

*Referred*

"Never<sup>1</sup>with my consent shall public moneys be used to educate  
shes " one of our pilgrim fathers is on record as saying. Con-  
sternation would have filled his soul could he have lived until  
1917 and spent last week in Dallas, for there were graduated from  
the Dallas High Schools 133 girls and only 86 boys, thus giving  
"shes" 47 the best of it. Bryan High ~~leads~~<sup>led</sup> with 48 girls and 37  
boys; Oak Cliff 46 girls and 28 boys; and Forest High 39 girls  
and 21 boys.

In each High School girls carried off the highest honors,  
Miss Lois Carlisle being valedictorian at Bryan High; *Miss Gertrude Kromer,*  
Oak Cliff High and Miss Eula Phares, Forest High.

One of the fears of the anti-suffragists that the extension  
of the franchise to women will add to the uneducated vote seems  
to be answered by the above facts, as this condition exists, not  
only in Dallas, but all over our country where the high schools  
graduates average two girls to one boy, proving that women today  
are better educated than men, and that equal suffrage will mater-  
ially increase the educated vote.

Every forward step in the advancement of women has met with  
much more opposition than suffrage meets today, and the arguments  
put forth ~~against~~ against the education of women <sup>*in Colonial days*</sup> have been resusitated<sup>c</sup>  
and are today being used by the politicians against "Votes for  
women."

The Cyclopedia of Education is authority for the statement  
that "In Greece it seems to have been an accepted dogma that no  
respectable girl was educated," and while some elementary education  
was given the girls of Rome, it is asserted that "Juvenal lashed  
the Roman ladies who talked Greek as if they were as bad as those  
with a past."

In England Sir Thomas More was the first to advocate the desirability of education for women, while a German, Henry Cornelius Agrippa, in his "Nobility of the Female Sex" addressed to Margaret of Austria, in 1529, said women's weaknesses came from their training and that when educated and "compared with men of like gifts" they were "equal or superior."

In our own country, the first public schools were established for boys, and it was considered "very improper" and "unladylike" for a girl to wish to attend them, it being very generally conceded by women as well as men that a knowledge of the alphabet and of addition and subtraction was all any girl should know, and that she should acquire this knowledge at home, being taught by her Father and brothers.

According to Governor Winthrop, in 1642, "women should attend to household affairs, and not meddle in such things as are proper for men, whose minds are stronger" This modest declaration, voiced by our Colonial Governor, in opposing the education of women, is very similar to the "logic" expounded by Texas legislators opposed to "Votes for Women" during the regular session of the Legislature when the Suffrage question was debated. They all intimated that "men's minds are stronger," and yet our three Dallas valedictorians are girls!

Women had "town's rights" rather than "states' rights" to contend with in early days, each town regulating its own affairs, with the result that of 200 towns listed only 11 admitted girls to ~~xxxxxxx~~ schools prior to 1770.

The overlapping system, so much discussed in Dallas of late, seems to have originated in 1766, when Medford ordered its masters

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"to instruct girls two hours a day after the boys are dismissed." Evidently this first "overlapping" was considered a success, the girls probably feeling that a "half loaf was better than none" for in May, 1767, a school in Providence offered to teach writing and arithmetic to "young ladies," but the girls had to go from six to half past seven in the morning and from half past four to six in the afternoon. This was "overlapping" to the limit.

However, after much effort, in spite of the pilgrim fathers who felt that public money should not be frittered away in the education of ~~girls~~ women, girls were admitted to all lower grade schools, but there were High Schools for boys two hundred years before there were High Schools for girls. It will doubtless surprise some of our recent graduates to know that the first High School for girls was opened in Boston in 1828, less than a hundred years ago. So many girls came to attend it that it was closed again, the city fathers saying they "never could afford to educate that many girls."

One of the favorite arguments of the anti-suffragists is that ballots for women will "destroy the home, the church and the state." That same argument was advanced when girls wished to enter the public schools; again when they asked for admission to the High Schools; and again when they clamored for college education; and ~~xxxxxxx~~ today, the church, the home and the state still flourish, and there have just been graduated from the Dallas High Schools 133 girls and only 86 boys!

In Waco 99 girls and 46 boys,  
Galveston  
Houston