



**MARY ELIZABETH
LEASE**

**SEPTEMBER 11, 1850 -
OCTOBER 29, 1933**



MARY ELIZABETH LEASE

One of the more radical voices for suffrage, Lease took a leading role in Wichita's civic and social activities after moving there with her family. By 1890 Lease's involvement in the growing revolt of farmers against the banks and railroads had placed her in the forefront of the Populist party. A powerful speaker, publisher William Allen White declared, "she could recite the multiplication table and set a crowd hooting and harraging at her will."