

* Canadian feminist, politician, author, and social activist
* Major part of the moral reform movements in Western Canada in the early 1900s
* Member of “The Famous Five”
* Member of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta and the Liberal Political party

Nellie McLung was a Canadian feminist, politician, author, and social activist who is most well remembered as a member of “The Famous Five”, a group of five women from Alberta who fought for women to be recognized as “persons” under law. As well as being a member of “The Famous Five”, McLung was a member of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta and the Liberal Political party, and was a major part of the moral reform movements in Western Canada in the early 1900s.

One of her most remembered acts was the Mock Parliament she organized with the Political Equality League, in which she recited a satirical speech about the dangers of allowing *men* to vote. This speech is thought to be one of the main events leading to Manitoba being the first Canadian province to give women the right to vote.

Unlike many women who were a part of these movements, Nellie McLung fought for not just privileged women, but women who were experiencing neglect, overwork, poverty and alcohol abuse. She also fought for the rights of Aboriginal and Asian women.

As well as being a huge part of the fight for Canadian women’s rights, McLung was a bestselling author, and a mother of five.

Nellie McLung helped calm men and women’s fears relating to women’s rights with her “reasonable discussing, personal charm, irrepressible humour, and fancy hats”.