VOTES FOR WOMEN

The decades-long struggle for the right to vote is an important social movement as this country has ever known. We are marking this milestone with this joint catalog, filled with materials that come in a variety of forms from books to letters, diaries, broadsides, and photographs, all which help to better inform our understanding of the past. The road to the Nineteenth Amendment is lined with stories, which deserve to be remembered and preserved. It’s an essential part of world history that continues to inform nearly every aspect of life.

Within these pages, you will find information about pioneering women who played a role in securing the vote for women. Best known is Susan B. Anthony, who devoted her life’s work to women’s suffrage. Virtually unknown is Marion E. Donovan, who dared to add her name to the ballot for school commissioner in New York in 1893, decades before the women of New York won the vote in 1917. Beyond the vote, many items in this catalog highlight the feats women accomplished and the little-known role they played, ranging from working the canneries of the Pacific Northwest to assembling munitions during the First World War.

The items in this catalog, along with many more pieces, will be on display at the 53rd California International Antiquarian Book Fair, which is celebrating the centennial of women’s suffrage in the United States. Please drop by and see us at adjoining booths 608 and 609. The book fair takes place February 7-9 at the Pasadena Convention Center, 300 East Green Street. For more information, please visit www.cabookfair.com

Jen and Brad Johnson & Holly Segar and Jeffrey Rovenpor

On the cover: A photograph of an unknown group of young women from New York. It is not dated, but we believe it is circa 1910 and we can’t help but wonder if some of these young women were involved in helping to secure the vote for women. It can be viewed at the book fair.

1870 Woman Suffrage Association Report


Offered by Caroliniana

This is a joint catalogue produced by Johnson rare books & archives and Caroliniana Rare Books. All items are subject to prior sale.

If you spot something of interest, please note at the bottom of the page which firm is offering the item, and email or call to inquire or place an order. As always, if you are not satisfied with your purchase, all items are returnable within 10 days of delivery. Institutions and previously known customers can expect the usual terms. Sales tax will be charged where it is applicable.
Holographic Letter Written on Behalf of the International Council of Women

A two-page autograph letter signed (ALS) written by the American social reformer and women’s rights activist on behalf of the March 25 to April 1, 1888 meeting of the International Council of Women, a women’s organization working across national boundaries for the common cause of advocating human rights for women. The women leaders came together in Washington, D.C., with 80 speakers and 49 delegates representing 53 women’s organizations from 9 countries: Canada, the United States, Ireland, India, United Kingdom, Finland, Denmark, France, and Norway.

Dated February 14, 1888, this letter is addressed to New England reformer and suffragist Sarah Stoddard Eddy (1831-1904) and reads in part, “Will you not be with us at the Council — and at the National Executive Sessions April 2 & 4? You are one of our Honorary Vice Presidents — therefore belong to the [illegible] of the host of this mighty gathering. But if you cannot be present in person to help entertain our guests from near & far — you will — I am sure — not fail to send us your good contribution that shall help us along financially with this mammoth undertaking.”

The letter is accompanied by two printed leaflets concerning railroad rates for the Council and the original mailing envelope.

The International Council of Women was founded by Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton, who developed the idea during a visit to Europe in 1892. Though the council’s primary goal was the advancement of women, it did not demand women’s suffrage so as not to alienate more conservative members. A constitution was drafted at the 1888 meetings, which stipulated that international assemblies be held every five years and national meetings every three. The early international conferences were extensively covered by the press, especially the 1899 meeting during which Anthony met with Queen Victoria.

Neatly folded for mailing, the letter and leaflets are crisp and clean. There are a few unobtrusive grease pencil marks to the leaflets, presumably made at the time as they highlight time-sensitive travel information. The original mailing envelope is lightly soiled.

$3,000

Offered by johnson rare books & archives
When Women Work. Washington: Government Printing Office, 1921. Octavo, trifold brochure with three panels of text on each side, illustrated. Brochure issued by the Women’s Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor promoting an eight hour work day for women, printing various slogans such as “not night work but normal sleep,” “wages based on the job—not the sex,” and “America will be as strong as her women,” alongside cartoon illustrations by Cyrus Leroy Baldridge.

World War I saw the entrance of women into the industrial workplace; in 1921 the Labor Department undertook a study of women’s working hours, of which this brochure was a result. Toning and a bit of foxing to paper. $150

Photograph Album Depicting Female Cannery Workers in Sunnyvale, California. Sunnyvale, California: 1913. Black faux leather album binding measuring 8.75 x 4”, containing 45 pasted in photographs, a few accompanied by handwritten captions. The album depicts the leisure activities of a group of uniformed female cannery workers at the Sunnyvale Cannery in Santa Clara County. In addition to two images showing the women posing at the cannery—one taken showing them in work aprons and one shot in front of a rail car—the album contains images of the young women taking an automobile trip to Congress Springs, as well as images of the group spending time in a dilapidated front yard, possibly in front of factory housing units. Album leaves creased, one photo detached and one album leaf detached. $600

Together We Win The Fight For Full Equality for Women. New York: Allied Printing, [1980]. Oblong octavo, stapled booklet, 16pp. Booklet produced by the United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers of America in support of their drive for equal pay for women. The text explains the deep seated corporate interests keeping women’s pay low, dispels myths about working women (i.e. that they are working for “pin” money, not to support themselves), and explains the union’s history of successes and programs for future advocacy. Illustrated with photographic images of a diverse group of women both protesting and working. In excellent condition. $125
Fort Huachuca Guidebook

Jones, Anna Russell [Illustrator]. What Where Why When How Who At Fort Huachuca. Denver?: The Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph Co, [1945-46]. 12mo, 33, [7] pp, blue pictorial wrappers. A World War II era guidebook to Fort Huachuca in Arizona, the largest military base for African American soldiers in the United States. Until the Korean War, Fort Huachuca was an all-black base (other than a small group of white officers). The guide contains information for new recruits such as how to use the telephone and where to find entertainment, and is illustrated with several small cartoons, two maps (one full page map and one double page map), and a pictorial cover depicting an African American soldier. The cover and maps are signed by Anna Russell Jones, a pioneering African American artist and designer who served in the Women’s Auxiliary Army Corps at Fort Huachuca during WWII, designing maps, booklets, and posters for the military. Jones was the first African American graduate of the Philadelphia School of Design for Women, one of the first women to work in the Women’s Auxiliary Army Corps at Fort Huachuca in Arizona, the largest military base for African American soldiers in the United States. The program quotes extensively from newspaper coverage of Olesen’s campaign, emphasizing her strength of character and togetherness. However, some scholars classify the work in a genre “written at the behest of college presidents,” reflecting “administration goals and policies” rather than “mention of student culture.” Moreover, young girls were reminded by these authors that the primary reason for attending college should be to perfect, not to alter their feminine nature” (Tarbox). Most of the chapters relate to educational matters, though the book contains a chapter on social life and a chapter on physical development that paints a vivid picture of the athletic college woman who “crosses swords with men, vaults over hurdles and swings on a rope” (Tarbox).}

Smith, Julia E. & Hannah H. Selections from the Poems of Mrs. Hannah H. Smith, by her Daughter, Julia E. Smith, the Only Survivor of the Family. Hartford: Press of the Case, Lockwood & Brainard Company, 1881. Octavo, 55pp, purple cloth with gilt title to front cover. Scarce book of poetry by Hannah H. Smith, matriarch of a well-known and prosperous Glastonbury, Connecticut family who were staunch abolitionists and suffragists, with an introduction by editor and daughter, Julia E. Smith, publisher of the first translation of the bible by a woman. According to the introduction Hannah Smith was “a remarkable woman, an only child and her parents persons of strong minds” who took it upon themselves to educate Hannah from a young age, teaching her French, Latin, mathematics and astronomy. Hannah became an amateur astronomer who compiled her own almanac and could calculate an eclipse. Later in life Hannah learned Italian and studied Italian poetry, sometimes writing her own verse for her own amusement, which were recorded in a copybook compiled by Julia’s sister, who showed the book to friends, “who urged us to publish them.” Julia writes that “such a strong desire for their publication has been manifested to me that I have at last concluded...to get them printed, not for public sale, but to be given to near friends.” This copy inscribed “Pamela Hale” on front cover, possibly by Pamela Case Hale, a prominent Washington State suffragist, preacher, and businesswoman. Covers worn and faded, minor toning to pages, front endpaper loose. $1250

First Woman to Run for U.S. Senate

Anna Dickie Olesen Of Minnesota. No Place of Publication: [1920s]. Quarto, xii, 194 pp, contemporary blue cloth with gilt lettering. A guide intended to “give prospective students and parents a glimpse into the private world of women’s college”, written when the American College Girl was fast becoming a cultural icon (Tarbox, The Clubwomen’s Daughters). The book begins with a bold declaration regarding women’s intellect: “The higher education of women has ceased to be a conundrum. Woman has solved it. Statistics refute almost every object raised against her highest intellectual development. Witness the scholastic standing of the four great women colleges of the United States;” however, some scholars classify the work in a genre “written at the behest of college presidents,” reflecting “administration goals and policies” rather than “mention of student culture. Moreover, young girls were reminded by these authors that the primary reason for attending college should be to perfect, not to alter their feminine nature” (Tarbox). Most of the chapters relate to educational matters, though the book contains a chapter on social life and a chapter on physical development that paints a vivid picture of the athletic college woman who “crosses swords with men, vaults bars, climbs ropes, plays ball, rows and swims.” An attractive copy with toning to pages and minor fraying to spine tips, edges and corners. $1,250

Mothers Poems

McCabe, Lida Rose. The American Girl at College. New York: Dodd, Mead & Co, 1893. Octavo, xii, 194 pp, contemporary blue cloth with gilt lettering. A guide intended to “give prospective students and parents a glimpse into the private world of women’s college”, written when the American College Girl was fast becoming a cultural icon (Tarbox, The Clubwomen’s Daughters). The book begins with a bold declaration regarding women’s intellect: “The higher education of women has ceased to be a conundrum. Woman has solved it. Statistics refute almost every object raised against her highest intellectual development. Witness the scholastic standing of the four great women colleges of the United States;” however, some scholars classify the work in a genre “written at the behest of college presidents,” reflecting “administration goals and policies” rather than “mention of student culture. Moreover, young girls were reminded by these authors that the primary reason for attending college should be to perfect, not to alter their feminine nature” (Tarbox). Most of the chapters relate to educational matters, though the book contains a chapter on social life and a chapter on physical development that paints a vivid picture of the athletic college woman who “crosses swords with men, vaults bars, climbs ropes, plays ball, rows and swims.” An attractive copy with toning to pages and minor fraying to spine tips, edges and corners. $1,250

Printed by a Woman in 1811

Goldsmith, J. An Easy Grammar of Geography, Intended as a Companion and Introduction to the “Geography on a Popular Plan For Schools and Young Persons”. Philadelphia: Johnson & Warner; Lydia Bailey, Printer, 1811. 12mo, 166pp, marbled boards with leather spine, frontispiece engraving of a clock featuring a movable engraved wheel to tell the time at different cities around the world. By the prominent early American woman printer who commenced operations just three years before producing this textbook. Pages warped, toned, and foxed, lacking upper 2 inches and lower 1 1/2 inch of spine covering, hinges loose, wear to binding, engraved wheel detached from frontispiece. $350

Offered by Caroliniana
TRAVELING SALEWOMAN CORSET KIT

A traveling saleswoman kit from 1935, with brochures, price lists, and order forms for the Spirella Corset Company, complete with a sample corset. Founded in 1904 in Meadville, PA, the company manufactured made-to-measure corsets and drafted a sales force of women “corsetieres” to sell their products.

This apparently unused saleswoman kit includes a two-page introductory letter: “Dear Corsetiere: You’ll be pleased, happy and enthusiastic when you have made a careful study of the new Service Manual pages as you can immediately see where your income will be greatly increased by serving these NEW one-piece garments.” The letter refers to a new elastic girdle with two-way stretch, a garment which helped lead to the demise of the more restrictive corset. $850

This sales kit also includes:

- The Spirella Plan of Individual Service, eight whole-punched leaves, describing products, instructions for measurement and adjustments
- Retail Price List for two-way stretch girdles, September 1935
- Retail Price List for Schedule “A” materials
- Spirella Wholesale Price List
- Original mailing envelope to Mrs. Nellie Hoover of Oakland
- Booklet of Client Receipt for Deposit, unused
- Promotional brochures:
  - Hidden Values How You Can Find Them (4 copies)
  - The Spirella Maternity Support (5 copies)
  - Your Problem Solved (5 copies)
  - Your Spirella Corsetiere Presents Different, Exclusive New Two-Way Stretch Elastic Girdles (4 copies)
  - Sample Pink Corset, patented Fitting Garment Patent 1,928,101

PANKO OR VOTES FOR WOMEN:


The game is named for the leader of the British suffrage movement, Emmeline Pankhurst (1858-1928), and pits opponents and supporters of suffrage against each other in a game similar to rummy. It was advertised and distributed by the Women’s Social and Political Union, as well as by private sellers. Playing cards were a popular fundraising and outreach tool during the suffrage campaign, helping to bring the message of the cause into domestic circles where more overt forms of propaganda might not have been welcomed.

The rules state that all players should be split into Suffragists and the Anti-Suffragists. The illustrations show figures on both sides of the debate, including Emmeline and Christabel Pankhurst leading the campaign, a judge sentencing a suffragette to fourteen days in jail, a policeman arresting a suffragette, and a card showing a suffragette refusing a meal in jail.

The game is complete with all the playing cards and a rule sheet, contained in a two-part box. Some general wear to the box; otherwise very good. $2,500

WHAT SHALL I BE?

Three different versions of What Shall I Be? The Exciting Career Game with a version for girls (1967), a similar version for boys (1968), and an updated, more enlightened and scarce version of the board game for girls (1976). Produced by the Selchow & Richter Company of Bay Shore, New York.

Compared side-by-side with its counterpart for girls, the message is clear: boys win in the end. After all, their career choices are doctor, engineer, astronaut, scientist, statesman, or football player. The girl’s version offers nurse, model, actress, artist, teacher, or flight attendant as exciting career options. The games are equal opportunity in the self-esteem department. Both have a trait card that reads: “You are overweight. Bad for: astronaut and athlete.”

The 1966 and 1976 editions of the game illustrate both historical ideas about gender and the way they can change in just a decade. In the revised game, girls could now choose between going to medical school to become a surgeon, the riding academy to be a jockey, flight training school to be an astronaut, college to be a commentator, drama school to be a director, and law school to be a lawyer.

Each copy of the game is complete and includes: a folding game board, four player pieces, 30 school cards, 16 round subject cards, 16 square-shaped personality cards, and a pair of dice. The rules are printed on the verso of the box lid. Each are housed in a two-part pictorial box. $1,000

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Girl Guides Photo Album

Pair of Photograph Albums by W.J. Beer, Official Photographer to the Girl Guides, Including an Album of Images of Lady Baden Powell at Home and a Album of the Waddow Hall Training Center. United Kingdom: 1950-1955. 1) String tied album binding measuring 6.75 x 4.5: containing 35 photographs, with handwritten title on front cover as well as a manuscript title page reading “The Lady Baden Powell G.B.E. World Chief Guide At Home in Hampton Court Palace June 6th and 11th 1954,” signed to verso of front cover by W.J. Beer, “Photographer to the World Chief Guide.” An album of professional photographs, each accompanied by a handwritten caption, showcasing the apartment of Olave Baden Powell, Lady Baden Powell, granted to her in 1941 at the royal Hampton Court Palace. The album showcases the various rooms of the apartment, decorated and furnished by Baden Powell, including images of a shelf filled entirely with books she had written, photos of Lady Baden Powell posing at her typewriter, with her scrapbooks, in her garden, and more. Baden Powell’s husband Robert was the founder of Scouting and Girl Guides, while Lady Baden Powell was the first Chief Guide for Britain. Images in excellent condition, minor creasing to leaves, wear to covers, fading to notation on front cover.

2) Spiral bound album binding, 10.5 x 7”, made of beige paper with pasted on blue and gold Girl Guides logos, containing 162 photographs placed into photo corners, accompanied by calligraphic handwritten annotations, signed “W.J. Beer” to verso of front cover. An album of professional photographs taken of the Waddow Hall Girl Guides Training Center in the 1950s, including images of the grounds, interior shots, photographs of the staff, and compelling images of Girl Guides posing at the site or engaged in training activities—working in the kitchens, practicing ball throwing and catching, playing singing and rope games, and working in the kitchens. Also of interest are photographs of Girl Guides from Malaya, Singapore, and Nigeria. Foxing and creasing to covers and pages, images in excellent condition. $1,250

Diary of Mabel Bachelder, White House Correspondence Secretary, Documenting Her Experiences Working Under Franklin D. Roosevelt. Washington, D.C.: July 1938 to July 1939. Three-ring binder measuring 6.5 x 9” containing 22pp of typed diary entries plus 11 pp of newspaper clippings. Mabel Bachelder was the mother of Toi Bachelder, FDR’s secretary, who met the President at the age of 14, while she was a polio patient at the Warm Springs Institute; she was eventually invited to work in the White House. Mabel Bachelder accepted a position as correspondence secretary in the FDR White House in 1938 and served in that capacity until 1951. This diary documents her service in the White House, providing a first-hand account of the dynamics of the FDR Presidency. It includes details about press conferences in which FDR addressed the growing German threat, an account of the visit by the English Royal family in 1938, descriptions of White House parties, and anecdotes about Toi Bachelder’s relationship with the President (their conversations, trips to Warm Springs, and private dinners). Some clippings edgeworn, pages reinforced along margins with hole reinforcements. Some excerpts follow:

Description of Mabel’s first time entering to the White House: “And it has actually happened. I approach thru a wide gate and down a winding road splashed with light and shadow, and flanked by green grass and flowering shrubs and great old trees...pacing before the door an officer in uniform. I pass him...I enter—and I am in the ante room of the executive offices on the White House.”

Description of Mabel’s work: “Today brought me my most interesting task, that of briefing pardons for the President’s eye alone. I condense each one from several pages to just one page usually and my summary goes directly to the President without being checked by any one.”

Description of Toi Bachelder’s travels with FDR: “she was given a compartment in the President’s own private car, and because of this advantageous position was available for work with the President...Working with him personally is always considered a privilege by her and on this trip one of the highlights in her young life experience was being able to suggest a more expressive work in one of the speeches...”

Description of a dinner FDR had with Toi Bachelder: “And the President in his charming manner kept the talk going. He told me [Toi] in detail how he timed his messages to Hitler and to Mussolini so that they would arrive at the most auspicious moment. And as he talked of that and other phases of the international situation which are common knowledge I fairly hugged myself to think that it was actually me having the marvelous experience that some of the greatest men in the world were denied.” $1,750

Offered by Caroliniana
MARION E. DONOVAN FOR SCHOOL COMMISSIONER, FIRST DISTRICT

An “1893 Democratic Canvas Book” for Marion E. Donovan (1843-1937), one of the little-known pioneering American women who ran for political office in the 19th century. The book was not used in canvassing and instead houses clippings and other material associated with Donovan’s campaign, including two printed candidate statements.

Donovan campaigned for School Commissioner for the First District in Onondaga County, New York in 1893 on the Democratic ticket. This local election was something of a test case for suffragettes. A year later, Susan B. Anthony launched a statewide campaign to revise the New York state constitution so women would be granted the right to vote. Women all over the state received petition forms and canvassed their neighborhoods, securing 352,000 signatures by the time of the state convention. Ultimately, the effort failed and it was not until 1917 that New York became the first state east of the Mississippi River to grant full suffrage to women.

In her campaign Donovan appealed to the support of women in particular: “to all women who feel that they, above all others, should have a voice in choosing those who have such children’s interests in charge, I would present this solicitation for their personal assistance to aid me in my canvas.”

Donovan was opposed by John B. Frawley, a Republican. According to a printed statement from School Commissioner M.C. Sharp, Mrs. Donovan held a First Grade Certificate; Mr. Frawley a Second Grade. Nevertheless, Frawley prevailed, as a newspaper clipping included within reports: “In the 1st district the Democrats tried the experiment of nominating a woman, Mrs. M. E. Donovan of Baldwinsville, but the Republican candidate was elected by 2,326 to 1,775.” Another clipping reports her campaign expenditures: “…she is out $101.76 as a consequence of being a candidate. Of this amount $48.25 was paid for liveries, $44.20 for printing and $6.31 for postage and stationery.”

A total of 24 newspaper clippings, several two column, and three printed statements, two from Mrs. Donovan and the other from Mr. Sharp, are present. The printed statements have been folded and all the material is pasted in at the front of the canvas book. Several of the clippings pertain to the efforts of suffragettes in New York, including the 1893 decision by Justice Pardon C. Williams to strike an estimated 10,000 names of women from the registry list. There is also a short piece entitled “School Suffrage for Women” about Alice W. Stoddard’s nomination for School Commissioner in Washington County, New York. Others include editorials and letters to the editor endorsing Donovan’s candidacy, including three anonymous submissions.

Some general browning to most of the newspaper clippings, with some minor offsetting to the opposing leaves of the canvas book. The original printed paper wrappers, which bear a Donovan campaign label on the front panel, are browned and a bit edgeworn, with a small chip to the bottom corner of the front panel, otherwise very good. $600

Offered by Johnson Rare Books & Archives

MAROK SISTERS & CO.
IN A SENSATIONAL AERIAL NOVELTY

A small photograph album containing original images and newspaper clippings from a Belgian quartet of sisters who performed as aerial acrobats on the Vaudeville circuit in the late 1910s and throughout the ’20s.

Little is known of the sisters, who were managed by the father, Fernand Morok. Many Belgian refugees emigrated to America during the First World War, and it is likely that their family name was Anglicized at some point. However, their performances were widely advertised in major newspapers throughout the United States and Canada. A curious newspaper clipping tipped in at the rear of the album suggests the family made their home in California, with sisters Therese (or Teresa) and Louise working as dance artists in the Oakland Hippodrome.

This album contains an advertising portrait, 42 original snapshots, and a pair of newspaper clippings. Most of the images measure 4 ½ by 2 ¾ inches and are tipped in or held in place with photo corners on black paper album leaves. Many are accompanied by brief holographic descriptions. All are housed in an oblong brown leatherette album (8 by 5 ¼ inches), which is bound with a ribbon tie. Horizontal crease to one photograph, with some minor shelfwear and soiling to the album covers; otherwise very good. $500

Offered by Caroliniana & Johnson Rare Books & Archives