

inct from the various study classes which are carried on under the auspices of the departments. There is a general meeting of the club every two weeks, and the club, again, has its program for the year. One must not think, however, that the members are clubbed to death, with many meetings and much study. No one member of the club takes a part in every line of the club work. But among 800 members there are many minds and many tastes, and the club offers something to interest all. Aside from the passion for self-improvement and intellectual culture, which consumes the women of Colorado no less than their club sisters elsewhere, the old, old work of women which they have carried on since first they emerged from the harem—philanthropy and charity have a centre in the Woman's club of Denver. Let me tell you some of the things the club has done quite recently.

The club voted \$75 to "Parson Tom" Uzzell to give his annual Christmas dinner to the poor children of Denver. Then 100 members of the club went down to help him serve the dinner to the hundreds of children. This is an annual function of the club. The club issued the Christmas edition of the *Rocky Mountain News*, considered by competent authorities to be the best publication of the kind ever issued by women, and due much more largely to the efforts of women alone than any other daily paper ever published. It represents creditably the intellect and talent of the women of Denver. Its pages are illustrated with drawings from the pencils of her women artists, and sketches, stories, book reviews, reports of news, editorials, and wit and wisdom in various forms, from the pens of members of the Women's club. The cartoon was drawn by a club member, Miss Ida de Steigauer, the first cartoon by a woman ever printed in a Colorado paper. The club did not have the proceeds of all the advertising in the paper, but only that portion obtained by themselves. They will make, however, about \$1,000 from the venture. This will be applied to the placing of works of art in the public schools of Denver, copies of the world's masterpieces in painting and sculpture, cast and pottery. Thousands of the children of Denver who otherwise would never know the ennobling touch of art will feel it through the Christmas present of the Woman's club.

Last summer the Home department of the club gave "As You Like It" out of doors, in a miniature forest of Arden. They made some \$500, which is being used this year to conduct a school of domestic science, under the direction of a Pratt institute graduate. This school has classes both of society maids and matrons, and of working girls, and has become largely self-supporting. The Home department had a doll-dressing day just before Christmas, and dressed enough dolls to supply every girl in the charitable institutions of Denver, besides making picture books for the boys.

These are only a few of the things the Woman's club does, but I fear my report is already *ad nauseam*. Let me say that a warm western welcome awaits every visitor to the biennial next June. It will be the greatest biennial of the General Federation yet held, and, especially, the greatest gathering of western club women. Every day letters come to us telling of the special interest taken in the Denver biennial by western club women, who have never before been able to attend a biennial. We hear that the club women of Kansas are coming almost en masse. We hope that Nebraska also, the home of the man for whom most of us voted for president in '96, will send us a big delegation.

The Woman's club of Denver, as the chief hostess of the occasion, will keep open house all the week. Its club rooms will be open, with easy chairs and couches, flowers, books and convenien-

ces, ices and cool drinks, and committees in attendance. There the club woman from Maine may sit and rest and talk over her club with the woman from California, and this pleasant personal intercourse will help to weave the ties that bind the great sisterhood of the G. F. W. C.

I send you, according to your request, the picture of Mrs. Sarah S. Platt, the president of the Woman's club of Denver. She has been its first and only president, and in her magnificent personality may be found the inspiration for large measures of the success which has attended the progress of the club.—Minnie J. Reynolds, Chairman Local Biennial Press Committee.

[As soon as the plates are received from the engraver Mrs. Platt's portrait, and Mrs. Lehr's, president and secretary of the P. W. C., will be printed in THE COURIER.—Editor.]

The following notes on Nebraska clubs from the pen of Mrs. D. C. McKillip of Seward, appear in the *Midland Monthly* for January:

"Club organization is still progressing in Nebraska. The town of Syracuse has invited the President of the State Federation, Mrs. Belle M. Stoutenborough, to assist in starting a club of twenty members. The city of Aurora has also a new club of young girls. The History and Art Club of Seward has just closed an art loan exhibit and chrysanthemum fair. The proceeds will be divided between the public library and public schools. The club intends to place a reproduction of some work of art in each school room in the city. All over the state the clubs are working to beautify the public school rooms, and many school boards are willing to do anything in their power to further art in the schools. When they find it is about as cheap to have dainty tinted walls of pale green, cream, shell pink or blue as having white, and that a harmonizing color in paint and shades makes an artistic combination of tone with no more outlay than would be expended in discordant decorations, the clubs have met with hearty co-operation from the school boards. Mrs. Stoutenborough has a club of boys in her own town of Plattsmouth, between the ages of 12 and 15, that study history and boys' literature. She has set an example that every club in the state should follow."

An excellent article upon "Fostering Public Libraries" by Mrs. Kate M. True, a prominent club woman of Tecumseh, appears in the current number of the *Midland Monthly*. The history of the public library movement is briefly traced from the time in 1731 when Benjamin Franklin "proposed to his club of young men that each should bring his books to the club room and make them common property," through the period when libraries depended entirely upon private subscriptions, to the present time when supported by municipal authority and public taxation. Club women are urged to take greater interest in the libraries of their own towns, serving on the library board, when necessary, for they are the ones deriving the greatest benefits. The majority of the clubs depend largely upon the public libraries for their books of reference, and few papers could be written without the use of the books drawn from its shelves. If this be true in the cities, the incalculable value of the traveling library to the rural districts can be imagined.

The educational exhibit which will be made by the schools of Nebraska at the Trans-Mississippi exposition to be held in Omaha from June 1st to November 1st, 1898, promises to be one of the leading features of that great exposition.

Teachers and school officers should bear in mind that application for space must be direct to the state superintendent of public instruction before the 1st day of February 1898, as space will be apportioned to the several schools whose

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applications are on file at that time.

Fill out the blank application sent you by your county superintendent, or make application as per the form below, and mail it to the state superintendent at your earliest convenience. The county superintendent, who is *county manager*, will, from time to time, furnish teachers with such blanks and information as will enable them to proceed with the work of preparing the exhibit.

School boards are earnestly requested to lend their support to the undertaking and thereby encourage the pupils of the public schools to put forth their best efforts.

FORM OF APPLICATION.

SUPT. W. R. JACKSON, Lincoln, Neb.:

DEAR SIR—You are hereby notified that School District No. . . . of . . . County, Nebraska, with the permission of the School Board, applies for free space for an educational exhibit at the Trans-Mississippi and Inter-National Exposition.

The applicant agrees to see that an exhibit is prepared and sent to the county superintendent of schools, not later than April 1st, 1898.

The number of teachers employed in school is

Name of applicant

Official position

Post office address

Dated this day of 1898.

The Cozy Club of Tecumseh is now in its fifth year and interest in the club work is constantly increasing. The attendance is regular, nine-tenths of the members having attended every meeting this year. It is a hard study club and has never allowed written work to take place of live discussion of the lessons. To this fact, no doubt, is due the continued interest and enthusiasm of the members. The year's program opened with the critical study of "Julius Caesar" using Prof. Sherman's questions. The last six weeks have been given to Child Study. This course opened with a lecture by Mrs. Heller, to which the club threw open the doors and invited the public. As aids in this study we have a number of volumes from the Federation Library and a Child Study Magazine. We will continue this line of work six weeks longer, and then return to Shakespeare.

The Cozy Club always closes its afternoon with a "social hour" and light refreshments. Being a limited club of seventeen members this can easily be done.

The Century Club held its regular meeting Tuesday afternoon at the home of Mrs. Howell. Roll call was responded to by quotations from Dante. Mrs. Hartley read an interesting paper on the Medicis and Mrs. Kirker talked of Savonarola. The principal paper of the afternoon was upon "Florence," by Mrs. M. H. Garten. It was carefully prepared and full of interest. The club will meet in two weeks with Mrs. Winger.

The Old Settlers of Lancaster County met in Delian hall at the University on Tuesday afternoon. The paper most enjoyed was one by Miss Ellen Smith which related the history of the various

university administrations and contrasted the present number of students and professors with the little band of teachers and taught which greeted her when she arrived.

By next April Miss Smith will have served twenty-one years in the university. She has worked under four chancellors and two acting chancellors. She has been associated with every teacher except three. There were here before her time. She has seen seventeen classes enter, finish their work and graduate. Until five or six years ago she was personally acquainted with every student, but the number is now so great that she can no longer know all. After reminiscences by Prof. Caldwell, Ex. Gov. Thayer, Dr. Latta, S. J. McCaughey, E. T. Roberts, H. W. Hardy, Thomas Malloy and Henry Veith, at six o'clock the three or four hundred people were served by Miss Josephine Lottridge, Miss Slaughter and other young ladies to coffee, sandwiches, oysters and cake. The lunch tables were presided over by Mrs. Roberts, Mrs. Hunfer and Mrs. Kern, and the young ladies were assisted by Mr. E. E. Gillespie. At eight Mr. H. H. Wilson was elected toastmaster and he called upon Mr. Harwood, Mrs. Charles Smith and Mr. Hardy to reply to toasts of Auld Lang Syne. Mrs. Smith said in reply to The Trials of a Housekeeper in the Early Days; that her husband built a house near the locality of East Lincoln. Then he went east to get married and brought his bride to her prairie home in a mover's wagon drawn by oxen. In this way they crossed Iowa and arrived at the Nebraska homestead only to find that someone had stolen the windows and doors from their sodhouse. Nebraska City was the nearest point where lumber might be procured and the young couple, who arrived in May, lived through the summer without windows and doors quite comfortably except for a day when a violent rainstorm fell and almost filled the little house with water. Ground squirrels had bored through the roof and sides of the house and the rain poured through the holes. The mistress climbed up on the high bed where her husband followed her when he came in.

[Continued on Page 8.]

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