

Women's Clubs and Their Work

Edited by Mrs. Sarah A. Evans

ONE of the most earnest workers for pure food in the United States is Mrs. C. F. Amidon of Fargo, N. D., who is chairman of the national pure food committee. She is not only initiative in promotion, but is keenly alert to everything that threatens a backward step in food legislation. The following letter tells its own tale and must appeal to every club woman in the state. As Mrs. Amidon says, it is a critical time, and it is the duty of every woman to add her voice to protest against losing any part of the little that has been gained for pure and honest food:

"Dear Madam: There is now more need for work to save the situation than we have yet met. As you know, the matter of honest labels was approved in President Roosevelt's administration by what is known as the Roosevelt-Bonaparte decision. That decision sustained the pure food law, which demands that every article of food which is an imitation, a compound or a blend, shall be so labeled on the package in order that the consumer may know in every instance whether or not he is buying straight goods or is buying an imitation, a blend or a compound. This is a matter of great importance, and particularly so in the adulterated goods. They have united and appealed to President Taft asking him to give out as his opinion that these words, 'compound, blend and imitation' need not be used on certain articles of food which are not straight goods. If President Taft gives this opinion, it will be impossible to get the United States attorneys to prosecute cases in which food concerns have failed to so label their imitation or blended or compounded goods, and the whole pure food law becomes a dead letter as to labels. The issue has been brought by the whiskey men who have requested that a compound or neutral spirits, water, coloring matter and flavoring may be allowed to pass under the name of whiskey. The money and influence of the whole combination of food adulterators is behind them. They have tremendous influence in all quarters in Washington, and will surely win their point unless stopped by a storm of public sentiment. I am asking every chairman of food sanitation in the United States to send a message to the president, petitioning that the Roosevelt-Bonaparte decision be allowed to stand, and stating that if it is reversed, the pure food law is thereby killed. Will you send such a message, and also if you will write a personal letter to the president, and will you also get other messages sent by prominent people in your state, whose names would have influence? Will you also

ask that a message to the president be sent from every club in the state, requesting that the Roosevelt-Bonaparte decision be allowed to stand? I ask you to send a message, in preference to a letter, because I am told that some of the clerical force through whose hands the president's mail passes are favorable to the enemy, and if a letter falls into the wrong hands, it is likely never to reach the president.

"Attorney General Bowers, to whom the president referred for an opinion, has already given his opinion to the president. It is not a good opinion for pure food. The president is withholding his decision until he knows public sentiment. Please do your work quickly, or it will be of no use, and do everything in your power. We have no such opportunity to serve our generation in a public way as this. Very sincerely,

"BEULAH M. AMIDON, Chairman."

EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT: Being from the country and only knowing of things and the working of modern inventions and reforms as I read of them in the paper, I have had a mighty good opinion of the juvenile court and the way boys are being—or supposed to be—handled and made honorable and respectable citizens through this agency, but I must say I got a mighty hard jar to my good opinion of juvenile courts, prisoners' aids, women's clubs, juvenile improvement societies and all the other paraphernalia for reforming youth, when I was in Portland attending the Rose Festival. It came about this way. I was going down on the Fifth street car to meet a friend at the depot, somewhere about 7 in the morning. The sun was shining so bright and strong it made me glad to be alive. The car was full of people ready to begin the day's fun; everybody was wearing a rose and everybody had a bunch in their hands carrying to somebody else, or to put on a desk to shed their sweetness and fragrance about them all day. The pretty and gay, and the men looked prosperous and happy; everybody was in holiday spirits, laughing and joking whether they knew each other or not. Indeed it was the gladdest, happiest crowd I ever saw. At Salmon street the car was delayed a moment, and the joke went around about having to wait on the "slowpoke" and naturally all eyes were turned to the door to see who the delinquent might be, when alas, a slight mist met our eyes that froze the joke on every lip and choked the laugh in every throat, for in came two boys, not over 15 years of age apparently, handcuffed together, part back of them a great burly sheriff in

charge. Perhaps these children were desperate, but under the one free arm, one of the boys carried a musical instrument and there was certainly that much that was good and refined still left in him. But how long will any good be left in either of them after such a hardening experience as just that one ride to the depot, to say nothing of the remainder of the trip to the reform school? Was it necessary to handcuff boys of that age? If it was, it was the city of Portland and no inhuman that it could not have sent those boys to the depot in a motor car, better even than the patrol wagon wholly for their own good, and not for the car full of passengers whose sun for that day had a black shadow across it. I wondered if Judge Lindsey, of whom I have read so much, sends his boys to the reform school handcuffed together, and makes them ride through the streets of Denver in that condition.

I wondered if this was juvenile reform, and I wondered why women talked so much and did so little to prevent incorrigible boys from becoming hardened criminals for never again could these two boys have the same respect for themselves, and when self-respect departs, crime enters. These are the things that should appeal to women, for they do not to men. Why, this great strong deputy even looked at his official position, for the handcuffed boys were a badge of political preference, else why the necessity? He was surely large and strong enough to manage two such kids without the iron.

"Well," said I, "if all these women's organizations can help poor children from being made criminals, what are they for?" I'm beginning to think a little less law and organization and a little more humanity is what we're wanting for the bringing up of children.

RUTH W. JOY.

A PART PRESIDENT'S LUNCH seems to be an established feature of the Portland Woman's club, and the third annual affair took place last week at the beautiful new home of the retiring president, Mrs. Robert Lutke, at Twenty-fourth and Pettygrove streets.

There were present: Mrs. A. S. Dunaway, Mrs. Julia Constock, Mrs. Grace Watt Ross, Mrs. P. J. Mann, Mrs. Levi Young, Mrs. Frederick Egert, Mrs. Julia Marquand, Mrs. W. Johnson, Mrs. Sarah A. Evans and Mrs. G. M. Gilnes, the president elect, and the hostess. But two of the past presidents were absent, Mrs. Bryman and Mrs. Rockwell. The seven course lunch was delicious and beautifully served and at the close each president was called upon for some word of greeting to the incoming president. The table decorations were great stands of pink roses at each end of the table with a center piece of white roses. The drawing room decorations were large bowls of "Jacks," which set off to perfection the exquisite tones of the rich mahogany wood-work of the room. Mrs. Lutke is a hospitable hostess and after some beautiful piano music by her niece, who is visiting her from Chicago, the guests scattered, hoping that another year would bring them all together again.

AMERICAN justice is fearfully and wonderfully made. Here is an exhibit: In a recent famous murder trial, in order to get "twelve intelligent men" it was necessary to impel four men that could neither read or write, one that had not read the newspapers for 10 years, and seven who had not read them recently enough to be apprised of the murder of this ex-senator, with which the whole country was ringing. All this to get men who had not formed an opinion. This is surely the relic of a by gone age, but a trial by jury when jurors must not have formed an opinion, or be in possession of the facts when the duty of a man full of innocent. Referring to this case an exchange says: "Are these 12 jurymen possessed of sufficient life experience and comprehension to be entrusted with a case involving all the intricacies of social, civic and political life? Are they peers of living men or relics of human vegetation?" It would be hard to find any ordinary venire of women, any part of our land, out of which would be found four who could not read or write, or eight a wholly ignorant of current news, and yet the fear of jury duty for women has been the stock "hokey-hokey" the "anties" have had to conjure with.

FIRST to greet the officers and delegates to the National Equal Suffrage convention that will be held in Seattle July 1-7, inclusive, will be the Spokane suffragists, who have planned a most elaborate reception for them. The city, with all its beauties and attractions, will be shown the visitors by automobile, drive, several private receptions are booked with perhaps a public meeting or two, but the crowning event will be the reception and banquet in the Hall of the Davenport, Monday, June 28, at 2:30 p. m. The invitation reads: "The Spokane Equal Suffrage club and the Spokane chamber of commerce request the honor of your presence at the reception and banquet given to the officers and delegates of the National Woman's Equal Suffrage association, Mrs. La Reine Baker, Washington state delegate to the International Woman's Suffrage convention in London, and the members of the state legislature who voted in favor of their wives' suffrage amendment, with their wives, Monday, June 28, 1909, 2:30 p. m."

The editor of this department acknowledges with thanks an invitation, with an accompanying complimentary ticket to the banquet.

The seat at the head of the table will be occupied by the two most distinguished guests, Miss Anna H. Shaw and Mrs. A. S. Dunaway, will be seated on either side of her.

IN LESS than two weeks the Chautauqua gates will be again thrown open to Gladstone park and the Williams Valley Chautauqua will offer to its thousands of patrons one of the best programs ever presented. And more the women's organizations of Portland and vicinity are becoming interested in and identified with the Chautauqua. Among those who will be on the grounds this year is the Young Women's Christian Association, Oregon Federation of Women's Clubs and the Woman's Christian Temperance union.

The state federation will confine itself largely this year to the social side of the work. It is a great disappointment that serious sickness prevented Mrs. John Sherman, who was to give a series of parliamentary laws from being present. It was hoped until the last that she would be able to come, but a telegram from Mr. Sherman states that she is still unable to travel. It was then too late to make satisfactory arrangements for another lecturer, and the committee determined to devote the energies to making the federation headquarters an attractive social center. It will be comfortably furnished, and not only clubwomen, but all women visiting Chautauqua are invited to make use of it.

On the 13th, Woman's day, Mrs. Charlotte Perkins Gilman will give her famous lecture on "Woman's Place in Civilization." At the close of the lecture reception will be tendered Mrs. Gilman at federation headquarters. The Chautauqua management are particularly anxious that the first day, July 6, should be a record breaker in attendance. In making it so much depends upon the interest the women take in it, and what is still more certain is that more women would be interested if they knew the beauties and advantages of an outing in this fine park. Camping is just as private and far more comfortable than a trip to the mountains, besides being much more economical. It has the further advantage of being an ideal place for children. The sanitary conditions

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WARD ALLEN, VIOLINIST, WILL BE PRESENTED HERE WEDNESDAY



Ward Allen, Violinist.

William Wallace Graham will present an interesting pupil in recital next Wednesday evening, when Ward Allen will play a program at the First Presbyterian church. Those who have already heard the talented boy will know what to expect, for he is an exceptionally talented musician, who plays with surprising maturity. Maud Powell on her visit here last fall heard him play and complimented him most highly and insisted that he continue in his work. He is a clever musician with an attractive personality.

Assisting on the program will be Arthur von Jessen, concert pianist, a former pupil of Franz von Liszt, who expects to make his home in Portland, and Mrs. Pauline Miller Chapman, mezzo soprano. Each will appear in one number. Mrs. Chapman's work is already favorably known here, as she has been heard occasionally in public. Mr. von

Jessen will be heard in Portland for the first time and his appearance is looked forward to with a great deal of interest.

The following women will act as patronesses: Mrs. S. L. Elliot, Mrs. U. S. Nichols, Mrs. Louise Farley, Mrs. J. M. Underwood, Mrs. W. F. Greer, Mrs. A. E. Rockey, Miss Emilie Frances Bauer, Mrs. A. Feldenhelm, Mrs. D. W. Ross, and Mrs. E. M. Hall.

The following program will be given: "Romanza," op. 42, (Max Bruch), Ward Allen; sonata, op. 38, B flat minor, (Chopin), Grau; Scherzo, marcia funebre, finale, presto, Arthur von Jessen; concerto, op. 2, D minor, (L. Spohr), allegro moderato, adagio, alla polacca, Ward Allen; Desdemona aria, from opera "Otello," (Rossini), scene with Emilia and prayer before Desdemona's tragic death, Pauline Miller Chapman; Scherzo, "Tarantelle," op. 16, (Wienawski), Ward Allen.

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have been improved until they are ideal, and children can roam unmolested all day while mothers attend the classes and lectures. Stores being on the ground where all kinds of provisions can be bought does away with the necessity for taking large supplies of provisions, and in every other respect, camping on the ground is made easy and comfortable. Many clubwomen have signified their intention to go on the trip, and it is hoped many more will before the season opens.

MRS. L. B. BISHOP of the Chicago Beach hotel has offered a prize of \$100 for the best words for a woman suffrage song to be sung to the tune of "The Battle Hymn of the Republic." The competition is open to both men and women, and is international.

London Tries Motor Fire Engines.
From the London Times.
The equipment of the London fire brigade was last week augmented by two motor appliances, each comprising a petrol motor escape van and combined "first aid" fire engine. These machines, which are driven by a 65 horsepower four cylinder motor, can travel at a speed of 25 miles an hour on the level with a full load and can negotiate any hill in the London district. They were officially tested during the beginning of March. The roads were covered for some inches with snow, which severely disorganized the horse traffic, but no difficulties were experienced by the rubber tired motors. The tests were quite satisfactory, the speed being well maintained in spite of the adverse conditions.

Defective School Education.
From the Des Moines Capital.
We repeat what we have so frequently said, that the great defect in present day educational methods is the failure to emphasize fundamentals. Our schools are partaking of the ruse spirit which dominates everything. The pupils are crammed with facts and specialties and essentials are neglected. We know high school pupils right here in Des Moines who say "have saw" so frequently that we would be disposed to

present them with a standard text book on grammar if it were not for wounding their pride.
The day is coming when the modern

school curriculum will receive the pruning knife clear to the hilt, and when there will be a revival of appreciation for some of the old fashioned methods which, while possibly crude, nevertheless developed men and women who could read and write and spell and speak.

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