

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:04,000

Music - upbeat, xylophone, horns

2

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Music - upbeat, xylophone, horns

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Music - upbeat, xylophone, horns

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Music - upbeat, xylophone, horns

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Women in the U.S. in the early

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part of the twentieth century and even before that had been working towards

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gaining the right to vote, as early as the Civil War.

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Women were actively seeking the vote.

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When the Civil War happened, they stopped out of patriotic duty

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until after the war was over and then it picked up again.

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I think there's evidence in the history of

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00:00:44,000 --> 00:00:48,000

Dayton and the lives that are represented and the materials that we have

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00:00:48,000 --> 00:00:52,000

and in other archives in Dayton, that, the risks that

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women took, while they weren't always necessarily risks

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physically, that they weren't risking their lives,

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but they were certainly risking reputation

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standing in the community, approval from fathers and

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brothers and mothers even. Those women really took a lot of

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risks and I really respect those women in that early part of

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Dayton's history and I'm impressed by the fact that

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a lot of the women that were active, that we know about were well to do.

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00:01:25,766 --> 00:01:32,000

They had money. They had comfort. They had stature in the community. They were secure.

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And they were confident.

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But they used that to make a difference.

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People like Katherine Wright, who

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was permitted to go to college and teach but yet was still kind of tied to

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00:01:52,000 --> 00:01:56,000

these traditional values and thoughts about where women should be.

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And I think about all the risks they took. And in speaking

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out for the 19th amendment or

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all of the women who helped clean up the city after the 1913 flood.

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Or, the women who got involved with

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Women's club in Dayton. Whether it was a literary club or a college women's club

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And the women who forged the way for the

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League of Women voters after Suffrage was achieved.

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In 1910 the Young Women's League took over the Dayton Daily News.

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And they took over all the jobs that the men typically did. The reporters, the press runners.

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Everything was done by a woman.

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00:02:40,466 --> 00:02:44,000

And the newspaper articles following

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that issue are really interesting because the men talk about

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there was never so little cigar smoke in that building as there was

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the day that the women took over the newspaper. That the men all stood around with their

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00:02:56,000 --> 00:03:00,633

hands in their pockets not quite sure what to do, but the women did a really good job.

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And if you look through that issue of the newspaper, it is all about

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00:03:04,000 --> 00:03:10,100

women. It spotlights particular women in the community who are

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00:03:10,100 --> 00:03:16,000

active in different organizations, who are making a difference. It talks about voting rights.

46

00:03:16,000 --> 00:03:20,333

It's just a fascinating thing to have happened in Dayton

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00:03:20,333 --> 00:03:25,033

in 1910 for this group of women to take over the newspaper,

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00:03:25,033 --> 00:03:28,000

and push the men aside for a day.

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00:03:28,000 --> 00:03:33,733

And yet, the newspaper allowed it to happen and it was a very successful issue.

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00:03:33,733 --> 00:03:40,000

[Music Daughters of freedom, arise]

51

00:03:40,000 --> 00:03:46,166

[In your might. March to the Watch]

52

00:03:46,166 --> 00:03:52,000

[words, Justice and Right]

53

00:03:52,000 --> 00:03:56,000

I think they helped lay a foundation as did many other women

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during the twentieth century.

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The Women's movement didn't end with the 19th Amendment. There's been a lot of

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activity as we know concerning women's rights

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all through the 20th century and into the 21st century.

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But I think, for me today,

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and I think other women perhaps,

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00:04:20,000 --> 00:04:24,000

in my position or positions of leadership today, sometimes forget

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the sacrifices of these early women. We take for granted

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00:04:28,000 --> 00:04:32,000

the opportunities that we had. I wish we knew more about

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00:04:32,000 --> 00:04:36,000

the ordinary, average girl who lived in Dayton and

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00:04:36,000 --> 00:04:40,000

went to work at Rike's every day and

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just had a very, you know, even maybe a very menial

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job, whether she was a maid or a cook or whoever.

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Those women also laid the foundation

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but we don't know their stories as well as we do the movers and shakers

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of Dayton who got involved in politics and all of these larger organizations.

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00:05:00,000 --> 00:05:06,400

[Sunder the fetters "custom"t hath made!]

71

00:05:06,400 --> 00:05:11,666

[Come from the valley]

72

00:05:11,666 --> 00:05:15,966

[hill and glade!]

73

00:05:15,966 --> 00:05:22,600

[Piano chords]

74

00:05:22,600 --> 00:05:27,300

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75

00:05:27,300 --> 00:05:31,166

[Music - Tritone]