

position of recording secretary of the Lansing Woman's club. To the last she maintained her strong personality, her keen interest, and wise judgment in current affairs and in all matters pertaining to her club to which she was devotedly attached, being one of the charter members who organized this club in 1874. For four years she was the club's president and her valuable influence is fully recognized by the organization.

It was the writer's good fortune to be a member of her family in 1872-73, and the influence of that association has always been an inspiration. Though sixty-seven years at that time she was actively engaged in newspaper work. She possessed a fund of information such as only the constant student can acquire. The said that the minutes of her last meeting as secretary were clear and beautifully written, showing no trace of a tremulous hand.

The meeting on Monday of the Omaha Woman's club was the first one this year or any year when all the seats in the church were filled and standing room at a premium.

The business was very brief, consisting of notices of departments and the report of the committee appointed one month ago to investigate the present status of the case of Mrs. Maybrick-Miss Nancy Battin, the chairman, spent a good deal of time in preparing her report and she criticized English law with a freedom which astonishes one, her reasons for the criticism were so logical and well founded. She urged the women to discuss the question and to investigate it and she said in closing that there were very good reasons for believing that injustice had been done this woman. She asked the club to take an interest in the phase of the question, not because she is a woman, not because she is an American, but because she is a human being and is held unjustly. Her appeal was in the name of a broad humanity and a high justice. The resolution was adopted and the committee retained for the present, until the petition could be arranged and sent forward.

The resolution was to the effect that, all other means having failed, it now appears that if the Government of the United States will ask the English Government to give this case a new hearing, it may be done and the only way this governmental interference may be brought about is through the secretary of State, and that the club petition the Secretary of State to do all in his power to urge the British Government to grant a new trial to Mrs. Maybrick.

Mrs. Smith has discovered since the last club meeting that the anniversary of the first meeting of the club was on last Monday, and she immediately invited all the ex-presidents to send greetings or to come and deliver them in person if possible. Mrs. Savage, the first president was not able to attend, although she is in Omaha at present. Her greeting was as follows and was received with warmest applause and she was sent a large bunch of pink and white roses, from the club:

Madame, the President, and the Ladies of the Omaha Woman's Club.

Dear friends:

I would gladly be with you in person on the occasion of an anniversary meeting when a review of the past year of the club will be touched upon, but the plea of illness prevents that pleasure. I can only write you my congratulations on the wondrous advance the club has made since its inception six years ago. It was not a small beginning—in fact we made a leap into a popular enterprise. Still we were at first in rather a groping condition and by no means certain of a sustained future so that this rapid progress to complete success must ever be a

surprise and a gladness to the charter members of the organization. It was no small achievement to lay the corner stone for such advanced work—a foundation upon which a grand superstructure has arisen and we have a reasonable assurance that no check in the future can seriously interfere with the progress of this noble work.

That the circle of its influence may enlarge indefinitely, is the prayer of its first president. LUCY T. SAVAGE.

Mrs. Ford, the second president talked for a few moments after a most happy presentation speech by Mrs. Smith, who never appeared better, on the platform, than she did at this meeting. Mrs. Ford spoke of the early difficulties which beset the club, of the trials and dangers the first officers faced but which proved to be unrealities, the club was greater than them all and vanquished them, or they dissolved of their own initiation.

The strongest point made by Mrs. Ford, was the hope that the club would now get outside of itself, to take questions of importance to city and nation and stand for real advancement along ethical lines.

Mrs. Towne's remarks were in verse which we publish in full:

And this is the Woman's Club;

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This is the lady of Savage race,  
With watch-word, peace, and gentle face  
Who first ruled the Woman's Club.  
This is the club mother, Mrs. Ford,  
Whose moral earnestness gave the word  
That should hold us steady with one accord,  
In the second year of the club.

This is the Continental Hall,  
Scarce free from the odor of last night's ball(?)  
With triangle tables and black decked wall  
And pictures whose meaning we knew not  
at all,

And a lifter that would scarcely hold us all,  
And this is the Commercial College suite,  
Whose atmosphere filled us and worked  
complete,

So we bought and bartered and sold as we  
meet,

In this home of the Woman's Club.

There next came a make-shift president,  
Good only for filling, or some such bent;  
Her motto was "progress," get there some  
way,

When no one will lead us who might rule  
the day,  
And win for the Woman's Club.

One "word with the women" and Peattie's  
away,  
But she uttered the word that shall last for  
aye—

Hold to high purpose in all you say.  
So the club chose Harford to finish the day  
With her practical ruling and winning way.  
And we met in the Odd-fellow's hall; you  
know,

With a rattling junk yard down below.  
Two years of stairs and narrow halls,  
Ere we rested our eyes on the pictured walls  
Adorned for the Woman's Club.

Progress still, we are churched at last.  
Mid quiet and comfort our lot is cast,  
Our Harford president come from the past,  
Already the sound of the Expo's blast  
Warns of work and care, full thick and fast.  
Make living good business, be strong, be  
true,

When weary or harassed, see Heaven's own  
blue  
Says she who guides the Club.

With many to choose from 'tis hard to tell,  
But the sequel proves that we chose right  
well

She has nothing common, except her name,  
Since a Smith is a maker, she has that  
claim,

She makes a success with her lofty aim.  
'Tis the hardest year with its constant call.  
She has met the need, may she find the  
need,

In the lasting love of her subjects all.  
And six years counts the Club.

Mrs. Peattie's greeting was in the following beautiful language, and more than one woman had her in mind when they stood on their feet a little later, "to the long life and health of the Presidents!"

To the President and Members of the Omaha Woman's Club:

My dear friends:

This then is President's day, and I, who was your president for a few minutes only, am asked, of your courtesy, to send a greeting. Not at all because I was president do I do it—for such an unfaithful, evanishing sort of an officer is not worth taking into consideration—but because I was your friend, and knew your lives and your aspirations, and mixed my life and my aspirations with yours. I send you a greeting of the spring—may its subtle elation fill you with happiness and kindness and hope! I send you greeting of old affection—may we be true one to another, recognizing that which is best, bearing with that which stands for frailty! I send you a greeting of the Clubs—may you grow in learning and catholicity of spirit, in love of beauty and sociability, in preferring others to yourselves, in making all good women sib to you, all lonely women cognizant of you, all weary women comforted by you. May you leave that which is commonplace behind you in the dust of the highway where you trade and toil, and bring to the club that which is original and brave and fine and poetical. May those who are elegant among you bear with those who are simple, forgive those who are complex, and each try to make the thoughts of her soul clear, till courtesy of manner becomes courtesy of heart. To grow and grow, and still to grow, is your intent, is it not? May intent become achievement! On the day when you read this I shall be in the woods. I shall remember the hour, and if the sap still runs in the maples I will drink to you in that; and if it does not, I know a spring under a tulip tree and I will drink from that—without a cup—and the drink shall be "To Remembrance."

Heartily yours,

ELIA W. PEATTIE.

Mrs. Harford was introduced and received more applause than any speaker. She was not in good voice having suffered from exposure to wind and dust out in Kansas, where she had been spending several weeks. She gave the club much encouragement, and spoke of the great good such a body of women may do, giving her own experience when she came, a stranger, to Omaha.

The program was in the hands of the department of Oratory, under the leadership of Mrs. J. B. Dorward. In considering the rendition of a program like this, by a department of the club, we should not forget the only thing which is of any worth—the good the department has received from its year's study. The open meetings are not for the entertainment of the club, by the department, they are for the purpose of showing the entire club something of what the department has been doing for a year, if the club is entertained that is merely an incident.—Woman's Weekly.

The first regular biennial meeting of the Federation of Musical Clubs was held in St. Louis, May 3, 4, 5 and 6. This federation which was organized in Chicago only a little over a year ago is now recognized as one of the strong and influential organizations of women of this country.

The meetings were held in the Union Club House of St. Louis, and to Mrs. J. L. Blair was accorded the pleasure of extending a hearty welcome to the guests. To which Mrs. Edwin F. Uhl, of Grand Rapids, Mich., President of the organization responded in an earnest practical talk. She said in part:

To individual effort alone can we in

America look for advancement in music. With no government support of artistic effort the problem remains to be solved, how can the people have the eye and ear trained to appreciate the best? To a certain extent libraries are maintained at public expense and made free, and the crowds of people who take advantages of such opportunities are encouraging signs. Why should not musical conservatories and schools for opera be maintained in the same way? The president said further that it was the mission of each club in the federation to stimulate interest in and to urge advancement of this youngest of the arts and become a center of musical development. The first duty of the federation is to cultivate and create a taste for the highest quality of music and to bring it within the hearing of all. Again, an important thing is to further the cause of American music. It is proposed to make of the biennial convention great musical festivals and on alternate years to hold conventions of musical clubs in sections not reached by the biennial of the preceding year. To supply a great deal of music is a way to educate the members of the club and the public.

Reports from the treasurer and secretaries showed the organization to be in a flourishing condition with seventy-eight affiliated clubs representing 7,000 members. Many phases and problems of club work were discussed, and ideas exchanged which will bear fruit in the individual clubs scattered throughout the United States. Besides several fine concerts the business meetings were interspersed with music.

The two most important concerts were given by the Kneisel Quartette.

At one of these, the gifted pianist Mrs. Stella Haddon-Alexander assisted. Many Lincoln people will remember her appearance at the Matinee Musical Festival last year.

The Wednesday Club of St. Louis tendered the guests a most enjoyable entertainment in the form of a lecture by Mr. Henry Krehbril of New York, on "Folk Songs in America" which was illustrated with vocal selections by Mrs. Krehbril. Musical programs were given in connection with outings. At an outing given by the Country club, Miss Oakley sang, playing her own accompaniment. She also sang at the regular session Saturday morning with excellent effect and many flattering comments were made upon her voice and its use. Another member of the Matinee Musical, Mrs. Will Owen Jones played at a concert given by representatives from the federated clubs from New York City, Chicago, Ft. Wayne, Rockford, Ill., Cleveland, O., Alton, Ill., St. Louis, and Lincoln. The critics placed Mrs. Jones among the very best of the pianists who played at the convention and some placed her at the head of the list of those who went as club representatives, and some of those who have appeared have had the advantage of the best European tuition. On Wednesday evening a concert was given by professionals of St. Louis. Prominent among them was Miss Jessie Ringen, a captivating contralto who, it is hoped, will be heard in Lincoln this spring.

The representatives of the Matinee Musicale have returned brimming with enthusiasm with regard to chorus work. That feature of the work in the Lincoln club has always been one of the chief attractions to the public, but it has been difficult to secure the co-operation of the active members, they evidently believing that it should be done entirely by chorus members. The clubs of St. Louis, Alton, Ill., and other cities represented by choruses at the convention have all of their best solo voices in the chorus, and it is not easy for others to gain admission as an examination is required. The result is beautiful and