

WOMAN HANDS

**DOWN OPINIONS
IN HIGH OFFICE**

Annette Adams Serves With
Credit as Assistant
Attorney General.

DECIDES LAW POINTS

WASHINGTON, Nov. 10.—While most politicians proclaim the need of women in the Cabinet and Congress, Mrs. Annette Adams is showing what a certain woman can do.

pointed last May, she has to hand de

legal opinions on various subjects to the Government departments. Questions from the public, such as, "What is the law on this?" or "What is the law on that?" are answered by the Income Tax Bureau. But of the tax experts get on a point of their own law, or if a new angle or claim is brought up, the bureau refers the problem to Mrs. Adams and she gives her opinion, which stands as law. The Department of Justice is likewise consulted on questions of the Volstead act, though the Supreme Court and Congress have made the test of prohibition so plain that there are few doubtful phrases. To Mrs. Adams are also entrusted the legal matters relating to the Federal prisons, the civil service, pensions, the Adam Smith hair-lubricator, and the like.

the pure food and drugs act and

POSITION DEMANDS ABILITY IN LAW.

To render intelligent opinions on the weighty matters demands definite life experience and ability. Having to do with the income tax labyrinth all would stagger the average human being. Yet Mrs. Adams manages to look cheerful and assures you that the income tax law is in itself not unreasonably complicated, though she admits that the exemptions and surtax provisions are a bit confusing.

She recalls how, before she came fr

California to be a Government lawyer, she herself had a little difficulty with

own tax blank. Its mysteries had been carefully unraveled, except the baffling proposition as to which Liberty Bonds were exempt from taxation. She took the inquiry to an income tax expert, who admitted that he had been stumped by the same thing, and that he had finally paid tax on all of them to get it off his mind. Now, Mrs. Adams did not have to bother over the possibility of her interpretation of the tax law being wrong, for if a dispute arises, the matter will be referred to her anyway.

PIONEER WOMAN
IN HIGH OFFICE.

Mrs. Aams does not talk much about herself, either her past or what she tends to do. She has introduced no novations into her branch of the department of Justice, and she does expect to. As a woman in a high Government office she is a pioneer, and, use her own expression, she is making haste slowly.

She is also a pioneer as a woman lawyer who has achieved a national reputation. As a girl she graduated from State Normal School in California from the University of California, taught school while she worked for

degrees. When she was admitted to practice in the California courts and

The Federal courts she gave up teaching and, with a partner, went into business for herself. She never specialized in divorce or women's cases, though many who came to her often stated their preference for a woman counsel in business matters.

Her chance came one day when she was pleading a case against the State prosecution. The district attorney practically assured the accused man that he would get a long jail sentence, but when Mr. Adams arose and stated her client's defense in a simple direct plea, the judge

gave the prisoner only six months.

deceased district attorney sought out counsel for the defense and asked directly if she would like to be one of his associates.

**DISTRICT ATTORNEY
IN CALIFORNIA.**

She became the first woman assistant district attorney—a position requiring a good deal of tact, probably—for the men were not used to a woman lawyer in their midst. Where a man would occasionally take a chance, Mrs. Adams pored over details and acquired a reputation for making sure. The editor

torney relied on her so extensively

In her new position at Washington has more time to give careful attention to cases. She thinks that this can be overcome, however, and that women are a little inclined to work too much on details, so that by close attention to fine points there is danger of overlooking the main issues, in other words, losing the perspective. A man has

patience with details.

She dislikes to make any catalogue of women versus men to show that a woman juror or lawyer is less logical or more emotional than the masculine prototype, because she regards the individual element which makes each person different from the rest as too uncertain a factor for such crude classifications to be worth much. A jury of women, she thinks, is not more likely to be swayed by emotions than a jury of men of similar degree of mentality.

Mrs. Adams looks at life from an impartial, matter-of-fact angle.

partial, matter-of-fact angle—the judi-
cial outlook. With a little smile she s

that she was not the "newspaper sensation" that she never could reel off chatty little incidents about her life. "I have no hobbies," she added, "though I do like to cook and take care of my apartment."

There you have one of the first women executives in the Federal Government—a widow of pleasant middle age (the forties), who is a hard worker and a law of recognized ability. This first female Federal attorney believes in keeping her home fires burning, but she does it on her own terms, going out into the world and home-

for the fuel.

TO SUPPLY LABOR WHERE NEEDED
Government Plans to Distribute Immigrants.

NEW YORK, Nov. 10.—The response of the Immigration Commission, headed by Commissioner Frederick A. Wallis, to a suggestion that immigration be distributed according to labor needs has been

mediate and general throughout

State and municipal officials, manufacturers' associations and farmers' organizations have endorsed his plan. He urged that the proposed system be made effective as soon as possible and of giving all possible cooperation. This plan contemplates diversion of immigration now flowing in at the rate of a million a year from the congested centers of population to sections where there is a demand for labor of specific classifications. This would not only prevent additional unemployment in the larger cities, but would tend to reduce high