

THE VOTE

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OBJECTS: To use the power of the Parliamentary vote, now won for Women upon equal terms with men, to elect women to Parliament, and upon other public bodies; to establish equality of rights and opportunities between the sexes; and to promote the social and industrial well-being of the community.

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MADAME HALIDÉ EDIB.

THE NEW TURKISH WOMAN.

Mme. Halidé Edib, who was the first member of her sex to speak at the Institute of Politics, which held its eighth annual session in Williamstown, Mass., last month—on which occasion she shared the platform with men representatives from all parts of the world, including England, Belgium, Germany and Italy—is one of the most remarkable women of the Moslem world.

Born in 1885, Halidé Edib had the misfortune to lose her mother at the age of four. Her father, a secretary of Sultan Abdul Hamid, placed her in the care of her grandparents. Her early education included instruction in English and French. When she was eight years of age she was sent to the American College for Girls at Constantinople, but an uneventful career was not for Halidé. The Sultan was opposed to a Turkish girl receiving higher education and issued a special imperial order that she was to be withdrawn. Thus at nine years of age Halidé Edib found herself thirsting for the knowledge of which she had had a taste, and denied appeasing her desire by the age-long customs of her country. But things were moving towards a new order even in Turkey. She was afterwards allowed to return to the college, and in 1901 took the B.A. degree. Not only is Halidé Edib the first Moslem woman to whom the American College in Constantinople has awarded a degree, but she has so far remained its most famous graduate. Her marriage, at the age of sixteen, to Salih Zeki Bey, the most distinguished mathematician of

Modern Turkey, was not a success, and a divorce was obtained nine years later. Her first novel, "Ruined Temples," was published the same year. She followed it up in 1911 with "Handan," a very popular novel, and, in 1912, received signal success with "New Turan," a semi-political novel written on her second visit to London. The constitutional revolution of 1908, which removed the strict censorship of Abdul Hamid, gave Halidé Edib her opportunity, and her writings which have continued to pour out in an unbroken sequence are known wherever the Turkish tongue is spoken.



MADAME HALIDE EDIB.

In 1916, Halidé Edib married Dr. Adnan, Director-General of the Health Department. A year later she became Professor of Western Literature in the University of Istamboul. Although authorship and study have the first claim on Halidé Edib, during the war she was drawn into the political arena, and, as an extreme Nationalist, in 1920 when many of the leaders of her party were arrested, escaped from Constantinople, hidden beneath charcoal bags on an ox cart guided by Anatolian irregulars. She sought refuge in Angora, but when exiled four years later, made her home in London. Halidé Edib has two sons, one at the London School of

Economics, and the other at the Columbia University. Halidé Edib, who is regarded as Turkey's greatest feminist and symbolic of the new womanhood of Turkey, holds a definite political creed. Autocracy she strongly condemns; democracy she considers the most hopeful system of government which has so far evolved.