

Remarkable Suffrage Gains

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REMARKABLE SUFFRAGE GAINS

Of special interest to the voters of New York State should be the recent remarkable gains now being reported almost daily for Woman Suffrage not only in this country but also abroad. Suffrage is a pertinent question at this time. The warring nations have made it so. The splendid tributes being paid to the women of Great Britain by men like Lloyd George and former Premier Asquith have been of special interest in this country now that we ourselves are at war and will need to depend to a large degree upon the active service of women in this country.

In the battle for Woman Suffrage the year 1917, as pointed out by a writer in the New York World, "will rank as a memorable year." Recently the World said: "Following the plan adopted by Illinois in 1913, the Legislatures of five States since January 1st have given women the right to vote in Presidential elections. In January, North Dakota took the lead. Next, in February, came Indiana, then Ohio." After Ohio came Rhode Island, the first of the Eastern States, then Michigan and now it is Nebraska. As the table stands, over eight million women are now qualified to vote in Presidential elections.

Together with Great Britain, the new republic of Russia has decided that women shall have the right to vote. Under these circumstances, can the men of New York State any longer afford to withhold his right from the women of the Empire State? New York State women are doing their share of national service for war. In New York State, November 6th, 1917, the vote for Woman Suffrage should be made unanimous.

Newspaper article in

The Pulaski Democrat, May 16, 1917
<http://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn83031648/1917-05-16/ed-1/seq-4/>

How would the acceptance of woman suffrage in the rest of the United States, Britain, and Russia impact New York's decision to allow woman suffrage?



Suffragettes Daisy Solomon and Elspeth McClellan at no. 10 Downing Street attempting to deliver letters in support of woman suffrage. This image is in the public domain.

Who were Daisy Solomon and Elspeth McClellan?

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Questions from the article:

1. What other nations have given women the right to vote according to this article?
2. Why will 1917 be a remarkable year?
3. Why should the vote for Woman Suffrage be made?

Questions to research and discuss:

1. Who was Lloyd George and Premier Asquith (Great Britain) and what role, if any, did they play in Women's Suffrage?
2. According to the article, eight million women are now eligible to vote; how many men are also eligible to vote in the Presidential election?
3. What was the relationship between the United States, Great Britain, and Russia at this time? Did this relationship help, hinder, or have no impact on Women's Suffrage?
4. What did women do for national service for war during this time? Did it impact the goals for Woman's Suffrage?

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