

ness women. The shares went rapidly last week after Miss Grace Dodge presented the plans and scope of the venture before the League for Political Education. The Margaret Louisa Home has for years been managed much on the plan of the proposed hotel for women. It is a house which was built by a woman. It is officered and run by women, and supported by them, for it is self-supporting, and every part of the management is harmonious. A thousand women dine there every day, and New York has no more attractive sight than its drawing room and library in the evening, with their beautiful furnishing, fine pictures on the walls, costly bits of bric-a-brac, the open piano and bookcases full of good books, and throngs of women either resting in some of the rooms or improving their minds.

China wishes to send a delegate to the Czars disarmament conference. This settles the much mooted question whether the Chinaman has any sense of humor.

Mrs. E. L. Hinman entertained the Fortnightly club last Friday. Mrs. W. G. L. Taylor, the leader for the afternoon, gave a very interesting letter on "The Russo-Turkish Troubles." This being the regular annual meeting, officers for the coming year were chosen as follows: President, Mrs. E. L. Hinman vice president, Mrs. A. S. Raymond, secretary and treasurer, Mrs. W. J. Lamb. This club stands adjourned to meet the first Friday in October, at the home of Mrs. W. J. Lamb.

All the women members of the Oakland Good Health Club of Chicago have decided to dispense with corsets and all restraining bands in the matter of dress, and adopt the Grecian costume. The decision was reached the other afternoon at a regular meeting of the club, after Miss Armstrong read a paper, in which the evils resulting from tight lacing were set forth in detail. About fifty women were present and the paper created a lively discussion, at the close of which a resolution endorsing Miss Armstrong's views was unanimously adopted. The Oakland Good Health club was organized about two years ago by Mrs. Eleanor Hutchinson, who is an advocate of Ralstonism, the object of which is stated in the club's prospectus to be "to teach people the importance of health while it remains and also to aid those who are suffering to form an alliance with nature by conforming to a cereal, fruit, fish and chicken diet." They also have a system of light athletics, early walks in the dew, and early hours for retiring. Some months ago a few of the more enthusiastic members, to whom chicken gruel and cracked wheat had come to represent a full banquet, began to agitate the subject of dress reform. The women members of the club are sanguine of success in establishing the costume advocated by Miss Armstrong. No penalty is attached to the breaking away from the resolution, but as a majority of those who voted for it have lived up to the Ralston diet for a long time they are believed to have sufficient strength of purpose to wear flowing gowns on all occasions.

Twenty thousand school children in Kansas City have taken this gentle pledge. "We will harm no living thing." How many persons truly appreciate the significance of thus committing the youth of the community to the merciful treatment of dumb animals, and all of the defenceless creatures—birds, insects, and even worms—with which nature has peopled the earth. "When the children from all of the schools in Kansas City marched through the streets Friday, waving thousands of bright little banners and exploding in joyous and pene-

trating treble their 'Rah, rah, rahs!' there were visions of that golden age when no thoughtless boys will rob birds' nests or persecute friendless cats or inflict harm on homeless dogs or even pull the wings from troublesome flies. There was also a forecast of the time when the merciful man who is merciful to his beast will greatly increase in the earth and when animals, which have no voices to make their wants and their miseries known, will meet with the kindly sympathy which their helplessness invites. —Kansas City Star."

The California Legislature has extended school suffrage to women, with only one dissenting vote in the House and six in the Senate. The bill was strongly supported by President Jordan of Stanford University and President Kellogg of the California State University. California is the twenty-fifth state to give women the school ballot. The states that have already granted it did so in the following order: Kentucky, Kansas, Wyoming, Michigan, Minnesota, Colorado, New Hampshire, Oregon, Massachusetts, New York, Vermont, Nebraska, Wisconsin, Washington, North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana, Arizona, New Jersey, Illinois, Connecticut, Ohio, Utah, and Idaho.—Ex.

At a recent meeting of the Executive Board of the New York State Federation ten new clubs were admitted and arrangements made in detail for the next convention which will be held in Rochester, November 7, 8, 9, and 10 inclusive. The Board decided that all speakers must be members of federated clubs, and that speaking without notes be encouraged; that the reciprocity bureau is supplying a long felt want; and a chairman of correspondence was appointed for clubs of the state, federated and non-federated.

Four thousand dollars has been appropriated by the Daughters of the Revolution to pay the expense of Mrs. Daniel Manning, who will go to the Paris exposition in 1900 as president general of the society. She ought to have a good time on that.

The following account of the visit of Mrs. Lowe, to the Massachusetts clubs is of general interest to club women. While there seemed not the shadow of a doubt in the mind of the Denver convention that she was the right leader for the General Federation, still we learn with a feeling of great satisfaction that she even captured the heart of those in the "enemy's country." One of the most interesting club affairs of the year was the council of presidents, called by the State Chairman of Correspondence, Mrs. Anna D. West, to meet Mrs. Lowe, the President of the General Federation, at the rooms of the New England Woman's Club, April 20. It was Mrs. Lowe's first meeting with the Massachusetts women and she captivated every one who listened to the magic voice as it uttered the words of good sense and club wisdom all were so anxious to hear. It can safely be said of this new Southern president that "she came, she saw, she conquered" Massachusetts. As one woman put it, "She can have anything she wants of Massachusetts women."

There were several points discussed at the conference. By request of Mrs. Julia Ward Howe, who was present, Mrs. Lowe told of her visits to several states and of the development of club-work she found there; notably in Florida, Louisiana and Georgia. The topic nearest the heart of every woman present, however, was that of representation in the G. F. W. C., whether it should be by clubs or through State Federations. The action of the Worcester and other clubs was referred to by Miss Rowe, and there was a lively expression of opinion from nearly every one present. While

Miss Rowe, Mrs. McCullaugh and some others seemed to favor an early reorganization of the national body, the prevailing sentiment of the majority was that the time is not yet ripe for that and that it would be a direct loss to the clubs to give up their membership in the General Federation. A compromise measure which shall make the State Federation the representative of the National, and yet not abolish entirely the state committee of correspondence seemed necessary, and Mrs. Lowe rose to the occasion splendidly when her opinion was asked. Her idea is altogether the most logical and most feasible of anything ever proposed. It is this: Make the State Federation the representative of the General, with the president at the head; then let her appoint her own committee to attend to G. F. W. C. matters, the chairman of which shall be subordinate to the State Federation president. This way out of the woods is so simple and so commendable that it is a wonder it has not been proposed before. Another plan proposed was to let clubs be represented individually in the national body as now, but let all business be transacted only by the State Federation delegates and voting power be given to them only. The whole question will be brought up at Philadelphia in June, where club presidents from all parts of the country will be in attendance.

The extra meeting of the State Federation called in honor of Mrs. Lowe, was held the same afternoon in Tremont Temple. A new and delightful feature was the choral singing of a hundred voices taken from clubs at Hyde Park, Allston and East Boston. Miss Rowe presided and voiced the cordial greetings of Massachusetts to Mrs. Lowe, who answered with a fine address on the work of women, organized labor, and what club women can do to further the interests of the working women. She advocated the forming of working girl's clubs and also of labor unions and gave a very practical and helpful talk along the same lines of the circular recently sent out by the Social Service committee of the State Federation. She was followed by Mr. John Graham Brooks, whose particular topic was vacation schools. He accented what Mrs. Lowe had said by saying we can help the cause of women as laborers in two ways: first by increasing the number of things she can do, and second by increasing her efficiency in what she does. He declared, also, that we cannot separate the subjects of kindergartens, vacation schools, women's wages and the work of the Consumers' League, for they are on practically the same lines, but advised the individual woman to pick out the one she is most interested in and throw her energies into that particular work. His vacation school talk was earnest and convincing, showing what a preventive of youthful crime they are and how necessary it is that the children of the slums should be taught manual training. He was followed by Dr. William H. Tolman of New York, who is secretary of the League of Social Service, and who had as a subject, "Studies in Social and Industrial Betterment," using many stereoptican pictures to illustrate. He described in full the wonderful accomplishment of the National Cash Register Company of Dayton, Ohio, with many pictures of the factory, grounds, offices and homes. He spoke fifty minutes by the clock, but only fifteen as it seemed.

At 4 o'clock on Friday afternoon, Mrs. Lowe, accompanied by members of the state committee of correspondence and Mrs. May Alden Ward went to Cambridge, where she became the guest of the Cantabrigia club, of which Mrs. Ward is president. Here Dr. Edward Everett Hale was the lecturer, telling of the work of the Lend-a-Hand clubs. A fine address was made by Mrs. Lowe and good music added to the pleasure of the

Cantabrigians. Friday evening a dinner was given in honor of Mrs. Lowe at the Colonial club by the officers of the Cantabrigia club.

Mrs. Lowe was to have been the guest of honor at a large reception of the "Daughters of Vermont," at the Dorchester Woman's Club House on Saturday, the 22d, and go out to Worcester to a dinner given in her honor by Prof. Stanley Hall on Sunday, but our Boston east wind was too much for her delicate throat and she had to remain quietly at her hotel Monday noon, the 24th, she was the guest at luncheon of Mrs. Julia Ward Howe, and the same afternoon was guest of honor at another large reception given by the Brightelmstone club at Hotel Vendome. She endeared herself greatly to all who met her, and it was with deep regret that we said goodbye at the close of her visit here.—Club Women.

The City Improvement Society met on Thursday morning in the parlors of the Commercial Club. The attendance was unusually large. It was decided to erect a hundred street sign posts, and to begin a systematic effort to place signposts all over the city. Mrs. Taylor talked about the concentration of authority in the mayor, and Mr. Dunroy read a poem, very gratefully received by the members of the society who afterwards passed a resolution of thanks. The poem follows:

THE WIDER SPHERE.

A woman stood at her front-yard gate
Wringing her hands in grief,
For she looked in vain for a paper scrap
Or the sign of a fallen leaf;
Her yard was as spic and span and clean
As the floor of a dancing hall;
And she sighed as she glanced around in vain
She could find no dirt at all.

Her house was clean from cellar to roof,
The windows all shining and clear;
The carpets were dusted, the furniture
cleansed,
The curtains all starched and sheer;
The woodwork scrubbed until it looked
new,
And bright new paper upon the walls;
In fact, from basement to garret high
No dust nor dirt appals.

But, alas, she stands disconsolate;
She has nothing on earth to do.
Her mop rag hangs in a corner dim,
And her broom is now idle too.
She has scoured and scrubbed and dusted and
toiled,
And driven all dirt from her door,
And now she is anxious to conquer new
worlds
Since her battle with dirt is o'er.

But, lo and behold, a neighbor soon calls,
Who belongs to a club of renown,
The purpose of which, so she hastens to tell,
Is to clean up the dirty old town;
And both grow as happy as birds in May
As they talk of the battles they'll fight
To clean up the streets and alleys and lanes,
And scour things shining and bright.

So they start at the work with hearts light
as air,
Determined to do or to die,
No paper may blow on the walks or the
streets;
No leaves on the lawn may lie;
No men be allowed to spit in the cars,
Unless they will pay a big fine;
No garbage be left except in tin cans
All marshalled in a shining line.
And thus the members of this famous club
Began their marvelous deeds,
From mending bad walks and the like of
that,
To cutting down noxious weeds;
And after they've cleansed the town of it
filth—
And that time is fast drawing nigh—
It wouldn't surprise me if they'd demand
A chance to scour the sky.

—William Reed Dunroy.

Society met Tuesday afternoon at the