

The Sun, 24 Apr 1922

FAMOUS WOMEN PAID TRIBUTE AT CLOSE OF RALLY

Delegates Extol Noted Figures As Pan-American Gathering Ends.

LEAGUE OF VOTERS MEETS TOMORROW

National Convention Opening Will Follow Governor's Reception Today.

Tribute was paid to famous women of all the Americas last night at the final formal session of the Pan-American Conference of women at the Hotel Belvedere, with Miss Helen H. Gardener, United States Civil Service Commissioner, presiding and the official delegates to the conference telling briefly of the famous women of their several countries. Informal sessions will continue through the week.

This was in the culmination of a day of religious and social observance, with a touch of sight-seeing thrown in for good measure for the official and unofficial delegates to the conference.

A large number attended the high mass at the Cathedral and many were scattered through the Protestant churches of the city at the morning service, with Mrs. Emaline Pankhurst speaking at the Park Avenue Friends Meeting House.

Many Entertained At Tea.

Early in the afternoon a large number of delegates left the Belvedere on a sight-seeing tour of the city in automobiles furnished by local hostesses. The tour included tea at many suburban residences of Baltimore women taking part in the conference.

For the governmental delegates the tour ended at Evergreen, the home of Mr. and Mrs. John W. Garrett, where a reception was given to them and to Lady Nancy Astor and to the officers and chairmen of committees of the National League of Women Voters. A reception in honor of Mrs. Pankhurst was given at the home of Mrs. Donald R. Hooker, on St. George's road, Roland Park.

A tea for women of the press at the conference was given at the home of Mrs. Donald B. Van Hollen, 241 West Biddle street.

Governor To Receive Delegates.

Except for the trip to Annapolis and the reception by Governor Ritchie in the Executive Mansion and the meeting of committees of the National League of Women Voters, today will be an "off day," a prelude to the opening of the league's third annual convention tomorrow and the league's banquet, at which President Harding may be a guest of honor. The league's convention will last until Saturday.

The evening meeting at the Belvedere took on a social tinge from the brilliance of the gowns worn by the delegates and the visitors, but it was an enthusiastic and enduring gathering, as it sat from 8 to after 11 o'clock to hear of the great women of the two continents.

Visitors Crowded Out.

The hall was crowded, as all the sessions at the hotel have been, and it was reluctantly announced that the remaining sessions at the Belvedere will have to be confined to the delegates and special visitors, with the public excluded until the conference returns to the Century Roof Wednesday.

Next to Miss Gardener, the presiding officer, sat Alice Stone Blackwell, the poet, who was introduced as one of the famous women of the United States.

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Teachers easily took the palm of glory among the famous women of all the American lands who were paid tribute, although several speakers stated as a preface that all the women of their own land were famous in the home and for the household arts.

Poets apparently came next on the list, with Sister Juana, of Mexico, among the first. Two poems were read in Spanish and Miss Blackwell's translation of one of them read afterwards. One delegate explained her countrywomen's predilection for poetry as, "It is easy to write poetry in a land so beautiful as to furnish constant inspiration."

Garibaldi's Wife Honored.

It was a surprise to learn that Brazil honors the wife of Garibaldi, the Italian patriot, as one of its most famous native women—famous because of her loyal companionship with her husband in his campaigns for a united Italy, which finally led to her death on the march.

Chile claimed to have the first woman civil engineer in South America and the highest paid government official in her profession. It must be true, as the claim was not disputed, as was the claim made at a previous session for having the oldest university.

Women patriots are numerous in the American countries, according to the addresses of last night. It was told how many helped achieve independence and even died as martyrs for their land. But Brazil again came forward with the only woman who deliberately destroyed her chances to become Empress of Brazil in order that all Brazilians might be free men. She was Princess Isabel, who freed all slaves when she knew that their freedom would lead to the downfall of the Brazilian Empire and the establishment of a republic.

Apologies Offered.

Several speakers apologized for their lack of any Susan B. Anthony, but said that the time of famous suffragists would come. But the famous suffragists today in many of the American republics are about as numerous as the women sculptors, painters, pianists, doctors and lawyers. There are some, but by no means too many. But Mrs. E. Atherton Smith, of Canada, delivered the

(Continued on Page 3, Column 4.)

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(Continued from Page 18.)

real oration of the evening in telling of her countrywomen.

Miss Gardener talked on practical politics and civil service rather than famous women. She asked for the support of the women in the effort to support the Civil Service Commission in its effort to keep the "biggest army in the United States," the 600,000 civil service employes of the Federal Government, free from politics.

Baltimorean Honored.

Resolutions were the final item on the program, and a Baltimore woman, Miss Lavinia M. Engle, was honored in a special resolution of thanks by the Pan-American Conference and the National League of Women Voter: "in appreciation of the initiative which prompted her to suggest a Pan-American Conference." This was public recognition that Miss Engle was the one woman ultimately responsible for this first gathering of women from all but one of the countries in the Western Hemisphere.

Resolutions from Uruguay urging a permanent Pan-American organization of women was presented by Senora Celia Paladino de Vitale, as published in THE SUN yesterday, and was held for further consideration. This is one indication that the conference is not over, but will continue informally during the week in conjunction with the convention of the National League of Women Voters. Other resolutions were of thanks for all the courtesies extended during the conference, including the press.