

The Primary Suffrage Bill is designed to permit women to vote in the Primary elections of the State. It is an entirely feasible partial Suffrage measure. It may be passed by the Special Session by a majority vote. It is the only form of Suffrage which the Texas Legislature can grant to the women of Texas, and we are asking it as a war measure. The Arkansas Legislature, in 1917, passed a similar measure, and it has withstood the test of time and practice.

The House of Lords, in England, passed the bill to enfranchise English women as a war measure, by a vote of more than two to one. Naturally we do not expect a democratic state to lag behind the English House of Lords in democracy; nor do we expect American men to lag behind the men of any nation in appreciation of the war work of women. Winston Churchill, in speaking of the English Parliament, said "Women have drawn near and must draw nearer yet to the firing line." Secretary of War Baker has several times repeated the statement that this war could not be continued forty-eight hours without the work that is being performed by the women of the United States.

The Men of Texas are asking of the Women of Texas as war measures conservation, not only of food but of our every resource. They are asking help in the sale of Thrift Stamps, of Liberty Bonds, of Smileage books; they are asking help in all of the thousand and one lines of war work that is before us to do. And it is proper that they should ask it, and essential that we should give it because we are American citizens and our country is at war. It is not only our duty but our right to serve when our country calls.

The Women of Texas are asking only one thing of the Men of Texas as a war measure, and that is this partial Suffrage measure from the Texas Legislature. And we believe the men of Texas will respond to our plea for help as we have responded to theirs.