

CLUBS.

[LOUISA L. RICKETTS.]

The following are the officers of the General Federation of Women's clubs:
President—Mrs. Rebecca D. Lowe
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Vice President—Mrs. Sarah S. Platt,
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Recording Secretary—Mrs. Emma A.
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Corresponding Secretary—Mrs. George
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Treasurer, Mrs. Phillip N. Moore, St.
Louis, Mo.

Auditor—Mrs. C. P. Barnes, Louis
ville, Ky.

State Chairman—Mrs. Louisa L. Rick-
etts, Lincoln, Nebr.

Officers of the State Federation of
Women's clubs;

President—Mrs. S. C. Langworthy,
Seward.

Vice President—Mrs. Anna L. Apper-
son, Tecumseh.

Recording Secretary—Mrs. F. H. Sack-
ett, Weeping Water.

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

Treasurer—Mrs. H. F. Doane, Crete,
Librarian—Mrs. G. M. Lambertson,
Lincoln.

Mrs. A. B. Fuller, Auditor, Ashland.

The Executive Board of the N. F. W. C. met in executive session Friday, June 30, in the parlors of the Lincoln Hotel. Present, Mrs. Langworthy, Seward, president; Mrs. Apperson, Tecumseh, vice president; Mrs. McKillip, corresponding secretary, Seward; Mrs. Doane, Crete, treasurer; Mrs. A. B. Fuller, Ashland, auditor; Mrs. F. H. Sackett, Weeping Water, recording secretary. The meeting was called to order at 10 o'clock p.m., by Mrs. Apperson who presided at the meeting. The special work before the committee at this meeting was the completion of arrangements for the annual meeting to be held at York October 10, 11, 12, 1899.

There were present on invitation of president, Mrs. D. A. Campbell, Lincoln, chairman musical committee; Mrs. Hall, Lincoln, chairman art committee; Mrs. A. W. Field who has in charge the educational meeting, and Mrs. Ricketts who is to arrange the details of the mother's meeting; also Mrs. Carscadden president of the city federation of women's clubs of York.

The reports of the various committees certainly indicate that much time and thought are being expended that both benefit and pleasure may accrue to those in attendance at the fall meeting. An afternoon and evening session will be given to the work of the musical department, which promises to afford a true feast for music lovers. Arrangements are afoot for an effective art display in connection with other interesting features which will result from the co-operation of the art committee.

An effort is being made to secure Miss French (Octave Thanet) as one of the speakers during the meeting.

The names of the Wakefield Women's club, North Omaha Women's club, and Acme Women's club, of Tecumseh, were admitted to membership.

A resolution was also passed commending the action of the leading stores of Lincoln in closing at 7 o'clock on Saturday evenings.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p. m., satisfied that the meeting for '99 bade fair to be most interesting and profitable to all in attendance at its sessions.

The much mooted question of mixed clubs is still discussed, and will as naturally solve itself as other important questions connected with the club move-

ment. Agitate, agitate, and then agitate again, this is nature's method of clarifying things, and thus will this problem be solved. That men enjoy women's clubs and that women welcome them is testified to by the Chicago Democrat, as follows:

"Go into any of the women's clubs on a social day and one will be surprised at the number of men present. Some of them say they stopped for their wives, sisters, or cousins; some that they had been invited and just looked in; others boldly give themselves up to the enjoyment of the occasion, and talk to, or are talked to by, ten or twenty members at once; for there is no place in the social world where a man meets a more hearty welcome at present than in a woman's club.

"Programs for the day are now made with a view to allowing man the best place, and when he arises to give his opinions on women's clubs and other subjects of equally important interest the applause that greets him is only equaled by that given to his jokes.

"He is deluged with attentions in the form of angel cake and hot tea.

"While there are many amusing features to this phase, newly arrived, of the women's clubs, it is a fact that the presence of men is doing a great deal to dispel the prejudice against them which still exists in a few quarters. The fact that women do not meet to become manish or aggressive, but that their functions are purely social and educational, is a surprise to many men, and now that men are learning to drop in, even these last shadows of prejudice will soon fade away."

Here and there throughout the country club women have discussed and taken some definite action in regard to objectionable advertisements in the daily press. All have felt that it was a matter that legitimately belonged to club cognizance. Hence the following from the Western Club Women will receive the approbation of club women:

"A number of eastern papers have complimented the Woman's Club for its resolutions condemning objectionable advertising in the daily papers. It remained for Mrs. Herbert George of the North Side Club to cut the Gordian knot however. This she did by cutting out these advertisements and forwarding them to the postal authorities. The following Sunday all these advertisements had disappeared. This is another example of the effectiveness of the Committee of One. Let other women elsewhere remember it.

The club women of America are justifiably indignant over the reception tendered the women of the United States and the "gag rule" enforced at the open sessions of the woman's congress in London. Of course there are not as yet full reports, but from special telegrams to the New York World, the Chicago Tribune, and the Chicago Record we are informed that the International Congress of Women made little stir in London.

It is evident that the time of meeting was ill chosen as June is the height of the London season. Social attractions overshadowed the congress. The perennial Transvaal troubles have reached another crisis, and more important than all, in the eyes of every true born Briton, was the third test cricket match between England and Australia, and this last dominated everything in London that week.

The public were indifferent, the press either ignored the congress or printed only meagre accounts of its proceedings, and finally by a very happy coincidence the house of Lords threw down the gauntlet in ungallant style on the opening day by amending, with a sweeping majority, the new London government

bill which made women eligible as aldermen and councilors.

It is of passing interest that these 300 peers are seldom in their seats when parliament is in session, unless there is some question under discussion which is an affront to Erin, a snub to women, or a frown upon dead wives' sisters.

Nearly 300 of the brainiest and most progressive women of America went to the London congress; some of them traveling over 6,000 miles, and the discourtesy shown them, and the manner in which the meetings were conducted has been the occasion of much dissatisfaction among these American delegates. They were almost ignored by the officials, were given few opportunities to speak, and the most prominent leaders were persistently snubbed by the conservative section.

The English managers of the congress were headed by Mrs. Creighton, wife of the Bishop of London, and this managing board made every effort to keep in the background all advanced women for fear of offending English susceptibilities.

The Rev. Anna Shaw, of whom America is justly proud, was not given a single opportunity to speak until almost the last day, when with her pent up indignation and native eloquence her oratory electrified the congress. At the session devoted to suffrage the speakers included five Englishmen, four Englishwomen, and one American, Miss Anthony.

Gilbert Parker, the novelist, read a paper on the subject of housing educated working women. He touched lightly upon the conditions of the life of professional women throughout the world and the difference existing in America. He proposed a scheme of improving the conditions of women living on a mere pittance. He suggested that large mansions be erected of sufficient capacity to accommodate 400 persons, to be conducted on the private hotel principle at low prices. Mr. Parker described his ideal building and severely criticised certain Government departments for paying women little more than half the wages received by scavengers, the women at the same time having to keep up appearances. The meeting decided to make a full inquiry into the question.

The latest news reports the Americans vigorously protesting against an attempt to again elect an Englishwoman president of the international organization. During the ten years of its existence its two presidents have been Englishwomen. It is now proposed to reelect Lady Aberdeen. The Americans claim she was not properly nominated and cannot therefore stand for election. The choice of the American delegates is Mrs. May Wright Sewall.

The State Federation of Georgia has a committee called "The Farm and Garden Committee." We submit below its report at the annual meeting of that federation:

"The object of the farm and garden work is threefold.

1st—To bring before our self-supporting women a new, pleasant and profitable means of livelihood.

2d—To produce for our market the articles now brought from other states.

3d—To assure these women of our broad sympathy and human fellowship.

Although we began work little more than a year ago, a number of clubs have been formed and interest aroused throughout the state. Without exception these clubs have been productive of good, and our women are fully awakened to the necessity of this practical fraternity.

Our plans and enterprises for the ensuing year will be forming clubs and illustrating our work by means of exhibitions. These clubs will embrace farm, garden, dairy, and village improvement.

During the year we expect to have two state exhibitions. The first will include horticulture, farm and dairy. The second, to be held in Macon, Georgia, will institute an annual flower show, to be held during the session of the State Federation. We earnestly beg the co-operation of our women.

The newspapers say that Mr. Hopkinson Smith was invited to lecture in Chicago before a ladies art club. He was expected to lecture on art, but instead gave readings from his publications. Because he did not talk about art the officers of the association determined to reduce the amount he is usually paid for an evening, one half, which he declined to receive and went away without any pay at all.

But all the facts connected with this amusing affair have not been recorded by the newspapers, so far as observed. Mr. Smith had no previous knowledge that he was desired to discourse on art and learned for the first time, on reaching the audience chamber where his hearers were gathered that his subject had been selected for him and that that subject was "Art."

But even with all these and many more drawbacks the ardor of the delegates was not dampened. They come from all quarters of the globe, inspired with that enthusiasm which can only come from actual contact. Workers from every field throughout the world, civilized and otherwise, ready and anxious to confer together for a little, that each might then go on her way better equipped for her special work. Apart from the passage of a resolution on arbitration the congress took no definite action on any subject, and in her address as president Lady Aberdeen gave no other motive for the assembly than the golden rule of love, which was a generalization sufficiently broad for a world's congress, but certainly had no suggestions of revolution or evolution. We append the views of prominent delegates who were present, as to the value of the congress.

The Chinese delegate, Miss Shen, is the daughter of a liberal Mandarin, who once ran the risk of his life for his opinions in Peking. She says: "Female education will receive an impetus from this congress. Though you give us little credit for enlightenment, the Chinese government has sent me here and my report will be circulated in China. The social position of women in China is not deplorable, but their ignorance is. A Chinese proverb tells us that the education of a child should begin twenty years before it is born, with the mother."

Susan B. Anthony says: "No doubt it is difficult to make an international congress really international, for officials of one land cannot fully know the delegates from another. The international congress owes its inception to American women, for it was when I visited England in 1882 that Mrs. Stanton and myself first proposed the idea. I believe

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