

usefulness as such, should try to qualify themselves for it as fully as possible, by gaining all the knowledge they can of the civic life which they share. Try to understand something of the laws under which you live, and the regulations which have to be observed, in order that the life of your city, or district, as the case may be, shall be clean, healthful, and conducive in every way to right living and happy homes. Try to know something of the effects of these laws and regulations in the life around you, how far they are working for the welfare and happiness of the people generally, where they are failing to do this, and how they might be improved; something of the conditions of life in other classes of the community than your own, and how they are affected by these regulations. Be careful also in your own lives never to infringe any of these regulations which bear upon your own conduct, however trifling they may appear. Never think it doesn't matter whether you carry them out or not, and be very careful that nothing in your life, or in your home, shall cause inconvenience to others. It is these little things which make up the comfort and happiness of the life of the whole, and you cannot be too scrupulous and conscientious in such matters.

Then try to take a wider view of life; to know something of what goes on in other parts of the world; to keep in touch with the movements and the events of the day, the new methods and the new ideas which govern national life. Watch the changes that take place in the life of the world, and try to understand the causes which lie behind them. Things move very rapidly now-a-days, and changes come very unexpectedly, and unless we take careful note of them, we fail to understand the real life of the world. Citizenship is not a purely national thing, nor confined to one's own country; we are also citizens of the world, and our interest and sympathies should extend to every part of it. As we have already seen in the case of individuals, and again with different classes of society, so also with nations. No nation can live its own life independently of others; the good of one is the good of all, and every weakness or disability on the part of one reacts upon the whole. No individual, no class, and no nation who gains prosperity at the expense of another is

working for the promotion of Good Citizenship. It is only by their studying out relationships with others, both at home and abroad, that we can educate ourselves for the carrying out of our duties as citizens. It should be the aim of every girl to become as well-informed as possible on all these points, so that she can take an intelligent interest in public questions, and form right judgments upon them.

There is a third essential to Good Citizenship, one of supreme importance, namely, the recognition of religion as the foundation of social, civic, and national life. There is too often a tendency to separate our religion from our life as citizens. Let it be clearly realised that no such divorce is possible. Only so far as we regard every duty as Divine service, whether teaching in a Sunday school or recording our vote at an election, are we giving the best of our abilities to the service of God and man. Only as we bring our religious principles to bear upon our work for our city or our country is our religion of real value to us. All our relationships, civic, national, or international, must be based upon love to God and man, which is the very heart and soul of religion. The nation which does not thus base all its political activity upon a foundation of religion, bringing the highest religious principles to bear upon every question, is working its own destruction; and it is for every citizen to bring all the religious influence possible to bear upon the national life, by thought, speech, and action, whether in a private or public capacity.

One other point I would like to touch upon before concluding. We are living now in a time of great and rapid changes, when the old ideals and methods are giving place to new ones, which may be better fitted for the new conditions of life. There is sometimes a tendency, especially in the minds of the younger generation, to depreciate and cast aside what they perhaps consider to be old-fashioned, worn-out notions, and to adopt without question everything that is new. This is only natural, and in many ways right, for it is by understanding the newer aspects of thought, and the more modern expression of ideas, that progress becomes possible. But it should never be forgotten that though the forms are changing, the spirit that animated them, and

the truth which they embodied, remain the same, and in following after and adopting the newer aspects of thought and activity, let us not lose our reverence for what has been the best expression of that same thought in days that are past. Reverence is a quality none too common in the present day, and needs to be cultivated, for it is the foundation of love. George Eliot puts this point well when she says, "The delight in doing things because our fathers did them is good if it shuts out nothing better; it enlarges the range of affection, and affection is the broad basis of good in life." But when old forms have lost their power, and no longer appeal to you, do not hesitate to put them aside. Do not be bound by the old forms, but recognise them as the basis of the new, remembering that it is largely through them that we have been able to realise the clearer views of truth and duty to which we may have attained.

We cannot realise too clearly the influence which women can exercise in the formation of the thought and character of their times; as mother of the race and makers of the home, the power of their own thought and life is far greater than we are apt to imagine. And when this is brought also into the field of civic and political life it throws an added responsibility upon them, which we shall do well to ponder, and try to realise that we may become worthy citizens of our country, and of the world. Let me quote from the President's speech at the Working-Women's Conference, held at Genoa last year. "We are at the birth of a new era, and whether that new social order is going to be better or worse than the old order will depend very largely upon the vision, the spirit, the valour and wisdom of the women of the world." Go forward then, and strive to realise your responsibilities as citizens of the new order, and do your part in the gradual evolution of the ideals of citizenship, and in the building up of a civilisation, which shall be based on the mutual love and service of all classes and all nations in the world.

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The alcoholic ward of the Philadelphia general hospital has been closed—no patients since the middle of July.