

Miss Emilie A. Doetsch, Pioneer Suffragette, Dies

Funeral services for Miss Emilie A. Doetsch, one of the original suffragettes and the first woman assistant city solicitor in Baltimore, will be held at 2 P.M. tomorrow at the Stewart

& Mowen funeral establishment, 108 West North avenue.

Miss Doetsch, who would have been 87 June 30, died Sunday at a nursing home after a long illness.

Until last year, she lived for 50 years on Merrymount road in Roland Park.

A native of Baltimore, Miss Doetsch had been active in the struggle for women's rights since the beginning of the century.

A graduate of Western High School and Goucher College in 1903, Miss Doetsch was refused admission to the University of Maryland Law School because of her sex. However, she eventually received her degree from Maryland because she attended Baltimore Law School which was absorbed by the state university.

In 1906 she received her law degree and became the second woman to pass the Maryland State Bar. Because of prejudice against woman she could not practice law immediately and so she worked as a reporter for the old *Baltimore News*.

March "War" Correspondent

It was while she was with the *News* that she joined the 19-day march by the Suffragette Army from New York to Washington in February 1913 in an attempt to try to convince the newly elected President Wilson to back a bill giving women the right to vote. Miss Doetsch was the "war" correspondent for the march.

Miss Doetsch became the first woman to run for the City Council when she sought election in the Fifth district in May 1923. She finished seventh in the race but led her ticket, the Citizens Independent League, by receiving 8,000 votes.

Commenting on her defeat she said: "The day will come when women will win out. I should like to urge them to keep trying until then."

Edited Equal Rights

Miss Doetsch, a Republican, was named assistant city solicitor in 1928. When the Democrats were elected in 1931 they tried to force her out, but she refused to resign until several months later.

After leaving office she practiced law but found the going rough during the 1930's because of the continuing prejudice against women.

Until a few years ago, she edited *Equal Rights*, a magazine backing the women's movement.

She is survived by three sisters, Miss Louisa Doetsch and Miss Agnes J. Doetsch, both of Baltimore, and Mrs. Rudolph Michel, of University Park, Md.



1930 Photo

EMILIE A. DOETSCH
As assistant city solicitor