

MARYLAND SUFFRAGE NEWS

Published Weekly

By the Just Government League of Maryland.

Editors:

DR. AND MRS. DONALD R. HOOKER,
Chilhurst, Mt. Washington, Md.

Contributing Editors:

DR. THADDEUS P. THOMAS, DR. O. EDWARD JANNEY,
MRS. JOHN G. WILSON, DR. FLORENCE R. SABIN,

MRS. R. J. BYRNE.

Managing Editor:

MISS M. B. DIXON,
817 N. Charles Street.

Business Manager:

MRS. CHARLES JOSEPH OGLE,
Sylvaside, Kenwood Avenue, Catonsville.

Subscription Rates:

DOMESTIC.			
One Year\$1.00	Three Months on Trial25
Six Months50	Single Copy05
CANADIAN.			
One Year\$1.50	One Year\$1.50
FOREIGN.			



BALTIMORE, JUNE 13, 1914

GOD SPEED THE HIKERS

The hikers will soon be on their way. Luck to the hikers and God-speed. A happy, healthy and suffrage-loving merry group they are. Headed and enthused by genial General Latimer, they proceed. Soldiers that they are, they look every bit the womanly women forging their way on with the stirring cry of "Votes for Women." They will muster in converts by scores. And why not? Suffrage today is a substantial need carrying conviction in its very sentiment. And were I questioned as to the necessity, I should answer, with honest conviction: "Why, you men and you antis, justice alone makes the issue fair and square." I should further argue that women are people, and people need rights. The farmers' wives and the farmers' sweethearts will need this call in the name of justice and righteousness; because, though they never wander far from the hearth and the home, the nation's mournful cry has reached their ears and they live and long for justice. The veil will soon be uplifted from the gloom before us; darkness and ignorance will break away, the paradise of God's justice on earth will prevail, and women will then be free.

God speed our Maryland hikers and the message they carry forth from Maryland to the world.
M. S. HANAW.

THE STRENGTH OF THE SUFFRAGE MOVEMENT

Few people realize what tremendous strides the woman suffrage movement has made in America during the last few years. When the men of the Territory of Wyoming enfranchised their women in 1869 woman suffrage was an anomaly; no one knew what the results of this unprecedented venture would be. Today nearly 4,000,000 women in the United States have the right of franchise, and conclusive evidence is at hand proving the beneficial effects of woman suffrage.

One-fifth of the United States Senate, one-seventh of the House and one-sixth of the Electoral College is controlled by the suffrage States. One-third of the members of Congress come from suffrage and campaign States.

It would be a poor commentary on the intelligence of the men of this country, who, be it noted, are in each case responsible for extending the franchise to women, if it could be shown that woman suffrage had brought evil results in its train. As a matter of fact, the real reason why woman suffrage has spread so rapidly is because it has proven its worth in practical benefits to the Commonwealth.

POPULAR METHODS

Under a democratic form of government the source of final authority is the average voter, the man of small opportunity, of slight education and of meagre income. The men who dig ditches and who toil in the shops and factories outvote the so-called "educated classes" more than 100 to 1. The consequence is, that any reform which depends for its success upon the vote of the people, must be presented in such form that the uneducated voter will comprehend its significance. This is the reason why the so-called popular methods of propaganda are necessary in the suffrage

campaign. The "educated" classes may not need parades, hikes, open-air meetings and the like to convince them of the merits of woman suffrage, but such methods are essential if the attention of the man on the street is to be caught.

Most refined women are averse to lending themselves to popular methods of propaganda, but the sacrifice is worth while.

All honor, then, to the women who are willing to go into the byways and hedges to spread the knowledge of the cause. Those who stay in peaceful serenity at home owe them a lasting debt of gratitude.

HIKING IN TERMS OF ORGANIZATION

By L. C. TRAX.

Many realize the value of a hike from the viewpoint of publicity, but some doubt its value as a factor in organizing. Those who have hiked know that for county work it is unsurpassed in both departments.

The vast majority of our people do not walk. They do not get out into the open where they are free of worry and free of muscle. Our county people who live in the open do not walk. Strong men say: "I do not envy your tramp." The thought of women hiking brings a vision of physical courage and endurance. The imagination is caught, and suffrage arguments do the rest.

County audiences come to listen, and they stay until the last word has been uttered. There are no street cars or heavy trucks to distract the attention. They stay to discuss the subject afterwards, and there is ample time to distribute membership cards or make appeals for work. In a hike that is organized to get results each hiker is responsible for a definite part of the work. Two will distribute literature; two will distribute membership blanks, and all will take turn at speaking. If these are done carefully, who will say that a foundation for an organization has not been made? The main object of organization is to tabulate results, and to coordinate activities with other and similar groups.

A hike discovers the sympathizers quickly. There seems to be a more spontaneous interest in a suffrage hike than in a formal campaign, and spontaneous work is done to a greater degree. The town of Elkton, with its non-suffrage hosts, planned to entertain the Army of the Hudson, hired a hall for a meeting and met the hikers upon their entrance to town. Glen Burnie's Mayor, with a committee, met the Army of the Severn on its march to Annapolis, and a non-suffragist entertained at tea. The towns in Garrett county are spontaneously planning some kind of greeting for the new army which has not yet been named.

Even in a formal automobile campaign, it is necessary to follow after the propaganda meetings, and put the sympathizers to work. Given an interest more widespread than usual, given a response more cordial than usual, given a membership numerically greater than usual, there is no reason why the organization work should not be as satisfactory as usual.

We hike. We feel well and vigorous. We live the lives of human beings uncrowded by city walls. We reach a greater number of people at a smaller cost than usual. We spread the propaganda for freedom. We gain the co-operation of a county. Is it worth while? The Garrett county hike will prove it.

SHOP BY DAYLIGHT

The movement for the shortening of hours for working people, especially during the summer months, is becoming very general. It receives of course the most hearty support of the workers themselves; all level-headed employers urge it, if not openly, because of a sort of feeling of professional reserve, yet earnestly and honestly to those impartially interested (in fact, those openly opposed can be numbered on five fingers), and it appeals so strongly to the public that thinks or cares about the comfort of the people who serve them that they unselfishly respond at once, and the only problem is to enlarge this last division of the concerned. The Retail Clerks' Association has distributed cards bearing the slogan "Be Concerned! Shop by Daylight," and a large committee of the Consumers' League has been trying by persuasion to urge an increase of the number of employers who will keep their places of business open only a half day on Saturday. The salesmen of the furniture stores have organized to further this one activity alone, and so co-operative are the employers that one has permitted the meetings to take place in his store. The Ministerial Union has appointed a committee to act in whatever way seems wise. All of these agencies soon come upon the one difficult part of the problem, and that is how to reach that part of the shopping public for whom the stores are kept open, and who seem to have no sense of responsibility in the matter. Readers of the News can materially help the agitation by writing the few refractory employers and keeping the matter before the public in the letter column of the various papers.

HELP THE CAUSE.—Mention the Maryland Suffrage News When Patronizing Our Advertisers.