

WOMEN'S CLUBS AND WORK

Edited by Mrs. Sarah A. Evans



Miss Anna Lewis Clark of Brownsville, Missouri, Who Will Conduct the Woman's Club Institute at Gladstone Park July 7-13.

"FEDERATION SPECIAL" is the title of a handsome circular got out by the Illinois Federation of Women's Clubs. It gives every particular and detail regarding the special train that will be made up in Chicago to carry the Illinois delegates to the convention at Boston and other delegates that have been invited to go on this special—Oregon delegates being among them. The official route from Chicago will be over the Wabash system. The train will leave Chicago at 11 o'clock the evening of Friday the 13th and will be a handsome special and will consist of Pullman standard sleepers, dining cars and special head-quarters. The party will run through without change via Detroit, Toronto, Montreal and the picturesque mountains of New England, and arrive at Boston at 2 p. m. Sunday, June 21. On the latter end of the trip the party will pass through the White Mountains, which the federations are endeavoring to preserve for a national park.

Arriving in Boston on Sunday afternoon will give all the opportunity of being comfortably located in their quarters before Monday, the opening day of the meeting. All meals will be served on route in dining cars, breakfast and luncheon on the a la carte plan and an evening dinner at 75 cents per person. The railroad rates for this trip will be from Chicago to Boston and return \$25.50. Pullman double berth \$5.00, section \$11, drawing room \$10. Tickets will be good returning leaving Boston 30 days after date of issue.

ARRANGEMENTS for the part the clubwomen of the state will take in the coming Chautauqua gatherings are maturing most satisfactorily. Miss Clark, who comes from Missouri to conduct a club institute, writes that she is giving much thought to her program and expects to bring to the women of Oregon much inspiration from the general federation convention. She comes directly from Boston to Oregon. The clubs adjacent to Gladstone park that have been invited to act as hostesses on the different days have all signified their intention to accept the invitation and this will assure a large attendance every day.

Not to be behind the clubwomen of this section of the state, the club of Ashland, which does such magnificent philanthropic work, will establish club headquarters at the Ashland Chautauqua. Mrs. Gard, the energetic president of the club, writes that next year they will endeavor to have a picnic at the Chautauqua. The Chautauqua work will be broad cast over the waters, for it will be reported in increased interest in club work through making it better known and from the inspiration the club itself will get through a season of lectures and literary work. The Chautauqua presents to them.

LAST Monday evening the art department of the Woman's club gave to its members and friends a rare treat in the form of a lecture, with stereopticon illustrations. The lecture, which really took the form of an explanation of the pictures, was given by Mrs. Alice Webster, the leader of the department. The subject was "Dutch Art," and was most ably handled. Mrs. Webster has proven herself a most capable teacher and leader to this department and those who have been able to attend during the winter feel richly repaid for their time and study.

THE regular monthly meeting of the Forestry club was held last week with Mrs. M. A. Dalton, 300 Twenty-fourth street. It was one of the most interesting and successful meetings in the history of the club. The secretary reported that by previous action of the club a tree had been bought and planted on the grounds of the president, Mrs. A. H. Breyman, in honor of her long and faithful service to the club. The club voted \$5 to the educational loan fund of the State Federation. The program of the day was most delightful and consisted of several readings by Mrs. Pritchard from "Our Trees," and a fine talk on "The Trees of Oregon" by Dr. Florence Manion. Mrs. Bushong sang several appropriate songs, accompanied by Mrs. Warren Thomas. Both the readings and the music were immensely enjoyed. The next meeting will be with the president, Mrs. Breyman.

make the beautiful things of this world and those who enjoy them. Mr. Mills is a strong, convincing speaker, who has made a deep study of social economics, and therefore speaks with authority. The large audience that listened to him were deeply interested, particularly as the topic was along the lines of this year's work.

MEETING of the Council of Presidents will be held at Chickering hall, Boston, Tuesday, June 23, at 9:30 a. m., at which the following subjects will be discussed: 1. Duty of the General Federation of Women's Clubs toward other national organizations. 2. Duty of national organizations toward the General Federation. 3. Delegates and their duties. 4. Transfer of membership. 5. Business obligations of clubs. 6. The biennial report.

THE annual meeting of the Woman's Press club of Oregon, the old officers were reelected. They are as follows: President, Mrs. L. F. Addison; vice-president, Mrs. Emma Sickles Marshall; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Clara B. Colby; recording secretary, Mrs. Beattie G. Stone; treasurer, Miss Frances E. Goshall. The club was much pleased when informed that its president, Mrs. Addison, had been honored by being invited to preside and have charge of the Women's Congress Round Table during the great Centennial congress at Saratoga, to which Mrs. Addison was appointed delegate from Oregon by Governor Chamberlain.

THE Round Table at the Saratoga meetings means an hour for five continents. The outline of the plan for this work shows the evolution of women from obscurity and narrowness to a higher plane of thinking and being. Subjects to be treated are women in the ministry, in journalism, in politics, woman's work for women, and woman's work in several lines of education.

REGON CITY Woman's club sends the following fine report. Our work has been largely educational, and I think has been very helpful in that line, not only to ourselves, but to others with whom we have come in contact. The "speakers from abroad" have been Mrs. Evans, Miss Baldwin, Mr. Finley, Mr. Green and Mrs. Lola Baldwin, whose talks helped to give us a large view of things outside of our own home life. The home talent has shown a decided improvement in the preparation of the papers, as all have been good and thoroughly prepared. The paper by Mrs. ... heard on "Progress" was especially good. The day devoted to the current topics of the day was very interesting. The contest in guessing the names of noted men and women whose pictures were pinned on the wall was very successful. Our women are fully up to the topics of the day. On February 26, parliamentary day, as a drill in that work, a resolution was introduced, that "No woman who wore birds or bird feathers should be a member of the Woman's club of Oregon City." This evoked such an interesting discussion that had it not been for the efficient leader, Mrs. ... should have lost sight of the fact that it was a parliamentary drill. The decision by vote of the house was in favor of the birds.

On reciprocity day a very helpful meeting was held. Representatives from all the other clubs in town were asked to be present and tell of the work done by them. In this way we came nearer each other and were acquainted, and without exception the clubs all showed that they were working for the good of the town.

work: The Shakespearean, the current events, the parliamentary, the natural history. All have done more or less work, but the Shakespearean has done, under the leadership of Mrs. Linn Jensen a fine work. Our next meeting will be in charge of that department and we anticipate a fine treat.

For the president's ear alone I would add that we had quite a time in getting Mrs. U'ren to consent to hold office for another year. She was quite determined not to, and ultimately we were equally determined she should, and we beat. So Mrs. U'ren is our new president. MISS W. A. WHITE.

THAT women should have equal suffrage with men, seems so reasonable to the unprejudiced mind that it has no need of argument. The burden of proof surely ought to be with the denier of this contention. It is a universal proverb, that no great man has ever been who did not have a great mother. And yet the wisdom of the centuries must find its Waterloo when the ballot takes this old stock argument, that woman ought not to have the joint privilege with man of making the laws which govern them both, because after these enactments have been made she has not the power to bear her part in their enforcement and defense, has reached such a condition of sensibility as to be listed along side of Kipling's "Man Who Was."

When Madame de Stael was banished twice by the haughty Napoleon because her pen was mightier than his sword; when Harrington, Beecher Stone could say the last word in her immortal "Uncle Tom's Cabin" that was vitally instrumental in changing the civilization of centuries, freeing both slaves from their masters and wasters from their slaves; when that great martyr to the cause of woman's rights, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Frances E. Willard, could accomplish what no man has been able to accomplish, a world late in the day of rightness, to rule in the realm of government.

EVERETT M. HILL. From the State, Columbia, South Carolina.

SOUTHERN view of our university situation is almost enough to make a good Oregonian hang his head in shame. Here it is: We are not accustomed to think of the great and growing west as being hampered by a spirit of unprogressive niggardliness fatal to achievement. Especially would we little expect to find such a sentiment here exhibited against the great cause of popular education. It is astonishing, therefore, to read that the action of the last Oregon legislature in appropriating \$125,000 for the support of the state university has aroused so much opposition among certain classes in that state, who have invoked the referendum privilege enjoyed by that commonwealth and have succeeded in tying up the fund upon which the university depends until the state election will occur the state election, at which time the voters of Oregon will pass judgment upon the matter and either accept or reject the action of the state legislature.

Until last session of the Oregon legislature increased amount, the university has been struggling along on a paltry appropriation of \$47,500 a year for the support of the institution having 400 students, more than half of whom are boys who are working their way through. The members of the faculty have been miserably paid. In consequence of all these crippling influences, Oregon has borne the distinction of sending more of its young men to the state to be educated than any other commonwealth in the Union in proportion to the number of its population. This is a condition that is always to be deplored. South Carolina, we are ashamed to say, was once possessed of this same Old South patriotism, and its institutions of learning to suffer slow starvation, but that unhappy time has passed and the South has had to have cause to be proud of the cordial support that the people of the state have given to their educational institutions. We should like to call the attention of those who have regarded the south as negligent and unmindful of education to this illuminating contrast between South Carolina and Oregon. And we wish for Oregon the dawning of a better day, characterized by a more liberal sentiment toward a cause that is the fountain of all national progress and all human achievement.

WITH the magnificent exhibit of arts and crafts now at the Portland Art museum, the following article, written by Miss Mabel Gray Wernick, for the monthly American edition of the "Coos Bay Harbor," will be of peculiar interest. Here is one profession which woman may rightfully claim for her own, with no possibility of criticism or dispute that she is over-stepping the bounds of an unwritten law, for men only. It is one of the few occupations where the chances of success and the quality of results are on an absolute basis of equality, for either men or women.

When the subject of arts and crafts is mentioned, we think at once of metal and enameling in its variety of processes; of wood carving and wood working which includes the old Japanese art of wood block printing. Important because of its unlimited possibilities is the art of tooling leather. This includes carving, stamping, burnishing, illuminating, and perhaps lends itself more completely to the originality of the student than does any other craft. The art of hand-made jewelry is in a distinct class of its own and is especially attractive as a craft for women. The one craft which may be said to have passed the experimental state is pottery.

Individuality in a variety of forms has resulted, and through merit alone, they have at once become familiar to those interested, as the Merrimac, Newmarket, Handcraft, Guild, or even Bookwood, which has not suffered in becoming greatly commercialized, and others of as great importance. There is yet unmentioned the art of weaving which is most interesting to study as well as book binding, which though complicated to master, proves a most practical accomplishment. A noticeable fact of the study of any handicraft is the subordination of all practical execution to design. The two parts go hand in hand. We discover the need of a knowledge of design in the most elementary part of the work. Simplicity of outline is the thing always to be worked for and the matter of giving simple lines and air of attractiveness, beauty and grace, for the student of this sort of work, this requires careful study and patient work and the experimental method of learning from the working into the material is the best. So it is that scattered in different parts of this country, we find organizations of this sort of work, it is surprising to note that there are as many or more women who have taken up this sort of work as there are men.

heartily approve of the bill passed by the last legislature granting the increased appropriation asked for by the authorities of the University of Oregon, and hereby express the hope that the act providing for such appropriation will be sustained by the voters of the state at the coming election. MISS MORLAND, Chairman Pro Tem.

In her monthly letter to the clubwomen of the land, the national president, Mrs. Sarah Platt Dacker, says: "One of the most interesting reports to be heard at the Boston convention will be from the bureau of information. It is difficult to give an adequate idea of the great work because it frequently happens that a seemingly slight request for help means a day's time for the manager. But gradually the files of subjects in the bureau are increasing, many books of references have been received, 30 magazines, probably the only magazines, and collections of programs and study outlines have been made in great numbers. Probably few students would be 5,000 letters sent out from the bureau the past year, besides innumerable packages, syllabi and programs. Best of all the help given by the bureau has been the solidifying of the federation, the knowledge that at last we stand on equal footing with every national organization of any importance in having a regularly established center for the busy offices no more can be made of the help given by the bureau in spreading the doctrine of both individual and state federation. The letter recently written by the manager of the bureau, at the request of the president, to a well-known member of the busy offices, shows the value of systematic collection of data in the club work. It is quite the fashion for some loyal members to reply in haphazard way: 'Oh, yes, the clubs have done some work, but I cannot remember what they have accomplished.' Mrs. Wood has put into concrete and definite fashion small and large doings and accomplishments of clubs and federations. To these facts could not have been available without the bureau. A great organization to be successful must have a local habitation and a name."

MAKE AMERICAN LINEN. Massachusetts Man Invents Process Which Makes That Possible. A Massachusetts inventor has perfected a process of transforming flax straw into fiber that promises to add millions to the revenue of the American farmer, says the World Today, and to make possible the manufacture of linen fiber in the United States. By the laborious process followed abroad it takes from 16 to 30 weeks to transform flax straw into linen. There is first the "rotting," which in Belgium is done by weighting down the flax straw in pools of water exposed to the sun until the wood or "shive" is rotted away from the fiber. The comes the "scutching" or beating of the dried straw. After this it is "hackled" by pulling the straw through the coarse teeth of combs for the purpose of removing snarls and tangles.

IN response to the request by the state president of the Oregon Federation of Women's clubs, for action, regarding the flax straw appropriation, the Woman's club of Salem send the following: Whereas, The interests of higher education in Oregon and the enviable reputation that the state now enjoys would suffer greatly if the act of the legislature providing an adequate appropriation for the University of Oregon, should be repealed, therefore, be it resolved, That we, the members of the Woman's club of Salem, Oregon, do

the softening and bleaching processes number 25 after all this has been done before the finished linen fabric is ready for market. Not only Benjamin C. Mudge of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology with the combined mechanical and chemical processes to accomplish the softening of straw in 13 hours. In place of the European method, which consists very largely in leaving the natural rotting process to accomplish the softening of straw, Mr. Mudge goes at this work by machinery until the raw flax fiber has been wrested from the flax stalk. Then the chemical process begins, and I can testify from observation that, using three or four chemical baths, Mr. Mudge first de gums, then bleaches, softens and in the end makes a glossy, white and exceedingly strong fiber out of what in the beginning looked like a mass of tangled horsehair. The European method yields about 170 pounds of fiber from 1,000 pounds of straw and sacrifices the seed crop. The Mudge process secures 250 pounds of straw after the seed have been discarded, converts the "shive" wasted by the European method into a pulp for paper making and also saves the "tow."

BLACKS PASS AS WHITES. An Actress, a Politician, a Broker, a College Girl Among Them. It is said that the number of mulattoes who pass as white is much larger than is commonly supposed. Ray-Stanhard Baker says he knows of "scores of them." He tells in the American Magazine of a supposed white actress, very well known, who occasionally pays a secret visit to her colored relatives in Boston. According to her baker, "A New York man who holds a prominent political appointment under the state government and who has become an authority in his line is a negro. Not long ago he entered a hotel in Baltimore and the negro porter who ran to take his bag said discreetly: 'Hello, Bob.' 'As boys they had gone to the same negro school. 'Let me carry your bag,' said the porter. 'If you give away a colored woman who married a rich white man, of course no white people know she is colored, but the negroes do and do not let. Occasionally she drives down to a certain store, dismisses her carriage and walks on foot to the home of her mother and sisters. 'Only a few days ago the newspapers were filled for a day or two with the story of a girl who had been at Vassar college and upon graduation by mere accident it was discovered that she was a negro. A similar case arose only last summer at Chicago university. 'Some mulattoes I know of, one is a prominent Wall street broker, have crossed the line' by declaring that they are Mexicans, Brazilians, Spanish or French; one says he is an Armenian. 'I have known foreign names they are readily accepted among white people, whereas negroes they would be instantly rejected. No one of course can estimate the number of men and women with negro blood who have thus 'gone over to white'; but it must be large."

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