Women Through the Century

A Souvenir of the National Council of Women Exhibit A Century of Progress 1833 · Chicago · 1933
THE ONWARD MARCH OF AMERICAN WOMEN

of American womanhood for the past hundred years is one of the most colorful phases of A Century of Progress. The gradual widening of women’s activities until they have become powerful factors in the commercial and civic life of the day is almost as dramatic as the evolution of the machine itself. Without an exhibit of organized womanhood, such as the National Council of Women is presenting in the Hall of Social Sciences, the story of the machine age would be inadequately told.

Of this story the Council is the logical interpreter. For nearly fifty of the one hundred years which A Century of Progress commemorates, its leaders have been among the foremost thinkers and doers of America. Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Lucy Stone, May Wright Sewall were among its pioneers. Its present roster includes noted educa-
tors, distinguished scientists, leaders in a wide variety of fields. Its program has paralleled the great causes which have successively engaged the attention of women—suffrage, temperance, peace.

And today it is calling an International Congress on "Our Common Cause—Civilization," to consider what contribution women's organizations can make towards the creation of a new world order in which there shall be a minimum of security and a maximum opportunity for self-development for all.

Its exhibit portrays the dramatic incidents of the past and the present activities of American women. The Congress points to the future.

THE MURAL
AN INTERPRETATION

A sixty-foot mural constitutes the most striking feature of the exhibit. The artist, Hildreth Meiere, ranks among the foremost of her profession. She is well known by her murals in the Nebraska State Capitol in Lincoln and the Dome of the National Academy of Sciences in Washington.

Through figures of heroic size, her mural portrays, in dramatic episodes, the striking changes which have come to American womanhood between 1833 and 1933. The predominating blues and dull reds upon a background of pale yellow give a mellow softness which accentuates the aggressive action of the figures. The passage of women from the narrow confines of home and tradition in 1833 to the broad opportunities and freedom of 1933 is suggested by iron bars in the background, which first set close together, gradually draw apart and finally disappear.

Below, the mural is bordered by a grisaille in a single color, light brown, which gives the effect of wood carving. Here the span of one hundred years is divided into ten sections, each six feet long. These follow one another chronologically and each portrays three great woman pioneers and two important episodes of the decade.
EPISODES IN THE MURAL

The woman of 1833 confined to the home and centered wholly in her family
She steps over the threshold into a field of wider interest
Her education begins; schools open to her
Women work for temperance
They succor the enslaved negroes
They aid the wounded on the Civil War battlefield
Susan B. Anthony leads out for suffrage
Women's clubs become popular
A host joins in the triumphal suffrage march
Women become prominent in business and the professions
They seek peace
They look towards the good world tomorrow, for which they strive, where
men and women will share responsibilities alike, with security and opportu-
nity for all.

At the close, Clio, the Muse of History, a book upon her knee, writes of
A Century's Achievement for Women. A stone tablet behind her records her
words:

WOMEN MARCH THROUGH
EDUCATION, SUFFRAGE
ECONOMIC FREEDOM
TOWARDS GREATER
SOCIAL JUSTICE —
1833 TO 1843

Angelina Grimke
First American woman to address a public meeting

Women admitted to Oberlin college, first institution of higher learning to accept them

Ann Wilkins
First missionary

The loom of the cotton mill—women enter industry

Sarah Josepha Hale
Editor of Godey’s Lady’s Book—originator of our national observance of Thanksgiving

The following facts and quotations are from Miss Haynes Irwin’s book—Angels and Amazons—A Portrayal of a Hundred Years of American Womanhood. This book was written for and may be obtained through the National Council of Women.

WOMAN’S INTERESTS AND ACTIVITIES BOUNDED ENTIRELY BY HER HOME. “Not a single American woman breaks with even secondary importance into the history of the first third of the Nineteenth Century. A curious spell lay over them; the lethargy of a reactionary period. The great fight of the next seventy-five years lay sleeping in its mother’s womb.”

1843 TO 1853

Lucretia Mott
Anti-slavery agitator

Maria Mitchell discovers a comet

Elizabeth Cady Stanton
Pioneer suffragist

The first Woman’s Rights meeting—Seneca Falls, 1848

Lucy Stone
Early suffragist

Women cross the household threshold into the world’s activities. “By the invention of the cotton gin weaving came out of the home and brought the women with it.” Catherine Littlefield-Greene proposed the idea of a cotton-gin to Eli Whitney and gave him funds and encouragement.
Antoinette B. Blackwell
First woman ordained a minister

First Free Dispensary—New York Dispensary for poor women and children

Dr. Elizabeth Blackwell
First woman in the United States to receive an M.D. degree

First women’s hospital—Philadelphia

Dr. Emily Blackwell
Co-founder with her sister of the New York Dispensary and a woman’s medical college

Julia Ward Howe
Author of “The Battle Hymn of the Republic”

Susan B. Anthony is tried for voting

Jennie June Croly
Founder of Sorosis

The first banquet of men and women at which a woman spoke. Press banquet for Sorosis, New York

Mary A. Livermore
Lecturer, author, editor of The Woman’s Journal

In education the girls, generally speaking, seem to have sat at the second table.” Oberlin College, (Ohio) was first to matriculate women, (1837). In 1837 Mary Lyon founded Mount Holyoke Seminary (Mass.) the forerunner of the woman’s college. In 1839 the Georgia Legislature granted a charter to a Female College.

Temperance enlists the efforts and idealism of women. Frances E. Willard, an extraordinary orator with a genius for organization, resigned as Dean of Women in Northwestern University and became the mainspring of the national movement organized in 1874.
1873 to 1883

**Anna Howard Shaw**
Physician, clergyman, suffragist

_The invention of the typewriter_

**Linda Richards**
First graduate trained nurse in the United States

_Temperance workers praying out saloons_

**Frances E. Willard**
Founder of the World W.C.T.U. and first president of the National Council of Women

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1883 to 1893

**May Wright Sewall**
One of the founders of the National Council of Women

_Ellen H. Richards, founding the Home Economics Association_

**Emily Dickinson**
Poet

_The founding of Hull House—first social settlement in the United States_

**Mary E. Kenney**
First woman to organize trade unions among women

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_In 1833 the first woman's political club—The Philadelphia Female Anti-Slavery Society—was formed. In 1838 women abolitionists held a national convention in Philadelphia. An infuriated mob hating women speakers and abolitionists burned the convention hall. Later Harriet Beecher Stowe wrote "the book that freed the slaves"—Uncle Tom's Cabin._

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_Clarina Barton organized and directed corps of volunteer nurses upon the battlefields of the Civil War. It made no difference to her whether the wounded wore the Blue or the Grey. She established the principle that the wounded, regardless of what uniforms they wear, have equal rights to all possible aid._
1893 to 1903

Minnie Maddern Fiske
Actress

The International Congress of Women in connection with the Columbian Exposition in Chicago

Mary Cassatt
Artist

Women riding bicycles

Lillian Nordica
Opera singer

1903 to 1913

Grace Dodge
One of the founders of Teachers’ College, Columbia University, of the Young Women’s Christian Association and the Travelers’ Aid

The Triangle Shirtwaist Factory strike

Cora Wilson Stewart
Founder of the Moonlight Schools

The inauguration of the Travelers’ Aid

Dr. Florence R. Sabin
Who has made important medical discoveries

The Fearless, Tireless Leader of Woman Suffrage, Susan B. Anthony—shown wearing the famous red shawl in which she so often appeared. This shawl is now on display in the exhibit of the National Council of Women.

Women’s Clubs are formed in great numbers. Millions of women become members. In 1833 appeared the first permanent women’s club—the real pioneer—at Jacksonville, Illinois—then called the Ladies’ Association for Educating Females.
1913 TO 1923

**Dr. Alice Hamilton**
First woman professor at Harvard

*Women workers in the World War*

**Carrie Chapman Catt**
Who led the suffrage forces when the ballot was won

*Women casting their first vote in a Presidential election*

**Judge Florence E. Allen**
First woman Supreme Court justice in the United States

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1923 TO 1933

**Dr. Anna Garlin Spencer**
Minister, educator, social service worker

*Dr. Mary E. Woolley, first woman delegate from the United States to a Disarmament Conference, sailing with petitions from American women asking reductions in armament*

**Amelia Earhart**
First woman to make a trans-Atlantic solo flight

*American women of 1933 summoning women of the world to an International Congress on “Our Common Cause—Civilization”*

**Frances Perkins**
First woman in the United States Cabinet

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**Marching hosts celebrate the suffrage victory. Born on July 19, 1848, in a neighborhood meeting at Seneca Falls, New York, Woman Suffrage received the passionate support of women leaders until the adoption of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution of the U. S. in 1920 gave full suffrage.**

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**A Century of women’s progress inspires in them a new ideal—peace throughout the world—good will made manifest in security and opportunity for all.**
TWELVE GREAT WOMEN LEADERS

A panel displays portraits of twelve great women leaders, chosen by popular vote in a nationwide poll conducted by the National Council of Women and the Ladies’ Home Journal. Chronologically arranged, they are:

Mary Lyon, founder of Mt. Holyoke Female Seminary, afterwards Mt. Holyoke College
Harriet Beecher Stowe, author of “Uncle Tom’s Cabin”
Susan B. Anthony, suffrage leader
Julia Ward Howe, author of “The Battle Hymn of the Republic”
Clara Barton, organizer of the American Red Cross
Mary Baker Eddy, founder of the Christian Science Church
Frances E. Willard, founder of the World W.C.T.U.
Jane Addams, peace advocate and founder of Hull House
Helen Keller, blind author
Carrie Chapman Catt, suffrage leader
Dr. Mary E. Woolley, first woman delegate from the United States to a Disarmament Conference
Amelia Earhart, first woman to make a trans-Atlantic solo flight

THE SCRAPBOOKS

Specific phases of the work of the 31 member organizations of the Council are told in a series of scrapbooks. These are classified under eleven general headings, as follows: Business and Industry; Civics and Citizenship; Culture; Education; Health; Homemaking; International Relations; Legislation; Recreation; Religion, Ethics and Morals; Social Welfare. Through them, the reader gets a general picture of the wide range of women’s activities and of the part they play in philanthropic, commercial and civic affairs.

ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF AMERICAN WOMEN

A permanent record of women’s influence on American life is to be found in Inez Haynes Irwin’s book, “Angels and Amazons—One Hundred Years of American Women,” published by the Council. This is one of the most valuable souvenirs of the Fair. It tells the amazing and dramatic story of one of the most important movements in modern history—the woman movement. Crusades for education, temperance, social service, suffrage, peace, live in its pages. Anecdotes of the women who were trail-blazers of the century are there. Five hundred pages of vivid text—and not a superfluous word—all of it written in the captivating style of which Mrs. Irwin is master! A complete index, an appendix listing and classifying women’s organizations, make it one of the most valuable reference works available to women today. Copies may be seen here and orders placed through the National Council of Women, 4 Park Avenue, New York City. Price, $2.50.
THE MEMORANDUMS

Historic mementos of women of the past century fill the show cases. Such varied souvenirs of feminine achievement are displayed as the gogles Amelia Earhart wore on her trans-Atlantic solo flight; the red shoe which Susan B. Anthony invariably carried to suffrage meetings; a scarf bearing Harriet Beecher Stowe's picture, of a type which was manufactured and sold in quantities during the 50's to raise funds for Mrs. Stowe's abolition work; the academic cap worn by Dr. Anna Howard Shaw when she was given an honorary degree by Temple University.

OTHER MEMORANDUMS ARE

Pearl whale oil lamp used in the late eighties in the Massachusetts General Hospital.

Red Cross flag which flew from the mastheads of the first relief boats ever sent to American waries—during the Ohio and Mississippi River floods, February to June, 1884. Chris Barren traveled 8,000 miles on these boats, the Jack V. Throop and the Marita Bull, and distributed over $775,000 in money and materials.

Ded of gift of gram of radium presented to Mine, Marie Curie by women of the United States at the White House May 30, 1921. Campaign for the purchase of this radium was organized in 1920 by Mrs. William Brown Meloney.

Copy of State Field's Washington, a weekly journal edited during the last five years of her life, 1894-1886, by Mary Katherine Keenle Field, apostle of reform, who hurled for such hatred issues as international copyright, Hawaiian annexation, temperance, free art and preservation of the Yosemite.

Copy of Thanksgiving proclamation issued by Abraham Lincoln in 1863.

Letter from Clara Barton to Mrs. W. D. Williams January 23, 1865.

Cap made at Troyhelm Hall in the early nineties and presented to Jane Addams. Significant because it was one of the first piece of craft work done to the settlements.

Diploma of Linda Richards, America's first trained nurse.

Sketch of Martha Van Rensselaer Hall, new building for Home Economics, at Cornell.

Photograph of first headquarters for home economics education at Cornell (1902), a basement room in Morrill Hall, used by Miss Van Rensselaer as office, classroom and laboratory.


Photograph of Herbert Hoover breaking ground for the model Better Home in Washington, D. C., 1923.

Printed slip—Better Homes in America, describing this organization, founded in 1927 by Mrs. William Brown Meloney while editor of the Delmonico, and now grown to national proportions with 2,774 committees functioning this year in every state in the Union.

Model of Better Home built under the auspices of the New York State Federation of Women's Clubs.

Photograph of prize-winning house, 1935, designed and built by Harry Wilks of Boston and awarded gold medal of American Institute of Architects.

Academic cap bestowed on Julia Ward Howe by Brown University in 1909.

Model of Henry Street Settlements—the Bowker Hill Playgrounds.

Silver teapot given to Susan B. Anthony by her brother.

Carnes of Miss Anthony made in Rome, 1884.

Neulie costume made by Miss Anthony at boarding school in 1833.

Miss Anthony's red shoe.

Photograph of the Mund Improvement Association of Sandy Springs, Maryland, taken on its 75th anniversary, May, 1932, in the same house in which the original meeting was held in 1857. Granddaughters and granddaughters imitate the original members.

Costume worn by Mrs. Hadassah J. Moore, original member of the club, at the first meeting.


Lace collar of Dr. Anna Howard Shaw, goggles, scarf worn by Amelia Earhart on her trans-Atlantic solo flight May 20-21, 1919.

Bridesmaids used by Miss Earhart on her first trans-Atlantic flight, June 17-18, 1937.

Copy of official appointment of Nellie Taylor Ross as Director of the Mint.

Letters written by Harriet Beecher Stowe to her husband on the early 60's and to Lady Byron (1865). Letters thank Lady Byron for her continuing interest to the relief of sufferers among the Kansas settlers who were trying to hold the state for freedom against slavery.

Harriet Beecher Stowe's scarf, of quince manufactured and sold by an English society in the early 50's the proceeds being turned over to Mrs. Stowe for use in her abolition work.

Book of poems written and published by Phillie Wheatley in 1773.

Photograph, portrait and watch of Mary Mapes Dodge.

Original copies of St. Nicholas magazine for April, 1869, containing "Little Lord Fauntleroy" by Frances Hodgson Burnett; February 1880, containing "The Copper King"; June 1880, containing "The Little Lord" by Louisa May Alcott; September 1887, containing "Under the Lilacs" by Louisa May Alcott and for November 1894, containing "The Lost Prince" by Frances Hodgson Burnett.

Rosenevelt Medal awarded Martha Berry, founder of the Berry Schools in Rome, Georgia, in 1937; Town Hall Club Medal given Miss Berry in 1937; Colonial Dames Medal given in 1933 for her distinguished service to education France E. Willard's Bible, containing a temperature pledge which she cut out from a juvenile publication and posted in, in 1865. Her skate, with which she was privileged to smudge herself on Sundays, provided she drew "nothing but Couldn't." Other Willard Mementos.

The Kentucky Magazine, a monthly devoted to literature and science, first published in Louisville in 1815. Sarah Irwin Mattingly was editor.

Copy of Godsey's Lady's Book, March 1870.

Picture Sarah Josepha Hale, editor Godsey's Lady's Book.

Letter of Louisa May Alcott presenting to a child a green enamel cross once given to her by Jean Ingelow; also the malachite cross.

Lady's ticket of admission to the World Anti-Slavery Convention in London in 1840.

Watch and chain of Anna Howard Shaw Picture Mount Washington Academy, Broad- way, South Boston, founded in 1828 and for many years the most fashionable academy in the United States. Mrs. Maria Burrill and her sisters, Ann and Sarah fence Learman, intimate friends of Nathaniel Hawthorne and of Elizabeth Peabody, were the owners.

Writing Desk presented to Mrs. Maria Burrill January 1, 1846, by her pupils at the Academy.

Tin painted by Susan Keys Locke at the Mount Washington Academy.

Daguerreotype of Sarah Pugh's Honorary medal conferred by the King of Belgium in recognition of Martha Van Rens- selaer's service with the American Relief Commission.

Surgical instruments belonging to Dr. Emily and Dr. Elizabeth Blaxfield.

Picture of Carrie Chapman Catt at age of five. Book signed by all the delegates to the World Suffrage Congress, Budapest, 1913.

Engrossed memorial urging Mrs. Catt to become president of the International Suffrage Alliance.

Silver dish sent Elizabeth Cady Stanton in 1863 by women of Seneca Falls, New York. Lace and gold card case frequently carried by Mrs. Stanton.

D ions from the Woman's Home Companion showing the Better Babies Campaign and the work of the Good Citizenship Bureau.

Copy of Better Homes and Gardens published annually by the American Institute of Architects to the designers of the best small home built that year.

Metal conferred on Mrs. William Brown Meloney by the French and Belgium governments in recognition of her international services through the Better Homes in America Movement.


Georgie Washington gave. Head is made from wool, from Salgame Manor, England, home of Washington's ancestors, and handle from tree at Mr. Vernon, Virginia, his own home.
THE CLUB ROOM

The National Council has devoted part of its exhibit space to a clubroom and resting place for women visiting the Fair. Attractively furnished in natural wood color, accentuated by tones of coral and blue, and agreeably isolated, it offers the comforts of a lounge or living room—easy chairs, tables of books and magazines, access to telephone and telegraph. Publications of member organizations, leaflets descriptive of their work, copies of "Angels and Amazons" and the Scrapbooks offer interesting diversion. Special musical programs at intervals provide added pleasure.

TO SUMMARIZE

The exhibit, Mrs. Irwin's comprehensive history of organized womanhood, and the Congress on "Our Common Cause—Civilization" July 16-22 in Chicago, are all phases of a single enterprise—an endeavor to portray the past and present activities of American women and to unify their efforts towards a finer civilization.

The project has for nearly two years engaged the attention of 1,000,000 women in member organizations of the Council. More than one million women have signed petitions asking foreign governments to send representative women to the Congress. Women of 52 countries have been invited to participate in its sessions. Out of the Congress the Council hopes to formulate a definite program looking towards the creation of a better world order, to which women's organizations throughout the world may subscribe.

This three-fold program was made possible by the loyal and generous cooperation of the Postal Telegraph-Cable Company, whose officers were stirred by the magnitude and worth of such an undertaking. To Postal Telegraph the National Council of Women makes grateful acknowledgment.

THE EXHIBIT COMMITTEE

The exhibit was planned by the following committee:

MRS. WILLIAM DICK SPOHRORO, Chairman, of Port Chester, New York
MRS. JAMES RAE ARNEILL, Chairman of the Finance Committee of the National Council of Women, of Denver, Colorado
MRS. WILLIAM BROWN MELONEY, Editor of the New York Herald Tribune Sunday Magazine

MRS. GELINE MACDONALD BOWMAN, President of the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, of Richmond, Virginia

DR. FLORENCE RENA SARIN, of New York City
MRS. PERCY Y. PENNBACKER, former president of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, of Austin, Texas
MISS HELEN M. BENNETT, of A Century of Progress, Chicago
MRS. JOHN HANDLEY-REAVES, of New York
MRS. CHARLES E. GREGORY, of New York
MRS. WILLIS B. MINER, of New York

It was designed and installed by VIRGINIA HAMILL of New York City, who assembled and directed the first large scale international exposition of modern decorative art in this country.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Cooperating with the exhibit committee were the following officers of the National Council of Women:

MISS LENA MADSEN PHILLIPS, President
MRS. ESTELLE M. STERNBERGER, MRS. FRANCES P. PARKS, MRS. AMY BROWN LYMAN, MRS. SALLIE W. STEWART, Vice Presidents

MRS. EDGERTON PARSONS, Recording Secretary
MRS. HAROLD VINCENT MILLIGAN, Corresponding Secretary
MRS. CHARLES J. REEDER, Treasurer
MRS. THEODORE J. LOUDEN, Auditor

Visitors examining scrap books. These books show the work of member organizations. Panel of twelve great women leaders in the background.
CONSTITUENT ORGANIZATIONS
of the National Council of Women

AMERICAN NURSES’ ASSOCIATION
AMERICAN HOMEMAKERS ASSOCIATION
ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN IN PUBLIC HEALTH
CHILD STUDY ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
GENERAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN’S CLUBS
HADASSAH, THE WOMEN’S ZIONIST
ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA
INTERNATIONAL SUNSHINE SOCIETY, INC.
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COLORED
WOMEN
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN
NATIONAL FEDERATION OF BUSINESS AND
PROFESSIONAL WOMEN’S CLUBS
NATIONAL FEDERATION OF MUSIC CLUBS
NATIONAL FEDERATION OF TEMPLE
SISTERSHOODS
NATIONAL KINDERGARTEN ASSOCIATION
NATIONAL MOTION PICTURE LEAGUE
NATIONAL PLANT, FLOWER AND FRUIT
GUILD
NATIONAL WOMAN’S CHRISTIAN
TEMPERANCE UNION
NATIONAL WOMAN’S PARTY
NATIONAL WOMAN’S RELIEF SOCIETY
OSTEOPATHIC WOMEN’S NATIONAL ASSO-
CIATION
SERVICE STAR LEGION
SOUTHERN WOMAN’S EDUCATIONAL
ALLIANCE
SUPREME FOREST WoOdmen CIRCLE
UNITED ORDER OF TRUE SISTERS
WOMEN’S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR
PEACE AND FREEDOM
WOMEN’S NATIONAL AERONAUTICAL
ASSOCIATION
WOMEN’S LEAGUE OF THE UNITED
SYNAGOGUE OF AMERICA
WOMEN’S OVERSEAS SERVICE LEAGUE
YOUNG LADIES MUTUAL IMPROVEMENT
ASSOCIATION
INDIANAPOLIS COUNCIL OF WOMEN
MAY WRIGHT SEWALL INDIANA COUNCIL
OF WOMEN
RHODE ISLAND COUNCIL OF WOMEN

A CORNER
OF THE CLUB ROOM.
Showing a panel of
member organizations.