

Evlyn Farris and the University Women's Club

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Evlyn Farris was a pioneer in improving conditions in education and employment for women in British Columbia. She founded the University Women's Club of Vancouver in 1907 and helped establish the Women's Liberal Association of Vancouver in 1915. Her work in these organizations and her involvement in the Senate and Board of Governors at the University of British Columbia (1912 - 1942) influenced government legislation regarding social policies affecting women.

Evlyn Fenwick Kierstead was born on August 21, 1878 in Windsor, Nova Scotia. Early in Evlyn's life her mother died, leaving Evlyn to be raised by her father, a professor and clergyman at Acadia University. Evlyn's father had a profound influence on the development of her ideas concerning higher education.¹ Having been brought up in an academic environment, Evlyn believed in the importance of university training very early in her life.

When leaving high school at the age of sixteen, Evlyn addressed her graduating class on the subject of women in a speech entitled "Wux Femina Facto", meaning "A Woman Leads the Way".² The Attorney-General of Nova Scotia, present at the ceremony, "subjected her address to seething criticism".³ It discussed higher education for women, stressed women's suffrage, and referred to women prominent in these fields at that time: Frances E. Willard, Lady Aberdeen, and Alice Freeman Palmer. The speech illustrated Evlyn's belief that education was the most important factor in the advancement of women, and that it would continue to be so in the future.⁴

She believed the women of the past worked within the constraints of conventionality, that the women of her time had more advantages, and therefore would be able to exceed the endeavours of the past to produce a marked change in the raising of women's consciousness. Evlyn saw that this consciousness would result in women becoming part of the decision-making process which affected the living conditions of all society. She said:

The desire for education is becoming almost a passion in all enlightened nations. That knowledge is power and wealth, has long been regarded as axiomatic and now the people generally are seeking to obtain knowledge for the sake of power and wealth, and in this work woman will certainly have a grand opportunity for displaying her natural and acquired abilities.⁵

All this would be possible with women's "enlarged privileges of education and her wise use of the ballot."⁶

Clearly, she believed the influence of women would produce a desirable way of thinking and living: "...may we not look to women as the future leader of all good deeds?"⁷ Her idea of women's purity is a definite indication of her early maternal feminist views.

Between 1894 and 1898, Evlyn completed her Bachelor of Arts degree with first class honours at Acadia University. In 1899, she achieved her Master of Arts degree in both Philosophy and German, also from Acadia. By the time she had completed her Master's at age 21, Evlyn was a devout believer in women's rights. In her 1894 - 1898 scrapbook is a clipping from the progressive newspaper, *The Halifax Woman's Extra: Written by Women, for Women, About Women*, which lists the paper's future articles, including Amelia Finch's "The Revolt of the Daughters", Winnie Beckwith's "Natural Rights Versus Women's Dependence", and Evlyn Kierstead's "The Effect Upon Society of the Higher Education of Women".⁸ Her early writings reflected her future beliefs in women's higher education.

In 1899, Evlyn delivered a speech entitled "Woman's Influence" in which she reiterated the ideas from "Wux Femina Facto". She thought that since not all women could attend university, they must stimulate their minds through reading and discussion. Intellectual education for women, whether formal or informal, was still largely unconventional and unpopular. In fact, Evlyn had been asked not to mention higher education in her speech; that she ignored this advice shows she believed strongly in her cause and its worth. But even Evlyn was trapped by the restrictive attitudes of the era, and advocated many of the socially-dictated roles for women. Her speech, "Woman's Influence", included comments on the importance of dress, etiquette and appropriate behaviour in the presence of men, such as passivity, taking an interest in their work and supporting their beliefs without question.⁹

From 1899 to 1905, Evlyn headed the department of History and Political Science at a high school in Middleton, Connecticut, where she became a member of the University Club. In 1905, Evlyn Kierstead married Wallace de Beque Farris, a lawyer in Vancouver where the couple made their home, and where for years Evlyn was to support legislative reforms through the educational organization she formed in 1907, the University Women's Club.

Evlyn's daughter, Katherine Robson, speculated that her mother formed the club initially to combat loneliness and a sense of isolation in the new city. Evlyn no doubt missed the stimulation of other university women to which she had been exposed in Nova Scotia and Connecticut. The Vancouver University Women's Club, the second such organization in Canada, put Evlyn in contact with its other seven chartered members,¹⁰ and thus kept her involved in her all-important field of education.

All of the club's members had obtained their education outside of British Columbia, since there was no university in the province at that time. A woman qualified for membership if she had a four-year degree from any college or university. the Constitution of the University Women's Club stated its purpose as being:

To stimulate intellectual activity in college-bred women, to work for practical advancement of art, science, literature, and civic reform and to promote the social welfare of college-bred women.¹¹

Intellectual activity would involve the University Women's Club with other women's organizations in order to discuss academic topics. an interest in the practical advancement of art, science and literature would precipitate the club's early activities in the founding of the University of British Columbia, and the establishment of Parent-Teacher Associations in Vancouver. From its inception, the Club viewed its educational

advantage as a tool for affecting municipal change. It would become a lobbying group to ensure the social welfare of college-bred women.

The intellectual activities of the club usually involved discussions of literature and art with other women's clubs. For example, in 1908, in a speech entitled "The Inheritance of the Canadian Educated Woman", Evelyn suggested that intellectual activities be pursued by the club and that the benefits of university education be shared with other women who had not had the same advantages.¹² In March of 1915, Evelyn addressed the Women's Canadian Club on "Canadian Literature, Its Past, Its Present and Its Future". She spoke about prominent Canadian authors and their works, stressed "that Canada has a national literature", and that women as Canadians must be aware of its existence.¹³ She referred to four women as great Canadian writers: Sara Jeannette Duncan, Agnes C. Laut, Grace Dean McLeod and Agnes Deans Cameron. In March of 1915, she delivered a speech before the Women's Literary Society which discussed the works of Meredith, Bennett and Galsworthy and their views of women.¹⁴ She especially respected Meredith's opinion concerning women and quoted him as saying, "The greatest nation will be the one where men and women are the nearest thing to being equal".¹⁵ Initially their goals were those of an elitist Women's club, but as it expanded the University Women's Club directed its energies towards improving education, both formal and informal, for women.

The University Women's club's primary objective in 1908 was to organize similar clubs in the province so that they could work together in order to establish the university.¹⁶ Soon after the Vancouver Club was founded, Evelyn promoted her idea of the University women's Club in Victoria and in the Okanagan Valley. Rosalind Watson (Mrs. Esson Young) was a charter member of the University Women's Club in Victoria and its first president.¹⁷ The Club's secondary aim was to develop a communication system which would form a link across the country so that all university-educated women would be able to affiliate with one another. This proposal later resulted in the Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW).

The University of British Columbia was established in 1908. It was moved from its temporary site to its present Point Grey location during the Liberal John Oliver government. By 1910, Evelyn had been appointed to the committee to choose a permanent site for the university. Two years later she was one of two women appointed to the U.B.C. Senate, the other being Madge Robertson (Mrs. Alfred Watt) of the fledgling Women's Institute and of the University Women's Club of Victoria. In July 1912, Evelyn was nominated by members of the club to become a Senator of the University.¹⁸ It is impossible to determine the degree of influence the Club had on Evelyn's eventual appointment. However, out of 340 votes, Evelyn had the fifth highest number of votes.¹⁹ The Vancouver newspaper, *The News-Advertiser*, recognized the importance of Evelyn's position:

The election of Evelyn Farris may be regarded as evidence of the ever-increasing rapidity of the progress in the conditions and deeds of women.²⁰

Her appointment to the U.B.C. Senate was extremely significant for two reasons. First, we must remember that the Conservatives were in power and had made no attempt to better the conditions for women in the province. Unlike the Liberals, they had not adopted women suffrage as a party platform and they continually ignored with work of

women's groups in B.C. as much as they could. Therefore, Evelyn's appointment to the Senate is quite paradoxical. On the one hand the Conservative government did not support the women's demands for suffrage or amendments to existing laws, but on the other hand, they must have respected Evelyn Farris and her attitudes concerning women and education. The Women's Liberal Association was not formed until 1915, but one wonders if Evelyn as a member of its executive would still have been chosen to sit on the Senate had the Association been established in 1912.

In February of 1916, Evelyn was upset with the work of the U.B.C. Senate. Specific tasks allocated to the Senate were performed by some Senators and government officials without the consultation of the entire body. She said,

What annoys the women of the University Women's Club particularly is to find that the government has drawn up the curriculum dealing with the education of women (which is a power expressly given to the Senate) without giving us a chance to be heard in the matter. For instance, the calendar says that women may attend the classes in arts, but does not say that they may attend the classes in the Faculty of Science, the omission is being equivalent to a prohibition. I am quite sure that this would never have occurred if the calendar had passed through the hands of the Senate, for if nobody else had drawn attention to it, I should have done so myself.²¹

She said that the University of British Columbia was a laughing stock of academics in the east,²² and blamed the Conservative Government for the slow development of the University. Evelyn said that British Columbia had made a commotion about the institution since its founding in 1908, but by 1916 all that had been done was "to appoint a lot of deans and begin lectures in a borrowed building and three shacks".²³ Evelyn's speech clearly points out her frustration with the government's apathetic attitude regarding the establishment of a university in British Columbia.

The new Liberal government would take more interest in financing the University of British Columbia. In 1917, Evelyn was appointed by the Liberals to the Board of Governors at U.B.C. Evelyn's son, John Farris, stated,

My father was Attorney-General in the John Oliver government. The two of them (mother and father) were instrumental (with others, of course) in persuading Premier Oliver to move the University of British Columbia to its present site in Point Grey.²⁴

Much later, the government of B.C. changed once again to conservative; Evelyn was not reappointed to the Board of Governors at U.B.C. Former Attorney-General Manson criticized the new government, accusing them of not reappointing Evelyn for purely political reasons.²⁵ She was replaced in 1928 by Maude Welch, a woman who did not possess a university degree but whose husband was a twice-defeated Conservative.²⁶ When the Liberals later returned to power, Evelyn was reappointed once again to the Board of Governors where she had been one of the first women on the governing body of a university in Canada.

Institutions of higher learning recognized their debt to Evelyn Farris. In May, 1923, she was awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from Acadia University. It was the first time Acadia had conferred such a degree on a woman and the third in Canada ever presented to a woman. The President of Acadia stated that the award was bestowed upon Evelyn for her service in education and in other public services she initiated and aided.²⁷ In 1942, U.B.C. conferred upon Evelyn the same degree and bestowed upon her 19 years earlier. Dr. Evelyn Farris now possessed two Honourary Doctor of Laws degrees for her work in higher education in B.C. At the ceremony in 1942, the citation read in part: "Give her the fruit of her hands, and let her own works praise her in the gates."²⁸

The University women's Club acted as a lobbying group to promote civic reform for women in Vancouver. The Club's first activity in terms of bettering social conditions for women in the city was their Early Christmas Shopping Campaign which began in 1908. The Club was asked by the store clerks to appeal to the public, the request being that Christmas shoppers shop from December 10th until the last week before Christmas and in the daytime, especially in the morning when the stores were comparatively uncrowded. The point of this was to encourage shoppers to complete their shopping early to relieve the women clerks of the extra long and hectic hours they had to work around Christmas time.²⁹

Another activity the Club eagerly supported was the establishment of a permanent building in Vancouver to house women's societies. In February of 1912, the University women's Club was attempting to raise funds to purchase stocks in the Vancouver Women's Building Ltd. (VWBL). The VWBL purchased a building at 752 Thurlow for \$25,000 plus a mortgage. It was the first building in Canada of its kind, and by the end of 1921, twenty-one women's clubs and societies had office space there, including the University Women's Club.³⁰

The Club, in March, 1914, made a very important decision, later to be enforced in B.C. by the provincial school board. They made it necessary for "women physicians to be appointed to examine girls in public schools".³¹ It was a progressive position taken by the Club, readily endorsed by the school board. It would seem that this action was to provide women physicians with employment.

Several months later, another committee to aid unemployed women was formed at the written request of Helena Gutteridge, a suffragist and trade unionist who later became Vancouver's first alderwoman. Laura Jamieson was chosen to represent the Club.³² They obviously felt it necessary to become involved with other women's organizations in order to better the conditions for women of all social classes.

In 1917, Evelyn Farris, on behalf of the Club, began a campaign to ensure that sales girls received a weekly half holiday and a limitation on their hours of work per day. The conditions of women workers were very poor, their wages were low and their hours long.³³ Her endeavour was a success.³⁴

In 1915, Evelyn headed the Club's Education Committee and was responsible for the formation of Parent-Teacher Associations in Vancouver. Her hope was to bring teacher and parents together so that they could have a better understanding of education for youth.

The University women's Club of Vancouver was probably more involved with the amending of unjust social legislation affecting women and children than with any other

of its activities. The study of the laws was initiated by the Club by Helen MacGill. Over the years the amendments were achieved both by the Club and individual members.

At a meeting in 1910 of the University Women's Club, a lawyer spoke on "Women and the Law":

The members were very shocked to learn that in B.C. girls of twelve and boys of fourteen could be married; that married women had no claim to the custody of their children, the father being the sole guardian; and that a man could leave his wife penniless.³⁵

The members became aware for the first time that laws relating to women and children had not changed since the Imperial Proclamation of 1858. In an attempt to correct this injustice, a joint committee was formed by the Local Council of Women and the University Women's Club. The affiliation of the Local Council of Women and the University Women's Club

...petitioned the Attorney-General to revise the inheritance laws to guarantee widows one-half of marital property. They also requested that he sponsor legislation to accord mothers equal guardianship rights with the fathers of their legitimate children and to allow deserted wives access to the earnings of their minor children without a court order.³⁶

As a result of the joint committee's work, Helen Gregory MacGill published a pamphlet entitled, "Daughters, Wives and Mothers in B.C. - Some Laws Affecting Them".

In December, 1911 and January, 1912, Helen MacGill, the convenor of the committee to improve laws affecting women and children, compiled a report and met with Conservative Attorney-General Bowser. She presented him with proposed amendments to the existing laws. In February, the University Women's Club made their first proposal for the pensions of widows. In a report to the University women's Club, Helen MacGill stated that the present session of Parliament had made no improvements in the existing laws relating to women and children. In March a new Committee was formed to concentrate on a law that would bring about the guardianship of children by both the mother and father.³⁷

The most notable event of 1912 in terms of advancements for women was probably the amending of the Legal Professions Act on February 27, 1912. Mabel French, a lawyer from New Brunswick, was refused entrance to the British Columbia bar. John Farris remembers his mother's work on the case:

As to the Mabel French case, there is no doubt that my mother played an important role in this matter. As I heard the story from her, in 1912 Mabel French, who was a lawyer from New Brunswick, had been refused admission to the Bar of British Columbia by the Benchers of the Law Society on the grounds that only persons who were British subjects were eligible to practice law. The Benchers ruled that as a woman was not a person she was not eligible. This decision



Courtesy Katherine Robson



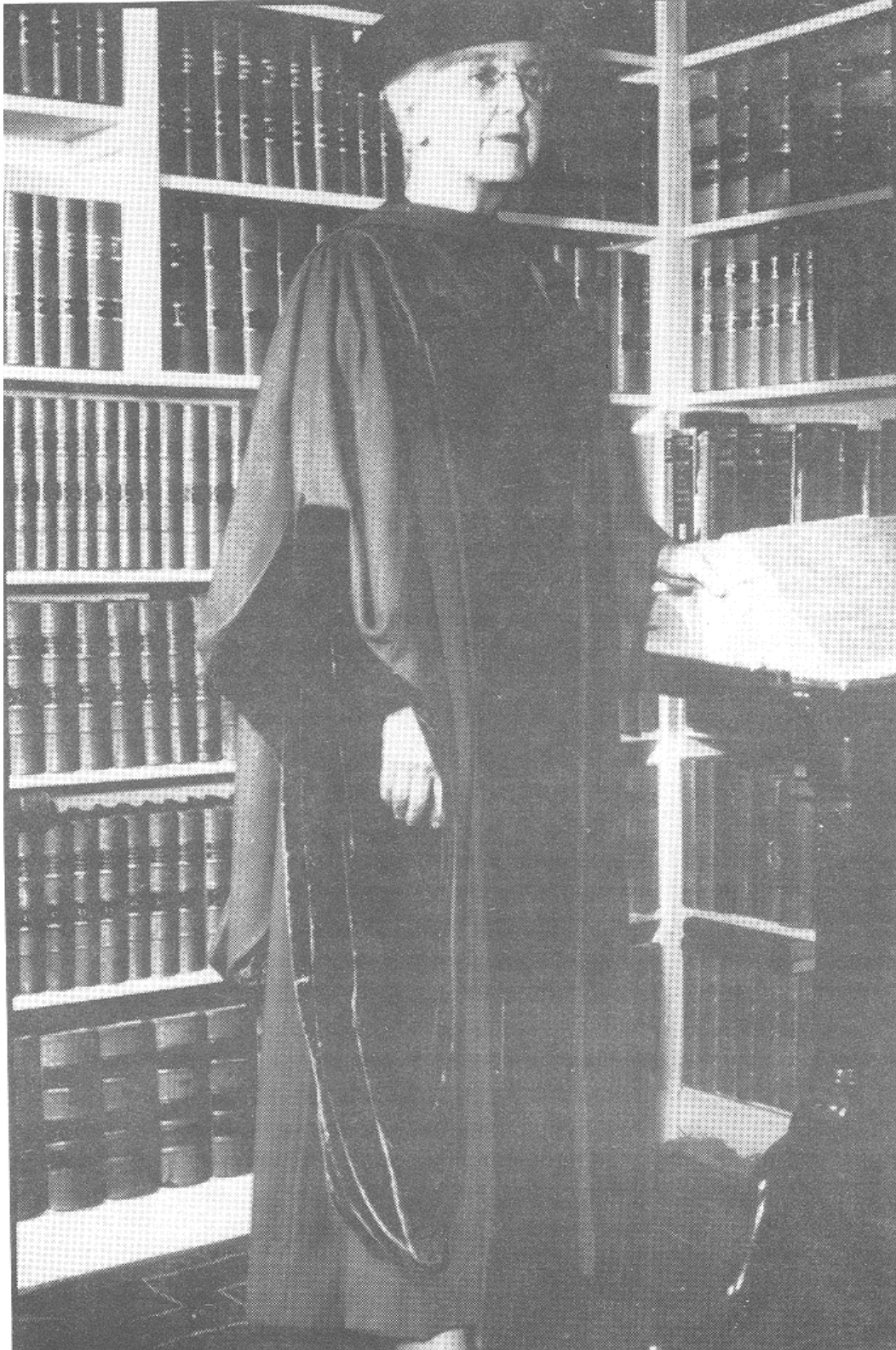
Courtesy John Farris

Evlyn Farris portraits



Vancouver City Archives

Evlyn Farris, 1911, Collingwood Library



*Evlyn Farris, 1942, upon receiving her honorary L.L.D. at UBC.
(UBC Special Collections)*

was upheld by Mr. Justice Aulay Morrison. It was confirmed by the Court of Appeal of British Columbia.

On Friday night, Mr. Bob Hannington, who was then counsel for the Canadian National Railways in Vancouver, and his wife were playing bridge with my mother and father. During the course of the evening, Mr. Hannington told mother of Mabel French and suggested she might be interested in trying to do something about it. She said she certainly was. The next morning, Saturday, she went down to the Vancouver office of W.J. Bowser, K.C., the Attorney-General of British Columbia. Notwithstanding that they were on opposite sides in politics, Bowser consented to see her. Knowing mother, he didn't have a choice. Mother told Mr. Bowser of the Mabel French situation and said that the women of British Columbia would not tolerate it and that the Act had to be amended. After some pussyfooting, Mr. Bowser said, as the House was going to be prorogued on Tuesday there was no time to do anything about it. Mother said there was time and he was going to do something about it. Finally, he agreed and the Bill was introduced on the Monday and passed on the Tuesday, after which the House was prorogued.³⁸

On January 27, 1912, a month before the Act was amended, in a meeting of the University Women's Club a report was given by a committee on amending the Legal Professions Act.³⁹ Clearly, the committee was making little progress with the amendments so Evelyn, having been inspired by the events of the evening, took immediate action which resulted in the revision of the Legal Professions Act within a few days.

In January of 1913, after a Conservative re-election, Attorney-General Bowser told the Club that he very seriously doubted whether there were to be any changes made in the Conservative policy concerning the laws affecting women and children, or the Equal Guardianship Laws.⁴⁰ A year later, Helen MacGill devised a formal set of amendments with reference to the existing Laws on Women and Children.

1. That we ask that the right of the minor mother be made equal to that of the minor father.
2. That the Deserted Wives Act be amended so as to make the wages of the minor children living with the mother her separate estate. That the offense be changed from 'desertion' to non-support. To include in this some clause making grown-up children with means responsible for the support of the aged and infirm parents.
3. To strike out the clause in the present Act which frees a man from responsibility for the support of his

minor children if his wife has sufficient means to do so and that she be allowed to sue for support without having to leave her husband.⁴¹

This was the position of the University Women's Club. Action had been taken and their demands finalized. Now they had to convince the Conservative Government of their needs.

In 1916, the University Women's Club demanded a new building for women prisoners but were flatly refused.⁴² However, not all their applications for Women's Reforms that year were rejected. A city council meeting on March 7, 1916 endorsed the proposals of the University Women's Club to amendments made to the Deserted Wives Act. They also approved a new Act regarding the care for the sick and impoverished by close relatives. Finally, some progress in relation to women's reforms had been made after many years of fruitless attempts.

In 1917 the Club was working on ensuring Mothers' Pensions. After much debate on the topic the Club needed more aid and carried their proposal to other women's organizations.⁴³ Such a pension marked the beginning of social assistance in British Columbia.

There is some controversy about the part the University Women's Club played in obtaining equal suffrage. Linda Hale applauds the University Women's Club's work when she credits them as one of the key organizations for suffrage.⁴⁴ In direct opposition to this, in an essay entitled "The University women's Club", Helen Gregory MacGill states,

While the University Women's Club was in itself not a suffrage society, its officials, and from time to time its presidents (Mrs. Wm. McConkey and Judge Helen Gregory MacGill), and others became heads of suffrage organizations.⁴⁵

Along the same lines, Evelyn Farris said,

I've never belonged to any suffrage society myself....
I've been too busy rocking the cradle to think of helping to rule the world. But I would be glad to have a vote. I think women with their votes can do a great deal of good, not only to themselves but in assisting to set up good government in the country.⁴⁶

the University Women's Club no doubt assisted in amending legislation to improve conditions for women, but was not directly involved in the fight for the franchise. Obviously, neither Helen nor Evelyn considered the Club a suffrage society, nor could its function be transformed to serve partisan politics, the new strategy for suffrage agreed upon by a number of its members. For example, Rosalind (Mrs. Esson) Young, a Conservative,⁴⁷ would not have agreed with the Club had it chosen to support the Liberals' suffrage platform. As a result, Evelyn helped found the Women's Liberal Association in 1915.

Some members of the University Women's Club who considered themselves Liberals founded or belonged to the Association. Among them were Mary Ellen Smith, Helen MacGill, Laura Jamieson and Kate McQueen.⁴⁸ The Women's Liberal Association was formed to help defeat the Conservative government. The Liberal

government adopted Women's Suffrage in 1912 in their platform while the Conservatives had continuously denied equal franchise for women. In a letter from Nellie McClung to the Association she said, "Your Premier will not likely change his mind and so your plan is to change the Premier".⁴⁹ In effect, the only recourse for women was to form a partisan alliance with the Liberals. In July, Evelyn suggested that the women members canvas all the households in Vancouver to determine with which party each household was affiliated. Mr. Brewster, the B.C. Liberal leader, endorsed the Association and acknowledged that

...the laws concerning marriage and the guardianship of children, and other laws in which women were very much interested, were in a very bad state in B.C.⁵⁰

In a letter to the editor of *The Sun*, July 17, 1915, Dorothy E. Arnold, a woman from Vancouver, asked,

...is this organization to be representative of the women of the city or of the leisure class?... In time this organization will most undoubtedly be a powerful one... Let us organize as a unit. This will facilitate success. The ladies, by holding their organizing meetings during the afternoon, shut out completely the wage-earning element... In this rather critical crisis in 'political British Columbia' lies a golden opportunity for the suffrage party. Let us all come together, women from all walks of life, with the one aim, one objective point - the common good of all.⁵¹

Her observation is a valid one. It is obvious that the Women's Liberal Association did not want their membership to include working women. Their purpose was not to unify women in order to gain the franchise, but to create an organization for Liberal women only. Because of that, the Women's Liberal Association remained essentially middle and upper class. In 1915, on behalf of the Women's Liberal Association, Evelyn criticized government policy in their handling of the University's land endowments.⁵² She said, "The government had not turned over one acre of the land" from the grant that was issued to establish a university in 1907.⁵³

She [Evelyn] contrasted the inability of the board to vote \$800 towards the acquiring and furnishing of a woman's residence which would have been otherwise self-supporting, with the \$2,262 spent by the government on the hire of a carpet for one night for the Duke of Connaught to stand on, and of the \$4,586 for refreshments for the party which visited the Colony farm. Referring to the \$80,000 commission on the Kitsilano Indian reserve deal, which she said was 'given to two conservative lawyers for going over to North Vancouver twice to see the Indians', she said it seemed to her that the policy of the government was, 'dollars for graft but not a dime for girls'. She made it clear that her criticisms were not directed at the board

of governors, the Senate or the members of the university staff.⁵⁴

Evidently, Evlyn was persistent in the improvements of education. When her standards were not met, she used her position to affect change in policy.

In 1916, the Liberals defeated the Conservatives in the election and women gained equal suffrage. Evlyn Farris's husband, Wallace de Beque Farris, was appointed Liberal Attorney-General and Minister of Labour, making them a conspicuous couple. The Farris family were a wife-husband team, but there were others: Mary Ellen Smith succeeded her husband as Liberal M.L.A. after his death in 1917; Reverend and Mrs. Lashley Hall worked together for equal suffrage; later, of course, Angus and Grace MacInnis worked together in the CCF.

The Farris family lived in Victoria between 1917 and 1921, when Wallace took his seat in the Legislature. Evlyn acted as President of the Victoria University Women's Club for two years while they resided there. In 1921, the Farris family moved back to Vancouver where they remained the rest of their lives. In November of 1971, at the age of 93, Evlyn Farris died.

Evlyn Farris was one of the most notable women for the advancement of university education for women in British Columbia. As an instigator for social change, she voiced her views in opposition to government policy many times. Yet, one cannot help but wonder how much of her influence was gained because of her leisure class position. Through her husband, who was ultimately appointed to the Senate, she gained substantial respectability and was perhaps able to exercise power more easily than other women of her time. In addition, her education enabled her to work in her own right from a favoured position in society for women's equality in British Columbia.

Footnotes

¹ Author's taped interviews with John Farris and Katherine Robson, June, 1980 (son and daughter of Evlyn Farris).

² Evlyn Fenwick Kierstead, "Wux Femina Facto" (unpublished speech at Horton Collegiate Academy, Nova Scotia, 1894) p. 1. University of British Columbia, Special Collections.

³ *The Victoria Times*, April 6, 1917.

⁴ Evlyn Fenwick Kierstead, *op. cit.*, p. 5.

⁵ *Ibid.*

⁶ *Ibid.*

⁷ Evlyn Fenwick Kierstead, *op. cit.*, p. 6.

⁸ Farris Family Papers (Newspaper clipping in scrapbook, 1894 - 1898, Box 58), University of British Columbia, Special Collections.

⁹ Evlyn Fenwick Kierstead, "Woman's Influence" (unpublished speech, 1899), p. 4. University of British Columbia, Special Collections.

¹⁰ Author's conversation with D. Kennedy (University Women's Club of Vancouver's historian), July 1980. Seven other charter members: Elizabeth Cameron, A.T. Fuller, Maude Hunt, G.H. King, Mary McKenzie, Ella Perkins, Madeline Champier.

¹¹ Farris Family Papers (*The Vancouver Daily Province*, n.d., Evlyn Farris scrapbook, 1908 - 1923). University of British Columbia, Special Collection, Box 59.

¹² *The Daily Province*, May 11, 1908, p. 9.

¹³ *Ibid.*, March 6, 1915, p. 8.

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- ¹⁴ *Ibid.*, March 22, 1916, p. 8.
- ¹⁵ *Ibid.*
- ¹⁶ *Ibid.*, November 28, 1908, p. 2.
- ¹⁷ Elizabeth Forbes, *Wild Roses at Their Feet*, p. 60.
- ¹⁸ University Women's Club Minutes, July 30, 1912. Courtesy of the University Club, Vancouver.
- ¹⁹ Minutes of Convocation. No. 1, 1912, University of British Columbia. University of British Columbia Special Collections.
- ²⁰ Farris Family Papers (*The News Advertiser*, n.d., Evelyn Farris Scrapbook), University of British Columbia Special Collections.
- ²¹ *The Vancouver Daily World*, February 2, 1916, p. 12.
- ²² *Ibid.*
- ²³ *Ibid.*
- ²⁴ Letter from John Farris to Ms. Roberta Pazdro, July, 1979.
- ²⁵ *The Victoria Times*, October 1, 1929, p. 1 (con'd), p. 15.
- ²⁶ *The Vancouver Sun*, October 4, 1929, p. 8.
- ²⁷ *The Victoria Times*, May 23, 1923, n.p.
- ²⁸ Ruth E. Crummy, "In Memoriam, Dr. Evelyn Fenwick K. Farris", the University Women's Club memo, December, 1971.
- ²⁹ *The Daily Province*, December 11, 1908, p. 2.
- ³⁰ Elsie Gregory MacGill, *My Mother, The Judge*, Toronto, Ryerson Press, 1955, p. 129.
- ³¹ University Women's Club Minutes, March 14, 1914. Courtesy of the University Women's Club of Vancouver.
- ³² *Ibid.*, October 3, 1914.
- ³³ *Ibid.*
- ³⁴ Elsie MacGill, *op. cit.* p. 158.
- ³⁵ *Ibid.*, p. 119
- ³⁶ Linda Hale. "The B.C. Woman Suffrage Movement, 1890 - 1917", (unpublished thesis, U.B.C., 1977), p. 54.
- ³⁷ University Women's Club Minutes, February 24 to March 9, 1912. Courtesy of the University Women's Club of Vancouver.
- ³⁸ John Farris, letter to Mrs. Roberta Pazdro, July, 1979. The Act was amended on February 27, 1912.
- ³⁹ University Women's Club Minutes, January 27, 1912. Courtesy of the University Women's Club of Vancouver.
- ⁴⁰ *Ibid.*, January 25, 1913.
- ⁴¹ *Ibid.*, November 14, 1913.
- ⁴² Elsie MacGill, *op. cit.*, p. 215
- ⁴³ MacGill Family Papers (Essay on the University Women's Club, 1940 - 1950), City Archives of Vancouver.
- ⁴⁴ Linda Hale, *op. cit.*, P. 52.
- ⁴⁵ Helen Gregory MacGill, *op. cit.*
- ⁴⁶ *The Vancouver Sun.*, July 9, 1915, p. 3
- ⁴⁷ Forbes, *op. cit.*
- ⁴⁸ *The Vancouver Sun*, July 1, 1915, p. 1.
- ⁴⁹ *Ibid.*
- ⁵⁰ *Ibid.*, July 9, 1915, p. 3.
- ⁵¹ *Ibid.*, June 17, 1915, p. 4
- ⁵² *The Vancouver Province*, September 18, 1915, p. 28.
- ⁵³ *Ibid.*
- ⁵⁴ *The Vancouver Sun*, April 4, 1916, p. 8.

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