industrial education, to emancipate them, and to compensate the owners. While she had to be absent on account of illness the colony degenerated, and she had to abandon her project after a short trial.

#### The Temperance Movement

Tennessee women began organizing about the middle of the nineteenth century in the interest of temperance reforms. In February, 1848, about fifteen years after the first woman's

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1. Alice Henry, Women and the Labor Movement, p. 43; Samuel Cole Williams, Beginnings of West Tennessee, pp. 239-243; John Trotwood Moore and Austin P. Foster (eds.), Tennessee, the Volunteer State, I, 900.

temperance society was organized in the United States, the Grand Division of the Sisters of Temperance of Tennessee was incorporated.<sup>2</sup>

Many temperance reforms have been effected by the woman's Christian Temperance Union, and a brief history of the Tennessee branch reflects its accomplishments.<sup>3</sup> At the convention in which the W.C.T.U. was organized a vice president, Mrs. J. C. Johnson, was appointed for Tennessee. Two years later a small union was formed in Memphis. Soon another local organization came into existence in Nashville. In 1882, the state association was formed. As many as thirty-seven unions existed in Tennessee in 1885. In 1887 the W.C.T.U. workers tried in vain to secure an amendment to the state constitution to prohibit the sale and manufacture of liquor.<sup>4</sup> Finally, after working a number of years to secure temperance instruction in the public schools, a law to this effect was enacted in 1895.<sup>5</sup> The W.C.T.U. did its share of working to secure the enactment of state prohibition laws, from the limited prohibition law passed

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2. Acts of Tennessee, 1847-48, p. 285. Moore and Foster (eds.), Tennessee, the Volunteer State, I, p. 603. In this book the statement is made that the Grand Division of the Sisters of Temperance of Tennessee was organized in 1846.
  3. Ibid., I, 789-803; Almira Jewel, The Prohibition Movement in Tennessee, ch. 3, p. 34. Both authors used material furnished to them by the W.C.T.U.
  4. Moore and Foster (eds.), op. cit., I, 798; Acts of Tennessee, 1885, p. 349; ibid., 1887, p. 157.
  5. Ibid., 1895, first Session, p. 378.

in 1877 to the state wide one enacted in 1909. The Tennessee W.C.T.U. used its influence also in behalf of the National Prohibition Amendment which became a part of the Constitution in 1919. Since then the Tennessee W.C.T.U. has stood for the enforcement of the amendment and has fought against its repeal.

The Anti-Saloon League, another temperance organization, has been supported by women. Since its organization in January, 1899, in Tennessee, women have been interested in the work and have helped both financially and in other ways.

#### Insane Asylum and Prison Reforms

Dorothea Dix, a native of Massachusetts, a leader in the insane<sup>o</sup> asylum and prison reform movement, made a tour through the country visiting many states in the interest of insane asylum and prison reforms. Tennessee was one of the states which she visited. In 1847, she investigated the conditions of the insane in the Tennessee State Hospital and in other public institutions. She found the situation deplorable; therefore, she began working to bring about a change in the situation. In a "Memorial Soliciting Enlarged and Improved Accommodations

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6. Acts of Tennessee, 1877, p. 37; ibid., 1903, p. 5; ibid., 1907, p. 81; ibid., 1919, p. 1909.
7. B. J. Ault's letter to the author, May 13, 1931. He is the superintendent for the Tennessee Anti-Saloon League. The Journal and Tribune, Jan. 4, 1920.

for the Insane of the State of Tennessee" to the General Assembly, she stated the conditions as she found them in the asylum, prisons, and poorhouses; she stated definite improvements which should be made, and she appealed to the legislature in an earnest and tactful way to make the changes which she considered necessary. She ended her memorial thus: 8

Tennessee has been called 'the Mother of States!' Shall she not, by the promulgation of wise laws, the liberal encouragement of schools of learning, and the substantial support of beneficent institutions, offer an example for the young States she so largely colonized?

Dorthea Dix's appeal did not go unheeded in Tennessee. The General Assembly enacted laws which followed to a great extent her constructive program. 9

Later, a Tennessee woman, Mrs. Jarnigan of Chattanooga, with the help of some men, organized the Southern Howard Association whose aim "is to investigate the causes and sources of crime, to ameliorate conditions of prison life and improve prison administration, and.....to aid and encourage the prisoners after their discharge." This movement influenced the Tennessee General Assembly in 1913 to enact laws providing for "probation, indeterminate sentence, and parole." 10

#### War Relief and Red Cross Work

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8. Dorthea Dix, Memorial to the General Assembly, pp. 3-32, in W.P. Rowles' collection of Legislative Documents, 1847-48.
  9. Acts of Tennessee, 1847-48, pp. 350-357, 443; ibid., 1849-50, p. 396.
  10. Woman's Work in Tennessee, pp. 153, 155.

In war times the Tennessee women have done their share of caring for the soldiers. There were local women's organizations during the Civil War. In September, 1861, a meeting of the Soldiers' Relief Society of Tennessee was announced in a Nashville paper, and "all the ladies of Nashville and Davidson county" were urged to attend. In the same year, a notice was made of a Woman's Tennessee Hospital Association in Nashville. In Memphis, in 1861, some of the women organized a society, "Southern Mothers," to aid the Confederate soldiers. This lasted during the four years of the war, and continued as a memorial society after the war. A similar society for the care of the Confederate soldiers functioned in Nashville from 1861 to 1865. A letter written by a union soldier in 1864 from Murfreesboro stated that there were both union and rebel soldier's aid societies in the South.

Probably much work was done by the Tennessee women outside of organizations. A notice in a Nashville paper in 1861 stated that the "patriotic ladies" of Sumner county had made "articles for the comfort" of the soldiers in the Virginia

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11. Republican Banner, Sept. 1, 1861.
  12. Ibid.
  13. History of the Confederate Memorial Association of the South, pp. 262, 265.
  14. Woman's Work in Tennessee, pp. 211-213. This organization was the leader in organizing the U.D.C. after the war.
  15. Dr. Adonis's letter, Feb. 15, 1864, Moore (ed.), The Rebellion Record, IX, 7.

16  
campaign. In the same year, an appeal was made to the  
Tennessee women to furnish "blankets, socks, and money"  
for the Confederate soldiers.  
17

During the Spanish American War the Tennessee women arose  
to the emergency and assisted the soldiers. Relief work was  
administered both by special organizations and by established  
women's clubs and societies in the state. The women made a  
special effort to make the soldiers comfortable and to  
furnish them with the necessities during the fever epidemic  
which swept over Camp Thomas at Chattanooga. The Woman's  
Auxiliary of the State Board of the Army Christian Commission  
organized circles over the state. An outgrowth of the  
auxiliary was the Army Comfort Circle which sent money to the  
first Tennessee Regiment in San Francisco.  
18

In Tennessee there was no organization of the Red  
Cross until 1914. The first chapter was organized in Memphis  
on September 29, 1914. Furthermore, a second chapter, the  
one in Knoxville, was not organized until February 6, 1917.  
19  
The first real work of the Tennessee Red Cross societies was  
war work. During the World War most of the women gave of  
their services and of their money to the Red Cross. They  
made bandages and garments to be worn by the soldiers in the

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16. Republican Banner, Sept. 4, 1861.

17. Ibid.

18. Journal and Tribune, Sept. 27, 1898.

19. Robert E. Bondy's letter to the author, March 31, 1931.  
He is Red Cross manager for the eastern area.



hospitals; they knitted socks, sweaters, and caps for the soldiers; they gave money to be used by the Red Cross for the soldiers; and many Tennessee women went as Red Cross nurses over-seas and to the army posts in America.

At the close of the World War the Tennessee chapters did not disorganize, but commenced peace time programs. These consist of certain definite activities. The home service work consists of the Red Cross workers aiding the exservice men and women. The nutrition work is carried on by a trained Red Cross nutritionist who works through the county schools. She teaches the children proper diets and helps the cafeteria managers. The home hygiene work consists of the work done in the Red Cross classes where home hygiene and care of the sick are taught to the girls and women of the community. Each Red Cross chapter is supposed to have classes in life saving and first aid. The volunteer service work is the volunteer work by the women of the community, under the supervision of the Red Cross chapter, such as the making of surgical dressings and children's clothes. Each chapter is expected to organize and supervise the Junior Red Cross work. The disaster work is to rush aid to any disaster stricken section. Public health nursing is carried on by some of the chapters.

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20. Nashville Banner, May 1, 1930; Harper (ed.), History of Woman Suffrage, VI, 613.

21. Red Cross literature distributed by the Knoxville Red Cross chapter. Explanation by Miss Emma Justus, executive secretary for the Knoxville Red Cross chapter, in an interview with the author, May, 1931.

The Red Cross has helped in times of disaster in Tennessee. In April, 1928, a tornado swept over four counties in West Tennessee. Red Cross workers and volunteers rushed to the stricken area and took charge of the situation. Ninety-eight received Red Cross awards and \$17,775.24 was spent by the Red Cross in connection with this disaster. In 1929 Tennessee received her part of the relief aid in the Southeastern Flood Disaster of that year. The Red Cross sent workers and money to Tennessee for relief and rehabilitation when the flood struck the eastern portion of Tennessee. In East Tennessee the Red Cross spent \$54,132.01 on this occasion. From January 15, to May 1, 1931, the Red Cross chapters, in Tennessee as in other states, aided the unemployed, who were in this condition largely because of the drought.

#### Social Welfare Work and Social Legislation

The women of Tennessee have been interested in many lines of social welfare work. Knoxville had a police matron when such an office was new in the South. New Orleans was the only

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22. "Official Report of the Relief Operations of the American National Red Cross in Connection with the Western Tennessee Tornado of April 21, 1928."
  23. The Southeastern Flood Disaster of 1929, p. 21, 23. (This is an official report of the relief work.)
  24. Miss Justus' statement in an interview with the author, May, 1931.

city in the South which had a police matron before Tennessee had one at Knoxville. Mrs. Lizzie Crozier French suggested that Knoxville needed a police matron; through her efforts and the efforts of the W.C.T.U. and the efforts of the Woman's Educational and Industrial Union, the suggestion became a reality in 1890.<sup>25</sup>

Tennessee has no great metropolitan centers in which settlement work is needed as in some other states; nevertheless, East Tennessee has many isolated mountain regions in which the people need an educational influence. In 1901 the first committee to do mountain settlement work was appointed by the Tennessee Federation of Women's Clubs. The clubs in the Knoxville vicinity were particularly interested in the work in Walker's Valley.<sup>26</sup> In 1914 this work was discontinued because there was no longer need for it.<sup>27</sup> The Massachusetts Federation of Women's Clubs through Mrs. Charles A. Perkins and Margret Henry became interested in the settlement work in Happy Valley, Tennessee. The Massachusetts' women had charge of this work from 1905 to 1914.<sup>28</sup> The Tennessee Federation of Women's Clubs had charge of the settlement work in other places. In Greenbrier Valley, in Sevier county, in 1906, settlement work was begun. In 1914 settlement work was started in Elkmont. A summer school was conducted in 1913 at Coal

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25. Knoxville Tribune, March 15, 1895.  
26. Woman's Work in Tennessee, p. 51.  
27. Ibid., p. 51.  
28. Ibid., p. 57.

29

Pit, in Blount County. In 1914 a school at Rocky Branch, Blount County, was opened and a settlement worker sent there. In 1907 the women's clubs of East Tennessee began settlement work at Mountain Dale, Unicoi county.

30

The social welfare interests of the Tennessee Federation of Women's Clubs indicate, to some extent, the humanitarian reforms in which the Tennessee women are interested today. In addition to the mountain settlement division, there is a department of public welfare which is subdivided into the departments of child welfare, correction, public health, community service, recreation, fire prevention, street and highway safety, problems of industry, race relations, and Indian welfare.

31

Social reforms have been accomplished, also, by other women's organizations. The Young Women's Christian Association in carrying out its purpose of "physical, social, mental and spiritual training" for young girls, has been interested in reformatories, boarding homes, and wholesome recreation for girls. The Girls' Friendly Society, the first Tennessee branch of which was organized in Knoxville 1893, has been active in helping business women. The Visiting Nurses' Association,

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29. Women's Work in Tennessee, p. 59.

30. Ibid., p. 57.

31. Directory, 1929-30, Tennessee Federation of Women's Clubs, pp. 16, 18.

32. Woman's Work in Tennessee, p. 285; Material furnished by Knoxville Y.W.C.A. Secretary.

33. Ibid., pp. 229, 231.

organized in Memphis in 1901, has done much by caring for  
many of the sick in the city. <sup>34</sup> The Playground Association  
in Memphis, initiated by a woman, has been active in promoting  
child welfare. <sup>35</sup>

Social legislation has been sponsored by women's organiza-  
tions. The chartering of many institutions for dependents  
and delinquents has been fostered by them. The Home for the  
Incurables in Shelby county was initiated by the King's  
Daughter's. <sup>36</sup> The Vocational School for Girls was established  
through the influence of the Tennessee Federation of Women's  
Clubs. <sup>37</sup> A few years ago the Junior League in Nashville founded  
a Crippled Children's Home. <sup>38</sup> The establishment of the Memphis  
and Knoxville juvenile courts was a result of the work of  
women's clubs. <sup>39</sup> The Tennessee Federation of Women's Clubs  
has worked to secure legislation for the prohibition or  
regulation of labor by children and women, as well as much  
other social legislation. <sup>40</sup> In addition to temperance legisla-  
tion, the W.C.T.U. has been interested in the enactment of  
the Sale of Impure Literature Law, Age of Consent laws,  
Mother's Pension Act, "Conservation of Child Life" laws,

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34. Woman's Work in Tennessee, p. 163.  
35. Ibid., p. 165. These are not all the social reforms  
that have been accomplished by clubs outside the  
federation, but only a few examples.  
36. Ibid., p. 83.  
37. Ibid., p. 47.  
38. Public Acts of Tennessee, 1929, p. 322.  
39. Woman's Work in Tennessee, p. 155.  
40. Ibid., pp. 77, 79, 81, 99.

the Suffrage Law, and the Anti-Cigaret Law. The suffrage  
organizations fostered social legislation, and now the  
League of Women Voters does the same.

Woman's interest in humaitarian reforms, which is a  
phase of woman's development, has been shown in all its  
aspects in Tennessee. In the case of slavery reforms and  
insane asylum reforms it was women from outside the state  
who did the outstanding women's work in these lines, in the  
state, yet in the other humanitarian <sup>re</sup>forms Tennessee women  
have shown an increasing interest.

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41. Moore, <sup>and Foster</sup> (eds.), Tennessee, the Volunteer State, I, 798-803.  
42. Harper (ed.), History of Woman Suffrage, V, 930.  
43. The Tennessee League of Women Voters, Fourth Annual  
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25-32; Miss Griffin's letter to the author, March 18,  
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about her friend Mrs. Mary Giles Howard, who was a  
Congressional candidate.

Ault, B. J., superintendent of the Tennessee Anti-  
Saloon League, Nashville, Tennessee, letter written  
to me, May 13, 1931, containing information concern-  
ing the organization, and women's work in the  
Tennessee Anti-Saloon League.

Bewley, Irene, Greenville, Tennessee, letter written to  
me, June, 1931, containing information concerning her  
career as a dramatic reader.

Bondy, Robert E., Manager of the Eastern Area, American  
Red Cross, Washington, D. C., letter written to me,  
March 31, 1931, containing information concerning Red  
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Burn, Harry T., legislator in the Tennessee General  
Assembly in 1920, Swwetwater, Tennessee, letter  
written to me, february 22, 1931, containing informa-  
tion in regard to his vote on the ratification resolu-  
tion of the Nineteenth Amendment.

Childress, Mrs. Lyon, Committeewoman on the Democratic  
National Committee, Nashville, Tennessee, letter  
written to me, April 6, 1931, containing information  
about the women in the Democratic party.

Epperson, Mrs. Clara Cox, chairman of the committee on  
drama of the General Federation of Women's Clubs,  
author, Cookeville, Tennessee, letter written to me,  
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Frazier, Sarah, member of the Tennessee legislature,  
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Griffin, Marion, lawyer, member of the Tennessee legislature, 1923-25, Memphis, Tennessee, letter written to me, March 18, 1931, containing information concerning her legislative term, and her experience as a lawyer.

Hoath, Lydia M., Friends' minister, Knoxville, Tennessee, letter written to me, March 18, 1931, containing information concerning Friends women ministers.

Mayer, Mrs. L. S., organizer of the Knoxville branch of the National League of American Pen Women, Knoxville, Tennessee, letter written to me, March 23, 1931, containing information concerning the National League of American Pen Women in Tennessee.

Rowell, Adelaide C., author, Chattanooga, Tennessee, letter written to me, July 30, 1931, containing information about Tennessee women drama writers.

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Smith, Mrs. Rutledge, former editor and publisher of the Cookeville Press, Nashville, Tennessee, letter written to me, May 7, 1931, containing information about women newspaper and periodical contributors.

#### IV. INTERVIEWS

A list of the people with whom I have had an interview in which some definite information was gained which could be used in this thesis.

Burn, Harry T., Sweetwater, Tennessee, was a member of the Tennessee General Assembly during the ratification of the Nineteenth Amendment.

FanCz, Ada, Knoxville, Tennessee, is a former president of the Knoxville Equal Suffrage League.

Goddard, Mrs. M. D., Dandridge, Tennessee, is editor and publisher of the Dandridge Banner.

Justus, Emma, Knoxville, Tennessee, is secretary of the Knoxville Chapter of the Red Cross.

McTeer, Mrs. Joseph T., Knoxville, Tennessee, is the organizer of the Knoxville Ladies' Missionary Society

in the Southern Presbyterian Church. She, also, is a charter member of the Knoxville Confederate Memorial Association.

Rankin, Mrs. Anne, Knoxville, Tennessee, is an editorial writer for the Knoxville Journal, former editor of the Southern Woman's Magazine, an intimate friend of Bell Kinney Sholtz, and a personal friend of many Tennessee authors.

White, Kate, Knoxville, Tennessee, is an author, and president of the Tennessee Women's Press and Author's Club, 1930.

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APPENDICES

APPENDIX I

An Advertisement of The Maryville Female Academy

1  
Notice

The subscriber begs leave to inform the public, that he will open a boarding house for the encouragement and benefit of the Maryville Female Academy, the Session of which commenced the first day of May, inst. under the tuition of a lady from Kentucky. And he flatters himself, that the order of his house will meet with general approbation. The terms will be as low as any in this place.

Andrew Aznew

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1. Wilson's Knoxville Gazette, May 17, 1813.

Appendix II

Charter Members of Tennessee Federation of Women's  
Clubs, Together With Their Presidents or  
2  
Delegates

Ossoli Circle, Knoxville, president, Mrs. C. J. McClung  
W. E. & I. U., Knoxville, president, Mrs. John H. Frazee  
King's Daughters, Knoxville, president, Miss Pauline  
Woodruff  
Woman's Relief Corps, Knoxville, delegate, Mrs. Antoinette  
E. Patterson  
Woman's Club, Memphis, delegate, Mrs. J. C. Neeley, Jr.  
Nineteenth Century, Memphis, president, Mrs. J. M. Greer  
Ingleside Literary Club, Memphis, delegate, Mrs. W. D.  
Beard  
Woman's Club, Chattanooga, president, Mrs. Jeanette Greve  
Kosmos Club, Chattanooga, delegate, Mrs. J. G. Richardson  
Magazine Club, Cleveland, delegate, Mrs. L. H. Day  
Monday Club, Johnson City, president, Mrs. C. D. Friberg  
Chilhowee Club, Maryville, president, Mrs. S. M. Boardman  
Tuesday Club, Maryville, delegate, Mrs. Joseph Burger  
Woman's Literary, Harriman, delegates, Mrs. Thorndike,  
Mrs. H. C. Stevens  
Magazine Club, Pulaski, delegate, Mrs. Romine  
Literary Club, Morristown, delegate, Miss Lula Cain  
Woman's Council, Memphis, delegate, Miss Clara Conway  
Clara Conway Alumnae Association, Memphis, delegate,  
Miss Clara Conway

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2. Women's Work in Tennessee, p. 21

Barbara Rount Literary Society State University,  
president, Miss Nannie Moore

Soma Sala Literary Society, Morristown, president, Mrs.  
W. L. Dickson



Appendix III

A Complete Roster of Clubs, Members of the Tennessee  
Federation of Women's Clubs, on October 1st, 1916  
3  
is as follows:

Ashland City-  
Woman's club  
Study club

Athens-  
Browning Circle

Bell Buckle-  
Book club  
Civic league

Bethpage-  
Twentieth Century club

Bristol-  
Woman's History club  
Gibbons' History club

Brownsville-  
Twentieth Century club  
Review club  
Wednesday Morning Music club

Carthage-  
MacDowell club

Centerville-  
Booklovers' club  
Thursday Music club  
Homemakers' club

Chattanooga-  
City Beautiful club  
Consumers' league  
Free Kindergarten association  
North Chattanooga Book club  
Kosmos club  
Kosmos Cottage association  
Pro Re Bona club  
Pro Re Bona auxiliary

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3. Woman's Work in Tennessee, p. 235.

W. C. T. U.  
Woman's club  
Expression Club  
Art Study club  
Ridgedale W. C. T. U.  
Shakespeare club  
East Chattanooga W. C. T. U.  
South Side W. C. T. U.  
St. Elmo W. C. T. U.  
Writers' club  
Parliamentary club  
East Chattanooga Civic league  
Junior Woman's club  
Scribblers' club  
North Side club

Clarksville-  
Wednesday club  
Students' club  
Monday Evening Music club

Cleveland-  
City Beautiful club  
Music Lovers' club  
W. C. T. U.

Columbia-  
Students' club  
Cosmopolitan club  
Thursday club  
Music Study club

Cookeville-  
Current Topic club  
Mothers' association

Covington-  
Mothers' Self Culture club

Cumberland Gap-  
Woman's Board of Lincoln Memorial university

Dyersburg-  
Woman's club

Elizabethton-  
Mutual Improvement club  
Draper Mothers' club

Englewood-  
Mothers' club

Fayetteville-  
Alpha Kappa Literary Civic club  
Round Dozen club  
Homemakers' club

Gallatin-  
Summer Woman's club  
Ensemble club

Greeneville-  
Cherokee club  
Mothers' Culture club

Harriman-  
Contemporary club  
Drama Study club  
Music club  
Woman's club

Harrogate-  
Woman's Faculty club

Hixon-  
Improvement league

Hohenwald-  
Homemakers' club

Huntingdon-  
Woman's club

Jackson-  
Art and Travel club  
McDowell club  
Mutual Improvement club  
Woman's club  
Whitehall Parent-Teachers' association  
West Jackson Parent-Teachers' association

Jefferson City-  
Present Day club

Jellico-  
Lanier club

Johnson City-  
Momay club

Wednesday Morning Music club

Jonesboro-  
Schubert club  
W. C. T. U.

Knoxville-  
Ossoli circle  
East Tenn. Registered Nurses' association  
City Beautiful league  
Park Directors' association  
Ladies' Auxiliary O. R. C.  
Tuesday Music club

Lenoir City-  
Cleonian club

Lewisburg-  
Marshall County Woman's club

Lexington-  
Review club

Lookout Mountain-  
City Beautiful club

Lynnville-  
Homemakers' club

Manchester-  
Civic league

Martin-  
Twentieth Century club  
Philharmonic Music club  
W. C. T. U.  
Fortnightly club

Maryville-  
Chilhowee club  
Tuesday club

McMinnville-  
Civic league

Memphis-  
Nineteenth Century club  
Columbine Book club  
Memphis and Shelby County Graduate Nurses' association

Salon circle  
West Tenn. Graduate Nurses' association  
Woman's club  
Alpha Book club  
Beethoven Club  
Frisco Women's Safety league

Morristown-

Morristown-  
Etude club  
Ladies' Reading circle  
Soma Sala circle  
Coterie club

Mt. Pleasant-  
Booklovers' club

Mountain City-  
Wednesday Music club

Nashville-  
Review club  
Friday Literary club  
East Side Civic club  
Inquirers' club  
Magazine circle  
Peabody Woman's club  
Belmont Magazine circle  
Woman's Federation of South Nashville  
Middle Tenn. Graduate Nurses' association  
Twentieth Century club  
Story Tellers' league  
Woman's Board State Fair  
Rutledge Magazine club  
Charlotte Roads Homemakers' club  
Metaphysical club  
Keramic club  
Halcyon club

Newberne-  
Bay View Reading circle

Newport-  
Twentieth Century Mothers' club  
Seria Sabia

Paris-  
Woman's club

Pleasant View-  
Laurel club

Pulaski-  
Homemakers' club of Pleasant Valley  
Students' club  
Wednesday Literary club  
Civic league

Rossville-  
Educational league

Sewanee-  
Civic league

Shelbyville-  
Monday Afternoon club  
Music Study club  
Civic league

Springfield-  
Music club

Troy-  
Fin de Siecle club

Tullahoma-  
Civic league

Union City●  
Review club

White-  
Cherry circle

White Pine-  
Bay View club

Whiteville-  
Inter Se club

Whitehaven-  
Kennedy Book club

Winchester-  
Twentieth Century club

APPENDIX IV

State Federation of Women's Clubs Roster for 1929-30 <sup>4</sup>

Athens

Browning Circle

President.....Mrs. Laura T. Sherman  
 Secretary.....Mrs. Luara White Blizzard

Bristol

Bristol Federation

President.....Mrs. John B. Redford  
 Secretary.....Mrs. Frank W. Defriece

Gibbon History Club

President.....Mrs. Charles Harkrader  
 Secretary.....Mrs. Shields Whitaker,  
 417 Taylor St.

Junior Gibbon History Club

President.....Mrs. W. M. Sexton, Spruce St.  
 Secretary.....Mrs. Dan Drinkhard, Prospect Ave.

1900 Club

President.....Mrs. Frank T. Blanchard,  
 401 Maryland Ave.  
 Secretary.....Mrs. Hal Lewis

Junior 1900 Club

President.....Mrs. H. B. Millard, 113 Spruce St.  
 Secretary.....Miss Margaret Mitchell,  
 54 King St., Bristol, Va.

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4. Directory, Tennessee Federation of Women's Clubs, 1929-1930.

Woman's History Club

President.....Mrs. W. R. Stone,  
812 Holston Ave.  
Secretary.....Mrs. Henry Barker, Taylor St.

Junior Woman's History Club

President.....Mrs. Nat Copennaver,  
Holston Ave.  
Secretary.....Mrs. Albert King, Holston Ave.

Brownsville

Review Club

President.....Mrs. R. Y. Moses,  
511 N. Washington St.  
Secretary.....Mrs. Macon Thornton,  
College St.

Junior Review Club

President.....Miss Mary Walker  
Secretary.....Mrs. Maxwell Bond

Twentieth Century Club

President.....Mrs. Bland Boyd  
Secretary.....Mrs. L. C. Gillespie

Chattanooga

Kosmos Chattanooga Woman's Club

President.....Mrs. Alexander Guerry,  
605 Oak St.  
Secretary.....Mrs. E. F. Wheland,  
216 Belleview Ave., St. Elmo

Junior Kosmos Club

President.....Mrs. R. H. Bennett,  
10 Windsor Court  
Secretary.....Mrs. Frank S. Darwin,  
757 Oak St.



Kosmos Cottage Association

President.....Mrs. Annie S. Gilbert,  
East Lake  
Secretary.....Mrs. Florence Trenholm

Pro Re Bona Day Nursery

President.....Mrs. Ed Herron,  
Rossville Blvd.  
Secretary.....Mrs. J. H. McAllister,  
2202 Union

Chattanooga W. C. T. U.

President.....Mrs. D. L. Duncan,  
521 N. Boynton Terrace  
Secretary.....Mrs. Y. L. Abernatny,  
636 S. Boynton Terrace

Clarksville

Art Study Class

President.....Mrs. H. L. Mitchel  
Secretary.....Mrs. S. H. Allen

Blue Stocking Club

President.....Mrs. W. R. Wyatt,  
111 Munford Ave.  
Secretary.....Mrs. James H. Jonnson,  
702 Madison St.

Clarksville Federation

President.....Mrs. J. Moore Dickson,  
212 Madison St.  
Secretary.....Mrs. Dancy Fort,  
Franklin St.

Dilettante

President.....Mrs. J. K. Kent  
Secretary.....Mrs. Henry Merritt

, Garden Club

President.....Mrs. Harley Askew  
Secretary.....Mrs. L. M. Ragsdale

Library Association

President.....Mrs. W. M. Daniel,  
 316 Madison St.  
 Secretary.....Mrs. Dancey Fort,  
 Franklin St.

Magazine Club

President.....Mrs. Horace Mitchel  
 Secretary.....Mrs. M. A. Bland

Mothers' Club

President.....Mrs. Frazier Ely, Madison St.  
 Secretary.....Mrs. C. W. Fry, Second St.

Students' Club

President.....Mrs. H. M. Lupton  
 Secretary.....Mrs. L. W. Bartlett

Thursday Literary Club

President.....Mrs. Howard Savage,  
 Madison St.  
 Secretary.....Miss Jamie Outlaw, Academy Ave.

Country Woman's Club

President.....Mrs. Hicks Polk, Route 3  
 Secretary.....Mrs. Bailey Harper,  
 Franklin St.

Woman's Book Club

President.....Mrs. Charles Cross,  
 403 Madison St.  
 Secretary.....Mrs. William Bailey,  
 Madison Ex.

Cleveland

Cleveland Woman's Club

President.....Mrs. R. T. Allen, 607 10th St.  
 Secretary.....Mrs. J. Peyton Campbell,  
 Oak St.

Columbia

Highland Park Woman's Club

President.....Mrs. D. L. Fry, 12th St.  
Secretary.....Mrs. A. B. Goldman

Maury County Federation

President.....Mrs. Geo. E. McKennon  
Secretary.....Mrs. Harvey Weld, 9th St.

Students' Club

President.....Mrs. F. F. Everett, w. 6th St.  
Secretary.....Mrs. J. T. Wooten, w. 6th St.

Thursday Club

President.....Mrs. Norman Christley,  
805 Barrow Court  
Secretary.....Miss Edna Cathey, Carter St.

Cookeville

Book Lovers' Club

President.....Mrs. J. Lee Eppersoon, Algood  
Secretary.....Mrs. J. E. Conry, Cookeville

Junior Book Lover's Club

President.....Miss Sheila Officer  
Secretary.....

Twentieth Century Mothers' Club

President.....Mrs. Jack High  
Secretary.....

Crossville

Art Circle

President.....Mrs. W. Comer Moore  
Secretary.....Mrs. Cosby Harrison

Dandridge

Jefferson County Home Demonstration Club

President.....Mrs. Fred Harrison, White Pine  
Secretary.....Mrs. J. I. Huggins

Martha Dandridge Garden Club

President.....Mrs. Turana Franklin  
Secretary.....Mrs. C. B. Owens

Decherd

Sednesday Study Club

President.....Mrs. Ellis Hines  
Secretary.....Miss Effie Bearden

Dickson

20th Century Club

President.....Mrs. Ray Hogin  
Secretary.....Mrs. A. C. Hughes

Dyersburg

Woman's Club

President.....Mrs. Wid A. Jarrel,  
515 Sampson Ave.  
Secretary.....Mrs. G. L. Rodenbaugh,  
926 St. John Ave.

Erwin

Woman's Club

President.....Mrs. D. W. Moore,  
Elm St. Circle  
Secretary.....Mrs. L. E. Doss, Ohio Ave.

Etowa

Monday Book Club

President.....Mrs. O. H. Meredith  
Secretary.....Mrs. Jas. B. Howell

Fayetteville

Alpha Kappa Literary Civic Club

President.....Mrs. E. H. Jones  
Secretary.....Mrs. O. P. Pitts

Junior Alpha Kappa

President.....Mrs. Clarence Caughran,  
204 N. Main  
Secretary.....Mrs. Leland Medians,  
Mulberry Ave.

Home Makers Club

President.....Mrs. L. W. Alexander  
Secretary.....Miss Fannie Higgins

Round Dozen Club

President.....Mrs. J. M. McWilliams  
Secretary.....Mrs. S. C. Tigrett

Junior Round Dozen Club

President.....Mrs. L. L. Gilbert  
Secretary.....Mrs. W. L. Jenkins

Fountain City

Reviewers Club

President.....Mrs. T. C. Gibson  
Secretary.....Mrs. Fred Shanton,  
222 Gibbs Road

Gordonsville

Woman's Club

President.....Mrs. S. Y. Hugin  
Secretary.....Mrs. J. G. Bridges

Greeneville

Cherokee Club

President.....Mrs. James H. Rader  
Secretary.....Miss Zoe Williams,  
Highland Ave.

Andrew Johnson Woman's Club

President.....Mrs. F. P. Robinson  
Secretary.....Mrs. W. W. Hannon

Junior Mother's Club

President.....Mrs. E. P. Pierce,  
113 Highland Ave.  
Secretary.....Mrs. A. C. Brogles,  
N. Main St.

Tuesday Book Club

President.....Miss Ethel Susong  
Secretary.....Mrs. LeRoy Park

Halls

Woman's Club

President.....Mrs. H. T. Abernathy  
Secretary.....Mrs. W. S. Brooks

Harriman

Contemporary Club

President.....Mrs. Horace M. Carr,  
306 Clinton Ave.  
Secretary.....Mrs. B. W. Martin,  
729 Clinch St.

Drama Club

President.....Mrs. F. A. Miller  
Secretary.....Mrs. W. H. Morris, Jr.

Woman's Club

President.....Mrs. G. P. Adams  
Secretary.....Mrs. T. E. Goodwin

Harrogate

Nancy Hanks Club

President.....Mrs. C. R. Floyd,  
L. M. U. Harrogate, Tenn.  
Secretary.....Mrs. G. W. Day

Hartsville

President.....Mrs. F. D. Stafford,  
127 River St.

Huntingdon

President.....Mrs. Neil Wright  
Secretary.....Mrs. Dwayne Maddux

Iron City

Community Club

President.....Mrs. Floyd Forsythe  
Secretary.....Mrs. W. C. Hensley

Jackson

Woman's Club

President.....Mrs. Sam Tamm  
Secretary.....Mrs. Bebe Boswell

Jellico

President.....Mrs. W. H. Lear  
Secretary.....Mrs. H. M. Rogers

Johnson City

Monday Club

President.....Mrs. Allen Harris, Orchard Place  
Secretary.....Mrs. W. G. Scott,  
1307 N. Roan St.

Monday Club Auxiliary

President.....Miss Mary C. Lockett  
Secretary.....Miss Margaret Crouch

Jonesboro

Schubert Club

President.....Mrs. Henry Hoss, R.F.D. 4  
Secretary.....Mrs. Garner Martin

Kenton

Woman's Club

President.....Mrs. Henry Flower  
Secretary.....Mrs. Claude Ramer

Kingsport

Book Club

President.....Mrs. A. D. Brockman,  
Watauga St.  
Secretary.....Mrs. F. M. Kelley, Yadkin St.

Drama Club

President.....Mrs. Malcolm Morrison  
Secretary.....Mrs. T. B. Yancey

Music Club

President.....Mrs. Malcolm Morrison

Virginia Club

President.....Mrs. Napoleon Bond,  
Crescent Drive  
Secretary.....Mrs. W. H. Reed, Watauga Pike

Knoxville



Ossoli Circle

President.....Mrs. J. Walter Wright,  
809 Walnut St.  
Secretary.....Mrs. H. A. Gervin,  
3380 Glenfield Drive

Woman's Club

President.....Mrs. Walter S. Nash,  
521 Main Ave., West  
Secretary.....Mrs. Guy H. Parnam,  
517 Hawthorne

Lawrenceburg

Mothers' Club

President.....Mrs. E. R. Braley, Pulaski St.  
Secretary.....Mrs. T. H. Helton, P.O. Box 190

Lebanon

Horn Springs Woman's Club

President.....Mrs. L. F. Moseley, Route 5  
Secretary.....Mrs. Albert Winter, Route 5

Woman's Club

President.....Mrs. E. C. McAdoo,  
S. Glenwood Drive  
Secretary.....Mrs. Geo. Golladay, Holton Ave.

Lenoir City

Clonian Club

President.....Mrs. S. I. Hall, "A" St.  
Secretary.....Mrs. W. N. Lacy, Lacy Hotel

Flower Club

President.....Mrs. J. L. Thomas  
Secretary.....Mrs. Louise McNeely

Tuesday Club

president.....Mrs. Hugh Martin  
Secretary.....Mrs. A. W. Roberts

Lewisburg

Chautauqua Circle

president.....Mrs. W. L. Barnett  
Secretary.....Mrs. T. V. George

Livingston

Woman's Civic Club

President.....Mrs. M. H. Hankins  
Secretary.....Mrs. S. J. Bilbrey

Madisonville

Woman's Club

President.....Mrs. Alex. McNeil  
Secretary.....Mrs. Jno. R. Sheets

Manchester

As You Like It Club

President.....Mrs. A. A. Womacks  
Secretary.....Mrs. Lewis Carden

Literary Forum

President.....Mrs. Robert L. Keele  
Secretary.....Mrs. A. A. Womacks

Martin

Woman's Club

President.....Mrs. C. C. Cravens  
Secretary.....Mrs. J. S. Bowlin

Maryville

Chilnowee Club

President.....Mrs. E. W. Davis, 230 Miller St.  
Secretary.....Mrs. E. R. Hunter, 111 Wilson St

Tuesday Club

President.....Mrs. D. O. Waters, Goddard St.  
Secretary.....Mrs. Ralph Kizer

McKenzie

Woman's Federated Club

President.....Mrs. J. M. Rauch  
Secretary.....Mrs. Richard Moore, Jr.

Memphis

Alpha Book Club

President.....Mrs. Herbert Gladfelter,  
1571 Foster Ave.  
Secretary.....Mrs. Walter M. White,  
1776 Carr Ave.

Book Lover's Club

President.....Mrs. W. C. Manley, 445 N. McNeil  
Secretary.....Mrs. J. P. Bailey, 555 LeMaster Pl.

Columbine Book Club

President.....Miss Jennie May,  
1521 McLemore  
Secretary.....Miss Sallie Waldran, 401 Avalon

Regina Lodge, United Order of True Sisters

President.....Mrs. J. C. Felsenthal,  
545 S. Belvedere Blvd.  
Secretary.....Mrs. Emil Hirsh, 410 Stonewall

Salon Circle

President.....Mrs. Arthur Summerfield,  
 1132 Forrest Ave.  
 Secretary.....Mrs. Louis Brenner,  
 2121 Poplar

19th Century Club

President.....Mrs. E. G. Willingham,  
 1521 Central Ave.  
 Secretary.....Mrs. Paul F. Browne, Myndres Ave.

Outlook Club

President.....Miss Ella Gill, 45 N. Montgomery  
 Secretary.....Miss Mary O. Butler, 1717 Peach St

Millington

Book Chat Club

President.....Mrs. J. W. Talley  
 Secretary.....

Morristown

Coterie Club

President.....Mrs. J. N. Fisher, 717 W. 1st N. St  
 Secretary.....Mrs. J. B. King

Ladies' Reading Circle

President.....Mrs. R. S. Harrell,  
 311 E. 2nd North St.  
 Secretary.....Mrs. Joe Beals, 26 Evans Ave.

Soma Sala

President.....Mrs. J. B. Neil  
 Secretary.....Mrs. James Tyler

Mountain City

Wednesday Music Club

President.....Mrs. Charles M. Wagner  
 Secretary.....Miss Rose Fuller

Mount Juliet

Green Hill Woman's Club

President.....Mrs. Joe H. Glasgow, Hermitage  
Secretary.....Mrs. G. C. Hays, Mt. Juliet

Martha Laguardo Women's Club

President.....Mrs. Porter Taylor  
Secretary.....Mrs. S. S. Milum

Woman's Club

President.....Mrs. P. V. Hamblin  
Secretary.....Mrs. Lex Wright

Marfreesboro

Woman's Club

President.....Mrs. Andrew L. Todd,  
730 E. Main St.  
Secretary.....Mrs. B. U. White,  
506 E. Main St.

Battle Ground Drive Community Club

President.....Mrs. Chas. H. Clark  
Secretary.....

Nashville

Alpha Sigma Nu

President.....Miss Lois Temple, 1504 Villa Pl.  
Secretary.....Mrs. W. Kenneth Parks,  
2806 Oakland Ave.

Finitimus

President.....Mrs. Joe Vaughn, Brighton Road  
Secretary.....Mrs. F. K. Beville,  
115 N. Park Circle

Girls' High School Club T.I.S.

President.....Miss Louise Anderson, T.I.S.  
Secretary.....Miss Lois Hindman, T.I.S.

Halcyon Club

President.....Mrs. Robert White  
Secretary.....Miss Virginia Muller

Housewives' League

President.....Miss Bertie Erbrick,  
2606 Oakland Ave.  
Secretary.....Mrs. E. L. Withrow, Elmington Apts

Inquirer's Club

President.....Mrs. Joe H. Hooper,  
2125 Carlton Ave.  
Secretary.....Mrs. C. D. Moss, Charlotte Road

Magazine Circle

President.....Mrs. Alvin L. Kornman  
Secretary.....Mrs. Morris Schwartz

Junior Magazine Circle

President.....Mrs. Manuel Eskin, Dear Park Circle, Belle Meade  
Secretary.....Miss Mary Jane Losenhelm,  
3700 West End Ave.

Metaphysical Club

President.....Mrs. D. Hungerford,  
503 Wilson Blvd.  
Secretary.....Mrs. Fred Stugard,  
1910 24th Ave. S.

Peabody Woman's Club

President.....Mrs. Amelia Sperry, 924 3rd Ave., S  
Secretary.....Mrs. Lewis Pope,  
3533 Richland Ave.

Peabody Auxiliary

President.....Miss Harriet Childress,  
The Homestead  
Secretary.....Miss Charlotte Sanders,  
Dickerson Road

Rutledge Magazine Club

President.....Mrs. L. P. Stewart  
Secretary.....Mrs. O. L. Frierson

Sunset Park Club

President.....Mrs. M. C. Gordon,  
2104 W. Linden Ave.  
Secretary.....Mrs. W. Lipscomb Davis,  
2122 Ashwood Ave.

Review Club

President.....Mrs. James E. Caldwell, Longview  
Secretary.....Mrs. Thomas Malone, Franklin Pike

Tenn. Registered Nurses Assn.

President.....Miss Cora Cripe  
Secretary.....Miss Elsie Russ

20th Century Club

President.....Miss Miriam Elliot,  
1814 Beechwood  
Secretary.....Mrs. James A. Estes,  
311 S. 7th St.

Woman's Auxiliary, R.L.A.

President.....Mrs. Chas. B. Murphy,  
4607 Nebraska Ave.

Woman's Board State Fair

President.....Mrs. Robert Nichol, 1910 Ridley  
Secretary.....J. W. Russwurm, Brooknave,  
Nolensville Place

Woman's Club

President.....Mrs. Horace H. Smith,  
3021 Richland Ave.  
Secretary.....Mrs. Lou Lusky, 3536 Central Ave.

Newport

20th Century Club

President.....Mrs. E. E. Northcutt  
Secretary.....Mrs. Charles Hodge

Obion

Self Culture Club

President.....Mrs. Moody Cunningham  
Secretary.....Mrs. W. O. Walker

Paris

Happy Greer Delphian

President.....Miss Minnie Daniel, Market St.  
Secretary.....Mrs. Tom Mayo,  
Poplar and Blythe

Matinee Music Club

President.....Mrs. C. F. Williams  
Secretary.....Mrs. W. W. Jonnson

W. C. T. U.

President.....Mrs. J. B. Gunn,  
104 N. College St.  
Secretary.....Mrs. J. C. Daniel,  
417 N. Market St.

Woman's Club

President.....Mrs. J. C. Porter,  
Chickasaw Road  
Secretary.....Mrs. H. Smith, Adams St.

Petersburg

Research Club

President.....Mrs. R. K. Morgan  
Secretary.....Mrs. Pearl Hart

Junior Research Club

President.....Miss Ruth Bills



Pleasant Hill

Get-Together Club

President.....Mrs. P. A. Erwin  
Secretary.....Mrs. A. H. Smith

Port Royal

Woman's Club

President.....Mrs. Sam Ford  
Secretary.....Mrs. J. R. Alley

Pulaski

Magazine Club

President.....Mrs. M. S. Church  
Secretary.....Mrs. Nannie C. Teas

Garden Club

President.....Mrs. Fred Thornton  
Secretary.....Mrs. Ozro Long

Students' Club

President.....Mrs. Bennett Eslick, W. Madison St.  
Secretary.....Mrs. E. H. Murray,  
504 W. Madison St.

Twentieth Century Club

President.....Miss Vivian Booth  
Secretary.....Mrs. W. D. Kirkpatrick,  
303 Flower St.

Wednesday Literary Club

President.....Mrs. Gilbert Abernathy  
Secretary.....Mrs. Sam Yokley

Raleigh

Woman's Club

President.....Mrs. James Jay Hamilton  
Secretary.....Mrs. W. H. Kenfro

Rives

Book Lovers' Club

President.....Mrs. E. E. Shore  
Secretary.....Mrs. H. L. Cook

Rockwood

Woman's Club

President.....Mrs. Wm. Brown, 10 Kempton Ave.  
Secretary.....Mrs. S. Wallace

Sevierville

Mathano Club

President.....Mrs. J. Ed Emert  
Secretary.....Mrs. R. B. Robertson

Snelbyville

Monday Afternoon Club

President.....Miss Sallie Jett  
Secretary.....Mrs. Fred Nanae

Shop Springs

Ladies' Civic Club

President.....Mrs. Hugh Bryan  
Secretary.....Mrs. H. N. Young

South Pittsburg

Book Club

President.....Mrs. Carl Thomas  
Secretary.....Mrs. Arthur E. Legg

Springfield

Arts and Crafts Club

President.....Miss Sue Douglas Taylor  
Secretary.....Mrs. Elmer Butte

Wednesday Study Club

President.....Mrs. Phillip P. Bell  
Secretary.....Mrs. W. R. Jarrell

Short Story Club

President.....Mrs. Howard B. Smith  
Secretary.....Mrs. Martin Simmons

Sparta

State W. C. T. U.

President.....Mrs. J. M. Welch, Sparta  
Secretary.....Mrs. W. C. Hagan, Tulane Hotel,  
Nashville

Sweetwater

Woman's Club

President.....Mrs. C. L. Clark  
Secretary.....Mrs. Henry Cecil

Tiptonville

Tri Art Club

President.....Mrs. R. R. Tipton  
Secretary.....Mrs. E. J. Lebo

Tullahoma

Woman's Club

President.....Mrs. B. H. Ware  
Secretary.....Miss Ella Ransom

Tracy City

Book Lovers' Club

President.....Mrs. Minnie Northcutt  
Secretary.....Miss Mabel Roddy

Watertown

Woman's Club

President.....Mrs. Benton Williams, Route 4  
Secretary.....Mrs. Fred Luck

Whitewater

Kennedy Book Club

President.....Mrs. Joe Clay Davis

White Pine

Jefferson Woman's Club

President.....Mrs. J. R. Allen  
Secretary.....Mrs. J. J. Humbird

Whiteville

Inter Se

President.....Mrs. R. C. Rhea  
Secretary.....Mrs. C. R. Howse

Wilder

Community Club

P  
President.....Mrs. Wm. Madewell  
Secretary.....Mrs. L. L. Shivers

Winchester

Twentieth Century Club

President.....Mrs. Jas. B. Norton  
Secretary.....Mrs. W. B. Noan

Junior Twentieth Century Club

president.....Mrs. Willis Snadow  
secretary.....Miss Annie Lawrie Pope

APPENDIX V

A Tribute to Tennessee Poets.

By Clara Cox Epperson.<sup>5</sup>

.....

Following John Trotwood Moore, I shall place Will Allen Dromgoole, poet, author of beautiful stories and literary editor of the Nashville Banner in which her Song and Story feature has appeared each Sunday for more than twenty-five years.

A deserved honor has recently come to Miss Dromgoole in being chosen by The Poetry Society of the South as poet-laureate. She has been ill for several months and is very frail, therefore it is well for this laurel wreath to be placed on her brow now, not over her tomb after she is dead and her busy creative hands have been stilled forever.

Edgar Allen Poe's original manuscript of "The Raven" sold not long ago to a London purchaser for a fabulous price, and one could not but think of that poor, young poet walking the streets trying to sell his poems to buy the necessary food for his dying, young wife. Belated laurels---but how often too late comes the mede of recognition and praise. Tennessee and the South will rejoice that this honor has come to Miss Dromgoole now, when she can enjoy and appreciate it.

Miss Dromgoole's poems are too numerous to list, but one very touching one used in Southern Literature, is:

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<sup>5</sup> Mrs. Clara Cox Epperson, Cookeville, Tennessee, Chairman, of the Drama Committee, General Federation of Women's Clubs, 1930-1932.

When My Dolly Died.

By Will Allen Dromgoole.

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The most widely quoted of Miss Dromgoole's poems and one that grips the heart-strings is The Bridge Builder, too often published over "Anonymous" although Miss Dromgoole holds a copyright. It was first published in her volume "Rare Old Chums" and was dedicated to her father, who was her beloved chum:

The Bridge Builder.

An old man, going a lone highway,  
Came at the evening, cold and gray,  
To a chasm vast and deep and wide,  
Through which was flowing a sullen tide;  
The old man crossed in the twilight dim,  
For the sullen stream had no fears for him;  
But he turned when safe on the other side  
And built a bridge to span the tide.

"Old man" said a fellow pilgrim near,  
"You are wasting strength with building here;  
Your journey will end with the ending day,  
You never again will pass this way;  
Why build this bridge at the eventide?"

The builder lifted his old gray head---  
"Good friend, in the path I have come", he said,  
"Ther followeth after me today,  
A youth whose feet must pass this way.

This chasm that has been naught to me,  
To that fair-haired youth may a pitfall be;  
He too, must cross in the twilight dim---  
Good friend, I am building the bridge for him."

The sketch of Miss Dromgoole in "The Library of Southern Literature", a recent publication, was written by another Tennessee author and poet, Will T. Hale. I am sorry Mr. Hale did not use "The Bridge Builder" in the poems quoted.

Virginia Frazer Boyle of Memphis, Tennessee is another poet who with John Trotwood Moore, Will Allen Dromgoole, Will T. Hale, Judge Walter Malone, Sarah Barnwell Elliott and other poets of Tennessee, have been included in the Library of Southern Literature.

This Library of Southern Literature in seventeen volumes, has been published by The Martin & Hoyt Company, Atlanta, Georgia, and compiled by Southern men of letters with Edwin Anderson Alderman and Joel Chandler Harris editors in chief, assisted by literary men from the leading universities of the South.

Virginia Frazer Boyle's poem "Tennessee" was awarded the prize for the best centennial ode and has been selected to represent Tennessee in a collection of historical poems. She also wrote the inscription on the base of the equestrian statue of General Nathan Bedford Forrest in Forrest Park,



Memphis and on the monument of General Pat Cleburne, at Helena Arkansas. Many of her poems are written in the ballad form and her war ballads and songs have been widely recognized. Her "My South, My South," paints the devotion to the old South:

My South, My South,

Virginia Frazer Boyle.

Thou art mine own, my beautiful, my love!

I blame thee not what cloud may come to me;

I give my faith into thy trustful arms;

All that I am, or hope, I yield to thee!

I trim my taper but to seek thy shrine,

With thee I smile, with thee I breathe my sigh;

Yes, as thou goest, loved one, I will go,

And when thou diest---Beautiful, I die!

Mrs. Boyle is still living and in Memphis where she is very much admired and loved.

Frances Hodgson Burnett, noted as the author of "Little Lord Fauntleroy", while born in Manchester, England, is included in the Library of Southern Literature, since a great part of her life was spent near Knoxville, Tennessee. She has written in prose almost entirely, but her prose becomes poetry now and then, as in "The Dryad" from "The One I Knew The Best of All", that one might also call "The Little

Mournful Bird.".....

Sarah Barnwell Elliott, of South Carolina descent, Georgia birth and Tennessee adoption, has lived at Sewanee, where her father helped to found the University of the South. Her stories and poems have been published by Harper Brothers, and her clever bits of verse in other current magazines. ....

A number of women poets who have been or are members of The Tennessee Woman's Press and Authors' Club, an organization thirty years old, come to mind: Elizabeth Fry Page, whose poems "To A Wild Rose", "To A Water Lily" and others are used with MacDowell's music by which they were inspired; -----Beth Slater Whitson, whose songs--Meet Me Tonight in Dreamland and others have been popular, the late Sara Beaumont Kennedy so beloved in Memphis; Edna Lynn Simms, Lucie D. A. Tipton, Mrs. Charles Larew, Lillian C. B. McA. Mayer, Knoxville; Grace Armstrong Allen, Alice Whitson Norton, Florence Wilson, Nashville; Zella Armstrong, Mary Brabson Littleton, Caroline Woods Morrison, Elizabeth Jones Boykin, Chattanooga, and many others too numerous to mention.

Of this group only one poem by Beth Slater Whitson will be used:

Sunset.

By Beth Slater Whitson.

Shoulder to shoulder stand the rugged hills,

A crown of gold upon each purple crest;  
Atremble lies the valley at their feet,  
Day's afterglow upon its pulsing breast;  
Gaunt, hurrying shadows follow silently  
The ever-fleeing glory in the West.

From Booklovers' Magazine.

.....

There is still a younger group of poets at Vanderbilt University who published recently a charming little book of verse called "Facets". I shall use only one of these poems, written by Margaret Moore of Algood, Tennessee, who won the prize twenty-five dollars for the best short story written by a college student in the Tennessee Federation of Women's Clubs' content of 1928. ....

Two other Tennessee poets who have been given space in "The Lyric South", are Mary Brent Whiteside and Anne Goodwin Winslow. Of Stone Mountain Mary Brent Whiteside writes:

"They crowned their pride with marble; wreath and vine  
Were for the victor of his little day.

But at no other shrine

As here, will sun and stars behold the people kneel;

Ambition pause; the mighty stop to pray,

And crown an ancient Sorrow with a new Idea!"

Of the South she says:

"After all splendors, if the South---

My South---still knows

And gives some word of beauty for a sign;

The waxen marvel of camellias, white and rose;

A side winged heron's cloudy flight;

A thrush's mouth,

Brimming with starlit music, through the night

Where pine tree shadows stir,

And lily-troubled waters shine---

I shall return! Ah, not to call it lovelier---

This land---than all the rest

My pilgrim feet have pressed,

But only that these things are mine--are wholly mine!"

Anne Goodwin Winslow's poem "Qui Vive!" reminds us of Merrill Moore's "The Noise Time Makes."

Qui Vive.

Anne Goodwin Winslow.

Who goes there?

No sound on all the air.

Perhaps it was the rose

That lit the days of June,

So still she goes!

Perhaps it was the moon

Slipping behind the hill,

She goes on still!

Or Autumn's footsteps on the grass,

That softly pass

And soon.

Who goes there?

And where?

Alas,

There's none who knows,

Nor why it is so fair---

This All that flows!"

And so no one knows this "All that flows---this melody that comes and goes in the heart of the poet---only that he it is who gives us the magic beauty of life and points us to the eternal beauty of death.

APPENDIX VI

A Little Talk On The Writers of Tennessee

By Clara Cox Epperson.

Written for the Book-Lover's Club. <sup>6</sup>

Since the women writers of Tennessee predominate, especially in the production of fiction and poetry, I shall speak of our women writers first.

One of the early women writers of our state to gain national note, was Miss Mary Murfree of Murfreesboro, who wrote under the pen-name of Charles Egbert Craddock, and was thought to be a man by publishers and public long after the publication of her first novel. The friends who were in school with Miss Murfree remember her as always ink-spattered from stained fingers, writing-tablets, aprons, even to her face, and she wrote with a broad pointed pen that would now be called a "stub." Her heavy, masculine penmanship with her forceful style of literature made it easy for the publishers to believe her pseudonym her own name, and therefore welcome her as the new and powerful man writer of fiction of Tennessee and the South.

Miss Murfree died within the past year, and at a recent meeting of the Tennessee Woman's Press and Authors' Club a memorial service was held for her, as an honorary member; and other members who have gone into that eternal silence----

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6. Mrs. Clara Cox Epperson, Cookeville, Tennessee, is Chairman of the Drama Committee, General Federation of Women's Clubs, 1930-32.

silence so far as sending any word of encouragement or advice to the plodders up Parnassus Hill, left behind----- but no doubt for themselves a fuller speech than they have ever known.

Soon after Miss Murfree became known as an author through her "Prophet Of the Great Smoky Mountain", "In The Tennessee Mountains", and other stories of mountain life, written of the region around Beersheba and Monteagle, Miss Will Allen Dromgoole wrote a very clever, bright story entitled: "On The Sunny Side Of The Cumberland", which the gossip of that day said did not meet with the happy result of Miss Murfree's mountain stories, for it was bitterly resented by the stalwart mountaineers of the beautiful Cumberlands, and later, so the story goes, when Miss Dromgoole made the race for engrossing clerk of the Senate, these men rose as one, to defeat her, saying: "We don't want her; she writ agin the mountain!" Upon this subject our clever little writer is a bit sensitive, so I cannot vouch for the truth of the story; but whether this old tale of defeat be true or not, the writer-spirit of Will Allen Dromgoole, nothing daunted, has gone on in "Song and Story" for the Nashville Banner for many years, and in this line she is one of the most prolific, widely read writers of the south.

Miss Dromgoole's three books for children: "The Farrier Dog", "The Farrier Dog And His Fellow", "The Best of Friends",

are charming books and should be in every child's library; and her "Island of Beautiful Things" written for the little boy she loved so dearly, who died, is an exquisite classic.

Miss Dromgoole has an interesting book planned that the daily grind of life has never given her the opportunity to write, as she would have to go abroad, she things, for local coloring. It is to be the story of life that has passed over the Bridge of Sighs, as told by the old grandfather bull frog to the little bull-frogs underneath this wonderful bridge in far away Venice. If only the Dollar could go as hand-maiden to the Muse, how many more attractive books would be written that must needs remain forever "unwritten and unsung".

Coming down to more recent years, a writer who has gained inter-national note, Tennessee claims as well as Georgia, for Mrs. Corra Harris lived many years in Tennessee and was an active and valued member of the Press and Authors' Club. She is now living at Pine Log, Georgia, but spends much time in Nashville and New York, yearly. Her greatest and best known book is "The Circuit Rider's Wife", which was followed by "The Circuit Rider's Widow" and recently by another powerful book along the line of ministry, "My Son", which depicts the mother of the young minister torn between the new beliefs of her beloved son and the old, dear beliefs of William, her husband, in whom she had always staked her faith.



These three books are her great productions, to my mind, and will never be transcended by any fiction she may write.

Mrs. Harris was with the Press and Authors' Club in Cookeville several years ago and made an impromptu talk on the program at the City School Auditorium. She is very attractive speaker, but very retiring, rarely appearing in that line. She thinks and writes in a strong, forceful, unafraid way, and deals with women with a cutting pen as to fads and foibles, that causes many to resent her books, but being one of the "frail sex", I can still pronounce her great. She and Margaret Deland stand shoulder to shoulder in that style of writing, probing to the quick with keen, trenchant pen.

In one of Mrs. Harris' recently published novels, she is supposed to have drawn as chief character a caricature of Mrs. Felton of Cartersville, Georgia, that I've been told Mrs. Felton's friends resent; but evidently Mrs. Felton does not, for since she has been in the limelight as our United States' Senator, a picture appeared in a recent magazine of Mrs. Felton and Mrs. Harris, with no hatchet observable.

Miss Maria Thompson Daviess is another one of our writers who rapidly rose to literary recognition. Miss Daviess was educated as an artist, studying abroad. After her return she taught art at Belmont College, Nashville, but

through the influence of Mrs. Corra Harris and Miss Libby Morrow, Miss Daviess was persuaded to try the fields of literature, having descended from a family proficient with the pen. Her first novel, a story of the aftermath of the Civil War in the south, was returned from every publisher, finally one of them advised: "Write light fiction first!" Taking this advice, she wrote "Miss Salina Lou and The Soap Box Babies" which sold into several editions. The "Melting of Molly" also proved a best seller, and other books followed, and recognition was assured; then the editors consented to publish her first, and she considers best novel, that had been so often returned.

Miss Daviess owns "Sweetbrier Farm" near Nashville, and in a little log cabin in the woods some distance from the home, she writes her books, allowing no one to break into the quiet hours unless it be a vital need, for she too, like Mrs. Harris, seeks the great silence when wooing the muse. Miss Daviess also spends much time in New York, but for the past two years has been with relatives in Nashville, recovering from a stroke of paralysis that left her for many months a helpless invalid. She is a charming, wholesome woman, and the informal barbecue dinner given to the pen women of Tennessee several years ago, was one of the most delightful things I've ever attended. We were served in the beautiful woods, on an improvised table of planks; ate from paper plates and drank from tin cups, but it was a

literary gathering not soon forgotten.

Mrs. Ida Clyde Clark, who is now one of the editors of Pictorial Review, is a Tennessee writer to be proud of, as she has risen by her own efforts, pluck and determination. Her husband held for many years a place with the Banner editorial staff, which at his death was offered to Mrs. Clark. She accepted the work for the support of herself and two little boys, and made good, going step by step on to success; finally going to the Mecca of all writers, New York; and her position with Pictorial Review followed. She has educated her boys and one was sent abroad on an important mission last year; thus proving that a woman bereft may take up the lines of work laid down and weave on to completion.

Mrs. Clarke is a charming conversationalist and a bright, entertaining speaker. She has had one novel published: "Record No. 33".

Mrs. Helen Topping Miller, for many years a member of the Press and Authors' Club, and a resident of Morristown, though not a native of Tennessee, is now making her home at Macon, Georgia, and Tennessee as well as Georgia may well be proud of her phenomenal rise in short-story work. Her stories appear constantly in Saturday Evening Post, McCall's, Good Housekeeping and other current magazines. Mrs. Miller claims one peculiarity about her stories ---that the title

comes to her first, then she writes the story. Mrs. Miller was president of the Press and Authors' Club just before the recent war, and through the courtesy of her husband and herself the club was delightfully entertained in **Morristown.**

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With apologies to Alice MacGowan and Grace MacGowan Cooke, gifted writers of Chattanooga, who now write beneath California skies; Elizabeth Fry Page, Grace Armstrong Allen, Beth Slater Whitson, Alice Whitson and Emma Look Scott our poets of Nashville, Anne Bachman Hyde, our historian of Chattanooga, Anne Rankin our used-to-be editor of The Southern Woman's Magazine, now with The Tennessean, Zella Armstrong, editor of the Lookout, Chattanooga; Edith Pope, editor of The Confederate Veteran; Mrs. Anne Sharber of Nashville author of "At The Age Of Eve", Mrs. Lillian Nicholson Shearon of Nashville, clever writer of short stories; Maria Crawford Luttrell of Knoxville, syndicate writer of short stories; Miss Elizabeth Price and Mrs. Ashford of Nashville, musical writers; Miss Libbie Morrow, versatile writer of feature sketches for the Banner, Mary Ramage of The Banner, Madge Hall of The Tennessean and the many men and women of the press of our state, who should have more than mere mention, I close, thanking you for the attention given **this** little sketch of our writers of Tennessee.

Appendix VII

A Letter to the Author from Marion Griffin<sup>7</sup> March 18th, 1931

Miss Elizabeth Hoyt,  
Box 4078, U. of T.,  
Knoxville, Tenn.

My dear Miss Hoyt:

.....Your thesis subject, "Woman's Movement in Tennessee" is always of great interest to me, and none the less so because my own contribution, taken alone, is of no great importance.

Miss Frances Wolf and I were the first women in Tennessee to apply for admission to the bar. I was admitted to practice in Shelby County, but on application for enrollment in the Supreme Court an opinion was delivered holding women ineligible - notwithstanding that provision of the Code which says that the word "he" shall include "she," etc. This opinion, which was short (followed by a long and interesting dissention opinion) was based upon the theory that attorneys are officers of the government, and that it was contrary to state policy to permit women to participate, as principals, in any function of government.

My first experience with a legislature was in 1907, when Miss Wolf and I (both from Memphis) went to Nashville as members of the "Third House", (i. e., lobbyists) and secured the passage of a law admitting women to practice law in Tennessee. I wrote this law in the language in which it now appears in the Code - Section 5772a1 of Shannon's Code of Tennessee.

Was also partly instrumental in securing the passage of the act permitting women to act as Notaries in this state - Section 1069a1, Shannon's Code. This was in 1915.

The term of service as a member of the House of Representatives, in 1923, as first woman to be elected to that position, was of course the most interesting experience of my career - to myself. But candor compels me to say that my election was in no sense due to my own efforts; it was not an achievement, but merely due to the fact that the women of Shelby County were demanding a representative in the Legislature. You will remember that this was the first year in which women could have been elected to the legislature, since

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7. Miss Marion Griffin, is a lawyer, and former member of the Tennessee legislature.

the enactment of the Nineteenth Amendment to the Federal constitution in August, 1920. That is, it was then too late to get candidates in the primaries for the 1921 legislature. Two years later, however, upon the demand of the women of Shelby County, particularly (I believe) the League of Women Voters, my name was put on the list for the August primary, and there was (and never has been, in Shelby County) no opposition, and I was elected along with others on the list.

I am a Democrat, of course, the democratic party being overwhelmingly in the majority in this part of the state. There were no opposing candidates for the legislature in the regular election ( or general election, as it is called) in November, 1922, so the democratic candidates went into office on the first Monday in January, 1923. None of us made any campaign. It is never necessary where one party is greatly in the majority and where it is well organized locally. This is especially true of minor official positions.

The Tennessee League of Women Voters had an ambitious program for the year 1923 - they had six measures which they asked the legislature to pass, and four of them were actually enacted. There were:

- (1) The so-called "Maternity-Infancy Act", bring Chapter 65 of the Acts of 1923, that is, a law requiring the State to co-operate with the federal government in the administration of the "Shepherd-Towner" Act of Congress, in furnishing instruction and treatment for prospective mothers, both before and after the birth of the child.
- (2) Chapter 50, making the property of a deceased child go to the father and mother equally (if both living), instead of to the father alone, as formerly.
- (3) Chapter 41, making fathers and mothers (where both living) joint guardians of children, instead of the father alone, as formerly.
- (4) Chapter 19, requiring the State Executive Committees (i. e., of the Republican and Democratic parties), which constitute the respective Boards of Primary Election Commissioners for their respective parties, to consist of four members, two of whom shall be men and two women.

All of these bills were signed and introduced by the most in-

fluent members of the legislature, whom we could persuade to endorse them, and of course by myself among many others. I worked particularly hard on these four, of course, and was given the credit, in part, for the passage of the first and third. Especially the first. There was great opposition to this bill, both in the legislature and in the state generally, especially from the physicians. Due to my interest rather than my efforts, I was made Speaker pro tem. while the Maternity-Infancy Law was on for its third reading and final passage. We were all as surprised as pleased that it passed in the face of such tremendous opposition.

The third bill, for equal guardianship of children by father and mother, was strongly opposed, though not of such general interest. My chief work in getting this passed in the House was in watching for the right moment to bring it up for final passage.

The Sunday Movie Law, prohibiting theatres and moving pictures on Sunday, was sponsored chiefly by the Lord's Day Alliance. All bills, as you know, are referred to some committee before being put on final reading for passage. This bill was referred to the Public Welfare Committee, of which I was chairman. This committee recommended the bill for passage, by a majority of one, my vote being the deciding vote. For this reason and because I called the bill up for final passage, I was given most of the credit - and all of the blame - for its success. ....

For about a year I have been associated with Mr. George Harsh, Sr., of Memphis, Code Commissioner for West Tennessee. You may have read that this Commission is preparing a new Code of law for Tennessee, the first official Code our State has had since 1858, - though we have had several unofficial codes. My work as assistant is extremely interesting; however, my connection with the Code Commission is entirely unofficial. Have just recently returned from Kingsport, Tennessee, where the first print of the proposed code is being published by the Kingsport Press; was engaged in reading the proof and making corrections, etc. ....