

submitted. The true question for Congress to consider is not whether three-fourths of the States will ratify, after discussion and agitation, but whether the subject concerns the public welfare, and whether those who desire the submission of the resolution be of sufficient number to relieve the proceeding from the charge of triviality and inconsequence."

What they said in regard to submitting an amendment to the Federal Constitution providing for national prohibition applies with much greater force today in dealing with the question of woman suffrage, because the people who today are urging Congress to submit the woman suffrage amendment to the several States for ratification are many times as numerous as were the people who petitioned for a prohibition amendment twenty years ago.

It seems to me the question is not whether Senators and Congressmen are individually for or against this proposition, or whether they would, as citizens of their own States, vote for or against the amendment if it were submitted to the States for ratification, but the question is, as Mr. Saunders well said in his speech referred to above, "Can we undertake to oppose ourselves to this sentiment and say that the public is not even to have the opportunity of making that determination which belongs exclusively to the States? Shall we undertake to say that however intelligent and universal may be the demand upon this body, we shall turn a deaf ear to this appeal and arrogate to ourselves the power to anticipate the actions of the States?"

**TEACHER-MOTHERS SECURE LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR MATERNITY.**

**Decision Reached After Study of Data From Other Cities.**

THE teacher mother in New York has won at least a partial victory. The Special Committee appointed to consider the problem made its report at the Board of Education's meeting a few days ago. It recommended that a two years' leave of absence be granted to teachers for maternity.

In its report the committee said that it had endeavored to view the whole problem anew in a fair and impartial spirit. It decided at the outset to eliminate sociological and personal considerations and confine its investigations strictly to the immediate interests of the school.

No statistics or records were available as direct evidence, and therefore the committee made inquiry regarding the experience and rule of other important cities, the views of some of our leading physicians and the opinion of New York school superintendents and principals.

Replies were received from all of the 48 cities in the United States of more than 100,000 population. Thirty-seven do not continue to employ women teachers at all after marriage. Of the remaining 11 cities, only three, Cincinnati, Los Angeles and Milwaukee, grant leaves of absence for child-bearing, although three more report that no such cases have arisen.

**Married Teachers Lose Jobs.**

Philadelphia, St. Louis and Oakland are among the cities which do not employ women teachers after their marriage, but in these three cities teachers who were married before the adoption of the present rules may continue to teach, and Philadelphia and Oakland allow such teachers leaves of absence for maternity. In Chicago a teacher who absents herself for motherhood loses her position, but may return when her child is two years of age. In Indianapolis the teacher may return if home conditions are such that she can leave the child. Milwaukee and Los Angeles limit the leave of absence to one year. No limit of time is given for Cincinnati or Oakland.

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