

# WOMEN'S CLUBS AND WORK

Edited by Mrs. Sarah A. Evans.

## The Country Store Has Closed Its Doors.

The country store which has been conducted by the Oregon Federation of Women's clubs for the past two weeks at the pure food show closed its doors last night—not by order of the court or bankrupt proceedings, the management is pleased to announce, but by force of circumstances—the lonesomeness of its surroundings in the banquet hall from which all but they had departed.

The store was a success from every standpoint, but that of the general attendance at the show itself, which was never as large as it should have been. But considering the attendance, the expectations of the club women were more than realized. The merchants of Portland were wonderfully generous with few exceptions and merchandise of every description was contributed; much that was of little value to the merchants of the city found ready sale at the country store, and cost the contributor very little, but some really very handsome articles were contributed. These were generally saved for the auction last night which put the store out of business with a blaze of glory.

The country store was conceded by everyone to be the most popular booth at the show, and supplied what otherwise would have been woefully lacking in the show, a little fun and amusement. The music supplied by the management was excellent throughout the whole show, but music alone will not attract young people evening after evening. They want a good joke or a jolly laugh and this is what they got at the country store. To the majority of people it mattered little what they got for their 10 cents, if there was a little fun thrown in. It was for a worthy and laudable purpose, and many contributed caring not at all about it only glad to be given the privilege of helping a cause like the education of deserving girls. But this spirit did not always prevail, and occasionally—very occasionally—some one would demand a dollar's worth for their 10 cent ticket, for instance, one came got a box of hooks and eyes—12 cards worth 5 cents a card, and after suitably walking away, she returned demanding the tickets that should have been on the box to prove she was not cheated. But this afforded fun for the onlookers and the storekeepers, and so it served its purpose and the woman got her money back, and the store was 55 cents better off than if she had kept her purchase. But these were the incidents of the store.

It was too soon to learn just what the enterprise netted the organization when the affairs were closed up last night, but a neat sum was realized and enough to guarantee the success of the work in hand.

## A Brief Resume Of California Club Work.

The year book of the California Federation of Women's Clubs is just received, and shows a largely increased membership, and wonderful activity all along club lines.

Among the great army of sufferers by the San Francisco disaster were hundreds of clubwomen who sustained losses both as individuals and as clubs, but this year's book would indicate that the noble struggle they have made is beginning to have its effect and bear fruit in broader and better work.

The report of the president of the San Francisco district federation, Mrs. E. C. Hurff, is particularly interesting, as it was in her territory the greatest losses

and demoralization occurred. She says in part:

"The California club, which, with its membership of 600 of the brainiest and most energetic women of that section, ceased its own enterprises which appeal to the progressive club as well as to the study of art, literature and other branches, had just become established in its beautiful new \$25,000 clubhouse, which was also headquarters for a great many other federated clubs there; and this being the business section was wiped away, and an almost total loss, as the insurance paid was small.

Some of the furniture was saved, with eight traveling libraries and seven portfolios of the city clubs which were away on their travels, while just two portfolios and the whole first edition of the Press club's new book, "La Copa de Oro," was entirely destroyed.

The loss was great, enough but the club immediately went to work on relief, and they are still actively pursuing that line with this cold wet winter adding to the misery of humanity. New meeting places have been secured and the sessions are well attended, with small loss of membership, and in many cases, new additions to the roll.

Only one club is not reorganized as yet.

Our South Park Settlement Mothers' club, being in South San Francisco in the fire line, 31 of 40 members were burned out, and went in a body to the camp at Golden Gate park, where they showed the high ideal of true womanhood in forbearance and brave cheerfulness in helping all about them, adding to their enrollment 15 new members. They are now back at South Park in comfortable temporary tenements mostly, only their president, with her family, still in tents, while her husband is building the new home on land acquired through the rehabilitation committee. The San Francisco clubs of the present are not doing much original work.

Of the clubs outside the city Mrs. Hurff says: "If there is any line of work they haven't been into I failed to find it. One club is unique in that it is organized for the study of ceramics owning its own kiln, which cost \$135, and doing its own firing, at a cost of 35 cents each firing. This club studies art, and has papers read at one session, and at the next works at painting or firing; hires a teacher from San Francisco for a course of lessons, and has a three-day reception and sale before the holidays. In the Alameda district, just as good work is done as in the San Francisco district, with the preference shown to civic work by most of the clubs. In speaking of the disaster, which naturally occupied the greater part of the time of all clubs last year, the president of Alameda district says: "Surely all unfederated workers, having learned the value of cooperation—which is but another name for federation, must soon join our ranks to continue a broader work for others. There was no word to the right hand of what the left hand of clubwork had been doing, no talk of club work and pleasure laid aside, or of club homes unfinished; only a mighty gladness that club federation had helped to make it possible to do so much for others."

Among the club work reported from this district, we note that the new Century club of Oakland has enlarged, and is continuing its cooking and sewing schools; its gymnasium and salvage bureau has taken up the care of the abandoned West Oakland free kindergarten, with 199 children, and has earned and expended \$6,000 this year. It has also published a remarkably fine book book, "Dainty Dishes for Dainty Diners."

The Woman's Civic club of Oakland, the district president, Mrs. Thane, calls "the Oakland housekeeper." It reports, through its exertions, the passage of the curfew law, the betterment of sev-

eral sanitary conditions, the establishment of children's vacant lot gardens, and has had a series of 23 splendid lectures upon civic topics.

The "Town and Gown" club has furnished a room in the university students' infirmary at Berkeley.

The "Little Book club" was the first in the state to respond to the call for nurses' outfits, sending seven within three days. Of the work in the Los Angeles district, the president, Mrs. Bryant, says: "Civic interests are so wide and universal in the various clubs as to make a just report impossible. Five new play grounds have been added to the system in Los Angeles, and playground movements started in outlying towns."

Special attention has been directed to the sign-board nuisance, and sufficient interest awakened to bring the matter before the city council of Los Angeles, with promise of satisfactory results.

Nearly every club is doing some civic work and calling for speakers along the different lines as seen almost constant. Club extension reports an increase of 800 members. Five new clubs rounding out a total membership of 5,000 clubwomen in the Los Angeles district. The state organization has in round numbers 12,000 members.

## Many Now Returning To Resume Club Duties.

For the approach of the "melancholy days," the clubwomen who have remained in town all summer or returned early, are finding a compensation in the return of their friends who are pouring into the city from mountain, coast and farm and are being met and greeted upon the streets daily. The exodus this summer was large and one could walk for blocks without meeting a familiar face and to say the least it was decidedly lonesome for the one or two that were left behind. On the whole it has been a delightful summer, every returning club member says, and yet they are all glad to get back and are looking forward to the opening of the various clubs, both for the pleasure of meeting and greeting every one again and for the eagerness to resume club work and club pleasures.

The Council of Jewish Women will hold its first meeting the first Wednesday in October. The Woman's club will open for the year October 11; Tuesday afternoon will hold its first meeting Tuesday, October 15; Portnomah and the Forestry club will also begin their year's work the early part of October; the Forestry club has continued its meetings all summer, which are held the first Monday of every month. So within a month every club in the city will be well launched for its winter's duties and a very prosperous year is anticipated.

## Good Work Planned For Library Workers.

Library Extension committee of the General Federation of Women's clubs, Mrs. Addison F. Broomhall of Troy, Ohio, chairman, asks every state federation to establish a system of free magazine distribution, to appoint committees to seek out lumber and mining districts, county and state institutions in need of literature, and to establish stations where magazines may be sent regularly each month for such distribution. This work is being carried on successfully in a number of states, and the chairman of the general committee is prepared to give detailed information for such work. All clubwomen living in communities which have no public

libraries, but whose state laws permit their establishment, are urged to strive for local libraries. A more frequent use of traveling libraries is also suggested as they help to create library sentiment and give encouragement to efforts made to establish fixed collections. The committee also suggests that clubs establish scholarships in library schools in order that women may be aided in fitting themselves for a branch of work. The committee has secured an edition of the American Library association list of books for boys and girls for distribution to women's clubs.

## Eleanor Clubs Becoming Very Popular.

Miss Ina L. Roberts, after visiting New York, writes to the Woman's Journal saying she found nothing in that city as interesting or successful as the Eleanor clubs of Chicago.

The first Eleanor club was started by Miss Roberts 10 years ago and has become a model for two or more of its kind in Chicago and for others throughout the country. The Jean club started in Omaha this spring by Miss Joseph is today modeled after the Eleanor club, and Cincinnati is now making plans for a similar one. What is more significant than the given employment of the original club is the fact that the Chicago Woman's club, one of the strongest women's organizations in the land, has come out with an unqualified endorsement of the Eleanor club movement. It also desires to cooperate with the association in its work and has arranged a series of literary and musical entertainments for the club.

The Eleanor club charges \$2.75 a week for board and room for girls who earn \$7 per week or less, and \$3.75 for those who earn \$8 or over. This includes the lunch carried to work. When a girl is out before the given employment at the club, for which she is paid 10 cents an hour. This keeps her out of debt and makes her self-supporting. The government of the club is in the hands of the girls themselves and they are just as independent as if they were in their own homes.

If a girl wants to give a little spread in her own room there are tea things, a punch bowl and other necessities, or if she prefers to use the dining-room or library she can do so.

Laundry privileges cost 5 cents and the girls furnish their own soaps, but the club supplies the bluing in self-defense.

There is a piano in the dining-room and almost every night there is dancing. The library is supplied from the earnings of the club with books, papers and magazines selected by a vote and classes are also arranged by vote.

The rooms are arranged with from one to three beds to a room. The maid makes the beds on week days, but the girls take care of their rooms on Sunday. Each club pays 3 per cent to the Eleanor association.

## Garbage Crematory And Country Ideas.

We never fully realized how long it takes to deliver some people from the village stage of thought until this past week. We did not imagine that so many people could live in as large a city as Portland and be so "countryfied" in their attitude towards progress. This last week's review of the garbage situation is a distressing one from the point of view of one who is proud of her city and of her city's onward march. What we wept tears of mortification that any stranger within the city's gates should by any chance have attended any of the meetings at the city hall and have witnessed the ridiculous scenes enacted over the "crematory" question. We have wept bitter tears that anyone whom we were trying to impress with the idea that we live in an up-to-date community should have seen that we have so many neighbors on the other side of the river who do not want to be clean—who do not want

their neighborhood to be healthful—who are so anxious to cling to the village method of disposing of their garbage that they advertised their "undesirable citizenship" by protesting in loud, long speeches against being compelled to keep their minds' eyes and noses fixed on their present antediluvian crematory and all—of the failure in North Portland, these self-hypnotized villagers had their minds' eyes and noses fixed on their present antediluvian crematory and steadfastly refused to believe that any other kind were possible.

One generous thing, however, we must note—they are perfectly willing to be taxed that we on the west side may be kept sweet and clean and healthy. That is really a noble action. And we will begin right away. The west side will proceed to donate the east side all the rats from the waterfront. We are going to starve them out by "cleaning up" on this side of the river and by sending another rat migration to the east side where the garbage is being saved for them in the gutches, the back yards, the vacant lots, everywhere and anywhere but in the crematory the east side could have had for the asking.

How could so many people be so blind to their own interests? One can understand that in every community there are a few old fogies. But so many! My, oh my! And in spite of the evidence presented by our brave little health officer, More, typhoid, more diphtheria, more spinal meningitis from the southeast end of town than from all the town besides.

Let us venture a prediction. Within three years the same delegation will petition the city council for a crematory located on the east side and will "donate the site for the purpose."

## This Aristocracy Has Blood Backing.

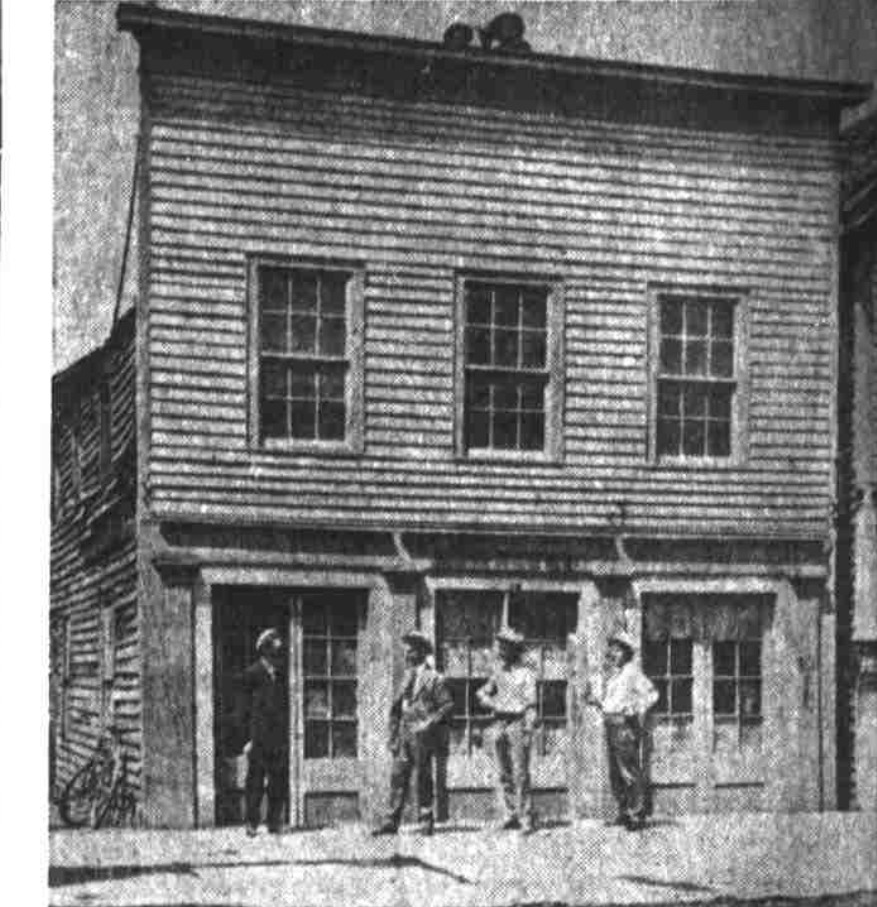
In Italy the leaders of the woman suffrage movement are the women most prominent in society, education and philanthropy. Countess Pasolini, one of the leaders of Roman society, is president of the educational section of the Women's National Council of Italy; the Marchioness de Viti de Marco is president of the city life section; the assistance section has for president the Countess Danielli, who has founded a maternity fund for the relief of working women; the section for public morality, which is interested in the protection of young girls and children, is conducted by the Marchioness Paolucci; Signora Teresa Labriola is president of the legislative section. It will be recalled that last spring the Italian parliament devoted an entire day to discussing the enfranchisement of women. Giolitti minister of the interior and president of the council, in closing the debate, dealt on the need of proceeding with caution. The chamber referred the petition back to the president of the council with an expression of confidence that the government would present a bill in which the right of suffrage for women would be recognized.

## Good Work Done By Rhode Island Clubs.

Clubwomen of Rhode Island have concentrated their efforts during the last year on securing legislative action for the education of the adult blind, not only in reading and writing, but in trade instruction, and in obtaining a farm where the feeble-minded may be cared for and taught. There are 830 feeble-minded in the state, but there is no institution where they may receive training and care. The question of teachers' annuities was taken up, and many clubwomen attended legisla-

# GRANT WAS ONCE DINED AT OLD WESTERN HOTEL

## Historic Building in Baker City, Recently Destroyed by Fire, Was Headquarters for Many Notable Persons Who Sought Its Hospitable Shelter.



Historic Western Hotel Recently Burned in Baker City. The Hostelry Was Frequently Visited by Famous Men of Early Days.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.) Baker City, Or., Sept. 14.—An old landmark was destroyed in Baker City on the night of September 9, when fire consumed the building that was at one time known as the Western hotel. Above is a picture of the historic building, taken a few days before it was destroyed. The passing of this hotel recalls history born with the old building. For many years it was the elite hotel of eastern Oregon, and the Kellogg stage lines stopped there daily for passengers. When Baker City was without railroads, and horseflesh was the only means of conveyance, this hotel was a popular resort. It was built in 1865, and at the present time was unoccupied and in a very dilapidated condition. One of the things of interest that happened in the Western hotel was the entertainment of General Sherman when he was commander-in-chief of the American forces, and his lieutenants, while they were on a trip through the northwest. It is said that General Grant and many other notables in military circles were also entertained at the old hotel. It was a great place for the aristocratic weddings and social events. Frequently a grand ball would be given in a building located at what is now Resort street and Auburn avenue, and the supper would be served in the Western hotel. When a new judge was placed on the bench in this district a great gala event was made of the occasion, and the banquets served at the old hotel at those times are said to have been of the finest. Bread and Cheese and Kisses. Bread and cheese and kisses And very meal a song! The diet spurn Such kisses turn To onions extra strong. —New York Sun.



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