

## **IS ANXIOUS TO PRACTICE LAW**

### **Miss Etta H. Maddox's Plans To Be Admitted To The Bar.**

Miss Etta Haynie Maddox, whose graduation from the Baltimore Law School gave especial interest to the commencement exercises of that school held on last Thursday night, said yesterday that she would make every possible effort to secure the right to practice law in Baltimore. She would ask, first of all, she said, to be granted the privilege of taking the examination next fall for admission to the bar. Her next step will be to petition the State Legislature to strike out the word "male" from the statute concerning the right to practice law.

Miss Maddox does not anticipate a great deal of opposition to the change she hopes to have made in the law, "I don't think," she said, "there is actual antagonism to having women practice law in Maryland. I think the statute has retained its present form, not because our legislators have wished to exclude women from the legal profession, but simply because the men have not given any thought to the opening of that field to women. A great many of the men here do not realize that women have been admitted to the bar in so many States. When I told a lawyer in town the other day that women were allowed to practice law in New York, in Pennsylvania and in many of the other Eastern States he said: 'Why, I thought they were only allowed to do it out on the prairies.'

"I have been asked," she continued, "why I should make any effort to be admitted to the bar here when I could be admitted without difficulty to the bar in any of the other States—there are 37, I think—in which women are allowed to practice law. But I have no desire to leave Maryland. Besides that there is as good a field here as elsewhere for a woman to practice law if she can only be admitted to the bar. And I am willing to make the effort, not only for myself, but for other women who may wish to take up the same profession. I hope to get what I want without encountering any serious opposition, but I am prepared for discouragements. If I am refused the privilege of taking the examination for admission to the bar I will keep on asking until I get permission to take it. If the next Legislature refuses to strike out the word 'male'—well, I'll petition again, that's all."