Women's Clubs and Their Work

Edited by Mrs. Sarah A. Evans

FROM an enrollment of 19 delegates three years ago to 64 at the La Grande convention last week, is the record of the Oregon Federation of Woman's clubs. It is a most remarkable one, when it becomes known that the federation is not any stronger numerically now than it was then. A few clubs have disbanded, and a few new ones have affiliated, but the change has not been great enough in the personnel of the organization to account for the difference of representation, so there is but one way to account for the increase, and that is in the enlarged interest that is being shown in club work; in other words, the awakening of Oregon women to the real purposes and advantages of club federation. For the first time in the history of the federation, clubwomen, who were not delegates attended the convention from a distance in large numbers. From Baker City, Union, Haines, Pendleton, Wallowa and other nearby towns clubwomen came by scores as visitors, and the afternoon sessions were so largely attended by local men and women that standing room was at a premium.

La Grande Hospitality.

Nothing could have been more royal than the manner in which the people of La Grande received and welcomed the clubwomen of the state. Every train for days was met by a delegation of women who had come in their carriages or automobiles to greet the incoming visitors and carry them away to be the guests in the finest homes in the city. And in not one single case was the warrant and most generous hospitality lacking.

On the part of the clubwomen this was to be expected, for they had invited the federation to be their guests, and were in duty bound to do all in their power to make them happy and comfortable. But no such obligation was upon the citizens at large, and one of the ever to be remembered features of the La Grande convention was the hospitality and courtesy shown them by the people of the city. Many organizations of men and women vied with each other in seeing which could outdo the other in kindness and attention.

Lodges gave up their meeting that their rooms might be used, or that their members might attend the convention; churches were thrown open for their convenience; the daily papers not only devoted columns to convention news, but taking a list of the officers and delegates sent complimentary copies of the papers to each. The Amalgamated Sugar company put its best men at the service of the convention to show the members over the plant and explain the intricate process of converting beets into sugar, and then sent tiny bottles of the sugar done up artistically on their card for souvenirs; the Church of Latter day Saints gave a grand concert in honor of the visitors, and this all was but a few of the attentions showered upon the visitors.

Prejudice Vanishes.

In days gone by clubwomen realized that there was always a certain amount of prejudice to be overcome in every community among people who did not realize what club work really was. If any such prejudice ever did exist among the men of La Grande it vanished before the convention was over. An evidence of this is found in the fact that on the second evening of the convention a certain lodge of men was in session, and the convention being under discussion the members of the lodge called up the chairman of the finance committee and told her there was $150 in their treasury left over from a certain entertainment which was at the disposal of the entertaining clubs if they needed it. This is almost unprecedented in club annals.

While the social and hospitality side of the convention stands out bright and beautiful in the memory of every one, unaccompanied by anything deeper or more significant it would soon vanish like all earthly joys, but encrusted in real purpose and earnest endeavor for a better and broader humanity, the work and pleasure will remain lasting and indissoluble, and this was the result of the La Grande convention. The work was earnest and purposeful.

From time to time the minutes and proceedings will be published and the year books will be ready for distribution within a few weeks, but it takes some time for busy women to get these things in order—and all clubwomen are busy women.

Some Important Measures.

The measure of most immediate importance was adopting the last Wednesday of January as scholarship loan fund day, every club in the state pledging itself to do something on that day to increase the fund that is being loaned young girls to assist them in procuring an education.

It was voted to take up the matter of collecting the poems of Sam Simpson with their publication in book form in view. The president was authorized to appoint a committee for this purpose and she has named the following: Mrs. James P. Moffett of Portland chairman with Mrs. George Harding of Oregon City, Mrs. T. J. Scroggens, a niece of Sam Simpson, of La Grande, Mrs. Shackelford of The Dalles and Mrs. J. E. Ferguson of Astoria.

A committee was authorized on public health which shall cooperate with other organizations to check the spread of tuberculosis. This committee consists of Mrs. Sadie Dunbar of Arleta, chairman, Mrs. Anna Calkins and Mrs. Mays of Haines. Several important measures were adopted, of which much will be said later.

Many Practical Addresses.

Stern reality was the keynote of all the addresses given at the convention. No time was devoted to the purely intellectual or entertaining, and, while both these elements entered into all the deliberations, they were harnessed to practical subjects.

An entire evening was given to the consideration of "Public Health," the subject being masterly handled by Drs. Pierce and Smith of the state board of health, and by Mrs. Millie Trumbull, who talked on the "Mission of the Visiting Nurse."

The welcome by the mayor of La Grande, Dr. M. K. Hall, contained so many good and pertinent suggestions we are pleased to have been able to procure a copy, which we publish today for the benefit of clubwomen of the state who were so unfortunate as not to be able to attend the convention.

* * *

DANTE, Petrarch and Boccaccio, the three Florentine men of letters, were the subject of a 10-minutes' talk by Mrs. Charles H. Dodd before the art department of the Portland Woman's club November 17. She said:

"Dante, who in a literary sense may be called the first Italian, Dante, whose pure love of Beatrice gleamed through all his works, of whom Elizabeth Browning said: 'Tender Dante loved his Florence well. While Florence now to love him is content.' Petrarch, who delighted in classic research, who brought to Florence the culture of the Greeks, who was the first humanist and who before his death was proclaimed poet laureate; Boccaccio, with his wonderful influence upon literature, and whom the English Chaucer imitated."

Mrs. Alice Weister, in a delightful narrative manner, born of her intimate knowledge of the subject, gave the story of the contemporaneous painters. The story of Giberti and the casting of the famous gates of San Giovanni is an epoch in the history of art. The fifteenth century is perhaps the most remarkable in the history of the whole world, being marked by wonderful mental activity, the restoration of classical learning, the invention of printing and the discovery of America. In Italy there was a striving after an originality of style; there many different schools, each aspiring to the spiritual and ideal. Florence was at the head of all the states of Italy, at the height of its prosperity. The government was democratic and each class had a due share of power, being represented by consuls. It was the consuls of the Guild of Merchants who in 1401 undertook to erect a second gate to the baptistry of St. John. The first was erected in 1330 by Andrea Pisano. Mrs. Weister gave an interesting description of the manner of choosing the artist who was to have the glory of erecting the second gate, the north gate. It fell to Lorenzo Giberti, who began it in 1403 and completed it in 1424. It included 20 subjects from the New Testament, inclosed in a marvelous frieze of foliage, fruit and birds. The east gates were executed by the same artist from 1447 to 1452. It was of these that Michael Angelo said they "were worthy to be the gates of Paradise."

The speaker then carried the class with her in spirit to the quaint old baptistry, in which all the children of Florence are still baptised. The interior of the baptistry has a charm of solemnity, almost of sadness. Like some old mother, brooding over generations of her children who have passed away—old, old, meditative still, lost in a deep and silent mournfulness. The vast walls rise up dimly in that twilight coolness which is so grateful in a warm country—the vast roof tapers yet farther up, with one cold, pale star of light in the center; a few figures dwarfed by its greatness stand like ghosts about the pavement below—one or two kneeling in deep stillness; while outside all its light and sound in the piazza, and through the opposite doors a white space of sunny pavement appears dazzling and blazing.

Speaking of the psychological effect of the baptistry upon its visitors, Mrs. Weister passed to the subject of the psychological department of the afternoon, namely, "Reasoning Powers of the Two Minds Differentiated," not only a most fascinating and instructive subject, but one which impelled the members to bring up their own problems that the class might help solve them, realizing that all the wisdom, all the thought stuff of the world, is here about us, and that we have but to grasp it to make it ours.

The visitors of the afternoon were Mrs. Dodd of Salem and Mrs. Frances Palmer Kimball of Illinois, who has been active in both club and literary work.

* * *

THE ADDRESS of Mayor M. K. Hall of La Grande to the Federation of Woman's clubs was as follows:

"It has become my duty, and a very pleasant duty it is, to address you on behalf of the citizens of La Grande. We wish, in the first place, to express our appreciation of the honor of having our little city chosen as the meeting place this year of the Federation of Woman's clubs of Oregon. We deem it an honor, because we believe that here assembled are many of the leading minds of the state, whose work of directing the efforts of the many clubwomen of the state is one of the greatest importance in behalf of humanity.

"The work accomplished by the Woman's clubs, as set forth in the report of your representative to the national organization, is much wider in scope than probably many, myself included, were before aware.

I wish at this time, if I may be allowed a few minutes, to make a plea for greater interest in the children of the poor. Relief for the neglected children of our land cannot be hoped for through any other medium than that of Christianity, and as I personally believe that 99 per cent of the Christianity dwells in women, in my opinion it is to them we must look for the furtherance of this work.

I honestly believe that a large percentage of our criminals are made before they have reached their fourteenth year. They are criminals and will remain criminals because of no fault of their own. The forces that make them such are, in my opinion, first, that of heredity; second, lack of restraining influence and good example on the part of the parents; and third, and greatest of all, the most powerful and compelling instinct in the animal kingdom, the desire to gratify appetite, whether it be natural or acquired. Who will blame a hungry child for stealing when the appetite cannot be appeased in any other way?

The children who need the interest of such women as you, outside your own families, are not those who are found in attendance at the Sunday schools. They are the poor little tots who have never been to Sunday school because for one reason they never had a Sunday suit to wear. They are those who cry because they did not have enough breakfast, who will go to bed hungry, and afterwards cry because they are cold. These are the sad realities, and I believe the man or woman—and I honestly believe our only hope is in the women and especially in the organized women—who will take an interest in one of these little ladies or gentlemen, for they are little ladies and gentlemen before they are spoiled by copying th manners of some of their elders—and will help them in the right way; will accomplish more for morality and the ultimate good of the race than any judge or jury in the land.

I believe there are many people that have more of this world's goods than they need, who would gladly give of their means to aid such poor children if they were informed of such conditions by those who should stand between the two. Perhaps the clergymen are doing all their time will allow in this direction; in this work of giving the rich an opportunity to aid the poor little children in individual cases—but if so, from my observation as a physician doing my work among the very poor, I am forced to the conclusion that many of them must be very busy elsewhere.

It is my belief that of statistics of ailments of mankind of the male persuasion, of whatever profession or calling, those listing cases of nervous prostration brought on by overwork in behalf of the poor, will be gathered only after women have been voting a couple of centuries.

I believe that men, because of their intense selfishness, can only be whipped into line for good works by the votes of the women, or perhaps better yet, shamed into it by the example set them in good works by their superiors, the women.

Splendid work is being done for the waifs, such, for instance, as the home at Council Bluffs, Iowa. In Portland, the Boys' and Girls' Aid society is doing a great deal of good. I believe, however, that if the woman's clubs will take a special interest in this work—will become alive to the rights of the little ones in their own town, and try to seek out ways to help individual cases, they will add largely to the good they are always doing.

Madam president and ladies of the Oregon Federation of Woman's clubs, in behalf of all the citizens of La Grande, I tender you as an organization and individually, an earnest welcome to our city.

ROAD OF SAWDUST

Minnesota Experiment That Appears to Be Successful.

From the St. Paul Pioneer Press.

A road made from sand and sawdust is the latest style of roadmaking designed by George W. Cooley, state highway engineer. Last spring he made a section of road with clover and rye on a sand foundation. This has been very successful. The road made from sand and sawdust is at Cambridge, in Isanti county.

Four inches of sawdust was raked on the sand road after being graded. This was worked into the sand by passing teams, and as fast as ruts were formed the sawdust was raked into the ruts, to be further mixed with sand. This is a new road making material, and if successful will make an exceedingly profitable means of using the immense quantities of sawdust from the mills of the state.

In those counties where there is nothing but sand in the roads good roads are impossible without the addition of other material. Mr. Cooley is now experimenting with various means of turning the sand into vegetable loam which can be worked to advantage. The idea is that the sawdust will rot and mixing with the sand will form a loam suitable for roads.

Such a small amount of money is appropriated by the state for the construction of roads that the experiments have been on a limited scale and the construction of roads proceeds slowly. This state spends only one tenth as much on state roads as does New York in relation to the value of the property.

Crocodiles Along the Nile.

From the Strand Magazine.

At the sound of the shot the whole of this bank of the river, over the extent of at least a quarter of a mile, sprang into hideous life, and my companions and I saw hundreds of crocodiles of all sorts and sizes, rushing madly into the Nile, whose waters along the line of the shore were lashed into white foam, exactly as a heavy wave had broken.

It could be no exaggeration to say that at least a 1,000 of these saurians had been disturbed at a single shot.

The deadly sleeping sickness, caused by the tsetse fly is said to have killed 200,000 of the 300,000 natives of the British protectorate of Uganda since it first appeared there in 1901.

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Society

(Continued from Page Three.)

Rasmus T. Strand and Nanna K. Nelson were married at the home of Alfred Hansen, 249 North Seventeenth street, November 17, in the presence of a number of friends. Rev. O. Hagoes of the Norwegian Lutheran church officiated. They will reside in Portland.

* *

A quiet wedding was celebrated at the White Temple Thursday afternoon, when George N. Doran and Miss Tillie Wittenberg were married. Rev. J. Whitcomb Brougher, D. D., officiating. Only a few intimate friends witnessed the ceremony.

OUT-OF-TOWN ITEMS

A quiet and beautiful wedding took place at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Martin Hayman in Clackamas Sunday, when their eldest daughter, Fanny Gale, was united in marriage to Norris W. Young of Wilsonville, Or. The bride was attired in a handsome cloth traveling costume of ashes of roses. The house was beautifully decorated with Oregon grape and white lilies. Those present were the immediate families and Miss Lillian Crockett. Rev. Morris Haverling officiated. Mr. and Mrs. Young left immediately for their new home on Spencer street, Portland. A sumptuous wedding dinner was served by the bride's parents. Miss Hayman was a native of Ohio, but had lived in Clackamas several years, where she had made many friends. Mr. Young is an Oregonian by birth and the son of Mr. and Mrs. M. C. Young of Wilsonville. He received his education at the Hill Military academy and Oregon Agricultural college at Corvallis.

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A pretty wedding was celebrated in Forest Grove Wednesday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Hamilton, when their daughter, Edna, became the bride of Clifford Brown, Rev. H. L. Bates officiating. The parlors were daintily decorated with Oregon grape and maiden-hair fern. To the strains of the Lohengrin wedding march, played by Miss Jennie Tillbury of McMinnville the bridal party entered and stood beneath a huge arch of Oregon grape and a lover's knot of white satin, where the ceremony was performed.

The bride, who is one of the most popular of Forest Grove's girls, was beautiful in a dress of silk mull with veil and orange blossoms. Miss Anna Johnson was bridesmaid and Jordon Brown was best man. The bride's bouquet was caught by Miss Tillbury. After a short trip Mr. and Mrs. Brown will reside in Forest Grove.

Taylor & Kiesser Signs

COMING EVENTS

Invitations have been issued by company E of the Third infantry O. N. G. for their first annual ball, to be given at the Armory hall Thanksgiving eve. Company E has always enjoyed an enviable reputation in military matters, and great care has been taken by the social committee that it be maintained in the social field. The hall will be profusely decorated with flags, pennants and boughs, and an excellent orchestra wil play for the occasion. The patronesses are, Mrs. W. L. Ormandy, Mrs. C. T. Smith and Mrs. C. Cornell. The committee consists of, Sergeant John Matson, Corporal R. J. Cornell and Corporal H. C. Brumbaugh.

* *

The Thanksgiving party to be given by the Wisteria club tomorrow evening, at Ringler's hall, Grand avenue and East Morrison street, promises to be one of the most pleasant events of the week. The club members are sparing neither time nor expense in their preparations for making this event one long to be remembered. The club members are Adolph Woelm, C. M. Tiffany, H. H. Thomas, and Ed E. Wedemeyer; the patronesses are, Mrs. Olga Bartsch-Lang, Mrs. K. D. McBride, Mrs. H. C. Billings, and Mrs. Hostetler.

* *

Company B's party, given in the armory tomorrow night, is looked forward to with great pleasure. All arrangements are complete. Stiles' orchestra will furnish the music. The patronesses are: Mrs. W. E. Finzer, Mrs. C. E. McDonnell, Mrs. F. S. Baker, Mrs. T. N. Dunbar, Mrs. W. W. Wilson, Mrs. W. F. Daugherty, Mrs. C. F. Spooner. The committee consists of Lieutenant C. F. Spooner, Sergeant C. W. Lundy, Sergeant A. R. Williams, Sergeant Frank Guerin, Sergeant F. M. West, Corporal C. H. White.

* *

The E. S. A. C. girls have issued invitations for a Thanksgiving party, to be given at Ringlers hall Thanksgiving night, Thursday. The affair promises to be a decided success, as it is the first party to be given under the direct management of the girls. The club members are the Misses Pearl Shaw, Esther Edwards, Nellie Browne, Bessie Fitzgerald, Freda Pfaender, Loretta Sullivan, Edna Morley and Margaret Browne. Mrs. M. A. Fields, Mrs. I. Dove and Mrs. G. G. Fitzgerald will be the patronesses.

* *

The announcement that a committee consisting of the Misses Goldman, and R. W. Jamieson, J. F. Adams, H. W. Hingley and H. J. Hucke, formerly of the Orranco club, are to participate in a dancing party to be given in the New Woodmen hall on New Year's eve, will be received with great pleasure by those who attended their parties two years ago.

* *

Mt. Hood circle, Women of Woodcraft, entertained the largest crowd at their last whist and dancing party that ever assembled at a similar function in the East Side Woodmen hall. The many friends who enjoyed their hospitality on that occasion have prevailed upon them to give another next Tuesday. Committees have been appointed.

* *

The annual bazaar of the First Congregational church will be held in the church parlors December 1 and 2. Useful and fancy articles will be offered for sale and luncheon will be served at noon each day.

* *

The Orlandas will entertain their friends with a Thanksgiving party in the East Side Woodman hall, East Sixth and Alder streets, Monday evening, November 30. Stiles orchestra will furnish the music.

* *

The Lincoln-Garfield Women's Relief Corps, No. 19, will meet next Tuesday with Mrs. Helen Otto, 403 Eugene street. Take Union avenue car. They will meet to sew and a good attendance is desired.

* *

The patronesses are Mrs. D. A. Bonner, Mrs. J. E. Kane, Mrs. E. Healy and Mrs. L. Knudson. The club members are S. D. Bonner, J. M. Browne, J. J. Healy and E. C. C. Michelsen.

* *

The Officers' Wives will entertain their friends and the public with a Five Hundred party Tuesday evening in the Mulkey hall, corner Second and Morrison streets. All welcome.

* *

The Mystic stars of Myrtle Chapter, Order Eastern Star, announce their second party of the season, which will take place Monday evening, November 30, at the New Masonic temple.

PERSONAL

Mrs. Lowenson, after spending a few days in Hood River, is home again.

F. J. Hutchins has returned to his home, 739 Northrup street, after touring Washington and Montana.

Mrs. W. S. Spencer and Miss Bessie B. Spencer of Salem are in the city, visiting among friends.

To Old Mexico.

The regular midwinter excursion to Old Mexico will leave Portland December 12th and 13th, joining the Southern Pacific solid Pullman excursion train out of San Francisco Tuesday, December 15th. The return fare Portland to Mexico City will be $104; tickets bearing a limit of two months, with stops over privileges at pleasure on the return trip. Passengers will be given the choice of the Southern Pacific or the Santa Fe returning between El Paso and San Francisco. Coming west over the Santa Fe you can make a side trip into the Grand Canyon for $6.50. Ask for "Mexico"—a little booklet story on this charming and historic country. Tickets, reservations and particulars at Third and Washington streets.

The Housewives Give Thanks.

An elegant Thanksgiving dinner without the bother of making dessert. Order your Royal mince pies, Royal plumb pudding now for Thanksgiving. Made of the best and cooked to a turn. Royal Bakery and Confectionery.

Clever Crabs.

From the London Illustrated News.

The tree crab of the South Sea islands is akin to the hermit crab, but it is larger and it has its hind quarters sheathed in a shell. It is also known as the palm crab, because it climbs the cocoanut palm and picks the fruit, which it nips off close to the stem. It always takes care to choose a palm tree with plenty of stones at the foot, so that the cocoanut may be broken by the fall. When the natives see that a crab is in a tree they tie a ruff of grass around the trunk. When the crab comes down again he is upset by the grass and falls heavily to the ground, where he lies stunned. He is then killed with a stone ax, his nippers are tied together and he is slung upon a spear to be carried to camp. The South Sea islanders roast the palm crab between two hot stones and consider the flesh a great delicacy.

Sometimes Italian courts work with painful slowness. A man named Pietri, who has been in prison in Italy awaiting trial on a charge of murder since September, 1870, is about to face the jury. The first hearing of the case was interrupted by the founding of the kingdom of Italy. Then the presiding magistrate and two of the principal witnesses died, and the matter dropped out of official notice.

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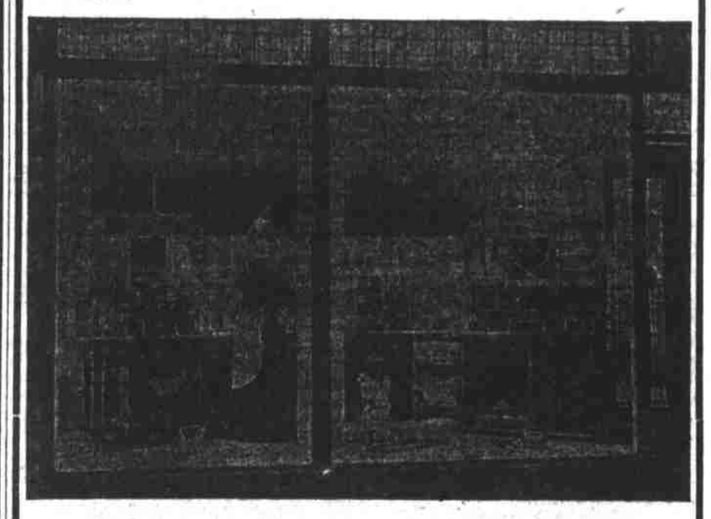

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