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Madam President: In responding to ~~your~~ ^{our} most ^{warmly} welcome
to which we have just listened, and in appreciation
acknowledgment of the honor ^{that} ~~that~~ ^{date (?)} accrues to me, on
behalf of an Oregon Federation of Women's clubs, I
am peculiarly impressed with the deep significance
of this important gathering.

How vividly I recall the time, 30 years ago,
when, of the many silver haired women now
present, few if any imagined that the time
would ever come when any other Oregon woman
save only my fool-hardy self, would ever be
guilty of such a supposed to be unwomanly
act as to assist in forming, much less to address
a public assembly of this character. Still less
did you imagine that the 20th Century would
find you convened from all over the state, in a
sort of handicapped, semi-official Legislative
capacity, to consider the ways and means necessary
to accomplish the betterment of humanity's conditions,
temporal, civil and economic.

Thirty years ago, when many of these blooming
delegates had scarcely passed their babyhood,
and many others had not yet been born,
your humble speaker braved the odium
of public opinion and the misrepresentation
of ignorance and prejudice ^{alone,} in behalf of
just such work as now convenes us. But she
did not dream that she would live to see her
own adopted state regarded it as an honor
for women to appear upon any platform in
any other capacity than that of singer

or actors; still less did she imagine that, were
such an assemblage of women possible, she
would ever be chosen as ^{one of} its honored spokes-
-women. But the world moves and women
are moving with it. The church has learned,
much to its credit and advantage, that
the ~~omnipotent~~ ^{omnipotent} Author of human destiny under-
-stood His business when he endowed women
with brains and tongues and the capacity and
will to use them ^{wisely, gracefully and happily}. The school long ago learned
that the great multitude of its ^{most capable} teachers ~~were~~ ^{had to be}
~~to be~~ selected from the ranks of women,
if the ~~most~~ work of training immortal
souls for their highest destiny were to be
~~universally and successfully pursued~~ ^{uninterruptedly prosecuted}. The "co-ed," in
the greatest ~~and~~ institutions of learning, has
already taught her brother that she can
earn off the highest honors in competitive
~~studies~~ ^{examinations}, and at the same time increase her
capacity for usefulness in the ^{that awaits her} home, caus-
-ing ^{the home} that greatest ^{under the sun} most important of all
institutions to keep pace with the march
of her understanding, and ^{enabling} ~~causing~~ the husband
of her choice (not alone, his choice, mind you) to
glory in her domestic achievements in propor-
-tion as he has learned to "give her of the
fruit of her hands," and ^{thus} ~~let~~ her own works
praise her in the gates.

Our Improvement Leagues have learned to

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to welcome the Club Woman to their councils
as aids ^{and inspiration} in sanitation; ^{and comfort} and our ^{own} Portland, to
which we are proud to ^{we} welcome you today,
is planning for our cooperation in creating
in our midst a Rose City, the like of which
has never been seen on this continent.

~~Already~~ Already, although Oregon is tarrying
a little behind the block of great inter-moun-
tain States directly to the East of us, and has
not yet bestowed upon us our full and
free enfranchisement, the State ^{of the} welcomes
us to ^{the more serious of} patching ^{for} its blunders; ^{and} seeks
aid in caring for its public-minded offspring
which ^{men} many ^{now} see, are merely the out-
croppings of the ^{condition} subjugated ^{of} motherhood?

Women are learning, by and through this
great Club Movement, the true nature of
their own heretofore narrow environment.
They are learning the value of personal,
civil and political liberty ^{for themselves}, and in turn, are
teaching men that "we will do them good
and not evil all the days of our lives" in
proportion to the opportunities ^{do not withhold,} they ~~possess~~,
as well as the many we take without the
asking.

While we believe that men are destined
to receive the greatest benefit from
every enlargement of our liberties

powers, as well as the limitations invested in our National charter of Federation that we have, from the beginning of this great Woman Movement, been building better than we knew. A great question, out of which had risen at first a cloud no larger than a woman's hand, seems now to ~~be~~ have been settled for us by a Providential discovery.

But my time is limited and I can only say, in closing, we are glad to be welcomed by the Women's Clubs of Portland. Officers, delegates, members and visitors alike are glad.