

the danger of conflagration from their use.

A bill presented by Mrs. A. W. Field was on the introduction of household economics and manual training into the public schools. As usual the "members from Douglas county" bitterly opposed it on the grounds that the fathers and mothers could teach those things to their children without the added expense to the state. The author of the bill rose with dignity and said: "I would like to ask how many fathers in the state of Nebraska are competent to teach their children cooking." Another plea against the bill was, that the discomforts of the honeymoon are the only opportunity afforded the ordinary man to learn self-sacrifice, and without that when would he learn it.

The second and third readings of bills brought out some amusing features. A bill relating to pet dogs was referred to the committee on live stock and grazing, and one in connection with schools to the committee on feeble minded institutions. The thrilling eloquence of the member from Douglas, represented by Miss Stull, was expended on a bill to prohibit the use of passes by all but editors and reporters. An amendment was proposed to include lawyers, which was warmly endorsed by Mrs. A. W. Field. A fierce and hot discussion closed the meeting, amid laughter and applause.

The next meeting will be held in the university gymnasium, when Miss Barr will give an exhibition and talk. Each member of the club will be permitted to take one guest.

At a recent meeting of the Woman's club at Denver, it was decided to combine its seven departments into four, viz: Home and education, art and literature, music and social science, the last department includes philanthropy, reform, science and philosophy.

"At the conclusion of the business proceedings Mrs. Gilbert McClug, chairman of the committee for the preservation and restoration of the Cliff and Pueblo ruins of Colorado, was introduced and gave part of her famous lecture on "Cliff Dwelling." As the business meeting took up so much time, she was only able to give the first half of the lecture, which treated of the "People of the Pueblos." She gave a resume of the life of the people, and showed forty slides illustrating buildings, mummies and articles of daily life of the Cliff Dwellers.

One especially good slide showed two lions cut out of the living rock of the Portero de las Vacas, and another a lion which was exposed through the exploration conducted by treasure hunters. She made a very enthusiastic appeal to the women to help in making Colorado club women the custodians of the ruins, having the dwellings set aside as a national park.

Mrs. Geo. Sumner showed implements—pottery, fabrics, decorated walls and mummies which she had collected while spending seven months in the canons. One very unique specimen was balls of salt in corn husks, and some peculiar old mugs.

Mr. Ferril, curator of the State Historical society, spoke on the question of congress setting aside Montezuma valley for a national park the same as Yellowstone park.

Cozy club of Tecumseh met with Mrs. Frank T. Pool, March 8. The lesson: "War of the Spanish Succession; Ferdinand VII., 1702-1807," was most interesting, bringing in many noted characters, and covering as it did a little more than a century, from the taking of Gibraltar to the battle of Trafalgar.

The members of the club are so interested and loyal that only serious obstacles prevent them from attending the meetings, consequently their work is very thorough. The program committee

for the ensuing year was elected at the first meeting in January. Past experience has taught us that this is the better plan, and we would recommend it to other clubs, because if all the work is to be done in vacation, it almost precludes any summer outing for the members of this committee. They are now busy arranging the plan of work for next year. It has been decided to study the history of Germany, with some of its music, literature, and art coincident with the period under consideration.

A unique club has sprung into existence in clubdom. It is composed of eight women who, without president, dues, or any red tape, meet for the avowed purpose of being frivolous. All of the members are devoted club women of the conventional sort. But this group of bright little women decided that they were taking themselves too seriously—that they were doing everything from the thoughtful, serious standpoint, and while they do not in the least deprecate the value of such effort, yet they felt it would be well to "frivol" occasionally; so formed the little circle of congenial minds. They meet each month in alphabetical order at the home of a member. Even the date is not fixed, that being left to the convenience of the hostess. The simplest sort of a luncheon, consisting of three courses only, and simple courses at that, is served, and each member is compelled to tell a funny story, or relate a funny experience, or sing a funny song, or contribute in some way to the gaiety of the occasion. The club is intended as a protest, not only against the seriousness of women, but against the extravagant hospitality of the time which is eliminating cozy social intercourse. Nowadays to offer any kind of hospitality to one's friends, means, caterers, favors, prizes, and often professional entertainers, which makes hospitality too serious and burdensome with the effect of killing neighborliness in the true sense of the word. This circle of women declare, however, that they are not starting any crusade, or doing anything else in the world except amusing themselves.

Queen Wilhelmina has issued a decree that the dowager Queen of Holland shall be hereafter styled Queen Emma of the Netherlands.

We are pleased to place this interesting letter from Mrs. Booker T. Washington before the Club readers of THE COURIER:

*Tuskegee, Ala., Feb. 28, 1899.*

MY DEAR MRS. RICKETS:

Your letter has been received, and I am very glad of the opportunity of writing you with reference to the work among colored women. The first club among colored women dates back about five years. This club was organized in the city of Boston. We now have about 135 local clubs, registering ten thousand women. The majority of our clubs are in the South, and are working along very practical lines.

We have a National Association, which meets every other year. This year we expect to meet in Chicago. I wish very much you could see your way to be present. We shall be glad of any suggestions you will give us. We are aiming to uplift, encourage, and advance the colored woman along all lines which tend to make pure and noble womanhood.

We have not and can not do what we wish, because of lack of money with which to carry on our organization. But I am sure we are going to come out right in the end. I enclose you some reading matter which will give you some idea of what we are attempting.

Yours sincerely,

MRS. BOOKER T. WASHINGTON.

The meeting in Chicago will convene about the 1st of July.

A club that must strongly appeal to

the heart of every club woman is the one organized by Mrs. Booker Washington, wife of the President of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. She has always been a warm supporter of her husband's work, her enthusiasm and sympathy being a tower of strength in all his efforts to benefit his race. The Tuskegee Normal is now on a prosperous basis, with more than 2,000 of the colored youth of the South in attendance. But this work is for the rising generation, and grand and practical as it is, and delighted as Mrs. Washington is with it, still she could not be satisfied. Her heart sorrowed "for the aged women of her race who could never be benefited by her husband's school." She is an ardent believer in the benefits to be derived from club life. Hence she decided that these older women should have a club. So every Saturday afternoon, at her pleasant home, gather a hundred or more colored women, who listen with reverent delight to their inspired leader as she tries to lead them into broader, fuller lives. Her talks are largely confined to those things that tend to directly improve their homes and lives—those things that make them better wives and mothers, and better citizens—trying to teach them the moral responsibilities that rest upon home makers. Also trying to impress the importance of industry and self-helpfulness—telling them how to keep growing girls and boys busy and interested and therefore happy at home—carefully explaining to them the laws of health and the needs of cleanliness and sanitary conditions around their homes. Who can estimate the influence of these teachings upon the next generation? This noble woman, with the Christ love in her heart, has inaugurated a movement which ably supplements her husband's ambition to see his race become thrifty and enterprising. 'Tis said that Mrs. Washington has a wonderful comprehension of the elements that go to make up the women of her race, and the women of her club simply adore her. To her they go for sympathy and counsel in all their troubles and hardships, ever sure of kindly interest and helpful advice. What greater eulogy can we give of the character of Mrs. Booker Washington than a simple narration of this unselfish, noble work she is doing?

The following clipped from the Ohio State Journal will be of interest to the many Nebraska friends of Mrs. J. H. Canfield:

"To the efforts of Mrs. Flavia Canfield is due, in a great measure, the marked revival of interest in art matters in Columbus the past season.

Through her high standing as an artist, her broad knowledge of art in all its branches and her exceptional executive ability, she has become an acknowledged leader in literary and art affairs.

Mrs. Canfield is the wife of President James H. Canfield of the Ohio State university. She is a native of the state of Wisconsin, although of New England parentage. At an early age she developed love of the beautiful and artistic. She spent several years studying art in Chicago and under Wm. Chase at New York; also a year in the studios of Paris. She is at present making preparation to return to Paris this coming spring, where she expects to remain for some time and work under the direction of eminent Parisian artists.

Shortly after Dr. Canfield took up his work at the university and became a resident of Columbus, Mrs. Canfield became interested in the Columbus Art association, which organization, soon recognizing her ability, elected her president. She was also elected to membership in the Woman's Art club and soon became its president. In her connection with these organizations she has been instrumental in bringing

art exhibitions to the city and fostering an art spirit. She has advocated every plan that has been suggested and has advanced many plans tending to public education and advancement in this direction.

Mrs. Canfield has not confined her interests wholly to art, but has been prominent in literary work among the women's clubs of the city. It was largely due to her influence that the City Federation of Women's clubs was formed last November, at which time she was elected president.

At the last meeting of the Ohio Federation of Women's clubs she was elected vice president of the State Federation. Notwithstanding her many duties and responsibilities, Mrs. Canfield is ever ready to interest herself in any new enterprise in the interest of literature or art."

The Executive Board of the New York State Federation has decided, says Margaret Hamilton Welch, to make the industrial school project the work of the year: "Circular letters have been sent to all federated clubs in the state, urging co-operation. Investigation by the committee appointed for the purpose has developed the fact that there is no state institution to prevent a girl from becoming degraded, although there are more than eighty to receive her after she has become so. The various orphan asylums and homes for girls keep their inmates until the age of fourteen. With little discretion and scant knowledge of the world, they are started on their bread-winning career. There is to be presented very soon at Albany a petition for state aid in this matter, and it is the preliminary work of the clubs of the state to spread a knowledge of the existing facts, to form public opinion, and persuade legislators, through husbands, brothers, and all voting friends, to the wisdom of the granting of this petition. The letter points out that there has been liberal legislation in support of industrial reformatory schools for boys, while girls, who are less able to care for themselves, have been overlooked. A program for a meeting to present the matter is included, and every woman in the state who is willing to do so is requested to write to the senator and assemblyman of her own district, urging his efforts when the time shall come, in behalf of this institution.

This is a matter whose importance cannot fail to be at once recognized. It would be a fine achievement of the New York State Federation if it could be directly instrumental in the establishment of a state industrial training school, a school where young girls between the ages of twelve and eighteen could receive orderly and systematic industrial training which would make them self supporting and self-respecting members of the community."

The rapid growth of the movement proves that the time is ripe for pushing the plans for a "George Washington Memorial" in the form of a national university where post graduates from our own universities may be able to pursue technical work on broader lines. Outside of the pride and patriotism that should push this movement there is urgent reason for immediate action. Heretofore our students have been admitted to European schools for advanced work, but these schools, on account of overcrowded conditions, are compelled to refuse admission to foreigners. Otherwise their own students must suffer. Then reverence for the wishes of Washington should be a powerful motive for accomplishing the consummation of his idea. Until within the last two or three years it was new to many that Washington had left a bequest in stocks and land, for the erection of a great national university and