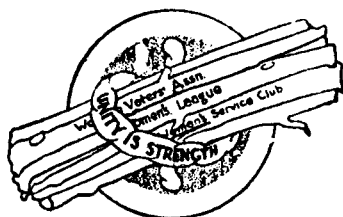


# United Associations of Women



"WOMAN OF THE AGES"  
Priestess of Progress, Civilisation's guide,  
Lead on, drive on, in every land and clime—  
Rest not till you have banished from the world  
The ancient harpies, War, and Want and Crime.

FIFTH FLOOR  
61 MARKET STREET  
COR. MARKET & PITT STS.  
SYDNEY, N.S.W.

TEL. MA 7537

7th April, 1941.

Dear Sir,

The demand for the employment of women in occupations hitherto reserved almost exclusively for male labour is being extended in all directions.

Owing to the existing practice of paying women workers about half the wages men receive, the employment of women constitutes a grave threat to the wages and living standards built up by men for themselves. Once women are admitted into any industry in large numbers under the existing wage conditions, there is a likelihood that the whole wage standard will be geared down to the female level.

The Trade Unions have as a rule endeavoured to protect the living and wage standards of men by discriminating against women and keeping them out of as many occupations as possible. This method is both undemocratic and unjust. Equality of opportunity is one of the fundamentals of democracy, and sex discrimination is as great an evil in society as class discrimination.

We consider that it is most important not only to protect but to build up the wage and living standards of workers. This cannot be done satisfactorily when they are constantly threatened by the menace of cheap female labour.

We believe that the democratic and just method of protecting living and wage standards is by adopting the principle of equal pay and equal opportunity for men and women.

We ask you to give consideration to the following policy in respect of the employment of women:--

- (1) that in cases where women are replacing men, women should receive the same pay as the men they replace.
- (2) that in all occupations women are entering for the first time, women should receive the same pay and be employed under the same conditions and awards as the men in those occupations.

UAW MLMS 2160