

older states for a venture full of delightful opportunities. They have been relieved of the tedium of pioneer experiences by the rapid growth of well established communities. That which is new by the count of years seems "a story that is told" in the pleasant conditions that suggest past as well as present permanence. The Federation members are the wives of the professional and leading business men of the two territories—a combination which, taken all in all, is invincible in good and great aims.

In her address of welcome Mrs. A. H. Van Fleet of the Coterie Club of Norman said: "It seems fitting that the first meeting of this body, whose interests and aims are so largely educational, should be held in Norman, where is located the head of educational advantages of Oklahoma, which many, with prophetic eye, see as the future head of the educational system of the two territories, finally united, to form a glorious new star in the constellation of the Union—the proud state of Oklahoma." The president of the association, Mrs. Selwyn Douglas, in reviewing the work of the Federation, for the past year said: "We are a fine example of what a body of earnest women may accomplish in a short time, with an empty treasury. "During the meeting of the legislature the signatures representing the Federation was asked three different times to further the passage of educational and reform bills. I speak of this so that you may know that the club women are considered as a factor in wise legislation. A reciprocity bureau is established, and already five or six excellent papers are on file.

"Dr. Hillis, the Plymouth church divine, makes this criticism: 'Forgetting that culture comes from knowing one subject well, women take all knowledge for their province, and, coming together, try to club themselves too death.' At first when I read this I felt that the eminent doctor was unfair, but as I think of it, I feel that some of us deserve it. 'Many of us waste much energy trying to cover too much ground in our study, including too many subjects in our course of study, and thus fail in obtaining one-half the good results we might obtain by concentrating our attention on a few subjects. Miss Helen Winslow, editor of the Club Woman, warns us against this and thinks we should consider the vital questions of the day in an elastic, inspirational way.

Five minute reports from individual clubs proved an interesting feature of the convention. Among them Miss Alma Bullen, Librarian of the Ladies Tuesday Afternoon club of Perry, told a little story of the spontaneity of club growth in that fertile country. One day a near neighbor called upon her and said: "Suppose we start a club." They talked it over and separated. A little later another neighbor who had not seen the first caller came in with a like proposition, result—"Tuesday Afternoon Club"—one of the most energetic in the Federation. On this occasion many new friendships were begun and many old ones renewed. One feature was the general interchange of year books, which must prove a source of inspiration and help.

One of the recent literary sensations of England is a book written by Charles M. Sheldon, a Kansas parson, entitled, "What Would Jesus Do?" It is said that over a million copies of this novel has been sold in England alone. The author claims that the minister of today preaches to the so-called "aristocratic" part of his congregation in a most respectable (or respectful) and high-toned manner. That in fact he is so busy entertaining this class of his people that he has no time to look into the trials and tribulations of the masses, who are trying in "their weak way" to follow "in his foot steps." One critic claims that

it is a good story, and that the points are plain, which probably accounts for its strong appeal to the English. There is little doubt but these ultra books do accomplish an immense amount of good.

The Chicago Chronicle in commenting upon Mrs. Richard Harding Davis says: "She is an exceedingly talented girl, whose ideas are thoroughly American, and is a womanly woman." Newspaper people now remember that Miss Clark—now Mrs. Davis—is very clever with her sketches—both in pen and ink, and in pencil—which have been in demand by Chicago papers. So this marriage would seem, not only a happy union of "two souls that beat as one" but of two recognized artists, and better still, Mr. Davis declared, "There is a little heaven in each of our hearts."

An exchange says that "Taliaferro" is the Spanish equivalent for Smith. Hence those people who prefer an unusual name to a common one might find relief in Spanish.

The meeting of the New England Woman's Press Association which took place in Boston last week was a celebration of the eightieth birthday anniversary of Julia Ward Howe. On that occasion she read a paper on "Patriotism in Literature" and her immortal "Battle Hymn of the Republic." Few women who have reached her years retain their interest and enthusiasm in the current events of life, and are actively engaged in furthering the best interests of mankind. "May she round out a century of inspiring helpfulness. Nearly coincident with this birthday celebration is that of Queen Victoria, which occurred on May 25th. The gathering of the royal family at Windsor Castle on this occasion was the largest—with the exception of the jubilee gathering—for many years. There were four successive generations present, and a wonderful multiplicity of children and grandchildren. Celebrations of the event were not only observed in London and throughout England, but in all the colonies and on ship board of the English vessels anchored in different parts. Eulogies upon the queen's beneficent reign have been the topics of the hour.

The women of Chicago opened their new athletic club house on Michigan Avenue last Wednesday. One thousand guests were received during the afternoon and evening. Besides the library, tea-room, parlors, reading rooms and swimming pool there is a gymnasium for those inclined to athletics and Turkish baths for all who want them. There will be provision, too, for medical allowances of spirituous stimulants for those who can produce a physician's certificate proving their need of a warming drink after their Turkish bath.

When you were rejoicing over our delegates securing front seats at the Hague, you probably accredited it to a recognition of their just deserts. Not so, however. But you set it down to the credit of the Yankee ingenuity contained in that delegation, and there has been no little chuckling among diplomatic circles—especially in London—over the little move by which the United States delegates to the peace conference secured seats in the front row at the Hague. The seats were allowed in alphabetical order according to the French names of the countries represented. As French is the diplomatic language of Europe, French is used at the conference. Thus Germany (Allemagne) came first. Then the United States delegates by registering "American United States" instead of "Etats Unis" secured the next seats. The French name for United States, *Etats Unis* beginning with an E would have entitled the dele-

gates to seats well to the front even had they not insisted on using the "A" of *Amerique*.

The art department of the women's club are already laying broad plans for next year's work. They hope, early in the fall, to have some noted artist give an illustrated lecture, to which the public will be invited. It is hoped in this way to interest many ladies in the study of art and thus largely increase the membership. The program for next year's work shows plans which should make study in this department exceedingly interesting. In addition to the regular course of study several current topics will be assigned and discussed. Some of these already decided upon are: "Art Work in Our Public Schools," "Uses of Nude Statuary and Pictures in Public Libraries," "The Influence of the Nude in Art." The last meeting of this department was held at the delightfully hospitable home of its leader, Mrs. F. M. Hall, last Friday afternoon. The principal paper of the afternoon was prepared by Mrs. Franklin, but in her absence was read by Miss Jean Hamilton, who also gave an interesting lecture on Hogarth, Reynolds and Gainsborough. A spirited discussion followed. Officers for the coming year were elected as follows: Mrs. F. M. Hall, leader; Mrs. W. F. Dann, assistant leader; Mrs. Bagnell, secretary; Mrs. Phillips, Mrs. Johnson, and Mrs. Erlenborn, executive committee.

The Hall in the Grove which in the past has held its meetings in the evening are debating the question of reorganizing as an afternoon club. Of course the greatest obstacle to this move is that in the past the husbands have met with the club, and the question arises, shall the husbands be excluded, or rearrange their business hours to conform to the proposed new departure. If meeting in the afternoon does result in inability to be present it would seem a stay in the wrong direction, as club women have long since decided that the club of the future should and would be a mixed club.

The history department of the Woman's club met Thursday afternoon with Mrs. Upton, 1133 L street. The treatment of the different classes in Old Virginia was discussed, the large and small planter, and indented white, and the purchased black slave. A picture of the old "Weetover home," near Richmond, Va., of William Byrd, containing a library of 3,625 volumes, was shown. Refreshments of ice cream and cake were served with the hospitality of the "old planters."

A dozen young people living in the vicinity of the capitol have organized under the mystic name of the C. T. C. club. They meet weekly for a special secret purpose. The aims of the club are said to have exerted a marked beneficial result on the children of the neighborhood. The officers are as follows: President, Pansy Stein; vice president, Lavater Thompson; secretary, Florence Woods; treasurer, Margaret Wheeler. The members of the club all wear a large button bearing the initials of the society. A brother—of course—of one of the young ladies of this club, insists that C. T. C. stands for "Catch the Cat."

Our country, says the Bazar, has been helped on its upward and onward path unspeakably by its possession of a wealth that has no superior in the making of states, and that belongs to it in greater proportion than to any other country—and that is its average women.

There was no work of which the women were ashamed, or which, being necessary to others, they regarded as too menial for themselves; if there were a service to be done, the only question was how best to do it. They made

great sacrifices in order that their sons should have the highest education obtainable; they had a pride and concern in their neighbors' sons; they watched the progress of events with as keen attention as they did the affairs of the village. Their hands might be rough with toil, their faces seamed with care, their dress unacquainted with fashion, but, nevertheless, if it had been necessary for them to stand in the presence of royalty, they would have done so unabashed and perfectly at home, and have given the onlookers a notion of the inherent royalty of worth and honor. Whatever the shortcomings of these women may have been, they were all eclipsed by the largeness of their virtues.

There is no other country that has this proud distinction. For in other lands the "woman who does her own work," who is imbrowned and bent by toil and wears the hoddens-gray, is very rarely a thinker or a reader, has no avenues of learning, and has no sense open on the side of affairs or of the wide events of the larger life. Had these women of ours been born in the middle of civilization, and received the training and the association of the environment there, they would often have become historical figures; as it is, they have assisted in the making of history. They instilled patriotism into their children as they rocked the cradle; they gave them force, energy, determination, endeavor, and they directed all those qualities into the right trend. It is always with their mothers' instincts in their blood that these children have gone on and levelled mountains, reduced forests, bridged rivers, built cities, subdued a continent. And in the meantime these women antedated all the women of clubs and societies. They had a great hunger for sympathy in their outlook, their thought, and work; but they were obliged to be club and society for themselves. They were but the average women of the wide country, but they were not only sometimes the mothers of presidents, they were the mothers of America.—Harper's Bazar.

#### ON THE EXCESS OF CULTURE.

TRUTHS SUGGESTED BY C. P. HUNTINGTON'S TIMELY UTTERANCE.

"I regret one tendency in our country, admirable as our institutions are. It is almost heresy to say it, but I do not fear taking the responsibility. I refer to the increase of higher education of the masses."

It needed as brave a man as Collis P. Huntington to give voice to that trenchant truth. Other men, as wise as he perhaps and as independent of vulgar favor have probably long since noted the conditions that prompted its utterance; but, unlike him, they lacked the courage to proclaim their conviction.

If you doubt a valid reason for their timidity you have but to regard the outbursts of the mobbish yellow journals that followed Mr. Huntington's blunt discovery of his sentiments on the question of promiscuous education. How they pushed and shoved to reach the van of demagoguery! How they fumed and swelled and sputtered with their pandering platitudes about democracy and equality and Americanism! With editorial, interview, paragraph and cartoon they sought to stir the populace to clamor that would drown the still, small voice wafted eastward from under the rose of a San Francisco banquet table. Oh, you may count on the mob ticklers of the "great" dailies to work to the full such an opportunity as this.

Of course no one charges them with the ignorance and doltishness necessary for the sincerity of their profession in this matter. There is method in their foolishness, the method of "want ads" and inflated circulation and sonorous