

CLUBS.

[LOUISA L. RICKETS.]

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. Sackott, Weeping Water.

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

Treasurer—Mrs. C. W. Doane, Crete.

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

The State Teachers' association which has been in session in Lincoln during the past week was one of the greatest educational gatherings ever held in the state. Important places on the program were given to representatives from the State Federation, thus bringing women's clubs at once in touch with the greatest educational force in our state, and giving them a chance to co-operate with an organized effort for strengthening and broadening the public schools. The general sessions of the association were held at the Oliver theatre, president J. F. Saylor of Lincoln delivering the annual address. Hagenow's Philharmonic orchestra furnished the music for the week, giving one of its delightful concerts Tuesday evening. Wednesday evening the distinguished Jewish rabbi of Chicago, Dr. Emil G. Hirsch, delivered his great lecture on "The Teacher and the Patriot," while on Thursday evening Dr. A. F. Nightengale, superintendent of Chicago's fourteen high schools, delighted an immense audience with personal recollections of Wendell Phillips. The regular program for the week contained so many different departments and sections that it was bewildering. These different departments are a natural evolution of the old time teachers' association, which used to meet as one body and listen to papers read and discussed before the whole association, but like the woman's club, this association has been divided into different departments for conference on special lines of teaching, these conferences being held during the day, several of them in session simultaneously at different places. These sections, as a whole, meet at the theatre in the evenings to listen to some enjoyable concert or lecture. The presence of so many auxiliary societies is premeditated, there being many advantages in having them all meet in the same city at the same time. There were twelve auxiliary meetings Tuesday afternoon, viz: Association of Women's Clubs; W. C. T. U. conference; Chataqua association; Nebraska Library association; Nebraska Teachers of Science; Nebraska Teachers of Mathematics; Nebraska Teachers of History; Nebraska Teachers of Literature; County Superintendent's Round Table; Nebraska Teachers of Latin; Kindergarten association, and Kindergarten association. Many valuable papers were given by distinguished people from outside the state; also by our own

people. We hope to be permitted to print some of them for the benefit of the readers of these columns. The first general session of the association proper was held Wednesday morning at the Oliver theatre. The afternoon was occupied in departmental work, seven sections holding meetings at the same time at different places.

Wednesday evening and Thursday morning were given over to general sessions and on Thursday afternoon the departments were in session again. The weeks program was rich and varied. It was a great treat as well as an untold benefit to those who were able to be present, but more than all is its true significance to the state. The entire educational forces of the state of Nebraska working together as a harmonious whole, must give a wonderful impetus to the educational interests of the state. Federation is in the air, in unity there is strength, and there is unity in diversity. This gathering of the educational classes under the name of the State Teachers' association is in reality a federation of the educational forces of the state.

The North Bend Woman's club met in regular session Saturday, December 17th. The meeting was opened by an instrumental solo rendered in a pleasing manner by Mrs. Walrath. "Science day" and roll call was responded to by descriptions of recent inventions. Mrs. Dowling gave us scientific observations from the Omaha Exposition, principally an appliance for distilling water with a common tea kettle; and the "baby incubator," a most wonderful invention for saving life. Mrs. Treadwell had an interesting and practical paper on "Electrical Domestic Appliances." Many anecdotes of Edison were read by Mrs. Kelley. The cause of his deafness, was a thoughtless and cruel man lifted him, Edison, by the ears when he was a small boy thus injuring the ear drums of his ears. Edison says "Genius is not inspiration but perspiration. Two per cent is genius, ninety-eight per cent is hard work." "Roentgen Rays" was finely handled by Mrs. Hester Doan and with illustrations made very interesting. Instrumental solo by Miss Effie Haverfield in place of Miss Osborn. She always does nicely and is much appreciated. "Modern Naval Strategy," was nicely arranged and read by Mrs. Anna Thorn.

The Christmas number of the Western Club Woman published at Denver is as bright and charming as the real club women, whom we had the pleasure of meeting last summer. The Western Club Woman made its debut in November, and the two issues to date, are equal to any of the publications devoted exclusively to the work of women's clubs. It has been accepted by the state federation as its organ and starts out with a promising future. The current number contains twenty-four pages of interesting suggestions important to club women. Its artistic cover is of white glazed paper on which is printed a border of pine cones alternating with gavel and scroll, suggestive of its atmosphere and object. It contains first a strong editorial department. Several excellent papers by club women and club men, several poems, an original story, art, music and parliamentary departments and a calendar of the Denver Woman's club from December 17 to January 16, inclusive. A very interesting department is the one devoted to the general and state federations. Mrs. Laura P. Coleman is the editor-in-chief.

It was interesting to note how many club women took part on different programs of the teachers' association. Coordination is the watchword of the hour and the bringing of women's clubs into closer relations with all uplifting forces is the earnest desire of the lead-

ers of this movement. Club women took part in the kindergarten sessions, in the temperance sessions, several departments of the State Teachers' Association, before the Literary department and one entire program was provided by the N. F. W. C. This program was excellent throughout and was said to have been one of the best of the week. Mrs. Harriet Heller of Omaha, chairman of the Educational Committee of the N. F. W. C. called the meeting to order and explained its object, then passing the responsibility of presiding over to Mrs. A. W. Field, president of the Womens Club of Lincoln. All topics bore upon the subject of bringing about closer relations between the schools and the homes. Miss Austin made some excellent points in a rather satirical way upon the general tendency of too many fond parents to study the teacher rather than their child. The question "Resolved that the public schools are a natural and adequate preparation for citizenship," found a leader for the affirmative in Mrs. Heller. The negative was sustained by Mrs. Green of Stromsburg and Mrs. Murty of Weeping Water. Many others joined in the discussion among whom were Mrs. S. C. Langworthy of Seward, the new president of the Nebraska Federation; Miss Norris, President Kier and Mr. Norton. By urgent request Mrs. Heller repeated her talk on "education" delivered at Denver there being many present who were not at the Biennial.

Mrs. Towne closed the afternoon's program with a paper on "The Ideal School Director."

Mrs. Margaret Hamilton Welch, of Harper's Bazar, gave the report of the Denver Biennial at the meeting of the Brooklyn Woman's club on November 14th. In the course of it she said:

"An element that was very prominent in an unspoken way was that relating to the suffrage question. Most of the visiting women were full of curiosity to study the workings of the law on its native heath, so to speak. I think some of the visitors expected to see an unusual sort of woman when they should meet the Colorado suffragists. In this they were greatly disappointed. A more normal, quiet, evenly poised company it has never been my good fortune to encounter. I talked with a good many of the leaders in regard to their feelings now, concerning their privilege. They said they keep at their work as the better class of men suffragists do, attempting to purge politics and to reform abuses and bring about civic betterment with faithful perseverance. 'We make large efforts,' said one Denver woman, expecting small returns, but we can see an advance."

Governor Adams, who was most cordial and approachable, and took pains to meet as many of the club women as possible, told me, in a brief conversation, that a certain contingent of ring politicians in the city never put forward a project without waiting anxiously to see what the Woman's club thought of it.

At dinner, one evening, I met a small, soft-voiced little woman with whom I discussed club work, and, incidentally, our two families of children, in friendly gossip. It suddenly occurred to me that I must be talking to a suffragist, and I made some comment on her voting privilege, half expecting to hear her deny it, and say that she only did it because it was the law. My chance question caught the ear of my neighbor, another Denver woman, and she enlightened my ignorance by presenting my quiet little friend to me anew in the role of the woman who, as chairman of a political convention, had for six hours held the big gathering of ring politicians together, while she persisted in the same point which they were fighting, and her point, and prevented by

doing so the seating of objectionable delegates. The occasion is historic in Colorado, and I assure you its heroine is the last woman in the world that you would consider, from her appearance, equal to such a task."—Western Club Woman.

"What's in a name," has been recently answered by the publishers of Francis Hodgson Burnett. Since her divorce it has been her wish to be known as Mrs. Francis Hodgson, but her publishers insist that Burnett, the name under which she has won fame and fortune, has a money value that cannot be ignored, that sentiment must be left out of the matter and the last name retained for financial reasons.

We hear so often in these days of feminine unrest that women are vying with men in every walk of life as though this was a very unusual thing, that it is pleasant to know that women have practiced medicine from the earliest times. The first regularly qualified woman practitioner of whom there is an authentic record was Agnodice, a native of Athens, who was graduated with high honors, 300 B. C., nearly back to the time of Hippocrates. At that time the law forbade women to study medicine, but Agnodice, being evidently an advanced woman, disguised herself as a man and succeeded in passing through college without detection. She began practicing among the women of Athens with marked success and gained considerable renown. But eventually her secret became known and she was arrested, but such a storm of protest was raised by her own sex that she was finally released. Hence, it is not a new thing for women to practice medicine. Verily, there is nothing new under the sun.

There is an old saying that in a man's judgment of his neighbor's motives, we see the mirror of his own character.

He fell in love with his wife when she was seventeen, married her when she was thirty-seven and lived happy ever after. Such was the romantic and faithful courtship of Lord Tennyson.

The following illustrates the literary instinct of the coming woman: Dorothy had been taken to the hen house and had seen the hens on their roosts which were arranged one above the other. On returning to the house she exclaimed delightedly—"O Mamma! Grandpa has got a whole bookcase of hens!"

The women's clubs of our larger cities are doing an immense amount of practical work along various lines, principally municipal and philanthropic. A commendable work that might be taken up by any club in any town large enough to have a school and a bank is that which has been begun by the schools of Chicago and is called the "penny savings bank system," and is so arranged as to take but very little time on the part of the teacher. The Tilton school up to last June had savings amounting to \$400 and the system had only been in operation since the 22nd of March last. One of the immediate and gratifying results in that school of the saving habit, according to the principal, says the Chicago News, has been the practical abolition of gum chewing and cigarette smoking—results in themselves worth all the extra time and attention given by the teachers, to say nothing of the bene-

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