

May Arkwright Hutton

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Both rich and poor women fought for equal rights. May Arkwright Hutton started her life poor, but became rich. She fought for women's right to vote.

May became rich because of her own work. She was born in 1860 and started working when she was young. She made money cooking, washing dishes, and serving meals to hungry miners in Idaho. She took money she made working and bought part of a silver mine. This made her and her husband millionaires.



May Arkwright Hutton, Image via HistoryLink.org

May moved to Spokane, Washington in 1906. The state of Idaho allowed women to vote, and Hutton had liked voting. May did not think it was fair that when she moved, she could not vote anymore. So she started fighting for women's right to vote.

May fought for women's right to vote with one-on-one meetings with politicians. She did not organize many public demonstrations.

Women got the right to vote in Washington in 1910. After, May argued for better work environments for women. May died in 1915, at age 55. Both the rich and poor people went to her funeral.



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Footer images, left to right: "Woman forever march," Washington State Historical Society Catalog ID Number: 2010.151.4; "Woman's suffrage pin," Washington State Historical Society Catalog ID Number: C2008.0.132; "Votes for women: official organ of Washington Equal Suffrage Association," Washington State Historical Society Catalog ID Number 2000.104.38.14