Women's Clubs and Their Work

Edited by Mrs. Sarah A. Evans

MRS. FREDERICK EGGERT makes the following report of the ninth biennial convention of the General Federation of Women's clubs held in Boston:

"Those of our members who read The Sunday Journal club items, edited by Mrs. Sarah A. Evans, are already informed along many lines of club work as presented at the ninth biennial, and your delegate called upon to report to this club cannot hope to enter as fully into any phase touched upon, but in the time assigned can only give such general review of the convention as the occasion will admit.

Leaving to your imagination the start from Portland of the Oregon and Washington delegates, the accessions to our ranks as we crossed the continent, the experiences of the special trains, notably that of Illinois of seven Pullman carloads of clubwomen, which company our delegation joined in Chicago, we find ourselves finally within the borders of the grand old Bay State and approaching historic Boston.

Pinning upon our shoulders, as requested, the mystic knot of blue, we, long before we reach our Mecca, are made aware of the unbounded hospitality that awaits us and that the foreword to the Boston guide book is no empty sound. From this we quote in part as follows: "We, the forty thousand clubwomen of Massachusetts, greeting you as fellow-workers in the field of humanitarian endeavor and as fellow-members of our national organization, remember also that whether through ancestral lines or through intellectual inheritance, you are all coheirs with us in the noble heritage of great deeds and high principles embodied in the traditions of our ancient commonwealth."

Nearly an hour before reaching Boston, although on Sunday afternoon, our forty thousand hostesses began to be in evidence; first in the person of a typical Massachusetts lady who boarded our train and seeking us out welcomed us in most gracious manner; at the station platoons of hostesses again stood awaiting us, as guides to the telegraph and baggage offices, the carriage stands, streetcars or to give any desired information, these ladies all dressed in white according to orders. I quote again: "Members of the committee will be dressed in white, as it is believed by those planning this attention to the visitors that such attire, when one is just in from a hot, dusty ride on steam cars is calculated to add a refreshing grace to words of welcome."

I had scarcely laid down my pen after registering at my hotel before being accosted by a lady, evidently a resident guest of the hotel and elegantly dressed for Sunday evening dinner who announced herself as the hostess of the delegates at that house; she accompanied me to my room, helped me remove my wraps and escorted me to the roof garden which she suggested would be a pleasant place to dine on such a warm summer evening.

Hostesses to the right of us, hostesses to the left of us, so that on either hand service attended us, hostesses in front of us to clear the way for our pleasure and profit, and hostesses behind us in effort and influence. The good book says that "Where your treasure is there will your heart be also." Having raised $12,000 for the occasion, naturally the heart, interest and very selves of these Massachusetts clubwomen were at the service of this important event.

No Selfish Reservations.

And what share of this, think you, our hostesses reserved for themselves? Aside from the regular delegates only two fifths of their number received tickets of admission as spectators to our session. Of our 40,000 hostesses only 16,000 had the doubtful chance of securing admission and a seat at even our regular sessions of the entire convention. I dwell thus at length upon the hospitality of Boston and Massachusetts, even at the risk of curtailment elsewhere, because the proverbial New England coldness was so absolutely undiscoverable that the west may well look to its laurels if it would lead in unreservedly cordial and whole-souled hospitality. Apropos of this I quote from Mrs. May Alden Ward's address of welcome: "If you find the weather a bit tropical it is because we have been so eager to give you a warm welcome, to refute the charge so often made against us of coldness. These lines of a western paper have long wrankled in our hearts:

"He pressed a kiss upon her lips—a burning kiss, it froze,
The maiden was a native of—what city do you suppose?"

"We trust that when you leave us you will be able to say you did not find Boston cold."

On Monday morning invested with our Oregon state badge we repaired to Symphony hall there to present our credentials and receive the insignia of the biennial, which, for the succeeding 10 days was the open sesame to everything of interest to a clubwoman.

Quick Decorations.

The waiting throngs outside the doors wondered at the seemingly long delay, while the committees inside, in an incredibly short space of time installed the necessary paraphernalia for the business of the convention, having only from the morning hours had possession of the building which had been occupied Saturday evening; Sunday and Boston Sunday laws intervening and preventing a single detail of preparation until Monday morning dawned.

The registration of delegates and alternates from the club of 57 American women of Shanghai, China, and from the eight clubs of the canal zone federation added a new and interesting feature to this occasion.

Time fails in which to speak of the many conveniences provided for the accommodation of the delegates. Nothing was lacking that could in any way minister to our care, convenience and comfort, even to an inexhaustible supply of fans to assist us in bearing the almost insufferable heat.

Breakfast at Hotel.

The Monday noon breakfast given at the Hotel Westminster by the Professional Women's club and the Paul Jones chapter of the D. A. R. was the first social event of the week.

Our Mrs. Bingham failed to find me in time to extend an invitation, but returning the later part of the afternoon to the scene, as I was stopping at that hostelry, it was my privilege to meet Mrs. Bingham and to hear several speeches by prominent women of national reputation, the wife of Boston's mayor extending the welcome of the city. During the afternoon the Massachusetts federation tendered a general reception in the Grundmann studios.

I may not linger to speak of the many studios, places of historic interest, the Art Museum, etc., thrown open to visiting clubwomen during these days, or of the many women's organizations which kept open house for our reception, entertainment and pleasure.

The Monday evening concert by the Boston Symphony orchestra, conducted by Gustave Strube and provided by the Massachusetts state federation, was a choice and rare treat to the audience of 2,500 clubwomen. A thrilling incident of the evening was noted, as follows: "Suddenly at the close of the first number Mr. Strube laid down his baton. Every one in the hall arose and deafening hand clapping broke forth as an elderly woman, her sweet old face wreathed in a gentle smile, came down the center aisle to let the women know that Julia Ward Howe at 89 was not too old to be among them. Mrs. Howe sat through the next number and every one arose and applauded again as she passed out."

Guests of Merchants.

Tuesday morning at the council of state and club presidents, held in Chickering hall, several important questions were discussed. In the afternoon the officers, delegates and alternates outside of Massachusetts were the guests of the merchants of Boston, on an excursion in Boston harbor and Massachusetts bay on the steamer Miles Standish.

On Tuesday evening the formal opening of the convention took place in Symphony hall with the president, Mrs. Sarah Platt Decker, presiding. The [illegible] after the plan of an Italian garden and was beautiful to behold; this formed a most fitting background for such an array of wise, capable and brilliant women, many attired in elegant gowns with costly jewels which but seemed the natural setting of such bright stars of the feminine firmament. Each delegation had been assigned its own place in the auditorium designated by banners. The Oregon and Washington delegations were located near the center front, for which we were profoundly grateful. (At this point we will stop to say that at this and all subsequent sessions fine orchestral music was rendered by the Boston[illegible] orchestra composed of women and conducted by Mrs. Renfrew, also that at all evening sessions fine additional music, both vocal and instrumental, was provided and greatly enjoyed.) After eloquent addresses of welcome were given by Governor Guild and Mayor Hibbard in behalf of the state and city, respectively, Mrs. Julia Ward Howe as honorary president of the state federation extended greetings. She said, in part:

"Our Boston has seen many novel sights, but what spectacle has she seen more novel than this? An army of women from all parts of a broad continent, armed only with justice and with patience, intent only upon promoting the public welfare, the common good.

Welcome Extended.

For the state federation Mrs. Mary Alden Ward extended an earnest and hearty welcome and from her words I quote what I would commend as worthy to become the slogan of every woman's club, viz.: "We have pledged ourselves to work for better homes, better surroundings, better citizenship, better laws, civic health, civic righteousness."

In responding Mrs. Decker voiced the sentiment of the convention in saying: "Coming to New England means coming home and we accept your hospitality as blood relations."

The main addresses of the evening were two, the first by Mrs. Denison, honorary president of the general federation on "The Long Path," in which she set forth the development of woman and the woman movement, citing as a culminating episode the invitation from the president of the United States to the president of the general federation (Mrs. Decker) to attend as a participating member a conference of the governors of all the states. The last speaker of the evening, Professor Turblin on "Democracy and Culture," gave as his premise this definition. "Culture is the habit of a mind instinct with purpose, cognizant of a tendency and connection in human achievement, able and industrious in discerning the great from the trivial."

Eloquently he elaborated his claim that the political movement, the labor movement, and the woman movement are the three great movements which are shaping society and that the person of sound culture will not be ignorant of these things. With the singing of "America" by the vast audience the first session closed. "And the evening and the morning were the first day"; and we saw that it was good and returned thanks for the inestimable privilege of living in the twentieth century and of being even an humble participant in the noble achievements to which womanhood has attained.

Westerners to Front.

Wednesday morning was given to greetings from foreign clubs, reports of committees, officers, bureaus and a word from the eight directors, including our own member, Mrs. Evans, who always and in every place acquitted herself with credit to herself, her state and the states of Washington and Idaho who claim her as their representative also. We hardly realize the advantage to us as a club and state of having a representative on the official board. The able report of Mrs. Decker, replete with valuable suggestions of which Mrs. Evans may perhaps speak, closed the morning session. The afternoon was given to duplicate sessions and conferences. Wednesday evening was the "Literature session." Preceding the addresses came an "Ode to Woman" by the gifted South Carolina poetess, Miss Olive Tilford Dargin.

Edward H. Clement of the Boston Transcript, speaking on "Journalism and the Intellectuals," deplored the tendency of college men to go into business rather than to take up professions. He claimed that the intellectual aristocracy of the country is the only real aristocracy.

His tribute to clubwomen took this form: "All the honor that woman is winning for herself is giving dignity and force to that modern social philosophy, which holds that the state exists primarily by and for the mother and the child; that is for the production of a constantly improving humanity."

The closing address was by Thomas Nelson Page (Virginia) upon "Parochialism in Literature." The speaker paid special tribute to the short story, claiming it to be the most difficult and highest form of literary expression, its artistic value, independent of its brevity or length, depending upon the inspiration it excites. He predicted that America would have, and in our day, a worthy American literature.

Tribute to Clubwomen.

To the clubwomen he paid this tribute: "It is you who have created the atmosphere wherein that brave, high-minded American citizen in Washington has done so many wise things, elevating ideas of civic office holding until he has raised it immeasurable per cent. With your help a great tide of civic righteousness has been sweeping over the country and will prevail against the spirit of commercialism."

Thursday morning the "Business session" was constituted of most interesting reports of the federation committees, followed by reports from the literature and art committees. Then came the "Civic session"; the report of the chairman, Mrs. Joseph Debrill of Texas being followed by four addresses. C. Howard Walker on "Municipal Art," pointed out the place and duty of women's clubs in securing the city beautiful.

Next followed one of the most interesting addresses of the biennial on "Conditions in the Canal Zone" by Miss Helen Varwig Boswell of New York City, from which I quote literally: "It required six days to reach the isthmus of Panama. For five weeks I went daily up and down its length, planning and accomplishing the club work I am to tell you all about in 10 minutes." * * * "It is not a far cry from the digging of the world's greatest waterway to the establishment of women's clubs. What the government wanted was men of skill in their different lines who would stay on the isthmus. To have such men, to keep such men, there must be family life. To make the women of these families contented interests must be created for them, and the administration acknowledged in no uncertain terms its appreciation of the status which organizations of women have attained when it turned to the woman's club as one means of remedying the unrest and dissatisfaction which was grievously affecting the residents of the canal zone.

In Canal Zone.

She proceeded to tell of her work resulting in the organization of a club in each of the eight large cities of the zone uniting women of all social grades, the eight clubs forming the canal zone federation, each club having four departments. The home, the educational, the philanthropic and the department of entertainment. In closing she quoted one of the New York dailies which said: "While it took the big stick to create the canal zone it required a far more delicate instrument, the woman's club to make all happy."

An instructive address on "Methods and Factors in Civic Work" was given by Mrs. Penfield of New York City.

Miss Sadie American of Washington, D. C., most ably and earnestly presented a topic which should be of vital interest to every clubwoman, viz. "Play and Playgrounds." She claimed that "within a quarter of a mile of all children should have a place but the street in which to play there should be an open space in which they may have a good time." She declared that "girls, just as much as boys, need healthful, outdoor play. The great forces that are working within them need an outlet, and if through playgrounds these forces can be wisely directed, the result will be to lessen the number of inmates in girls reformatories."

The "Pure food session" with the report of the chairman, Mrs. Walter McNab Miller, and three helpful addresses on different phases of the subject closed the morning hour.

The afternoon was given to the enjoyment of social functions, the most prominent and largely attended, of course, was Governor and Mrs. Guild's reception at the state house from 2 to 4 o'clock, garden parties being given from 3 to 5 and at homes from 4 to 6.

As to Oregon.

The evening was the "State president's night," Mrs. Decker presiding. Our state president did nobly with the material Oregon has furnished her, but we could not help regretting that Oregon has not yet in club work approached the mark our resources, ability and opportunity warrant.

The report from state presidents in general, with memberships counting up into the thousands and work reaching out in every direction of humanitarian effort, enlisting the interest and efforts of the choicest and bluest of American blood and aristocracy gave an insight into club work and workers which made it all seem decidedly an honor and well worth while to cast our lot with the movement.

Friday the playday of the biennial with the state of Rhode Island as our hostess saw crowds wending their way toward the South station and at 8 o'clock the first section of the train bearing 1,200 visitors started for Newport. Arriving there every guest was conveyed around the city to view its summer palaces, and to enjoy the ocean drive on the way to Easton Beach where the clam bake was enjoyed by the multitudes, afterward to an hour's sail on Narragansett bay on the steamer Mount Hope.

Of the terrible catastrophe of that day, one can only wonder that any of the injured escaped either death or lifelong injuries. The speaker was the first of our delegation to learn of the injury to our Mrs. Hayes, and hastening at once to the hospital was in time to take to the train four of the injured ones, including our own delegate. Not until we saw her safely cared for in a Boston hospital and injuries pronounced not dangerous, did we have time to hastily refresh the inner woman and repair to Symphony hall in time to hear a part of Enos A. Mills' address on "The Spirit of the Forest," which was a prose poem, full of sentiment, presenting each tree, shrub or blade of grass a sentient being with its own individual life and mission.

What Housekeepers May Do.

Saturday morning the first and only time during the convention the session was opened with prayer. Mrs. Decker referred briefly but tenderly to the sad event and the sufferers and then routine business ensued, after which "The household economics session" followed; one of the best papers under that head was by Mrs. Robert J. Burdette, who recommended that housekeepers "simplify, classify, jollify and glorify the day's work. Mrs. Burton Smith claimed that "simplicity, system and poise are the three essentials in perfecting home life and making it beautiful."

In the "Education session" following Mrs. Desha Breckenridge of Kentucky told of the work of women's clubs of that state toward improving rural schools.

A paper by Mrs. Ella Dirtz Clymer Glynes on "International Scholarships for Women" somewhat on the Rhodes plan, elicited much interest.

At the civic conference in the afternoon Mrs. Rufus P. Williams presented the subject of "Tuberculosis as the World's Greatest Problem" and urged the responsibility of club women and their duty to secure legislation enacting measures for its prevention and cure.

An excursion to historic Salem with receptions by the clubs of that city in the beautiful Y. M. C. A. building, with trolley and auto rides, gave a delightful outing for all who took the trip.

Four Interesting Addresses.

Saturday evening was the "Legislative and industrial session." Of the four interesting addresses we will mention only two. First on "Welfare Work" by Mrs. Joseph Medill McCormick of Chicago, a daughter of Mark Hanna. Her life and environment might easily have developed a social butterfly, flitting from sweet to sweet, but her earnest efforts in behalf of the wives and families of employes in the stockyard district, and her matter-of-fact way of meeting and solving problems there confronting her gave the ring of true gold.

Naturally, the stirring address of Senator Albert J. Beveridge of Indiana on "National Legislation on Child Labor" was the climax of the week and one of the most noted addresses of the biennial. His story of the wrongs of children, his fearless arraignment of congress for its long evasion of and half hearted action on this question was thrilling in the extreme, and his challenge to all clubwomen to champion the cause of outraged childhood could not fail to arouse every hearer to interest and action.

On Sunday afternoon at Symphony hall the organist of Arlington street church gave a grand organ recital.

This was followed by a vesper service arranged and conducted by Miss Mary Wooley, president of Mount Holyoke college, who led us in a most solemn and impressive hour of worship, in her address preaching personal righteousness and service to humanity.

The Election Hour.

Monday morning, at 7:30 o'clock the nominating committee reported for duty. This committee of 46 representatives of various state federations, of whom your delegate was one, accomplished its work under conditions that secured absolute secrecy. The report was due at 12 o'clock in order that the ballots might be printed by 2:30 p. m., when voting was to begin.

Biennial tradition is against electing to the presidency a resident of the entertaining city, so when at 12 o'clock the report was read naming Mrs. May Alden Ward of Boston as the nominee, a delegate nominated from the floor Mrs. Phillip N. Moore of St. Louis, who was elected. The balance of the ticket, naming the only nominees for the other offices, was practically unanimously elected, including our own Mrs. Evans as director, her nomination in committee being enthusiastically received by Washington and Idaho.

The last address of the morning under the head of "Civil Service Reform" was by Rabbi Morris M. Fuerlicht of Indiana on "State and National Institutions." Advocating the merit system as the logical and immutable principle of democratic government, he assailed in scathing terms the spoils system as applied to appointments affecting care of the insane, feeble-minded, criminal, dependent or other like classes. "Here, therefore," he said, "lies a legitimate and fertile field for the labors of the woman's club."

Evening With Business Women.

Monday evening was "An Evening With Business Women," and we heard addresses from a woman publisher, bookbinder, farmer, machinery broker, clubhouse manager and interior decorator.

The most unique as well as the most interesting feature of the evening was an address by Miss Christine La Barraque, a blind young woman, who is not only an accomplished musician, being the vocalist of the evening, but also a member of the bar and an eloquent public speaker. Her theme was "What the Seeing Woman Can Do for the Blind Woman in a Business Way." Her answer being "the establishment of industrial schools and shops for the education and employment of the able bodied adult blind," and "to teach the public that the blind have ability and capacity for work and that they should be given an opportunity to prove their competency."

At 5:30 of this evening the polls closed and the tellers (our Mrs. Fear among the number) worked arduously until 2 o'clock a. m. counting the 917 ballots, and so well was the secret kept that no one learned the result until announced from the platform.

Press Problems.

Tuesday morning was given to open discussion first of "Press Problems," "Justice In Journalism," led by Miss Graham of Ohio; "The Personal Appeal" by Mrs. Robert J. Burdette of California; "The Telephone Interview" by Mrs. Eggert of Oregon. Secondly of "Social Amenities," including "Wedding Gifts," "Christmas Gifts", "Perverted Hospitality." All of which gave rise to animated discussion. During this session it was my privilege to be seated on the platform next to Mrs. Constance Trent Le Roy Runcie, who organized the first woman's club in the United States, the Minerva club of New Harmony, Ind., in 1859, antedating Boroalis by nine years. She is probably the oldest (as well as the first) living president of a woman's club as known today. She is now perpetual president of the Runcie club of St. Joseph, Mo.

The last session of the biennial Tuesday evening, June 30 was "President's night." The keynote of the evening's program was the federation's motto, "Unity in Diversity," and three speakers presented three amplifications of its legend. Mrs. W. K. James of Missouri "In Essentials, Unity"; Mrs. Francis Squire Potter of Minnesota, "In Non-Essentials, Liberty," and Mrs. J. W. Orr of California, "In All Things, Charity." Singing of old time songs followed, the audience at Mrs. Decker's invitation and inspiring leadership heartily joining, and every section of the country receiving its tribute in song.

Then Mrs. Decker arose and made what all felt to be a memorable speech from which I quote a single sentiment which should be an inspiration to every clubwoman who steps from office back into the ranks, viz.: "I am not going to say farewell, dear friends, because we are not going to part. I am going to fall back and keep step with you. I have no ambition but to be one of your comrades and co-workers." Her speech finished and the prolonged applause finally ending, she introduced the new president, Mrs. Phillip N. Moore, whose dignified and brief, though comprehensive greeting met with hearty and long applause.

Mrs. Decker introduced in turn each newly elected officer, who responded briefly.

The committee on resolutions voiced the thanks of the general federation to the city, the press, the local committee and clubwomen of the state for the hospitality and care so generously bestowed.

The ninth biennial convention of the general federation adjourned with the singing of patriotic songs and an impromptu reception to Mrs. Decker and Mrs. Moore, and on the morrow the visiting clubwomen turned their faces homeward, with broader vision, higher aims and a new conception of Boston and Massachusetts hospitality.

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THE Present Day club held its first meeting of the year last Tuesday at the home of the president, Mrs. J. M. A. Laue, 143 East Thirty-third street.

The club is to take a trip around the world this winter and the first paper by Mrs. Ballou, took them from Portland to New York. Mrs. Allen followed, her paper landing the club in Liverpool.

The club will meet next with Mrs. Muir.

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AT THE opening meeting of the Portland Woman's club last Friday the address of the president, Mrs. Lutke, the report of the Boston convention and a paper on "Club Development," met with such hearty approval by the members of the club, a request to have them published in the club department of The Journal was unanimously voted. We give part of them in this issue, and the balance will appear next week.

Mrs. Lutke's address was as follows:

"In assuming the duties of president, I realize fully that the measure of success of the year, lies in the strength of my support, or in other words, the results of our undertakings will be what we make them.

Your president can only lead and preside over your deliberations. You are the house of parliament, your vote must decide the questions that come before the club.

It will be my aim to rule justly without fear or favor, with the only thought in mind, "the best interests of the club" the forget self, and if every member unites with me in laboring earnestly and zealously for the great good of whatever work falls to our lot through the departments or club, success will be ours and our influence for good will be far reaching.

We are only beginning to realize the increased power of cooperation. When we grasp the full meaning of cooperation and united effort, then only can we hope to work out the full possibilities. The movement as yet is in its infancy; still organized movements embrace the millenium of the earth.

Men in every line of business recognize the fact that the best results are obtained by combining their energies and knowledge. Why not we?

Clubs Are Useful.

Would you ask why our clubs are growing? I would answer because of their usefulness.

Club work will not be measured by the scope of its programs, its social features or its numbers, but by the interest it awakens, the activities it creates and the work it accomplishes.

Do we realize this? Then let us unite our resources for our advancement, for the uplifting of mankind, make the best of our opportunities to promote the purposes for which this club is organized.

In transacting the business of the club we should not lose sight of the proper rudiments of conducting business. Time is too valuable to waste or parley over trivial things or mere technicalities. We should speak directly to the question, be as brief as possible so as to give all who desire to do so an opportunity to be heard. A timid member may have a good thought to express.

Work With Members.

The club cannot know its resources until it tests its membership by working in common with them; then often unsuspected gifts are revealed and developed.

Remember that in diversity of opinion there is strength. The shy sisters need to be urged and put forward but often astonish the less timid ones. Preferment will come to all who merit it if they will only bide their time.

There is always criticism of active people and in any organization the charge may be heard, "They or she wants to run things." Do they realize that things must be run? and that we all have an individual way of doing things. To be successful we must do our way we know best.

Acknowledge Aid of Press.

It is to be hoped that the friendly relations maintained with the press the past year may be strengthened.

Public sentiment is largely gained through the press, and we acknowledge and appreciate the many favorable notices given in the past. The press committee will at all times be ready to give out information concerning club work or programs rendered on social occasions. The private business of the club should not be given out for publicity.

We are a family of organized women studying the problems of the day for the welfare of women and children as well as local civic conditions, and we must have animated discussions to bring out the best thoughts to derive the best results.

Our differences of opinion should not be made public property. The public is only interested in the ultimatum.

Like my predecessor, I do not approve of allowing visitors in our business meetings, knowing full well that many erroneous impressions have gone out in this way, which proved very detrimental to the club and were hard to overcome.

I desire to sound a warning note at this time to all members to regard one another's feelings when discussing questions before the club, think well before you speak and remember that our minds run in different channels and we are at liberty to express our views as best we can.

The majority must rule and the minority, even though they be in right, gracefully give consent. We have yet to look at this from its broadest side.

Year Book Ready.

The calendar committee has prepared the year book programs and they are ready to be distributed. The committee has labored long and well to give you instructive and enjoyable programs.

The social committee is well organized, and is prepared to extend the social features by extending the glad hand to new members and will see that they become acquainted with us and each other.

The publicity committee have already evidenced their interest in the work expected by them, by the successful manner in which they assisted the Commercial club in entertaining the American Association of Traveling Passenger Agents during their visit to our city recently.

I regret that the time given us to notify our members of the Commercial club reception was so short and it was not generally known that all members of our club were invited to participate, although it was published in our daily papers.

Visiting committee—This committee will discharge its full duty with your help; if a member is missed from our meetings or if any member knows of a member who is ill or in sorrow, report it to the chairman of the committee or club and I am sure that mutual fellowship will be extended to all who may meet with misfortune.

Feeling that the departments are the most potent factor of our club work, I cannot find words to express my pleasure to see them grow and to know that a special committee is considering ways and means to stimulate them.

It is very gratifying to me to know that the committee agrees with me that the departments should be fostered and financed and that the club is strong enough to render some financial aid to them.

However, I believe that if we had less departments their efficiency would be increased. Every club member should belong to at least one department to get the full value of her club membership.

While I advocate the social features and personally love to strike a vein of humor occasionally, yet, I also realize that:

Life is a short day;
But it is a working day.
Activity may lead to evil,
But inactivity cannot lead to good.

Therefore, I am led to believe that while the social features should be cultivated, we must not lose sight of the fundamentals of club work. We must have a serious purpose and do solid work; cultivate and educate ourselves to see some good in everyone.

I would advocate following the line of work of the general federation as near as our local needs may warrant or demand. We must not "simply lend ourselves" when called upon to do so by those who have only mercenary motives in seeking our aid.

We should tersely refuse to be led into anything that savors of "meddling in our merchants' private business affairs, so long as they peruse legitimate and honorable methods approved by their fellow citizens.

The interest should come from within our fold, in whatever we undertake. Let us study local conditions and ferret out the measures which need attention for the good of the community.

Civic Movements.

I would recommend that a "civic committee" be appointed whose duty it will be to take up general civic work and keep in touch with all measures brought before our city council, which in any way affect the beautifying of our streets, school laws, health and sanitation of the city.

At the present time there seems to be a measure brewing to let the collecting of the city garbage by private contract, which I believe it would be well to investigate and express our sentiment. How about our new garbage crematory? What has become of it? It seems to have died a political death.

Our united efforts should be put forth to secure this much needed crematory. I firmly believe that if we would agitate the matter it would soon materialize.

We should advocate the placing of waste cans on our streets and park blocks.

The latter would be of very small expense to the city, and a step nearer to cleanliness. We should seriously consider these problems. Portland, the City of Roses, certainly is endowed with a great share of nature's beauty, our state so full of resources is attracting the attention of "homeseekers," who if favorably impressed will cast their lot among us.

With a very small fraction of artful handiwork, we might refer to the beauty of our city with justifiable pride.

All good things bear repeating. Therefore I want to indorse several recommendations of some of my predecessors. Namely, the placing of our public school teachers under civil service rules in our city and state. This certainly would be conducive of securing competent teachers, of a higher standard for our schools.

With sanitary and contagious disease precautions inaugurated, kindergarten and industrial training secured, our public schools will take a great forward step.

Second—To lend our best efforts to the state federation towards securing funds for the educational loan fund.

Third—Let us lend a helping hand to the Visiting Nurses' association and the juvenile court work. Many more lines of work come to my mind which we could profitably take up.

We are practically persuing the lines of work and study of the General Federation. We might take up health sanitation, food sanitation and civil service reform. However, believing as I do that our success does not lie in the scope or magnitude of the work we undertake, but in the interest we create and how successful we are. If this be true, let us do fewer things and do them well.

Last, but not least, of my desires to be accomplished during the year is something tangible towards a club home. To time seems very opportune to form a stock company and proceed with the organization.

It is apparent that this is the only feasible way, and the only way we can ever hope to have a clubhouse. I earnestly hope that the necessary steps may be taken in that direction. With our 300 members back of the project we could not fail.

A beginning must be made, why not now? It will require some time to prepare the preliminary work for the organization, and we ought to proceed at once. While we are waiting for a way to do it properly is advancing. We need not limit the stock subscriptions to our membership. Many smaller clubs have their own clubhouses, it is very evident that better results would be obtained by and through the various departments if we had a home of our own where they could arrange their meetings to suit their convenience and not be compelled to abide by the arrangements that must be made to convenience others.

To my predecessor you are indebted for many pleasant social events which were very enjoyable and served to raise the social standard of the club to a higher plane.

We can not hope to excel in this direction, only hope to retain the standard. A division of work makes labor light, still we need a sort of a "love feast" now and then to become acquainted. In the social hour many new and true friendships are formed. Intelligent action, a thorough study of conditions and possibilities alone result in triumphs. What, then, is a good club? That which is intensive and extensive. It must give the members a larger knowledge of literature, art, education, music, science, law, social conditions and public needs. It must encourage right living and create altruism. It must do something outside to make the neighbors and community recognize its responsibilities, its powers and influence. We can not accomplish all this in one short year, but we can take one step higher up the ladder. Let us keep pace with other states.

In closing I pledge you my earnest endeavors and best efforts in all matters and work that the club undertakes. If by any act or advice of mine the work of the officers or committees can be made lighter my services are yours, and I only ask that you bear with me in my shortcomings. The essence of kindness healeth many a wound. By ever keeping in mind the higher and exalted principles for which this club stands, our acts will reflect credit upon our club and it will speedily be recognized as an important factor in our community.

* * *

THE Tuesday Afternoon club met with Mrs. William F. Ames, October 11, at 2 o'clock. After the business meeting an excellent program was rendered.

Mrs. Amos gave an outline of the work prepared for the year, and explained on behalf of the calendar committee its wishes for carrying out the same.

Mrs. Glines followed with a fine talk on "England During the Early Victorian Period."

Mrs. Hayes concluded with an able paper on "The Novel in General."

Mrs. Henry Berger Jr. was elected to membership.

Mrs. J. D. Hayes read a very interesting paper, written by Mrs. Kate S. Bingham of Boston, reporting the biennial convention held in Boston June 22-30.

The club will meet with Mrs. A. A. Bailey, 1616 Hawthorne avenue, Tuesday, October 20.

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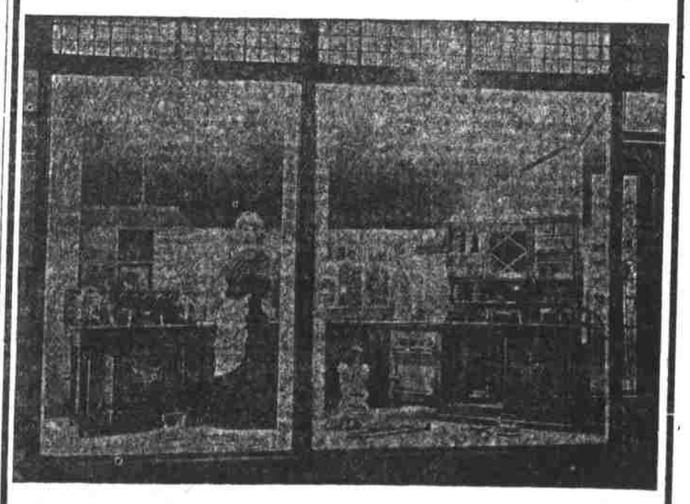

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