

# Women's Clubs and Their Work

Edited by Mrs. Sarah A. Evans

**M**RS. Philip N. Moore is proving herself one of the most tireless and efficient presidents the General Federation has ever had. Long experience as a member of the board, in various offices, well prepared her to assume its highest honors and the increased duties that always come to a conscientious president. She did not have to learn the ropes, but as the toga fell upon her she entered her enlarged sphere equipped and ready to assume her duties from the start—and right well she has performed them. During the fall she attended numerous congresses and public meetings where work was being planned in which the General Federation expected to have a share.

Besides these meetings of a general nature Mrs. Moore was a visitor at a great many of the eastern state Federation conventions. While it is a pleasant thing to be the distinguished guest at these gatherings of distinguished women, it is nevertheless, hard and strenuous work, for of course, each convention feels it must make the most out of the president's visit, forgetting that the last convention she attended they did the same, and the same will be done at the following, and so the over-worked president journeys from one to the other till her strength is well nigh exhausted.

But Mrs. Moore does not seem to realize she is near this point, for she writes that she is now preparing to visit the canal zone federation, early in January.

This is the federation that grew out of the clubs that were organized by Miss Helen Boswell, when she was sent to Panama by the government to organize women's clubs.

Mrs. Moore will be gone about three weeks during which time the affairs of her office will be in charge of the first vice president, Mrs. Cowles of Los Angeles.

No doubt Mrs. Moore will learn much of interest to club women during this visit and her report of these interesting clubs will be looked forward to with pleasure by club women all over the country.

**T**HE state federation is congratulating itself upon receiving into membership the Mothers' and Teachers' club of Brooklyn. This is one of the finest clubs in the state, and is justly called the parent of the mothers and teachers clubs of Portland. What have they done? Well, just go over to the Brooklyn school, with your eyes open and you won't have much trouble seeing.

So far as principal and teachers control the matter it is, in the first place, a model school. While much is due to the strong personality and executive ability of the principal, Miss Dimick, much is also due to the close touch and harmony between parents and teachers and this has been brought about by the Mothers' and Teachers' club, which has, for several years, been one of the largest factors for school improvement and social uplift in that section of the city.

For several years the club has supported a free kindergarten for the children of the district, and has made noble sacrifices for its maintenance; sacrifices that no individual women should be called upon to make in a rich and prosperous country; but it has been done willingly and unselfishly, but the time is now ripe when shoulder to shoulder with 2000 women of the state they will ask that the state incorporate this most important branch of a child's education into the public school system.

With its welcome to the Brooklyn Mothers' and Teachers' club the state federation also extends its congratulations that the club has taken this broadest step in its work. Organization is the watchword of the times, and only through it can all the clubs of the state accomplish that larger work that is denied the individual club.

**A**T THE time of the La Grande convention the Woman's club of Hood River was the infant in the state family of clubs and a very lusty infant it showed itself by its full quota of delegates, and the splendid report it sent, which is in part as follows:

"The club was organized by a little band of women on October 9, 1907. For study, which was to include parliamentary law, current events and home topics. It was not, however, until the next meeting that the name was given, and a broader platform was decided upon, which was to include civics as one of the objects of the club.

"When the constitution was adopted the membership was limited to 25, but this was stricken out a short time after and the membership is now unlimited.

"In March of the present year a general invitation was extended to the women of Hood River to be present at an annual meeting at which time the following women from Portland went up to carry greetings and help launch the new organization: Mrs. Frederick Esger, Mrs. Grace Watt Ross, Mrs. James A. Tift, Mrs. W. H. Fear, Mrs. James Marlett, Robert Lutz, Mrs. W. W. Alexander, and Mrs. Sarah A. Evans.

"This aroused the club spirit in Hood River, as about 115 women were present and all were enthusiastic over the messages the visitors brought them.

"At the annual meeting in May a new constitution, to meet the demands of the enlarged work, was adopted and the following officers were elected: President, Mrs. F. H. Button; second vice president, Mrs. J. F. Bacheider; recording secretary, Mrs. J. S. Richmond; financial secretary, Mrs. Agnes M. Cunningham; treasurer, Mrs. G. R. Cantner.

"This year the club is carrying on the following departments: Travel, home educational, each of which has an able and efficient leader.

"The club now has a membership of 106.

**O**NE of the fullest and most splendid reports given at the state meeting came from the Tuesday Afternoon club of Portland. It was written by the retiring president, Mrs. A. J. Stiles, and read by the president-elect, Mrs. H. J. Jackson.

It gave a detailed review of each meeting of the club and the course of study carried on, which was not only interesting, but was full of suggestive thoughts for other clubs working along the same line.

In concluding Mrs. Stiles said: "It seems hardly necessary to reiterate that which has formed a part, possibly, of each report that this club has given, viz: That this is purely a literary club, taking up no line of work outside. Suffice it to say that the great majority of its members belong to other clubs that engage in philanthropic and civic affairs.

**N**OT being able to be present at the state meeting the Woman's Study club of Coquille sent, through its president, Miss Inez Lusk, a very encouraging report, which shows the club to be wide awake on many subjects. According to the report the club meets each Saturday afternoon at the home of the members. The study work each year has been given to the English poets, beginning with the period of Shelley and Keats. Once a month the meetings were devoted to travel in the British possessions. Current topics and domestic science have also held their attention on the program.

The club has at length seen its way clear to taking up a work it has very much desired to do. The establishment of a reading room and library. Over 100 books have been secured and many of the best magazines. The room has been kept open almost every afternoon and every evening since last May. The club has not having funds to pay a librarian the clubwomen have taken turns in serving. "You busy housekeepers make note of this and realize the sacrifice that must be made to devote to other organizations has incorporated and purchased a site for a permanent library, gymnasium and auditorium. A plan for the building of a new school has been started by this great work they have started will be an assured accomplishment.

**M**RS. S. C. FLINT, president of the '95 Mental Culture club of Roseburg, reports much interesting work done by that club the past year. In study they have taken up England in the Bay View course, devoting one meeting to social and three to business each month.

The club has a fine press committee which reports all social affairs with items of general interest from the federation and state clubs. These are published in the "Review" and "Umpqua Valley News."

The past year has been one of unusual interest to the club, as regards civic improvement. With the W. C. T. U. women the club purchased a \$500 fountain for the city and presented it with the appropriate ceremonies last September. It is bronzed and stands 12 feet high; the statue being after Thorwaldson's Hebe. There are drinking places for men, horses and dogs, and it is highly appreciated, particularly by people coming in from the country.

After laboring long and faithfully the club secured from the Southern Pacific a plot of ground near the station. The company had the grade removed, leaving a walk four feet wide through the grounds; they also put in water pipes and will fence it. The club, at an expense of \$25, had it filled with rich earth. Flowers and shrubs that were donated by the members of the club and citizens will be planted. The club has bought for its own use, at an

expense of \$31, a set of "Ready Reference Books."

**I**N reviewing the club year of 1907-1908 a gratifying number of things accomplished by the Sorosis of The Dalles came to view. Says the president:

"Last November we secured the Elson company's exhibit of pictures for schools, and, with the earnest cooperation of the teachers and pupils and our daily newspapers, as well, the exhibit was so well advertised that a sum sufficient to purchase 25 pictures for our public schools was the result. All are beautiful copies of famous masterpieces and especially appropriate for school rooms.

"An afternoon entertainment in which some of our best local talent assisted and an evening's bowling contest, besides a picked team of ladies and gentlemen netted us about \$13 with which to help defray the expense of framing these pictures.

"An afternoon entertainment was also given in March, in which Mr. Tenner of the Boy's and Girls' Aid society of Portland kindly assisted us, which left us with \$14. This entertainment was given in response to a plea from the management of the Florence Crittenden Refuge Home for Girls, and the amount mentioned was turned over to them as a slight help toward paying for their new home.

"The Sorosis ladies were also associated with The Dalles library committee in helping secure the balance needed for the purchase of a site for a Carnegie library, the bids for which are now ready to let.

"We are planning for special work along the line of civics this season, and are now formulating plans with our civic and park committees along that line. To our regular course of study as laid out in our year book, we are adding the course of Oregon History, prepared by Professor Joseph Schafer of Eugene.

"Our membership is making a steady growth, despite the loss we have sustained owing to change of residences, and we are entering this year's work with a union of feeling in our determination to make the most of every chance that will help our club, our homes and our city.

AGNES C. BRADSHAW, President."

**B**Y ITS report the Woman's Club of Union appears to be one of the very few clubs in the state that feels it necessary to incorporate. This has come from the fact that it owns a piece of property upon which it expects in the near future to build a library and clubhouse.

The membership of the club is 29, and is unlimited. England, in the Bay View course, has proved a most pleasant and interesting study of the past year. The club also does much philanthropic work. The annual social day, which occurs in May, is coming to be one of the social events of the town, beside impressing the visitors with the fact that the Woman's club stands for the best and truest womanhood. From the money derived from the rent of its property the club has paid within the last year, besides its federation dues, \$304 on its property; \$25 towards the support of the reading room and library; given \$10 to charity; and \$5 to the scholarship loan fund. The club tries to live up consistently to its club motto: "Burnish thy

mind that therein may be reflected the goodness and wisdom of thy creator."

**T**HE Wednesday club of Newberg reports: "The past year has been pleasantly spent by the Wednesday club in the study of current topics and modern household methods and improvements; but after a lapse of a year we thought best to return to the Bay View reading course again, and this year finds us deep in the reverses of Roman and Greek history."

steadily developed, with prospects of rapid growth.

"On election day the club cleared \$122 by the sale of tags and home made candy, and other sums have been raised in various ways for its use. It is heavily patronized by its members and the public at large.

"This year the club is studying parliamentary law, as a department. A few ago Mrs. Grace Watt Ross came up from Portland and launched the new study."

"MRS. J. C. EDWARDS, President."

which such action is predicted. He is known to be the prince of stand patters and boasts of it. Until very lately he has had no use for any one who spoke of tariff revision even in a whisper. He has gloried in being the bulwark of high protection. There were indications that he proposed to be bawky and if elected speaker he could, under the rules, make a great deal of trouble. When there was talk of choosing some one else to preside in the house of representatives he began to sit up and take notice. Even Mr. Cannon could not oppose the majority of Republican opinion and that of the president and keep his place. Thereupon he began to modify his opinions for publication. He has said that he will not stand in the way of keeping the party's pledges in the matter of tariff revision. On his promise to be good even if reluctantly given he may continue as speaker.

**Cannon May Be Good.**

From the Utica Press.

The generally entertained and frequently expressed opinion is that Mr. Cannon will play the role of obstructionist at the special session of congress called to consider the tariff. He has exhibited a good many symptoms on

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