

At the Door of Woodrow Wilson

Again does Opportunity knock, hard and loudly, at the door of Woodrow Wilson, president.

It says, Come! Stand in the sunlight of immortality with noble Washington and grand old Abe Lincoln! Thru all the centuries in which men have put their feet in the path that leads to undying glory, but very seldom have I, Opportunity, offered leadership in the cause of human liberty. Awake, Woodrow Wilson! Come forth! Lead! or, I pass on, to return no more.

The people of the United States are for equal rights, equality for the mothers, wives, sisters, who send their uniformed loved one to the bloody trenches to die for liberty and equality, who skimp and hoard that bonds may be bought, who watch their dinner plates, so that hungry heroes may be fed and God's great blessing, liberty, may come to all peoples.

Between Woodrow Wilson and the women of our country, and every man in it who may die and leave his widow and fatherless children in political slavery, there exists but one real difference.

The president believes in States' rights, as if human freedom were the issue between Ohio and California and not an issue between God Almighty and American manhood. It is true that Thomas Jefferson, father of Woodrow Wilson's party wrote into that party the doctrine of States' rights. For over 70 years we truckled with, temporized with the pernicious idea that human freedom was a local issue, and fertilized half the Nation with human corpses to prove the thing a lie.

Half a century ago we cut each other's throats, knowing that this Nation could not live "half slave and half free." Today, we know that the freedom of our whole Nation and human liberty over the whole civilized world are in deadly peril. Woodrow Wilson has the glorious vision. He says to the oppressed or threatened people of Europe:

"As a labor to which we are called by God, we will give you liberty. Drink from our consecrated cup of liberty, equality, democracy. But in my own Nation, liberty is bounded on the north by Lake Erie, on the east by Pennsylvania and West Virginia, on the south by Kentucky, on the west by Indiana. And God bless the old party doctrine of States' rights!"

Woodrow Wilson, look upon the women of America, in this your hour of trial by world-wide war. It is they who have your visions of universal liberty and happiness. It is they who will sacrifice. It is they who will bury and mourn over the dead heroes thru the years. It is they who will win the war against universal slavery to autocracy. Are they a States' issue? Nay, their freedom, their equality of rights are the greatest, most thoroly National, most universal issue that time has set before mankind since Lee surrendered the sword of States' rights at Appomattox.

The Opportunity of which immortals are born is at your door, Woodrow Wilson. The Congress meets in December. Give it a ringing message in advocacy of the Constitutional amendment for equal suffrage!

In doing this you may appear as having been in error as to your views on this great issue. But what president in all the list has had the glorious opportunity to lead in the cause of freedom for fifty millions of Americans? What president in all the list has had such an opportunity to prove that he has the courage to be the loyal servant of the Nation? A message, Woodrow Wilson! A message that shall thunder across the seas to tell enslaving autocracy that America is not to fight for human liberty, "half slave and half free" herself! A message to tell our husbands, sons, and brothers facing the guns that their wives, mothers, sisters are to be "equal" by will of the whole American people as a Nation!—*Editorial from Dallas Dispatch, Nov. 19, 1917. Reprinted by Texas Branch National Woman's Party*

Please wire or write the President asking him to include in his message to Congress a recommendation for the immediate passage of the federal suffrage ammendment.

