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Congratulations to American Women

October 12, 1920

Heartiest congratulations to the women of America upon the ratification of the nineteenth amendment to the Constitution!

The enfranchisement of the women of the United States is a triumph for justice and righteousness. It is one of the most progressive steps ever taken by the people of America.

As an influence upon the moral and social welfare of the people, this nineteenth amendment is second only to the eighteenth abolishing the liquor traffic.

The year 1920 certainly marks an epoch in our history, the year when these two amendments to the Constitution of the United States become operative, one, that outlaws a traffic that has exacted tremendous toll in the lives of our people and has struck especially hard at women and children, the other that places the ballot in the hands of the women, natural enemies of this outlawed traffic.

It is especially gratifying that the nineteenth amendment has triumphed at a time when the female voters' help is so much needed to resist the attacks of the liquor interests directed at the eighteenth amendment.

It is true that the argument is freely made that the moral influence of women voters is greatly overestimated, that their entry into the political arena will not make much difference one way or the other on moral issues. The fact remains that the liquor interests and their allies have bitterly opposed giving the women the ballot, and that they now expect a few favors from their hands.

But regardless of this phase of the question, the *American Issue* heartily congratulates the women of America upon receiving the ballot because it is just and right that they should have it as citizens and taxpayers. However, the *American Issue* does not believe that the women voters' influence in moral issues will be negligible, but on the contrary, this paper believes that the dry forces have been tremendously strengthened by the enfranchisement of the women.

- *American Issue*