



Jessie B. Kastner

Jessie J. Bullock Kastner

Quick Facts

- Birth:** August 8, 1873
Eureka, Woodford County, Illinois
- Death:** June 1, 1957
Fresno, California
- Occupation:** Farmer; Mathematician;
Teacher;
- Party Affiliation:** Farm-Labor
- Years served:** 1923-25
- Office:** Representative
- District:** 39 (Pierce County)

Personal:

- Taught mathematics for eleven years in high schools
- Taught mathematics at Eastern Illinois State Teachers College
- She taught and served as president of the Mathematics Club at the University of Illinois. She also wrote a treatise on mathematics that was widely used in the mathematics department of the University.
- Came to Washington State in 1907 to teach mathematics at Tacoma High School (now Stadium High School)
- Married Albert Kastner, a poultry farmer in South Tacoma, on June 24, 1908

Education:

- Illinois State Normal University, high school department, 1895; normal department, 1896
- University of Illinois, A.B., majored in mathematics and its applications in engineering, 1900; A.M., 1906
- University of Chicago Graduate School, 1907
- Attended Eureka College

Community Service:

Affiliations:

- Phi Beta Kappa, honorary fraternity of literature and art
- Sigma Xi, honorary fraternity of science

Awards:

Legislative & State Service:

- Interests included working for public power, the welfare of women and children, economics, and labor problems

- "...Mrs. Jessie Bullock Kastner of Pierce County, member of the Farmer-Labor Party. Mrs. Kastner is a clubwoman with a superior education and an unusual capacity for exposition. Throughout the sessions she would secure the floor and with flashing eyes address her lengthy persuasive appeals to the man membership. She seemed to be imbued with the idea that legislative results are achieved by argument and persuasion on the floor of the House in the presence of the gallery, where all may see and hear. I do not think that at any time she had a suspicion of the real methods of legislative work." (Sweetman)

Committees: (1923) Public Morals, chair; Education; Labor and Labor Statistics; State Charitable Institutions; State Library

House Bills sponsored:

(1923 session)

204-Relating to the management and control of community personal property

Went to first reading

214-Relating to actions for personal injury to married women

Went to third reading

220-Relating to the disposition of fines under laws relating to intoxicating liquor

Went to first reading

Leadership, Positions & Appointments:

- Worked on the Legislative Research Committee and then became director of the Taxation and Tariff department in the Women's Legislative Council of Washington, n.d.
- Served as President and Vice President of the Women's Legislative Council of Washington, n.d.

Sources:

Articles:

- "Jessie Bullock Kastner," *Legislative Counsellor*, Women's Legislative Council of Washington, January-February 1928, vol. XIII, number 1
- "Our President Jessie Bullock Kastner," *Legislative Counsellor*, Women's Legislative Council of Washington, September-October 1937, vol. XXII
- "Noted Tacoma Woman Dies," *Tacoma News Tribune*, June 4, 1957

Books:

- Sweetman, Maude. *What Price Politics*. White & Hitchcock Corporation, Seattle, 1927