

CLUBS.

ANNIE L. MILLER, EDITOR.

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All visitors and delegates to the Denver Biennial are requested to meet in Courier hall on Thursday morning, June 16, at 9 o'clock, to arrange for the trip and various matters of business.

The Women's club congress is to be held in Omaha June 18 and 19, just prior to the Denver Biennial. These should be red letter days for all the club women in Nebraska, as the occasion is to be a grand rally for clubs. At least 1,000 women are expected. So great is the interest and so assuring the prospect for a large attendance that the Thomas orchestra will give the club women a complimentary concert Saturday afternoon. Railroad rates will be reduced in proportion to the number who go. The delegation enroute for Denver from New England, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Chicago, St. Louis, St. Paul and Minneapolis are planning to reach Omaha Saturday morning. The local committee, of which Mrs. Z. T. Lindsey, of Omaha, is chairman, has planned a visit to the exposition grounds during the forenoon, lunch in the girls' and boys' building, an afternoon program in the auditorium, an evening program with a reception at the Congregational church, and addresses Sunday afternoon at the church by Coelia Parker Woolley, Charlotte Bartlett Crane and Jane Addams or Mrs. Stevens of Hull House.

This congress will give opportunity to those who cannot go to Denver to hear addresses from some of the most prominent women of the general federation and to meet them socially, while those who are en route to Denver will gain the added pleasure of the extra sessions, also a visit to the exposition.

The annual meeting of the Woman's club of Nebraska City was held, as usual, on the last Saturday in May. If the attendance upon that occasion is a criterion of membership for the coming year, the club will be smaller than in the year past, though still large enough for good work.

Eighteen answered to roll call, but a number who renewed their membership were absent, so the total number to be counted upon is about twenty-five.

The utmost harmony prevailed and after several ballots for president the following officers were elected:

President—Mrs. J. C. Watson.
 First vice president, Mrs. T. Ryan.
 Second vice-president—Mrs. E. Zook.
 Recording Secretary—Miss Jean Morton.
 Corresponding Secretary—Mrs. David Brown.
 Delegates to State Federation—Mrs. Watson and Mrs. Lash.

A motion to reduce the initiation and current fee from \$2 to \$1.50 was lost.

After some discussion as to plans for study for another year, the newly elected president, Mrs. Watson appointed a meeting for Saturday, June 11, at her home at which time definite arrangements would be made for carrying on the work.

The leaders of the department in

Household Economics, Current Topics, Art and Parliamentary Practice were present and responded to the call for reports, verbally. One would like to insist right here on the business end of club work being kept up in business fashion. Much valuable data is lost by a hastily prepared verbal account of what is often times really valuable to those working along the same lines of ones own club elsewhere. Reports, if condensed, yet comprehensive, touching on the real work of the year, its failures and successes, the knowledge gained through experiences or the lack of it, are the real gist of club history and make interesting and profitable reading. These documents tell infinitely more of practical value to those seeking to wear aright the harness of co-operative fellowship in club work, than do the minutes of the general meeting, which are kept so exactly and with such infinite care. These, valuable as they are, have to do with the mechanism of club organization, the letter of accomplishment, but from the minutes of each department secretary the leader should compile a report that would indicate the true spirit of club progress and upon which the success or failure of another year could be calculated with unerring accuracy.

The retiring officers are to be commended for their faithful and efficient service. Stereotyped as the phrase is it will be understood by those familiar with the work as highest praise. The re election of any or all of them would have been hailed by the members as a special stroke of good fortune, but the officers, believing that rotation in office and a sharing of responsibility are indispensable to the promotion of that democracy of spirit so vital to the success of any club, declined the honor, thankful to rest from their labors and glad to know their successors were so well qualified for the duties awaiting them. The writer of this report is the only corresponding secretary the Woman's club of Nebraska city has known, having held the position since its organization three years ago. It sometimes seemed as if the office belonged to her, there were moments when her sense of the official position was lost in the keen personal interest she felt in promoting and conserving club interests as best she might through the medium of the office. The club in the meantime learned forbearance in a marked degree as well as many other of the Christian graces which are supposed to wait on patience. It is prepared to appreciate the work of a woman so well qualified for the position as Mrs. David Brown.

The desire to study the history of art in Columbus, Nebr., was so strong as to induce the forming of an additional department in the Woman's club.

The benefits to be derived from the broadening of one's knowledge on this subject was realized by fourteen persons who signed the roll of membership, and to a greater or less extent pursued the study and attended the meetings of this department. The first meeting was held

with Mrs. C. A. Brindley, November 20, 1897. We organized and selected histories of art from the Federation Library, and sent for them at once. We also carried out a program on Egyptian art, which consisted of a paper by Miss Watkins on Egyptian Architecture and a paper by Mrs. Brindley on painting and sculpture by the Egyptians. The intention on the part of both writers was to give a condensed account of art as it existed in the cradle of civilization.

The next meeting was with Mrs. C. C. Gray. A paper was read by Miss Becker, taking us a step further in the history of the building and decorative art of this period. An article was read on "How to Study the Fine Arts," by Mrs. Brindley.

The third meeting was held with Mrs. Herrick. Art notes were given in response to roll call. A paper on Babylonian art, was read by Miss Lynch. This dwelt on the beauty of the hanging gardens and gave also a sketch of the painting and sculpture as it existed in this period. Mrs. A. C. Ballou discoursed on Greek Architecture, giving the history of architecture from the rude hut or cave up to the time of the temples of the Greeks, with their magnificent columns of polished marble.

The Greek ideas were contrasted with Gothic and other styles which followed.

Greek Sculpture was discussed by Miss Sheldon. The beauty and grace of the Greek statues was well described, Sheldon illustrated her discourse with fifty photographs of Greek art, secured from the art department of Omaha. A paper on Greek painting was read by

Miss Martha Turner. Miss Turner dealt with coloring as only an artist can. The February meeting was held with the Misses Turner. Art notes were given in response to roll call. Mrs. C. C. Gray read an article on the Italian Old Masters and dwelt particularly on Titian and the beauty of his paintings. A paper on Roman Architecture was read by Mrs. Herrick in which she described the Roman baths and forum. She gave the points in which the Roman buildings differed from others. Mrs. F. C. Rorer read a paper on Roman painting and sculpture, showing to what extent the Romans borrowed from the Greeks. She compared the practical ideas of the Romans with the lofty ideas of the Greeks, and took us one step further in the history of art. This paper was illustrated by a folio of photographs of Roman art. Mrs. A. M. Covert read from an art magazine "How to make a plaster cast." Miss Turner displayed castes made by herself of the hands of members of her own family.

Miss Sheldon acted as hostess and leader of the March meeting. Pretty souvenirs in the shape of palettes bearing art notes and decorated with club colors, were distributed and read. A paper, "The Influence of Art on the Home and School," was read by Mrs. Britell. The refining influence of a cheap copy of a masterpiece; the inspiration to persistent effort which is received from pictures of great men; the culture instilled by artistic environments; all were discussed in a skillful and forceful manner. Miss Becker read a paper on "Painters behind the

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