



Adella Tuttle Schloss (1866-1929) was born January 1, 1866 in Vernon, Iowa to Owen and Mary Burns Tuttle. On June 16, 1885, at age 19, Adella Tuttle married Aaron Schloss, 23, in Watsonville, California; the Schlosses would spend the rest of their lives living first in San Francisco and later in Berkeley. Dr. Schloss was a physician born in Columbus, Indiana in 1862. Throughout their marriage, Aaron practiced medicine in San Francisco and Berkeley, having acquired his license to work in 1883 at the age of 21. Aaron's practice easily sustained the family, so Adella spent many of the years following her marriage caring for her children until they were older and the Schlosses hired a servant.

Adella's first record of involvement with the women's movement was in 1906, as Chair of the Department of Civics for the General Federation of Women's Clubs, a national coalition of state women's organizations. In 1910, Adella took office as Vice President of the California Federation of Women's Clubs, the first of her many roles in the organization. Adella also served as treasurer of the California Civic League from 1912-1913, all while holding her position of Vice President in the California Federation through 1920. **Adella was elected President of the California Federation from 1920-21, when the organization had around 60,000 members.** Her successor, Mrs. W. A. Fitzgerald, took office in 1921 at the Yosemite Convention marking the Federation's twentieth anniversary. At the convention, "the name of Mrs. Aaron Schloss was placed on the Founders' Roll of the General Foundation as the highest honor which the club women of California have within their power to bestow."

Although national suffrage had been achieved and Adella had finished her term as President of the California Federation, she still was not done with her career of service. In 1923 she worked with the Woman's Christian Temperance Union as the chair and representative of the women's joint legislative committee of State organizations. In 1924 she was also the state chair of legislation for the California Federation and in place to succeed the current California Director on the General Federation Board because of her status as former President of the California Federation.

Despite her wider state and national activities, Adella never forgot about Berkeley. She constantly remained a prominent figure in local clubs, fighting for city issues and empowering her female neighbors to fight through her experience on a greater stage. In 1911, she served on an advisory committee and as chair of the Rally Committee of the Berkeley Suffrage League and actively campaigned for Amendment No. 8 to the California constitution, which granted women the right to vote in state elections and passed that November.

On December 31, 1929, Adella Tuttle Schloss died of heart disease at the age of sixty-four at her home in Berkeley. Remembered in her obituary as a leader in the feminist movement for over a generation, Adella Schloss made a profound contribution to the women's rights movement she cared so deeply about.