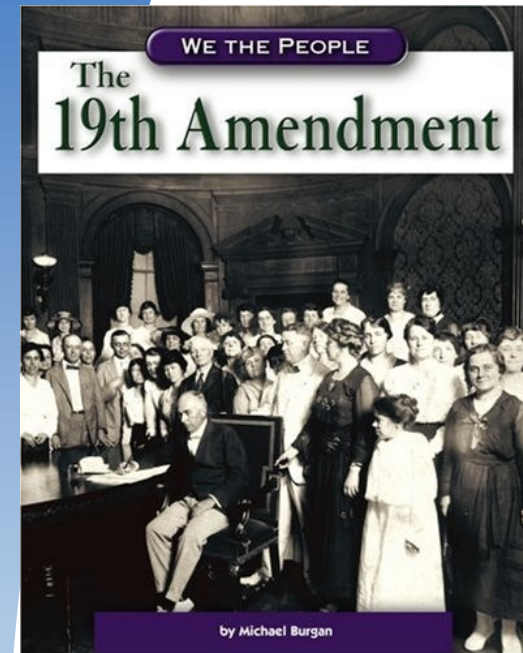
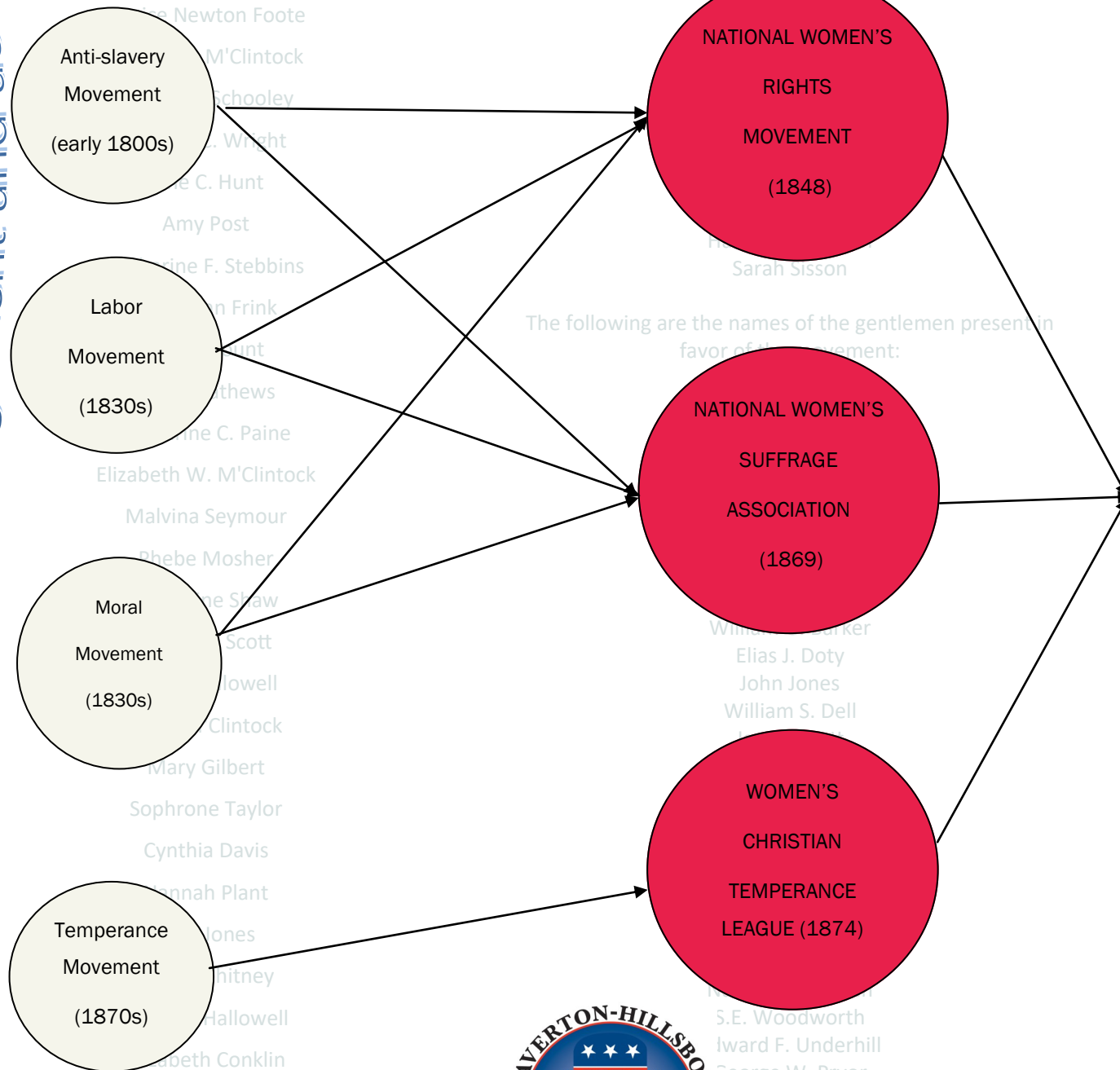


A HISTORY OF THE PATH TO

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE



In honor of all of the talented and brave mothers, daughters, and supporters of suffragists, who worked tirelessly to change the course of history and move us to a more perfect union.

Women's Suffrage— Oregon helps to pave the way!

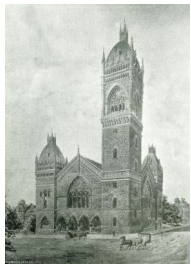
Oregon was one of the few states to recognize women's voting rights before the 19th Amendment was passed. In the early 1870s, some fifty years before Oregon ratified the 19th Amendment, Oregon women organized themselves on the issue of suffrage. Who were these pioneers?

Abigail Scott Duniway



Women's Rights Advocate, Writer, and Newspaper Editor.

In 1871, Abigail arranged for Susan B Anthony to visit the Pacific NW. The excitement and energy which accompanied her visit resulted in a number of local and state suffrage organizations to be founded, including the Oregon Woman Suffrage Association.



In 1905, the National American Woman Suffrage Organization held its 37th Annual meeting at the First Congregational Church in Portland, Oregon.

Lizzie Weeks



Portland, Oregon native, social worker and African-American activist. Commissioner for the National Emancipation Commemorative Society, , President of the Colored Women's Republican Club.

Oregon Women achieved the right to vote in 1912. In the Fall of 1914, the first national election after the success of Women's Suffrage in Oregon, Weeks helped organize the Colored Women's Republican Club and was elected President. Focusing on voter registration of other African American women she organized club meetings at the Central Library in Portland and invited local candidates to present their positions. She was part of a citywide voter registration effort and two years later in 1918 was a candidate for Republican precinct committee member.

Lizzie Weeks left a legacy of activism in Portland locally, Statewide and Nationally.



January 12, 1920, Upon its adoption by both houses, Oregon became the 25th state to ratify the 19th Amendment.

Betty Gram Swing



Suffragist, politician

A native Oregonian, Betty Gram joined the women's rights movement in 1917 and participated in a number of the organization's landmark events. As a member of the National Woman's Party her involvement in women's rights became increasingly more militant as this group targeted President Wilson and members of the Democratic Party. She was subsequently jailed five times for picketing and went on several hunger strikes to support the group's cause.



Tennessee was the 36th state to finally ratify the amendment on August 26, 1920, and for the first time since its adoption, the U.S. Constitution included equal voting rights for women.