

# YesterYear Once More

Life as it was reported back then

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## The Most Beautiful Suffragette



<http://yesteryearsnews.files.wordpress.com/2012/08/inez-milholland-bad-boys-coshocton-daily-times-oh-25-feb-1908.jpg>

Miss Inez Milholland, whose picture is here shown is the daughter of J.E. Milholland, the millionaire pneumatic tube system man. She is now in the Junior class in Vassar (<http://www.vassar.edu/>) and announces her intention of becoming a truant officer so that she may pursue the work of reforming bad boys. Miss Milholland is an athlete of note in the college games, and has had great success in reclaiming bad boys.

Coshocton Daily Times (Coshocton, Ohio) Feb 25, 1908



MISS INEZ MILHOLLAND.

<http://yesteryearsnews.files.wordpress.com/2012/08/inez-milholland-yankee-girl-coshocton-daily-times-oh-09-oct-1909.jpg>

## **AWAKENED BY YANKEE GIRL**

### **Miss Inez Milholland, Who Wants to Vote, Roused Oxford and Cambridge.**

After trying with vigor, but in vain, to convince the authorities of Oxford and Cambridge universities in England that she should be permitted to study law at one of the two venerable institutions Miss Inez Milholland of New York sailed for America to try her persuasive powers at Harvard.

Miss Milholland has won fame as a young leader of the suffragists. She was recently graduated from Vassar, where she conducted a vigorous campaign in favor of women's votes.

She is the daughter of John E. Milholland of New York and London, and a background of wealth has not lessened her charm. Her bronze hair, large blue eyes and well modeled features make her a classic type.

At Vassar Miss Milholland kept President Taylor on the rack, inciting miniature equal rights resolutions among the students. When the suffragists of the state journeyed to the capitol at Albany for their annual hearing on woman and the vote the president peremptorily forbade Miss Milholland to accompany them, fearing her presence would accentuate the rumor that the college was a center of the woman's rights campaign.

Aside from her political tendencies, Miss Milholland made no mean record at Vassar. Her scholarship put her well in the fore, and her athletic prowess was the boast of her associates. As captain of the hockey team she led her players to a victory that captured the interclass championship. She was conspicuous on field day and champion in putting the eight pound

shot.

Coshocton Daily Times (Coshocton, Ohio) Oct 9, 1909



<http://yesteryearsnews.files.wordpress.com/2012/08/inez-milholland-beautiful-suffragette-washington-post-dc-2-mar-1913.jpg>

There was as much excitement in suffragette headquarters Thursday as if the New York legislature were about to grant women the right to vote. It was not joyful excitement, however, because the rumor spread that Inez Milholland, vivacious, bronze-haired, and clever suffragette, was engaged to be married to Sydney Smith. In other words, the rumor had it that Miss Milholland and Mr. Smith, both warm friends of Mrs. O.H.P. Belmont, had formed a friendship under the guiding influence of Mrs. Belmont, and that perhaps the energy and enthusiasm of the most picturesque suffragette would be lost.

There was a jingle of telephone bells as suffragettes hunted for Miss Milholland. There was suppressed grief and an occasional sob over the thought the young woman might give up law, forsake the cause of woman suffrage, and become an ordinary housewife or a society matron. Miss Milholland was not in the Hotel Manhattan. She was in the New York University Law School, digging out cases and hunting for points that would prove the right of women to vote. At least her mother thought so.

Mrs. John E. Milholland was likewise frantic over the rumor of the reported engagement.

"No, it was not true. It could not be true," she said.

But the fearful mother quickly put in a hurry telephone call for the university. Miss Milholland was found finally in the law library poring over a musty tome and racing to get out her lesson, as she was planning a suffragette meeting for the young men of the law school in the evening. When the young woman was reached she listened calmly as her mother recited the details of the alleged engagement.

"What does all this mean?" asked the excited mother.

"Nothing, mama," answered the modern Portia. "Mother, don't you know I am too busy to think of such things? I have my law, the cause, and, what's more, I have a woman's suffrage meeting right here in the university tonight and I haven't time to discuss such things."

Miss Milholland, who is a daughter of John E. Milholland, one time politician and now a millionaire promoter, with headquarters in London, is an alumna of Vassar. She stood near the head of her class, was a star debater in college, and always an advocate of woman suffrage. She kept things lively in college with her organizations and her fights for her rights. She passes much of her time in England, where she is regarded as the most beautiful suffragette. Her advocacy of woman suffrage, her skill and eloquence as a speaker, won her the admiration of Mrs. Belmont, and the two have become almost inseparable.

The Washington Post (Washington, D.C.) Dec 10, 1910



<http://yesteryearsnews.files.wordpress.com/2012/08/chickens-marching.jpg>

Image from [Everyday Dutch Oven](http://www.everydaydutchoven.com/2011/07/barbeque-cheddar-crust-chicken.html) (<http://www.everydaydutchoven.com/2011/07/barbeque-cheddar-crust-chicken.html>)

## SUFFRAGETTES AND THE HENS

The suffragettes who have been marching on Washington already had their troubles. I understand that when they left one place the hens quit the coops and started to follow them. And a rooster flew in front of a speckled hen and asked her for heaven's sake to go back, and she crowed in his face.

I recollect hearing about a suffragette who was making a speech. She said: "I pant for the right to vote. I pant for the right to exercise my political rights." And some one in the audience spoke up and said: "Lady, you pant for a pair of pants." — [Representative Heflin](#)

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James\\_T.\\_Heflin](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James_T._Heflin), on the floor of the House.

The Washington Post (Washington, D.C.) Mar 2, 1913



<http://yesteryearsnews.files.wordpress.com/2012/08/inez-milholland-defends-chinaman-new-castle-news-pa-21-mar-1913.jpg>

### **Miss Inez Milholland.**

NEW YORK, March 21. — Miss Inez Milholland, known as the most beautiful suffragette in New York, who has just been admitted to the New York bar, is working on her first case as associate counsel to James W. Osborne, defending Gee Doy Young, a Chinatown gunman, who is charged with having started the last Tong war that resulted in five killings.

New Castle News (New Castle, Pennsylvania) Mar 21, 1913

## SUFFRAGIST WINS HONORS.

Miss Inez Milholland is Victor in Her  
First Case as Lawyer.

NEW YORK, March 14.—Miss Inez Milholland, prominent as a leader in the cause of woman suffrage, found herself on the winning side today in the first trial in which she appeared in the role of assistant counsel. The trial was that of Gee Doy Yung, a member of the On Leong Tong, and after five minutes' deliberation the jury acquitted him of being responsible for the death of Wing Fong of the 'Hip Sing Tong in a battle last October in the ancient war between the two tongs.

<http://yesteryearsnews.files.wordpress.com/2012/08/inez-milholland-chinatown-acquittal-the-indianapolis-star-in-15-mar-1913.jpg>

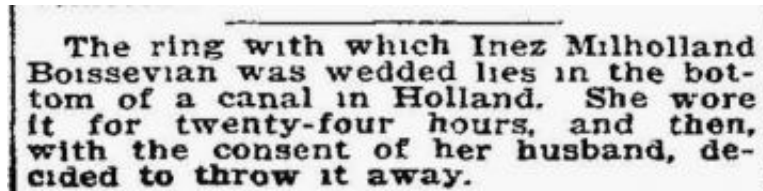
The Indianapolis Star (Indianapolis, Indiana) Mar 15, 1913



<http://yesteryearsnews.files.wordpress.com/2012/08/inez-milholland-bride-atlanta-constitution->

Miss Inez Milholland, the handsome New York suffragette, was married in the Kensington registry office, London, to Eugene Boissevain, a wealthy Dutchman of Amsterdam. The bridegroom, who is 33 years old, is engaged in the wireless business and was introduced to Miss Milholland in New York a few weeks ago by Signor Meroni. His father, Charles Boissevain, of Amsterdam, is the owner of rich plantations in Java. He is also the principal owner of the foremost newspaper in Amsterdam. The couple will spend their honeymoon in a cruise on the North sea and will sail for New York in August. Miss Milholland was graduated from Vassar in 1909, and while there she kept the faculty on pins and needles with her advanced views on feminism and socialism. It was she who started the suffrage movement in Vassar, enrolling two-thirds of the students in the cause and then proceeding to teach them the meaning of socialism. She held a record for throwing the basketball. The bride will continue her law practice when she returns to New York.

The Atlanta Constitution (Atlanta, Georgia) Jul 21, 1913



The ring with which Inez Milholland Boissevain was wedded lies in the bottom of a canal in Holland. She wore it for twenty-four hours, and then, with the consent of her husband, decided to throw it away.

(<http://yesteryearsnews.files.wordpress.com/2012/08/inez-milholland-wedding-ring-atlanta-constitution-ga-05-apr-1914.jpg>)

Atlanta Constitution (Atlanta, Georgia) Apr 05, 1914

### **Inez Milholland Admits Proposing**

NEW YORK, Nov. 27. — Inez Milholland Boissevain, lawyer and suffragist, advocated yesterday that women should have the right to propose. She said:

“Certainly women should have the right to propose — I did it myself.”

Oakland Tribune (Oakland, California) Nov 27, 1915



<http://yesteryearsnews.files.wordpress.com/2012/08/inez-milholland-dies-the-daily-courier-pa-27-nov-1916.jpg>

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 27. — Mrs. Inez Milholland Boissevain, widely-known suffragist and welfare worker, died in a hospital here shortly before midnight Saturday night after an illness of 10 weeks. She was 30 years old.

Mrs. Boissevain was stricken suddenly while addressing the recent political campaign and fainted on the platform at the meeting. She was removed to a hospital and her husband and parents rushed from New York to join her here. Miss Vida Milholland, her sister, was with her when she was stricken and has been in constant attendance since that time.

Inez Milholland Boissevain had been for many years well known for her activity as a woman suffragist, a social welfare worker, an advocate of socialism and as a practising lawyer.

During the 1908 Presidential campaign she won new fame as “the girl who broke up the Taft



parade.”

Following her graduation from Vassar College ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vassar\\_College](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vassar_College)), she attempted to enter Harvard Law School, but this permission was denied her on the ground that it was not a co-educational institution. Miss Milholland finally received her degree in law at the New York University Law School in 1912, and during this time she was active as a suffrage worker and speaker and organizer of woman’s parades, being featured in them both in New York, Washington, D.C., and elsewhere as “the most beautiful suffragette.”

In July, 1913, she married by a civil ceremony in London, Eugene Boissevain, a wealthy Hollander. In 1916 she went as a delegate on the Ford Pence Ship, but left the party at Stockholm, because, as she said in a statement, “the undemocratic methods employed by the managers are repugnant to my principles.” Mrs. Boissevain was born in New York, August 6, 1886, receiving her early education in New York, London and Berlin.

The Daily Courier (Connellsville, Pennsylvania) Nov 27, 1916



<http://yesteryearsnews.files.wordpress.com/2012/08/inez-milholland-leader-dies-of-anemia-newark-advocate-oh-27-nov-1916.jpg>

### **Strain of Campaign ... Caused Her Death.**

[Excerpts]

Mrs. Boissevain’s illness was diagnosed as aplastic anemia and blood transfusion was resorted to in attempts to improve her condition. Miss Vida Milholland twice gave blood for this purpose and on four other occasions friends submitted to the ordeal in hope that benefit would result. After each transfusion temporary improvement was followed by relapse....

It was stated that Mrs. Boissevain’s trouble originated in her tonsils, which became inflamed as the result of too constant speaking during the campaign. She had been weakened by overexertion and when she became ill her system failed to resist the advance of the disease....

As a student at Vassar college, 1905-9, although known as the college beauty and possessed of wealth and position, she shunned society as such and shocked the more conservative college opinion by her radical social views....

Later the same year [1915] she went to Italy as a war correspondent and was forced to leave Italy by the authorities there because of her pacifist writings....

She was a member of the Political Equality League, Women's Political Union, national child labor committee, Woman's Social and Political Union of England and the Fabian Society ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fabian\\_Society](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fabian_Society)), England.

The Newark Advocate (Newark, Ohio) Nov 27, 1916



<http://yesteryearsnews.files.wordpress.com/2012/08/inez-milholland-buried-in-adirondacks-reno-evening-gazette-nv-27-nov-1916.jpg>

## BEAUTIFUL SUFFRAGIST LEADER TO BE BURIED IN ADIRONDACKS

[Excerpts]

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 27. — Preparations were being made today to take the body of Mrs. Inez Milholland Boissevain, who died here Saturday night, to New York City for funeral services and thence to Meadowmount, in the Adirondacks

<http://www.adirondackalmanack.com/search-results?cx=013059154616239745149%3Aatsjcwutls+&ie=UTF-8&q=milholland&sa=Search>), the old family home of the Milhollands, where the burial will take place....

Aside from her college activities, she worked among the poor children in the city of Poughkeepsie, and had herself appointed probation officer. During her first college vacation she visited London and there joined the Pankhurst suffragettes, making several speeches and being once arrested....

Following her graduation from Vassar College, she attempted to enter Harvard Law School, but his permission was denied her on the ground that it was not a coeducational institution. The incident gave rise to a heated newspaper controversy in which Inez Milholland and other prominent feminists took part. She also became active about this time in the working girls' cause, taking part in the shirt waist makers' strike. In the clash of the strikers with the police she was arrested and locked up, but after a controversy of several weeks the charge against her of leading an unlawful assembly was finally dropped....

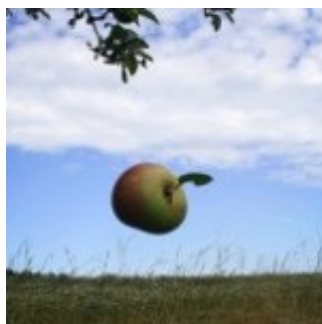
She began the practice of law in 1912 as a clerk in the offices of James W. Osborne, her first case being the defense of "Red Phil" Davidson, charged with murder of "Big Jack" Zelig. Her next case was the defense of Gee Doy Yung, accused of murder in a Chinatown tong war, and she was successful in obtaining his acquittal....

Reno Evening Gazette (Reno, Nevada) Nov 27, 1916



<http://yesteryearsnews.files.wordpress.com/2012/08/inez-milholland-death-takes-toll-sheboygan-press-wi-30-dec-19161.jpg>

Sheboygan Press (Sheboygan, Wisconsin) Dec 30, 1916



[http://yesteryearsnews.files.wordpress.com/2012/08/falling\\_apple.jpg](http://yesteryearsnews.files.wordpress.com/2012/08/falling_apple.jpg)

Her mother was Jean (Torrey) Milholland: [Talks About Women](http://www.greenstone.org/greenstone3/nzd1?a=d&c=whist&d=HASH0114b46ae5a76516ba3aac9b&dt=simple&p.a=b&p.s=ClassifierBrowse)  
([http://www.greenstone.org/greenstone3/nzd1?  
a=d&c=whist&d=HASH0114b46ae5a76516ba3aac9b&dt=simple&p.a=b&p.s=ClassifierBrowse](http://www.greenstone.org/greenstone3/nzd1?a=d&c=whist&d=HASH0114b46ae5a76516ba3aac9b&dt=simple&p.a=b&p.s=ClassifierBrowse))

Her father, John E. Milholland: [Racist Issue Hits Feminist Party](http://www.boissevain.us/inezmilholland/fatherjohnemilholland.html)  
(<http://www.boissevain.us/inezmilholland/fatherjohnemilholland.html>)

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