

"Faint yet pursuing."

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REFERENCE

Jan. 17th '34.

Scott.

Mrs. John Scott

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did one sex obtain authority to dominate the other? We are told in Holy Writ that "God created man, male and female created He them and God said let them (not him) have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the fowl of the air" etc. Is not this assumption of authority a remnant of barbarism when physical strength alone was considered important? To-day woman is saying to man practically what the Israelite of old said to Moses, "Who made thee a Prince and a Judge over us"?

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Another tradition which is going by the board is the supposed superiority of man over woman, intellectually or otherwise. It is true that the names of comparatively few women are to be found among the ranks of famous authors, artists, musicians or scientists but the question is, which is more important to the community, to bring forth an author or a book, an artist or a painting, a musician or a sonata? The bearing and rearing of children is an arduous and exhausting profession and more important than any work a man could do as without the exercise of the function of maternity the state would "fade away and gradually die."

Women of today, thanks largely to their own efforts, have secured many educational facilities and when allowed to compete on equal terms with men are giving a good account of themselves in educational institutions. If then, men really are the superior sex, how does it happen that so many male employers seem to prefer female employees and do not hesitate to say that they get more satisfactory service from women. Perhaps the Hon. Mederic Martin, who is now bitterly attacking the employment of women, will explain why, during his term of office as Mayor of Montreal, he employed a woman as his private secretary. If, as the Hon. gentleman has stated publicly, the employment of women was one of two factors which brought about the depression, then, he himself cannot escape the responsibility of being a party to it.

In the majority of cases no doubt, women are employed in preference to men because they seldom receive the same remuneration as men for the same work but this is a condition certainly not of women's seeking as for many years they have been agitating for "equal pay for equal work". Women are not asking for favors or flattery- all that they want is justice and a fair deal.

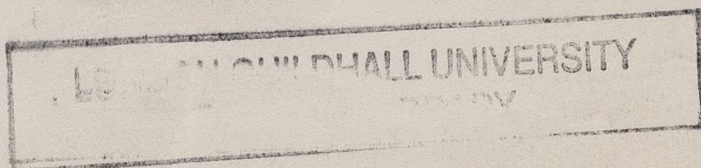
The hands of the clock cannot be put back even by members of the Legislative Council of Quebec. At one time all the domestic industries were carried on in the home until, by the introduction of machinery, they were taken to the factory and shop where women quite naturally followed their former occupations. Idleness inevitably leads to mental and moral deterioration in human beings of both sexes and work is as necessary for one as the other. The results of this fantastic crusade, to compel all women now occupied outside the home to return thither and be supported by their nearest male relative, might be amazing and probably amusing. The unfortunate father of a family of strapping daughters would likely have something interesting to say along this line.

There are undoubtedly some women earning a living outside of the home, who do not, as the phrase goes, "need to work", that is to say, some male relative- father, brother or son could support them in idleness but, if that is a reason for driving all women back to the home, it will also apply in the case of every young man now employed, whose father or mother could provide for him without his needing to work and who should therefore be legislated out of employment as is now proposed to do with women.

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CITY OF LONDON POLYTECHNIC
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WOMEN AND WORK

Broadcasted from Montreal by Mrs. John Scott.

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One of the subjects most discussed at the present time is the employment of women in gainful occupations outside of the home. Not, whether or not shall women be allowed to work as from time immemorial there have been no objections to that but shall they be paid for what they do? No fault is found with a woman for scrubbing the floor of a law court late at night or early in the morning but great exception is taken to a woman standing on that floor and pleading a case as a lawyer. The question is, who has any right to prevent it? Where did one sex obtain authority to dominate the other? We are told in Holy Writ that "God created man, male and female created He them and God said let them (not him) have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the fowl of the air" etc. Is not this assumption of authority a remnant of barbarism when physical strength alone was considered important? To-day woman is saying to man practically what the Israelite of old said to Moses, "Who made thee a Prince and a Judge over us"?

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The foregoing remarks apply to all women, married or single, but a special and even more vitriolic campaign is being waged against the employment of married women. Very few women will voluntarily undertake the duty of caring for a family plus working in an outside position unless dire necessity arises. Many a married woman in our midst to-day is cheerfully assuming this double burden while her husband is ill or out of employment. We should have more faith in the sincerity of those who are opposing the right of women to engage in gainful occupations if their programme included mothers' pensions, which would make it possible for a large class of women to remain in their homes and look after their children.

In the case of childless homes where, with the labour-saving appliances of the present day, a wife may have considerable time on her hands, would it not be better for her to engage in outside employment than to develop into a cinema fan or bridge fiend- in other words a parasite?

Whether or not a married woman should engage in gainful occupation outside of her home is a matter for her husband and herself to decide, neither is it anybody's business but their own, what she shall do with her earnings.