

eral approval cannot more musical clubs be formed which will be auxiliary to the state federation? You may be sure such clubs would be most welcome and would receive prompt recognition on the yearly programs. I am a strong believer in the warmth of numbers and I believe if musical enthusiasm once has a good start among us that we may illustrate the Spanish proverb, which though coined to apply to tale-bearing, may not be misapplied here: "You have a friend and you find that one and one do not make two; they make 11. Your friend has a friend and 1 and 1 and 1 do not make 3, but 111." So that in time might we not hope for 111 musical clubs auxiliary to the Nebraska State Federation of Women's Clubs? In my own club at Crete we have arranged for four special programs for the winter, entirely separate from the regular work of the club, and one of them is to be devoted to music. Norwegian for one school, and we haven't decided yet on the second. The program will consist of papers and illustrations, something after the plan of today's work.

The committee felt that in organizing this afternoon's program it would be perhaps a start in the right direction. The subject is one which has received little attention of late, excepting from the ladies of the York Amateur Musical, but we have all come with minds in a state of receptivity and will carry our enlightenment away to darker lands.

At the recent convention of the Colorado federation of women's clubs the Western Club Woman was adopted as the official organ of the state federation. This is a merited recognition and emphasizes the growing conviction that the club interests of any federation may be better served if there is a medium of common communication. Until within the last two years it has been an unsettled question whether the time devoted to the report of clubs at the federation meetings might not be more profitably employed. But the "reports of clubs" held the right of way until they have won undisputed possession of their allotment. And more, they have convinced the doubters that they are of paramount importance to the successful advancement of the club interests of the state. The interest, the sympathy and the co-operation elicited by these reports have increased the respect and strengthened the ties existing between the clubs of the state. This is one of the strongest pleas made by the advocates of an official organ. Increased knowledge not only of clubs, but of individual members, and a corresponding growth of sympathy, not only for their work, but for and with club women, the state over.

Divergent as the various ways of the club women of Nebraska may be, they are united in one common end, the advancement of our state in culture, ethics, philanthropy and all that makes for the broadening and bettering of humanity. If we can make our club paper the clearing house for the many excellent ideas and plans for the accomplishment of this end, then will it truly be a great help to the state work.

At the last meeting of the Fortnightly Club the secretary was instructed to send the state treasurer, Mrs. H. F. Doane, of Crete, the five cents per capita tax levied at the recent state federation meeting for the necessary running expenses of the state work. Each delegate present at the federation meeting should bring this matter before her club and see that the secretary forwards the money to Mrs. Doane.

One of the decidedly do-something clubs is the woman's conference of the Society for Ethnic Culture in New York.

The word conference implies the size of this organization, which is divided into various departments. It has a visiting guild which looks after twenty-four crippled children, teaching them much useful knowledge and providing them with an outing for the summer. It has a sewing society which employed sixteen needy seamstresses all last winter cutting out and making clothes for other needy ones. It has a children's guild which gives particular attention to the children of the poor. The woman's wage-earners' department holds a scholarship in the dressmaking section of the Pratt Institute. This scholarship is given to the girl graduate of the ethnic school most deserving it. It has a public school visiting department which has distributed a large number of pictures and objects for nature study in the poorer schools. Its philanthropic committee has helped the families of needy soldiers and raised a fund for sick or overworked mothers in tenement houses. It also employs two trained nurses who nurse sick children and sometimes whole families when afflicted with an epidemic of scarlet fever or diphtheria. Certainly the energy and enthusiasm of this club is to be admired.

Its object, as stated in its annual official report, is "to encourage sound and practical efforts in the direction of social, educational and moral reform." It doesn't make speeches, and not a paper is written by its members, neither does it have time to listen to papers written by other people. Each department is so inspired by its own special work that there is no lack of words in which to express themselves when the members come together for conference. It meets for practical work, and it works, and has done so without any diminution of zeal for six years. Is there a possible hint in the active usefulness of this club for the many women's clubs whose members have written reams of papers on every conceivable subject under the sun? The writing of papers serves a purpose, but not a very practical one. Is there not too much energy and time wasted in "preparing papers" in woman's clubs? Would it not be better to have more workers and fewer essayists—more doing and less theorizing? One club like the Woman's Conference of New York City is doing more good in one year than all the essays prepared by the women's clubs of the country could do in a century.

The following course of study outlined by the Hyde Park travel class will be of special interest to those ladies who are contemplating a visit to Paris in 1900:

I. Social day. "Victor Hugo," the Rev. J. L. Jones.

II. First day in Paris (illustrated). Ile de la Cite—Palais de Justice—Notre Dame—La Sainte Chapelle—La Conciergerie—Hotel de Ville—Colonne de Juillet—Les Halles.

III. Second day in Paris (illustrated). La Rue de Rivoli—Tour S. Jacques—Jardins des Tuilleries—Place de la Concorde—Champs Elysees—Arc de Triomphe—Bois de Boulogne.

IV. Third day in Paris (illustrated). La Pantheon—St. Etienne du Mont—La Sorbonne—Musée de Cluny—Ch. et Fontaine de S. Sulpice—Jardin des Plantes.

One of the daintiest of little brochures has come to my desk in the form of the year book of the Pansy club of Tecumseh. The cover is in dainty white and gold tied with purple ribbon, with this quotation heading the first leaf:

"Purple for shadow, gold for sunshine, White for the clouds on high."

This club is composed of young misses about fifteen years of age—some are younger, and their little booklet tells its own story of a group of energetic school

girls carrying a continuous study course of literature, outside of their regular school duties. They are loyal members of the city federation of Tecumseh and loyal followers in the footsteps of their club mothers. The following list of authors will be considered this year: Irving and Cooper, Bryant and Prescott, Emerson and Hawthorne, Longfellow and Whittier, Holmes and Poe, Stowe and Beecher, Phelps and Thoreau, Lowell and Jackson, Alcott and Twain, Wescott and Field, Wiggins and Dunroy. Members belonging are: The Misses Ethelwyn Chamberlain, Mary L. Chittenden, Myrtle L. Cook, Minnie E. Dew, Elizabeth A. Hassett, Alma C. Ludlow, Edith T. Roberts, Julia B. Rubleman, Mable S. Sullivan, Laura Wright. This enterprising club is officered as follows: Mable S. Sullivan, president; Edith T. Roberts, vice president; Elizabeth A. Harrett, secretary, and Ethelwyn Chamberlain, treasurer. The Courier extends a hearty welcome to this club and hopes to have regular reports of its meetings.

We are glad to know that Jennie June Croly, one of the founders of the general federation, is not in favor of the withdrawal of representation from the 635 individual clubs that belong to the national association. And while she feels that perhaps the office of state chairman of correspondence was one of the needs of the past rather than of the present, she is heartily in sympathy with the per capita tax.

The Omaha Woman's club met on Monday. The committee on courtesies, Mrs. Towne chairman, reported that in the last five months the club had sent congratulations to three brides and welcomed two babies. No deaths among club members had occurred. It was earnestly requested that notification of sickness and death should be sent to the committee in order that the sympathy of the club might be properly expressed. The account of the matron at the depot, Mrs. Wilson, was read by Mrs. Lobengier. It was a most satisfactory rehearsal of services rendered to travelers, chiefly timely aid given to women in sickness and in trouble, to young girls left alone in the city at night, and to children. Mrs. Harford brought before the club two petitions, one to Hon. D. H. Mercer and the Fifty-sixth congress; the other to Senators Thurston and Hayward and the Fifty-sixth congress, both petitions urging that all honorable means be used to bring about the expulsion of B. H. Roberts, the covenant breaker and polygamist, from congress, also urging the amendment of the constitution to prohibit any polygamist from occupying a seat in congress. Club members were unanimously in favor of this petition.

The program for the day was given by the current topic department. The leader, Mrs. Mary I. Creigh, said she had two new things to bring before the club, a new singer and a new magazine. Mr. Oscar Gareisson was then introduced and sang "Ah, 'Tis a Dream," by Hawley. Mr. Gareisson possesses an exquisite voice and graciously responded to the enthusiastic encores of the women by singing two ballads.

Notes of the day were given by Mrs. Creigh, and an article on "Liquid Air and Its Possibilities for Refrigeration and as a Propelling Power" was read by Mrs. W. H. Wilbur. An original current topic poem, from the pen of Mrs. Heller was read. The story by Mrs. Hamilton was the unique account of a pastor who introduced sermons by phonograph, and was a dainty production. The book reviews were most entertainingly given by Mrs. Fitz, who, among other new books mentioned "Our War With Spain," by Henry Cabot Lodge; "Oom Paul and His People" by a New York newspaper man; "The South African Question," by Olive

Schreiner; "A Splendid Sin," by Grant Allen, and "That Fortune," by Charles Dudley Warner.

At the close of the program Mrs. Townsend, who attended the seventh annual meeting of the National Association of Household Economics in Chicago gave an interesting account of the convention. She stated that Mrs. Mary Moody Pugh was again elected vice-president, and as honors were given to the states doing the best work, Omaha might well be proud of the place she fills on the list of officers.

An interesting and well attended meeting of the Hall in the Grove was held at the residence of Mrs. Gibson, 1441 G street. The roll call brought a response from all the members on Transvaal war, the subject being continued from last meeting. An excellent paper by Mrs. Walter Davis on the Venetian School of Art and one by Dr. Sabin of Titian were very instructive. Mrs. Isaac Johnson proved a very efficient leader by bringing out a spirited discussion on the question, "Should boys and girls be taught the same subjects?"

The second division of the Matinee Musical, of which Mrs. C. E. Sanderson and Miss Haywood are leaders, gave the following program of Hungarian melodies—dances, old and new—before the club last Monday afternoon:

Piano quartet—Grand Galop Chromatique, Liezt, Mrs. H. E. Barbour, Mrs. A. R. Mitchell, Miss Annie L. Miller, Mrs. J. W. Winger.

Soprano solo—Spanish Bolero, Watson, Mrs. G. W. Noble.

Vocal duet—The Gypsies, Brahms, Mrs. Sanderson, Miss Holmes.

Piano solo—Gigue in G Minor; Handel; Gavotte Moderne, Liebling; Chippipini (Cuban dance) Hoffman, Miss Haywood.

Soprano solo—Roses in the Garden Growing, Korbay; Pretty Maid, Mohachy Field, Mrs. R. A. Holyoke.

Violin solo—Mazurka No 19, Winiawski, Miss Alice Marie Shepherd.

Soprano Solo—Gypsy Song (from Carmen), Bizet, Miss Florence Worley.

Folk songs—Mrs. Doane, Mrs. Holyoke, Mrs. Noble, Mrs. Sanderson, Mrs. Howard Doane, Miss Worley, Miss Holmes, Miss Haywood.

#### THE NOBLE NAME OF LITERATURE.

Have you heard the new coon song? I mean Kipling's latest, the "Absent Minded Beggar," sold for \$1,250 for the benefit of the families of the slayers of Boers. Sir Arthur Sullivan is to receive \$500 for setting it to music. Then the atrocious example of fin de siecle vulgarity will be complete. This debasement of every art to the purposes of coarseness and moral degeneracy is duly demonstrated.

The glamour of hero worship is wearing away, and Mr. Kipling's vigorous word slinging is becoming less potent. Critics and pencil chowers everywhere are berating him continually. His real stamp, that of a newspaper police court reporter, who delights in the facetious phrases about the misery and villainess he sees—is becoming more and more apparent, and it seems to me that the whole "Beggar" transaction, if correctly reported, robs the author of every shred of moral or literary respectability that he stood seized of—not a great deal. That the money does not go to help him pay his doctor's bills, but for strictly "humanitarian" purposes, is all the more reason why just any sort of loathsome junk would not do. The song may have emanated from the bowery. Perhaps the stolid Johnnies over their mugs may feel new pride in the "real laureate," and the shillings will clink in the tambourine of dancing girls when they sing the great English-Boer coon song, written by Mr. Rudyard Kipling and worth \$1,250. But the English cause—