

ly young, many of them, in fact most of them, being boys. The fact is that it was a purely American movement. There were almost no foreigners in their ranks. Their great trouble and terrible depression came from the fact that they had no trade; and while they could all read and write, and seemed even more than ordinarily intelligent, the fact that they were not skilled in some trade debarred them from entering the unions so largely controlled by skilled foreign labour. And there they were, outside of any hope of advancement. What speaks louder than that for a certain amount of manual training in connection with the public school system? That was not, you must understand, the experience of any one man alone. Many universities sent visitors to these Coxey armies throughout the countries, and they all concur in the impression that they had received. I think that if the women's clubs throughout the country could get interest sufficiently aroused to get the board to visit the schools systematically, and carefully watch the methods of education, it would not be two years before manual training in distinction from a technical education would be introduced in all the public schools, not only in this city but in all other places where the federation of clubs could be used to accomplish the needed improvements.

Another point should not be overlooked. Especially in the West, the untidiness of towns is a constant source of discouragement and annoyance to their citizens. If the clubs would turn their attention to improving the conditions and the beauty of the cities, this country could be made outwardly as attractive as any of those abroad, and it would take but a very short time.

You ask me whether it is possible that the federation will ever do anything for the elevation and liberation of woman. Why, woman is already liberated. She can do and accomplish entirely what she chooses to do and all that she is fitted for. I know of no laws that are actually enforced that work any hardship to women. In the Northern States, I do not think that there exists more than one or two laws that can be complained of by women on the statute books, and these are virtually non-existent. I will mention as one of these the placing of the guardianship of the child in the father, which is founded on the old common law. But the courts are so merciful in regard to this law that it is seldom enforced. You will never find a judge who will take a child from a mother who is competent to take care of it, or even half-way competent. I repeat that woman is liberated, and now she is using her liberty. She needs nothing more in the way of legislation. Of course there are a few objectionable laws on the books. They should be removed, but I think woman would have almost nothing more. And

the policy of the wise woman is not to ask for legislation for women.

Is there anything that can be done without resorting to legislation to improve the industrial condition of woman? I think not. The modern woman has arrived. She is here, and she is here to stay. She will have to follow just the same path of evolution that man has followed. She now has the advantages that man has, but she is not yet specialized to the high degree that man is, though that is coming, too. She has not yet learned to sacrifice what man has and consequently she is at sea in the labour market. That is a matter that will come out all right in a few years. She can now enter all the technical schools, the same as men. She can have in the universities all the advantages that are afforded to man. There are thousands of girls in our universities who are studying the higher mathematics and almost all the advanced lines of art and education, and there is no reason why these women shall not be just as efficient as the men. The great mass of women have had to take what they could get, and consequently they are not trained.

I think the time is coming in this country in which the women will be needed. Men have specialized and they are magnificent in production, but where they are failing is in distribution, and especially in the kind of distribution necessary. The body financial and economic needs a conservative, kindly force, and you must get it from the women. You have specialized until you have specialized the soul out of existence, and now you must get the soul.

Women can only meet the new exigencies of life in the larger cities; hence the benefits of the federation of the clubs. It takes the women of the smaller communities out of their old lives and brings them into sympathy with the life and great movements of the time. Thus education comes by this great force. The sense of its power gives the needed courage to many women to undertake the new duties which are coming into their lives. Isolated and alone in little communities it is an untold blessing to them to meet in this great federation once in two years, comparing notes, hearing what others have accomplished."

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## Science Notes.

### SUMMER NOTES.

It is now between two and three months ago that a column of *Science Notes* was devoted to the white-thorn and various customs and superstitions relating to it; occasion was taken at that time to remark that its appearance this year was as early as any recorded (to our knowledge) for the last fifty years. In the interval which has elapsed since the above column

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