

grain at its face value. When the peasants have received their money they have the satisfaction of holding it in their hands for only a little while. They return it in the form of taxes to the state and repeat the same operation year after year. The paper money which is returned to the state is burned in the court yard of the bank of the state at St. Petersburg. The agricultural class in Russia constitutes 82 per cent of the entire population, which numbers over sixty-two million souls. Therefore the financial system so unjust to the moujik is oppressive to the entire nation.

Lincoln, Nebr., Dec. 8.

EDITOR COURIER:

We are informed that you have been told that the Board of Directors of the Union Commercial club had taken action favorable to the candidacy of Mr. D. E. Thompson for United States senator.

We wish to state there is no foundation for the rumor whatever, as all discussions of a political nature are prohibited at our board meetings and the matter has never been brought up at any board meeting.

Very truly yours,

C. H. RUDGE,
President.
J. C. HARPHAM,
Member of Board.

The serpent has reared his hideous head.
And because it is hooded with gold;
They'll fondle and pet the accursed thing
Till it fastens its venomous hold.

And the serpent will tighten his slimy coils,
Will blast with his poison breath,
And the foolhardy dupes in his gripping toils
He will throttle and grind to death.
—William Reed Dunroy.

CLUBS.

[LOUISA L. RICKETTS, EDITOR.]

Following are the officers of the General Federation of Women's clubs:

President—Mrs. Rebecca D. Lowe, Atlanta, Ga.

Vice President—Mrs. Sarah S. Platt, Denver, Colo.

Recording Secretary—Mrs. Emma A. Fox, Detroit, Mich.

Corresponding Secretary—Mrs. George W. Kendrick, Philadelphia, Pa.

Treasurer, Mrs. Phillip N. Moore, St. Louis, Mo.

Auditor—Mrs. C. P. Barnes, Louisville, Ky.

State Chairman—Mrs. Louisa L. Ricketts, Lincoln, Nebr.

Officers of the State Federation of Women's clubs:

President—Mrs. S. C. Langworthy, Seward.

Vice President—Mrs. Anna L. Apperson, Tecumseh.

Recording Secretary—Mrs. F. H. Sackett, Weeping Water.

Corresponding Secretary—Mrs. D. G. McKillip, Seward.

Treasurer—Mrs. C. W. Doane, Crete.

Librarian—Mrs. G. M. Lambertson, Lincoln.

The open program of the Woman's club at the last meeting was under the auspices of the child study department. The interest in the department was shown by the large audience in attendance who were highly entertained by a varied and demonstrated program. We are all only children a little larger grown and an object lesson appeals to the sympathies and interest as a bare statement of facts cannot, so the very instructive papers were illustrated by the children themselves, who entered into the spirit of the occasion with that utter lack of self consciousness which so often mars the appearance of older children. The program was opened by Miss Oakley, who sang two charming songs. Mrs. Mary E. Hart then read a paper on "The Physical Child, Its Influence on Character." Mrs. Hart showed a familiarity with the principles underlying this subject, which can only be obtained by careful thoughtful study. Mr. A. A. Scott then sang a solo, "Goodnight," in a sweet, clear tenor, for which he received a hearty encore. A group of kindergarten children from Ninth and Z streets were then marched upon the stage to the sound of music and sang their little songs. Especial interest was attached to these little tots, as they came from the northwest district of the city, where dwell the foreigners who do not speak English, and all that the little ones know of it they have learned in the American schools.

The next paper, by Miss Gallagher, was on "Creation of Ideals in Character Building," in which she showed the importance of cultivating in the boys and girls of today high ideals, as through them character may be elevated. One of the most interesting exercises of the afternoon was given by Mason Wheeler, only twelve years of age, who had brought his beautiful battleship which he had modelled from diagrams given in the Scientific American. His subject was listed on the program as "A Battleship and Its Accoutrements," and in a pleasant and clear off-hand way he told about its different parts and their purposes. We wish to commend this youthful orator for talking without notes. The last paper for the afternoon on "Will Power and Its Development" was given by Miss Mary L. Fessler, in which she claimed that character and morality are directly dependent upon will power.

The next public meeting will be a musicale arranged by Miss Risser and a general reception will be tendered the members of the Woman's club at New Year's time.



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A pleasant event of last week to the club women of Plattsmouth was the meeting of the current literature and current topic department led by Mrs. Fellows and Mrs. Davis. Both ladies have a happy faculty of holding the attention and arousing the active interest of the members of their department's and Friday evening's program was exceptionally interesting. Some good music, vocal and instrumental, by Misses Fletcher and Hasec, and a fine recitation by Miss Mauzy, tended to lighten the program, which is sometimes inclined to heaviness owing to the character of the subjects discussed. It seems to me as a general thing the average woman's club is too ambitious, their flights are too lofty, they soar and soar, and instead of the club being a rest and recreation to the tired woman, she is obliged to maintain a feverish activity to keep pace and in touch with the subjects under discussion. Friday evening's session was very informal. Mrs. Fellows spoke of Hall Caine's visit to America and his outspoken sentiments that "American women had a rattling good time," read some extracts and gave a little talk on current literature. Mrs. Wise reviewed, by request, the book "In His Steps" and gave her views as to the feasibility of making the motto "What Would Jesus Do" the question and guide in all emergencies and important events that arise in ones life. Mrs. Stoutenborough spoke a short time on her recent visit to Kansas and Missouri and spoke in high terms of the men of Missouri who stood behind the women's clubs ready always to give their assistance when needed. It is fortunate the women of Nebraska are able to stand alone. We never heard of any men offering Nebraska clubs assistance with money or in any other way. Perhaps they are rendering silent homage, however, and we will remember that "comparisons are odious." I keep wandering from my subject and my report is getting lengthy but I must not omit the excellent parliamentary drill of Mrs. Davis and the fact that not one member of the club could answer the question "What is the number of the present congress." We were obliged to make the humiliating confession that we would have to ask a man. Mrs. Davis inaugurated a mass meeting, but owing to the late hour it was carried over for another meeting and the ladies were

asked to sharpen their wits in anticipation. Dr. Freda Lankton will speak on "Heredity" at the next club meeting at which the child study department will furnish the program.

On Dec. 5 the York Amateur Musical club met at the usual time and place. Nearly every member was present and an instructive and interesting program was rendered. Owing to the storm two weeks ago, the program to have been given on that day was given in part yesterday. The program in full was as follows:

PART I.

Biography of Beethoven—Miss Carscadden.
Paper—"The Sonata," Miss Allen.
Illustrations—Allegretto and Presto op. 27, Beethoven, Miss Roberts.
Rondo op. 49, No. 1, Beethoven, Edith Lang.
Adagio and Allegro, from the sonata Pathetique, Beethoven, Mrs. Sedgwick.
First movement concerto, Beethoven, Miss Cobb.
Orchestral parts on second piano, Mrs. Sedgwick.

PART II.

Hearst Thou, Mattei, Mrs. Parks.
Barcarolle, violin duet, Cahn, Era France, Martha Dayton.
Sing On, Deuza, Mrs. Ida Woods, a.
Twilight, trio, Abt. b. Summer Days, trio, Abt. Mrs. Belle, Mrs. Campbell, Mrs. Parks.
Nocturne, (two pianos, 4 hands), Mendelssohn, Markel; Misses Carscadden and Allen.
Still as Night; Thy Blue Eyes, Bohm; Miss Allen.
Waltz song, Ardite, Mrs. Julia Bell.

The history and Art club of Seward met on November 26 with Mrs. R. S. Norval, in conjunction with the Eugene Field club. This latter club is a new organization having for its members, sons and daughters of History and Art mothers and is very exclusive. After the necessary preliminaries of opening

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