

# Why Michigan Lost the Equal Suffrage Amendment in 1912.

All evidence appears to justify the statement that the equal suffrage amendment carried by a substantial majority in Michigan last November and that political manipulation nullified the will of the majority. Thus out of this campaign for "suffrage for women" has come an even greater question, (Can men vote in Michigan, and have the expression of the majority determine the result of an election or not.)

When it was reported that the amendment had carried, an attempt was made by the opposition to have the vote of two counties thrown out on a technicality. It failed. Days passed. The official returns began to come in and the majority for began to turn into a majority against.

Then the friends of equal suffrage demanded a recount in the counties of Wayne, Saginaw and Kent. The recount showed that the election had not been a fair one; that probably every vice known to corrupt politicians, from the solitary bandaged finger to the concerted action of a whole election board, had been used to defeat the measure.

## Some of the irregularities found to exist were as follows—

1. In Wayne county there were more than 10,000 unitialled ballots; in Kent county more than 5,000. The total number in the state is not known.
2. More ballots cast against the amendment in some precincts than there were voters in the precinct.
3. Ballots marked both "yes" and "no" with two different colored pencils, one an ordinary lead pencil, the other a blue one. In one precinct 110 ballots were marked this way.
4. Not enough suffrage ballots in the rural districts where the sentiment for the amendment was strong.
5. Suffrage ballots not given out until 1:30 p. m.
6. Unused ballots not accounted for.
7. Ballots burned.
8. Ballots marked "no" when the voter expressed a wish to vote "yes." This was said to have been done by election inspectors when assisting those unable to read the ballot.
9. Working against the amendment right in the room where the election was being held, just outside the door of the booth.
10. Anti-Suffrage literature in the booths.

—From "Patriotic American."

At the Spring election April 7th, an Equal Suffrage amendment will again be submitted. Please vote "YES," and put Michigan in the list of these states which have been fair to their women.

MICHIGAN EQUAL SUFFRAGE ASSOCIATION  
21 Grand Circus Building, Detroit, Mich.

## SOLIDLY AGAINST WOMAN'S SUFFRAGE

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Good people differ upon giving the women the right to vote. And there are just as good people on one side the question as on the other.

But there is no difference of opinion among bad people. They are solidly against woman's suffrage. Let's call the roll:

The Gambler: "Well, you bet'cher life, I'm agin women voting! Woman's place is the home!"

The Standpat Boss: "When the Declaration of Independence was signed, and when the constitution was framed, niggers, women and laboring men were not allowed to vote. Let us harken back to the teaching of the fathers and the founders of the Republic if we would save our free institutions from the dangers of Socialism, divorce and anarchy."

The Grafter: "Women vote? I should say nit! There ain't money enough in the game as it now stands. Politics would degrade women."

The Employer of Child Labor: "We have enough trouble now with emotional reformers and their agitation for legal regulation of factories, without giving votes to mothers. Moreover, the finer feminine sensibilities are impaired by allowing women to mix up in such matters."

The White Slave Trafficker: "We hain't no use for women that way. Politics would degrade women."

The Liquor Dealer: "Giving votes to women will mean more rigid regulation of the liquor business. The woman's vote will always be caught by appeals for the home and the children and this sort of thing hurts our business. 'Raus mit it!'"

(HUMPHREY J. DESMOND.)

