



Mathilde "Dolly"
DALLMEYER SHELDEN
(1885-1980)

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Before moving to Kansas City in 1920, Mathilde Dallmeyer Shelden campaigned for women’s rights as a politician in her native Jefferson City, Missouri. There, she organized the Jefferson City Equal Suffrage League and became the first woman elected vice-president of the Missouri State Republican Club. Renowned for her skills as an orator, she gave speeches on suffrage in more than 20 Missouri counties. In Kansas City, Mathilde continued to be involved in civic life as a member of the Athenaeum, the Women’s City Club, and various arts and culture organizations.

In 1924, she succeeded Emma Lard Longan as a member of the Kansas City Council’s upper house.



“Miss Dallmeyer had been announced as the Joan of Arc of Missouri and she well deserves the honor, for, whether inspired or not, she at least completely captivated her hearers and led the biggest crowd that had ever gathered at the Court House ...”

The Daily Capital News, April 12, 1918