

WOMEN'S KNIGHTS WIN THE DEBATE

Schoolboys Put Up Strong Arguments—McManus Boosts Suffrage Cause.

At a meeting of the Political Equality club last evening in the council chamber, there was a debate between six boys from the high school on the merits of woman suffrage.

Erling Mostue, John Skadberg and Ralph Johnson were in favor of the ballot and Harry Zlatkovsky, Rupert O'Brien and Alfred Ott opposed. The arguments were sustained on both sides, but the affirmative carried the day. The judges were A. E. McManus, Hans B. Haroldson and Mr. Gillette.

At the close of the debate Mr. McManus said a few words on the subject of political equality for women. After recommending it in no half hearted fashion, he remarked that no sane man need fear the ballot, and that though each sex has peculiar duties, they will combine on common ground and work together for the good of the nation. He said that women are unjustly treated in Minnesota and that there are laws on the statute book that are a disgrace to the men who sat in the legislature when they were passed. Women have the same interest in the welfare of the country as men, he declared, they graduate from the high schools and universities side by side with the men they afterwards marry, so that lack of education cannot be urged against them in the struggle for their rights. Referring to the argument that women should not be allowed to vote, because they cannot fight, he said that if they devoted themselves to the care and upbringing of their families he was quite willing that all the men of the country should go out in battle to defend them should occasion arise.

The mother, he said, often has the misfortune in only too many cases of seeing her children ruined by a system of laws which she has no right to change and which she has no voice in making.

In conclusion he declared that there is no man in the city of Duluth who is fit to unfasten the buckle of his wife's shoe, and pronounced the system that debarred women from a voice in the government of their state as unjust, contemptible and un-American.

Mr. Haroldson and Mr. Gillette also spoke.