

Club Women Close Their Session In Tillamook

(By Mrs. W. G. Elth, of Joseph.)
An attendance at the annual convention of the State Federation of Women's Clubs is a real event in the mind of any thinking woman. After the event is past and we have in a way recovered the rapid whirl of work and play it is well to make a summary of the high lights of the convention to study over the attitude of this august body of women who represent in a large way the thinking women throughout the state.

The outstanding feature of it all is education—not along one line, but every line.
After the receptions and the generous welcome given by Tillamook, reports of state officers and standing committees were made and here as nowhere else was the educational feature predominant. The effort of the woman's clubs at large are directed toward educating themselves along literary, civic, Americanization, child welfare, legislative and good citizenship lines. They make money—to what end? That each club member may have a new hat? No! But more probably that the children of the community may have better teeth or fewer diseases, better food and fewer hardships. Everywhere was heard the plea for better conditions for humanity and higher ideals of living for everyone.

The opening session on Wednesday morning was given to reports and the business of getting under way. The afternoon we were taken to Lake Lythe, a distance of twelve or fifteen miles, through a few miles of the lovely farming section and along the beach where could be had many glimpses of the Pacific. In the Lake Lythe hotel on a bluff overlooking the ocean the afternoon meeting was held.
Mrs. Elkins Collins gave a fine paper on the work of the Fine Art Department and then introduced Anne Shannon Monroe an Oregon writer of note, who gave us a wonderful picture of "Notable Writers of Oregon," and made a stirring plea that we know more about our home folks. She tells us that many notables among the newer writers are coming from Oregon, that the world is recognizing them and we are not. There is an organization of Oregon writers of which information may be obtained through J. K. Gill of Portland.

Mrs. Lee Davenport, of Portland, gave a stirring plea for Americanization, not only of foreigners but ourselves. Know America and her needs for yourself. Dr. Lieson of Reed College believes we are becoming uneducated and makes a plea for more men educators and a wage that will hold good men, a more dignified attitude toward the profession and a weeding out of non-essentials from our school books.

There was music, too, and a delightful hour on the beach before a most delicious dinner and a drive back just in time for the evening session, and B. F. Irvine's wonderful lecture, "Looking Forward." Here, as in no other place was made a plea for better education. Mr. Irvine is one of the leading men and thinkers of Portland and sees in our rapid motion of every day life a menace to our civilization and in any action to lower our standards of right living a refutation of the causes that have brought the downfall of other civilizations in past centuries. Civilization has blundered along like a little child learning to walk—now falling only to rise again and staggering along a few steps only to fall again. He believes that by laying a strong hand upon education this civilization may be the one which does not fall but goes steadily onward. That the restless march of the nation must be directed along educational lines and our salvation lies in the betterment of mankind not in money-grubbing.

Thursday morning we visited cheese factories and saw "Tillamook" cheese in the making. The factories are big, airy, absolutely sanitary buildings and the workmen gave us a fine picture of how the "cow to cheese in four hours," and a lot of us bought a watch charm in the shape of a three-pound cheese—delicious and wholesome.

Next the legislative department presented the question of woman's future through the ballot and her duty to herself and her country to educate herself and their relation to a better America. Mrs. Christian A.H.F., woman hunter, gave a clear idea of the jury system and woman's reluctant acceptance of that important trust. She says no woman has a right to refuse jury duty for but two reasons—illness and small children, and calls attention to many instances where woman's understanding is needed for her own sex problems.

Mrs. Joan Van Zante made a report of the Crippled Children's committee and a plea for the helping through this organization of any un cared for crippled children throughout the state.

Thursday afternoon we learned how to use the press to a better advantage and were urged to court, rather than avoid publicity. Following this the problem of "Applied Education" was ably discussed by various people. Women in rural communities were urged to form clubs and co-operate with other clubs in their vicinity. Rural clubs are entirely feasible and many are doing splendid work.

Thursday evening the G. A. C. Lyceum Club gave a delightful program of music both instrumental and vocal and a dramatic reader of exceptional ability. Mr. Stewart Tulley, a native of Willow, was director of the Lyceum and Mr. Tulley was also director of music during the week. Friday morning was largely taken up by the resolution committee. Many splendid resolutions were passed, among them one endorsing Hays' action in barring Kluksklia films and recommending that other actors of like character also be barred; another opposing the repeal of the millage bill for the support of colleges and recommending that every club make a vigorous campaign in behalf of retaining said tax; that while the burden of taxes was indeed heavy and needed to be reduced, the first reduction should not be aimed at America's most vital institution—its educational institutions.

A resolution presented by a member of the humane society regarding the care of stock in Eastern Oregon was hotly discussed and passed under protest by many who believe the indictment made against Eastern Oregon stock men was most unjust and uncalled for. One good lady cited instances of an undervalued and overworked mother dog and the wintering of an ancient horse as proof that such legislation was needed. We in Eastern Oregon are sorry for the said dog and horse and likewise sorry for the untold many cats that infest the back alleys of any city, but we fail to understand why Eastern Oregon stock men should be scored because of them. Some legislation is no doubt needed for the protection of animals but let us get the correct interpretation of the need.

Mrs. Sadie Orr Dunbar, chairman of the Public Welfare Department, presented Dr. Estella Ford Warner, who told us of the physical needs of the child under the heads of pre-natal care, infant care, pre-school age and the school children—as to their food, clothing, amusement and recreation, their physical defects.

Norman F. Colman then gave a brief outline of the industrial situation and its relation to our work, and Adah Wallace Unruh told of the W. C. T. U. farm home and its need for more funds. Rev. J. J. Handaker brought a heart message in "Influence of American Women in the Near East." He told of the noble work done by women there and the effect on the people, aided by their efforts.

The afternoon session was taken up with the closing business of the convention and at 5:20 the Twenty-Second Annual Meeting of the O. F. W. C. passed into history—a history the memory of which will make the women who were fortunate enough to attend this notable meeting eager to assist their various clubs to understand and assist in the business of life and right living among their various communities.

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