

The PACIFIC MONTHLY



VOL. XXVI

JULY, 1911

No. 1

How Washington Women Regained the Ballot

By C. H. Baily

ONE of the shrewdest politicians in the Pacific Northwest, not many weeks ago, was studying, ward by ward, and precinct by precinct, the returns of a remarkable election in Seattle at which many thousands of women cast ballots. This politician knew the campaign work that had been done in each precinct and ward, and knew the class of voters there-in.

For nearly two hours he poured over the figures. At the end of that time he tilted back his hat, turned to a number of his friends and quietly said:

"The women paid no attention whatever to the news-

papers, to campaign literature, or to what our workers said to them. They went out, studied the situation for themselves,

and voted as they pleased. The old-line politician is as dead as a door nail. The women have revolutionized politics."

And in Washington, the last of the five States that so far have granted equal rights to women, they have broken all political traditions and, for better or for worse, have taken the situation in their own hands. From all indications they intend to keep the situation in their own hands and to keep on revolutionizing.

California will vote on suffrage in Oc-



MRS. EMMA SMITH DEVOE, PRESIDENT OF THE WASHINGTON EQUAL SUFFRAGE ASSOCIATION.

Able and tactful leader of the strenuous suffrage campaign of 1910.