

THE WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE MOVEMENT

In Broward County and Florida

by ANNETTE VAN HOWE

It was not until May 1969, that the Nineteenth Amendment was formally ratified by Florida's Governor Claude Kirk. It was a long overdue symbolic step of granting Florida's women the right to vote. Appropriately, this action came on the thirtieth anniversary of the League of Women Voters.¹ That organization was formed after the National Association of Women Suffrage Associations (NAWSA) disbanded. The National Association of Women Suffrage Associations was organized by Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton in 1869. These women were the leaders, organizers, and brains of the nineteenth century suffrage movement.²

In the years leading up to the successful passage of the Nineteenth Amendment, on August 26, 1920, women were organizing in Fort Lauderdale and throughout Florida to pass legislation giving women suffrage on three levels: national, state, and local. Fort Lauderdale's Ivy Stranahan became one of Florida's most prominent suffragists, while a number of other Fort Lauderdale pioneers, such as Annie Beck and Frances TenBrook were active in the suffrage movement on a local level.

The Fort Lauderdale suffrage move-

ment reflected many of the concerns expressed by suffragists throughout the South in the half century following the Civil War. The position of Henry Blackwell, a noted former abolitionist from Massachusetts, illustrates these concerns. Prior to the Civil War, Blackwell asked women to cool their ardor for suffrage so that it would not detract from efforts to free the slaves.

By 1867, Blackwell advocated votes for white women to counterbalance the votes of blacks.³

Others also advocated the vote to maintain the political supremacy of the white race, but many regarded the prospect with horror. In the period following the Civil War, the southern white woman was perceived as the South's rationale for fighting the war,

While much of Broward County's history is the product of its unique location, climate, and topography, the county has also taken part in many sweeping national events. The struggle for women's suffrage in the first decades of the twentieth century is an outstanding example, not only because it directly affected approximately half of the region's population, but because several of Broward's most prominent women became active participants in the cause. Ivy Stranahan, in particular, assumed a position of leadership on a statewide level. This article traces the course of the women's suffrage movement in Broward County and Florida, pointing out its interconnections with other concerns of the period, including race relations, temperance, and World War I, and emphasizing the internal workings of the various cooperating — and sometimes conflicting — women's organizations in achieving their goal.

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and became a key element in romanticizing their "lost cause." To vote, and thus become involved in the rough and tumble of politics, was considered by many beneath the dignity of genteel ladies.

During Reconstruction the notion that white women's votes would counterbalance those of blacks presented a powerful argument, but other ways were found to negate the black vote: poll taxes, grandfather clauses, and simple intimidation. It was not until the Women's Christian Temperance Union, in the 1880s, took a strong stand in support of women's suffrage that there was a greater resurgence of Blackwell's assertion that giving the vote to white women would further white supremacy.⁴

Speakers during that decade also argued that there were more educated southern women than all illiterate voters — white, black, and foreign-born combined. Belle Kearney, a WCTU activist, said in a speech that the South was slow to grasp the great fact that the enfranchisement of women would settle the race question in politics. Anna Howard Shaw, the NAWSA president in the 1880s, harshly reproved white southern men, saying, "Never before have men made former slaves the political masters of their former mistresses."⁵

With that logic, upper class southern white women could join the suffrage movement because it did not betray their ideals of class or their means of maintaining the southern tradition of white supremacy. While promoting the race argument in the South, the WCTU's main concern with suffrage was the corollary they saw between whiskey and the vote. Since alcoholism was a vice more common to men and had a detrimental effect on the home, temperance advocates felt that women's votes would result in the passage of anti-liquor laws.

Such was the mood of the country and of the National Association of Women Suffrage Associations at the dawn of the 1890s. Against that backdrop, some of the first suffrage groups in Florida were organized. For example, a group was organized in Tampa in 1892. This group, calling itself the Florida Women's Suffrage Association, grew to about 100 members and disbanded when its organizer, Ella C. Chamberlain, moved out of the state in 1897.⁶ Despite this early activity, the women's suffrage movement in Florida made no substantial impact on legislation or the national movement throughout the first decade of the twentieth century. The movement gained momentum across the country in 1912 when the National Progressive Party made women's suffrage a part of its platform.



The Fort Lauderdale Woman's Club building in Stranahan Park, c. 1920s. The club was a center of local women's suffrage activity.

Reaction in Florida followed immediately. In Jacksonville in 1912, the Equal Franchise League was formed, becoming affiliated with NAWSA. Its members participated in the famous suffrage march in Washington, D. C., which coincided with the inauguration of Woodrow Wilson as president. The League's leader, Roselle C. Cooley, tried to get a women's suffrage amendment added to the Florida Constitution. Jeannette Rankin of Montana, the first woman elected to the U.S. House of Representatives, was sent by NAWSA to Florida to lobby for the state amendment. It was defeated by a vote of thirty-eight to twenty-six in the Florida House of Representatives, a respectable showing for a first time effort.⁷

Throughout the state other groups were forming. In 1913 the Reverend Mary A. Safford, a Unitarian minister, formed a suffrage group in Orlando. Reverend Safford also worked closely with Mrs. Cooley to form a statewide organization, a project which was accomplished at the November 1913 convention of the Florida Federation of Women's Clubs. The heart of the suffrage movement in Florida was through the women's clubs. In fact, the Florida Federation of Women's Clubs (FFWC) had already adopted suffrage as part of their own program, and formally endorsed the program of Reverend Safford and Mrs. Cooley's newly-founded Florida Equal Suffrage Association.

The Florida Equal Suffrage Association held six state conventions from 1914 to 1919. Nevertheless, the general

feeling remained during these years that the women's clubs were the most effective agency for bringing about suffrage. The leadership of the clubs and the suffrage association were generally the same, so there was a tendency to de-emphasize the weak and poorly organized suffrage association and work through the larger, well-organized FFWC.⁸ On August 10, 1917, Ivy Stranahan, then president of the Florida Equal Suffrage Association, wrote: "I really feel that the majority of suffrage work will necessarily be done through the women's clubs anyway . . . You know when we get equal rights, it seems to me there will be no further use for a separate organization, our aims will have been accomplished."⁹

Ivy Stranahan of Fort Lauderdale was elected to the presidency of the Florida Equal Suffrage Association at its 1917 convention. The Reverend Mary Safford was named honorary chairman, and Mary Elizabeth Bryan, the wife of the presidential candidate and orator William Jennings Bryan, became legislative committee chairman. Mary Elizabeth Bryan was a strong leader, with a vision to promote legislation as the organization's main emphasis. The Association ignored the adoption of an organizational or education program. In the years to come, Ivy Stranahan and Mary Elizabeth Bryan spent much of their time lobbying in Tallahassee for various suffrage bills.¹⁰

Mary Elizabeth Bryan was supported in her suffrage efforts by her illustrious husband, a fact which

undoubtedly gave the movement widespread appeal and a greater reception. Colonel William Jennings Bryan spoke before a large audience in the Fort Lauderdale High School auditorium in 1918. He argued that a mother is primarily responsible for the training of a young man, pointing out that if he is fitted by her to vote, the mother should certainly be competent to do the same. In August 1918, another lecturer in Fort Lauderdale, Mrs. Guilford Dudley, president of the Equal Suffrage League of Tennessee, said, "There are two stumbling blocks in the South, the Negro and states' rights." She alluded to the different approaches between state amendments and a national amendment, then being pushed by the newly formed National Women's Party. The state leadership, under Ivy Stranahan, promoted states' rights and later a primary bill based on the fact that the South was solidly Democratic and that winning the Democratic primary usu-

ally meant election.¹¹ These regional issues were, for the most part, ignored by the national NAWSA organization.

Arguments for and against suffrage found their way into a number of state and local publications and were echoed in various public addresses. One pro-suffrage argument was that women's participation in government was an extension of their housekeeping chores. That sentiment was expressed in a paid advertisement in the *Fort Lauderdale Sentinel* in May, 1916, which said in part: "Being deprived by the state of Florida of my rights as a citizen and having no voice in the community in which I pay taxes, I appeal to you for help. I ask you to consider the best interests of the children before casting your vote."¹²

This theory gained popularity as a result of its advocacy by such national figures as Jane Addams, the noted Chicago social worker, who felt that women simply wanted an opportunity to take care of those affairs which



Ivy Stranahan, Fort Lauderdale's most prominent suffragist, as she appeared in the 1920s (photo courtesy of Fort Lauderdale Historical Society).

Logical Argument for Equal Suffrage

Mrs Guilford Dudley Makes Plea to Ft Lauderdale Audience in Behalf of the Federal Equal Suffrage Amendment

Last Monday night Ft. Lauderdale had the pleasure of hearing an address on Equal Suffrage by the talented Mrs. Guilford Dudley, of Tennessee. But Mrs. Dudley was not the only attraction. There were strange faces on the platform and two strange voices speaking for equal rights for men and women.

The Rex Theatre was comfortably filled when the hour arrived for the lecture. On the platform were the speaker, Mrs. Dudley, Mrs. Louise Parker, president of the Broward County Equal Suffrage Association and Mrs. Frank Stranahan, State President of Equal Suffrage Association. This trio of ladies was flanked on either side by a trio of mere men, who at least served as a frame in the rough for the beautiful picture that decorated the center of the stage.

Mrs. Louise Parker was chairman of the evening, and as an opening number, introduced Miss Vilona Hall, Ft.

Lauderdale's gifted violinist, who favored the audience with two musical selections. Mrs. Hall was accompanied by Mrs. Baird. After the music, in a few well chosen remarks, the chairman introduced Mrs. Guilford Dudley.

Before beginning her lecture, Mrs. Dudley told the audience that she had been mis-quoted by the afternoon Miami paper regarding her speech in that city. She deplored that she had said that "Prussia was ready to lay down her arms, if she felt that America would protect the weak." She corrected the statement, made by the same Miami paper, regarding Senator Fletcher being too old to change, and in each case was radically different from what was quoted. After disposing of this matter, Mrs. Dudley took up the discussion of suffrage from three stand points. First, Southern; 2d, National and 3d, Universal.

(Continued on Page 8)

naturally and historically belonged to women.¹³ Conversely, anti-suffragists felt the vote would ruin the home. Frank Clark, a Florida congressman, was a staunch opponent of suffrage for women. In 1918, he spoke on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives saying, "... the conferring of the franchise on women will tend to disrupt the family ... and when you disrupt the family you destroy the home which in America is the foundation stone of the Republic."¹⁴ A popular ditty against women's suffrage went like this:

It's all over with the men, as soon as women get the vote ...
They'll start to wear the trousers, men will wear the petticoats ...
We'll have to nurse the baby, do all the housework too ...
And they'll roll home in the morning just like father used to do.¹⁵

In a reversal of Henry Blackwell's argument presented in the nineteenth century, many objected to suffrage because it would give black women the vote. One man reportedly said, "We can club the nigger man away from the polls but we couldn't do that with a black woman."¹⁶ The Florida State Superintendent of Education, W. N. Sheats, reportedly leapt to his feet at a 1914 national educators' meeting and demanded to know what "political equality" meant. He voiced the opinion that two-thirds of the women of the South did not really want suffrage. Upon his return to Florida, Sheats was asked for an explanation. He explained that "free political equality for women of the South would mean ruin since it

Article from the *Fort Lauderdale Sentinel* detailing Mrs. Guilford Dudley's suffrage address.

would open the gate to millions of ignorant and superstitious Negro women." These views were presented over and over again.¹⁷

Various organizations sponsored speakers in Broward County. A number of speakers came to Fort Lauderdale, often sponsored by the Woman's Club. Mrs. Frank Walsh, of Davie, spoke at a meeting of the WCTU. The *Fort Lauderdale Sentinel* reprinted her entire address. She said there were two great issues facing the voters. One was democracy versus autocracy, and the other was curbing the evil of drink. To correct both, she said, it was imperative to give equal franchise to women. If mothers objected to sending their sons to war, she reasoned, they also objected to exposing their sons to a business which corrupts their souls and bodies. For these reasons, she explained, men were beginning to see that women's role in politics would resolve these problems.¹⁸

In her August 1918 address at the Rex Theatre in Fort Lauderdale, Mrs. Dudley acclaimed women's rise in education, business, and politics. According to the *Fort Lauderdale Sentinel*, she cited that women from Plato's time to the present believed in justice and equal rights for both men and women. Following Mrs. Dudley's talk, Ivy Stranahan introduced a resolution calling upon Florida's two U.S. senators to vote for the passage of the Nineteenth Amendment guaranteeing nationwide women's suffrage.¹⁹

Ivy Stranahan, who had been Fort Lauderdale's first school teacher in 1899 and whose views were highly respected in the community, was a strong proponent of women's suffrage. She had been active in the formation of the Fort Lauderdale Woman's Club in 1911 and later served as president for three years. When the Fort Lauderdale Suffrage League was founded in 1915, she took a leading role in its affairs, which led to the presidency of the state association. Shortly after she took on the presidency, the United States entered World War I. She threw herself into the war effort, and her suffrage activities took second place. At the 1917 fourth annual convention in Tampa, Mrs. Stranahan reported, "Organization work has been very much retarded owing to the great war which is demanding the time, energy, and finances of the women who do this work."²⁰

Other difficulties, in addition to preoccupation with the war, marred Ivy Stranahan's term as the leader of the Florida Equal Suffrage Association. Like many other southern suffrage leaders, Mrs. Stranahan was a staunch advocate of primary suffrage until the final phases of the suffrage

movement. In 1917 a small group went to Tallahassee to lobby for passage of a primary suffrage bill introduced by William H. Marshall, former mayor of Fort Lauderdale. Ivy Stranahan, president of the Florida Equal Suffrage Association; Mary Elizabeth Bryan; and Mrs. William S. Jennings, president of the Florida Federation of Women's Clubs, led the delegation. Marjory Stoneman Douglas covered the issue for the *Miami Times*. Public hearings were held on primary and state suffrage, but Marshall's bill did not receive the required majority vote.

That same year, Fort Lauderdale

suffrage supporters suffered defeat on a local level when male voters rejected a proposed new city charter including equal municipal suffrage. The women had canvassed the town getting signatures and obtained 154 favorable signers to 117 opposed. Among the women in the forefront of this drive was Frances TenBrook, who was also president of the local WCTU. Even though the canvass revealed a majority for the charter change, the 171 votes cast defeated equal municipal suffrage by a margin of ninety-three to seventy-eight.²¹

The 1917 convention reflected a

<p>1st Vice Pres. Mrs. Frank Stranahan Fl. Lauderdale</p> <p>2nd Vice Pres. Mrs. Frank Tracy Pensacola</p> <p>3rd Vice Pres. Miss Elizabeth Skinner Dunedin</p> <p>Press Committee Mrs. E. H. Mahalan, Chm. Romney Beach, Miami Mrs. Katherine Pierce Melbourne Miss Minnie Kahoe Pensacola</p>	<p>FLORIDA EQUAL SUFFRAGE ASSOCIATION</p> <p>Rev. Mary A. Safford, President Orlando</p> <p>LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE Mrs. Frank Stranahan, Chairman Miss W. S. Jennings Jacksonville Miss Elizabeth Skinner Miss I. S. Mays Gainesville Mrs. Frank Tracy</p>	<p>Cor. Sec'y. Miss Emma Hainer Orlando</p> <p>Rec. Sec'y. Mrs. A. L. Andrews Miami</p> <p>Treasurer Mrs. John Scherer Orlando</p> <p>Auditors Miss Kate Jackson Tampa Mrs. I. O. Price Tampa</p>
<p>A B I L L</p> <p>TO BE ENTITLED</p> <p>AN ACT GRANTING EQUAL SUFFRAGE IN PRIMARY ELECTIONS TO WOMEN OF FLORIDA, AND IN RELATION TO QUALIFICATIONS REGISTRATION PRIVILEGES OF VOTING AND THE CANVASS AND RETURN THEREOF.</p> <p>BE IT ENACTED (THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA:</p> <p>SECTION 1. That on and after the passage and approval of this Act every person of the age of 21 years and upwards, that at the time of registration shall be a citizen of the United States, and that shall have resided and had his or her habitation, domicile, home and place of permanent abode in Florida for one year, and in the County for six months shall in such county be deemed a qualified elector at all general and special primary elections held for the purpose of nominating United States Senators, Members of the Congress of the United States, State, County, Municipal, District and Sub-district officers and for the nomination of candidates to become delegates to national, state, county, municipal, district and sub-district conventions or assemblies; Also for the nomination of Executive Committeemen, National, State, County, Municipal, District and Sub-district under the laws of the State of Florida. Naturalized citizens of the United States shall at the time of their registration produce to the registration officer his or her certificate of naturalization, or a duly certified copy thereof.</p> <p>SECTION 2. That persons, both male and female, qualified as provided in Section 1 of this Act to vote in such Primary elections, shall be and are hereby granted full and equal privileges of suffrage and such vote shall be received, canvassed, counted and reported without regard to sex, being of equal dignity privilege and effect.</p> <p>SECTION 3. That all laws and parts of laws in conflict with the provisions of this Act be and the same are hereby repealed.</p> <p>SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect immediately upon its passage and approval by the Governor.</p>		

Bill for primary suffrage proposed by the Florida Equal Suffrage Association, 1918 (courtesy of Fort Lauderdale Historical Society).



Above is May Mann Jennings, Florida's first lady from 1901-1905 and one of the state's leading suffragists (photo courtesy of *The Florida Historical Quarterly*). At right is the program of the Florida Equal Suffrage Association's 1918 meeting (courtesy of the Fort Lauderdale Historical Society).

growing push for a federal suffrage amendment. One speaker said, "We are fighting to make the world safe for democracy . . . a democracy in which women have no part. The thing we ask is fundamental to democracy . . . we live in a democracy . . . but there can be no democracy in which women are not included . . ."22 The Reverend Safford urged that women should be taken off their pedestals, which she viewed as obstacles in the path of human progress. The war showed that women were capable, she stated, and had been enthroned on "pseudo pedestals."²³

In Florida, the National Women's Party saw the growing division between those who favored state and local measures and those who advocated a constitutional amendment as an opportunity to provide strong national leadership for the suffrage movement. The National Association of Women Suffrage Associations had no organizers in Florida, and the state association had no time, energy, or money to strengthen their cause, leaving the Florida Federation of Women's Clubs, with 1000 clubs and 700 members, as the backbone of the suffrage movement in Florida. Despite the urgings of Mrs. William S. Jennings to Ivy Stranahan to organize

Mrs. Carrier Chapman Catts
Address,
Federation of Womens Club
Friday Evening, Nov. 22, '18

Meeting, Parlor Morgan Hotel
Conference, Daytona, Florida

"BALLOTS FOR BOTH"

FLORIDA EQUAL SUFFRAGE ASSOCIATION

FIFTH ANNUAL MEETING

November 18-19, 1918

PROGRAM

MONDAY:

Nov. 18, 3:00 p. m.—Meeting of Executive Board; Appointment Committee, Credential, Nominating and Resolutions. (All delegates please be present)

MONDAY:

Nov. 18, 7:45 p. m.—Music; America; Invocation; Address, the National American Woman Suffrage Association and the State, Mrs. Frank Stranahan, President, Florida E. S. A., Fort Lauderdale

Music; Address: "Woman Suffrage Means Patriotism," Dr. Mary A. Safford, Orlando Announcements.

TUESDAY:

Nov. 19, 9:30 a. m.—Business; Reports; Committees, Credentials, Nominations, Officers, Secretary, President. Report: Delegate National Convention, Washington, D. C., Dr. Mary A. Safford.

Address, "What it Would Mean to the Cause if Each Suffragist did their Part." Mrs. W. S. Jennings. "Power and Right of Petition," Miss Elizabeth Skinner. Election of Officers. Announcements, Adjournment.

TUESDAY:

Nov. 19, 2:00 p. m.—Business: Reports of Leagues.

Address: "Woman's Growing Loyalty to Her Sex," Mrs. T. C. Havens, Miami. "The Press a Power for Suffrage," Discussion led by Mrs. Irene G. Adams, Lake Helen. "Woman Suffrage in War-time," Mrs. V. A. Pierce, Melbourne. "Minor Conference "Value of Organization," Mrs. L. A. Andrus Miami. Adjournment.

Meeting of Executive Board.

new suffrage leagues, no new leagues were formed.²⁴

This difference of opinion expressed at the Tampa convention reflected the divisions on the national level between NAWSA and the National Women's Party and its leader, Alice Paul, who had received her indoctrination in a confrontational style from the English suffragists. British suffrage supporters marched, petitioned, and made a nuisance of themselves to gain attention. Alice Paul's National Women's Party used those same tactics in Washington, D. C. They camped in front of the White House, were jailed,

force fed, and gained widespread publicity for their cause, a federal suffrage amendment.²⁵ Today, proponents for each group say their tactics won the suffrage. However, historians increasing are paying more attention to Alice Paul as the dominant national force for suffrage.

Probably the sharpest division to occur among Florida suffragists was the heated debate over a presidential suffrage bill. During the 1917 legislative session, Ivy Stranahan and Mrs. Jennings had a copy of the bill but did not work for its introduction on the advice of friendly legislators who said

that it would meet with sure defeat.²⁶ The failure to introduce the bill caused unhappiness among some women, primarily those from Miami and other parts of south Florida who had no direct contact with the legislature. The *Miami Metropolis* was especially vocal in calling for the introduction of the bill in the legislature. Some of the paper's writers claimed that the bill would have been introduced except for the opposition of Mrs. Stranahan and Mrs. Jennings. As a result of the controversy, some of the suffrage leagues threatened to withdraw from the state organization. Ivy Stranahan answered their complaints by commenting that "they were out of their heads" and suggesting that they should use their energies more effectively by working for municipal suffrage.²⁷

At the fifth annual convention of the Florida Equal Suffrage Association in Daytona in November, 1918, Ivy Stranahan became first vice president and legislative chairman. This time, the convention delegates decided to tackle the issue with a two pronged attack: nationally by petitioning senators to vote for a suffrage amendment, and locally by continuing to push for primary suffrage in the state legislature.²⁸ Neither plan was successful. A resolution in April 1919 to pass a primary suffrage amendment to the state constitution lost by five votes. The old arguments that "Morality and purity could not be legislated" and "Politics is a dirty game, and not for women," helped defeat the amendment.²⁹

When the Nineteenth Amendment was introduced into the U.S. House of Representatives on May 21, 1919, Florida's four congressmen split two and two. But the amendment passed the House with a three-fifths majority. Despite strong petitions from Florida's suffragists, the state's senators both opposed the amendment. Senator Duncan U. Fletcher argued that each state should settle the question of women's suffrage for itself. Senator Park Trammell was also adamant in

his position that state governments should control and regulate elections.³⁰ Although both men voted against the amendment, when it came to the floor for a vote, it received the necessary three-fourths votes.

As soon as Congress passed the Susan B. Anthony Amendment, the name soon applied to the Nineteenth Amendment, a reliable group of Florida suffragists sprang into action. Four of them again travelled to Tallahassee to lobby for ratification. Ivy Stranahan was among them, representing the Florida Equal Suffrage Association. The legislature was adjourned the day after they arrived, and the governor could not be convinced to call a special session.

Before adjourning, however, the legislature had passed into law a bill of significance to Fort Lauderdale's citizens. This bill, introduced by William H. Marshall, a consistent supporter of women's suffrage, allowed women to vote in local municipal elections in Fort Lauderdale, as was already mandated in sixteen other Florida towns. The bill passed both houses of the legislature and was confirmed in a special election held in Fort Lauderdale on August 6. The election attracted a light turnout, but the Municipal Suffrage Law passed by a margin of sixty-five to seventeen.

Women across the country obtained the vote on August 26, 1920, when thirty-six states gave the three-fourths majority necessary for ratification. Nearly forty-nine years later, the Florida Legislature belatedly ratified the Nineteenth Amendment.

In the final analysis, the women of Florida gained the right to vote because of changes in the national climate brought about by women's contribution to victory in World War I, strong suffrage efforts on the state and local levels, and the well-organized push for a national suffrage amendment. Florida never had over 1,000 women as members of its suffrage leagues, but it did have a small core of dedicated workers who struggled against apathy and prejudice to

achieve their goal. Women worked to achieve the vote for a variety of reasons. Some wanted to correct the disadvantaged position of women in society. Others saw suffrage as a means of promoting Prohibition. Such secondary arguments aside, all felt that they were entitled to participate in the decisions of the government under which they lived.

With suffrage achieved, the movement's leaders turned to new endeavors. The League of Women Voters, successor to NAWSA, felt that women, with their educated votes, could cure the ills of society, and concerned itself with social welfare, peace, and consumer legislation. The legal status of women was only one part of its broad platform. The National Women's Party, at the other extreme, concentrated on only one thing — an Equal Rights Amendment. Alice Paul, the story goes, was not elated when the Nineteenth Amendment passed, because she felt women had won only half the battle. For that reason, she wrote and campaigned for the Equal Rights Amendment.

Broward County's suffrage leaders also remained active in a number of political and social reforms. Ivy Stranahan, the area's most ardent suffragist, turned her energies to the educational needs of Seminole Indian children. Annie Beck devoted her time to the Fort Lauderdale Woman's Club and the beautification of her city. In general, the Fort Lauderdale Woman's Club has remained an important advocate for women's rights and civic improvement.

In the seventy years since suffrage was granted, women have improved their status in a number of ways. They have become active in political parties, and they have served in numerous state, local, and national offices. Today, women are still engaged in an effort to change the world so that it belongs to both sexes. A long road stretches ahead, but a long road has been travelled already by such women as those who led the suffrage movement in Broward County and Florida.

FOOTNOTES

1. Alice Hopkins, "Women's Suffrage in Florida, A Survey," Directed Independent Study, Fort Lauderdale, 1.

2. Eleanor Fieser, *A Century of Struggle* (Boston: Belknap Press, Harvard University Press, 1975), 154-155.

3. Hopkins, "Women's Suffrage in Florida," 2.

4. *Ibid.*, 3.

5. *Ibid.*, 4.

6. *Ibid.*, 5.

7. *Ibid.*, 6.

8. Kenneth R. Johnson, "The Woman Suffrage Movement in Florida," (Ph.D. Dissertation, Florida State University, Tallahassee, 1966), 79.

9. *Ibid.*

10. *Ibid.*, 109.

11. Hopkins, "Women's Suffrage in Florida," 10.

12. "A Mother's Choice," *Fort Lauderdale Sentinel*, May 19, 1916.

13. Hopkins, "Women's Suffrage in Florida," 10.

14. *Ibid.*, 11.

15. Miscellaneous clippings in archives of Fort Lauderdale Historical Society, Fort Lauderdale.

16. Hopkins, "Women's Suffrage in Florida," 12.

17. Johnson, "Woman Suffrage Movement," 111.

18. *Fort Lauderdale Sentinel*, June 21, 1918.

19. *Ibid.*, August 18, 1918.

20. Johnson, "Woman Suffrage Movement," 113.

21. *Fort Lauderdale Sentinel*, July 15, 1917.

22. Johnson, "Woman Suffrage Movement," 116.

23. *Ibid.*

24. *Ibid.*, 114.

25. Inez Haynes Irwin, "The Story of Alice Paul" (New York: DeLacour Publishers, 1977).

26. Johnson, "Woman Suffrage Movement," 217.

27. *Ibid.*, 219.

28. *Ibid.*

29. Hopkins, "Women's Suffrage in Florida," 8.

30. Johnson, "Woman Suffrage Movement," 273.