

A Winning Cause.

Equal Suffrage Movement Not Dying, but Gaining in Strength.

There is an article going the rounds in the newspapers headed, "Passing of Woman Suffrage," in which the writer says that woman suffrage seems to have reached its climax and is now steadily receding.

Then follows a list of defeats which seem to prove to his satisfaction that woman suffrage is rapidly dying. The very defeats mentioned by the writer showed great gains for woman suffrage. There are now five states of the Union in which the question of woman suffrage has been twice submitted to the voters, at intervals of some years. In every case the result has been more favorable the second time than the first. In Colorado, equal suffrage was submitted in 1877 and defeated; it was submitted again in 1893 and carried. In Kansas, when submitted the first time, it received 9,100 votes; when submitted the second time, it received 95,302. In the state of Washington, in 1889, the adverse majority was 19,386; in 1908 it dropped to 9,882. In South Dakota in 1890 woman suffrage was defeated by a majority of 23,610; in 1908 by a majority of only 3,285. In Oregon the vote in 1884 stood 28,176 nays to 11,223 yeas.

Equal suffrage has made more progress in the past ten years than in the half century preceding, which can be shown by the gradual extension of some form of suffrage to women all over the civilized world, full suffrage in Colorado and national suffrage to all the women of federated Australia and New Zealand.

Another fact showing the growing interest in the cause is the annual receipts of the National Suffrage association, which have increased from \$2,000 to \$22,000.

These facts do not indicate a dying cause.

A WINNING CAUSE.

Equal Suffrage Movement Not Dying, but Gaining in Strength.

There is an article going the rounds in the newspapers headed, "Passing of Woman Suffrage," in which the writer says that woman suffrage seems to have reached its climax and is now steadily receding.

Then follows a list of defeats which seem to prove to his satisfaction that woman suffrage is rapidly dying. The very defeats mentioned by the writer showed great gains for woman suffrage.

There are now five states of the Union in which the question of woman suffrage has been twice submitted to the voters, at intervals of some years. In every case the result has been more favorable the second time than the first. In Colorado equal suffrage was submitted in 1877 and defeated; it was submitted again in 1893 and carried. In Kansas, when submitted the first time, it received 9,100 votes; when submitted the second time, it received 95,302. In the state of Washington, in 1889, the adverse majority was 19,386; in 1908 it dropped to 9,882. In South Dakota in 1890 woman suffrage was defeated by a majority of 23,610; in 1898 by a majority of only 3,285. In Oregon the vote in 1884 stood 28,176 nays to 11,223 yeas; in 1900 it was 28,298 nays to 26,265 yeas.

Equal suffrage has made more progress in the past ten years than in the half century preceding, which can be shown by the gradual extension of some form of suffrage to women all over the civilized world, full suffrage in Colorado and national suffrage to all the women of federated Australia and New Zealand.

Another fact showing the growing interest in the cause is the annual receipts of the National Suffrage association, which have increased from \$2,000 to \$22,000.

These facts do not indicate a dying cause.

ELNORA MONROE BABCOCK.

Source:

Elnora Monroe Babcock, "A Winning Cause," *Westfield, N.Y. Republican*, May 20, 1903: 7.