SHALL WOMEN PRACTICE PARTY REGULARITY?: Opinion Among Suffragists Is...New York Times (1857-1922); Mar 7, 1920; ProQuest Historical Newspapers: The New York Times pg. XX3

SHALL WOMEN PRACTICE PARTY REGULARITY?

Opinion Among Suffragists Is Divided, Some Maintaining That Independence Would Be More Effective as a Political Factor—Four Types Among the New Acquisitions as Voters

It is to be "no party, right or left, or the individual," but "the party," that some women have said in discussion of women and party regularity. Mrs. Arthur L. Livermore, Chairman of the Republican Women’s State Executive Committee and Alternates at the coming Republican National Convention, was the advocate of party loyalty; Mrs. Charles L. Tiffany, Chairman of the Manhattan branch of the League of Women Voters and a member of the Democratic Party, was the advocate of independence.

In interviews subsequently, the two women elaborated on their points of view.

Mrs. Livermore believes that women should take a stand in politics, that they should become active members of a political party with a clear, logical plan of action that is presented to the public and that they should vote at every election for the candidates of their own party.

Mrs. Tiffany, on the other hand, believes that women should not become active members of a political party, but should instead support candidates who are committed to the principles of equality for women. She believes that women should vote for candidates who support women’s rights, regardless of their party affiliation.

Mrs. Livermore argues that women should support the party that is most likely to enact their ideas into law, while Mrs. Tiffany believes that women should support candidates who support women’s rights, regardless of their party affiliation.

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WOMEN AND PARTY LOYALTY

(Continued from Page 3.)

ERS the need of team play, and it has amused me that they should think they could make the women vote the now discredited straight ticket on that ground. The old-time demand of the leaders to the voters of their party that they must vote only for the candidates of their party is simply re-echoed in the team-play argument of today.

"The women will soon grow impatient if they continue to be left out of the management of the parties. Unless they are made members of the important committees which shape the platform and nominate the candidates they will be urged by their own women leaders to organize within the party. To their way of thinking it would be for the party's welfare. Here they can work for the insertion of desired planks and the nomination of more desirable candidates. Women do not choose to have their votes divorced from men's; they do not believe in a separate party, but if they are barred from membership on vital committees they will have to use their united votes to force their way into places of power and responsibility.

"The intelligent woman voter will vote for the candidate who will give the best service. Until she can choose the names of the candidates who will appear on her party ballot, she will probably be obliged to split her ticket. There is one point I want to stress on this subject:

"In splitting her ticket, she will make a distinction between the administrators and legislators. Let me make myself more clear by giving a hypothetical case:

"If her party drew up a ticket wherein the candidate for Governor was satisfactory and the candidates for Assemblymen were not satisfactory, she would probably vote a straight ticket. The legislators, you see, are in position only to inaugurate laws. She could trust them to follow the principles of the party in which she had enrolled. If, on the other hand, the party drew up a ticket in which the opposing candidate for Governor was more satisfactory, she would, for the good of the community of which she is a part, split her ticket and vote for a good Executive and for the legislators who represented her ideas of government. What she is most interested in is getting the best type of man elected in administrative offices."