

cused the particular case of the town of Albion, Nebraska, which had asked for help in establishing a library, showing in detail how such a town should proceed in order to establish a library, pointing out the law covering the case and different methods of bringing the people of the place into sympathy with the library idea. In the matter of donations, Mr. Wyer said many libraries had been killed by donations of books instead of money, for the libraries in general should be selections of books instead of collections. Books for a small library must be for all the people, not for specialists. He emphasized the fact that the personal character of the librarian had much to do with the success of a library.

Fred Abbott, superintendent of the Albion schools, was present and gave his experiences in working up a sentiment for a library, and the plans that had been made in that place for organizing the library. Representatives from Scribner, Sutton and Norfolk were present to inquire about organization of a town library.

The paper of Miss Edith Tobitt of Omaha was read by Miss Parsons. This paper on "Reference Work" laid emphasis on the importance of selecting reference books. It was recommended to keep all lists obtained, to make lists of special books for use, by special classes of people; to make the reference department useful in every way; in short, to let it be known that the reference part of the library is to be useful to all for all purposes.

Remarks were made by Miss Dennis of the Lincoln public library, Miss Parsons, Superintendent O'Connor of Norfolk, Mr. Fouquet of Lincoln, Professor Jilson and others. Mr. Wyer suggested a list of six best periodicals for an average public library, in answer to a question of Mr. O'Connor, as follows: Review of Reviews, St. Nicholas, Harpers, Century, Littels' Living Age, Forum.

A paper on "Library Legislation" by D. A. Campbell of the state library gave a resume of the efforts to get a library bill passed at the last legislature and explained why the two bills started failed of passage. These were the traveling library bill and district library bill. Discussion was made by Mr. Pentzer, Miss Edna Bullock and others. Some considerable discussion occurred over the question of remedy in a case where the one mill levy is not large enough to support the town or city library.

At the business meeting, which followed, by-laws were adopted and the following officers were elected for the coming year: President, J. I. Wyer, Lincoln; first vice president, Miss Carrie C. Dennis, Lincoln; second vice president, Prof. T. C. O'Connor, Norfolk; secretary, Miss M. Baumer, Omaha; treasurer, Miss O'Brien, Omaha.

Interest in the meeting was increased by the presence of traveling library No. 73, which, through the courtesy of the Iowa state library and the efforts of Miss Edna D. Bullock, was on exhibition in the university library. The staff of the university library had prepared an extensive exhibit of rare, curious and contemporaneous bindings which received much examination.

The committee on household economics appointed at the recent meeting of the executive board of the N. F. W. C. lists Nebraska as the third state federation to give household economics a standing committee. The formal recognition of the importance of this department will give new strength and impetus to this practical and important branch of study. The members of Iowa's standing committee on household economics have issued a pamphlet containing information and programs for use of clubs. It may be secured from

the chairman, Mrs. M. P. Campbell, Malvern, Iowa. The household economics department of any woman's club, if properly conducted, may do much to dispel the illusions that housekeeping is a routine of cooking, washing dishes, dressing the children, etc. Whatever betters the home, betters the nation. And systematic study of household economics will vary the monotony of housekeeping.

Mrs. C. S. Lobengier, leader of the political and social science department of the woman's club of Omaha, presented a thoughtful paper before the association of women's clubs which was held at Lincoln last week in connection with the State Teachers' Association. "Does intellectual life develop simultaneously with the religious life, and are the schools under obligations to foster both equally?"

The household economics department of the woman's club of Lincoln has arranged a Nebraska product day for February 26th. In so far as possible all Nebraska products, natural or manufactured, will be exhibited. For this program the following motto has been adopted: "Lincoln goods for Lincoln people; Nebraska products for Nebraskans." Women are the largest buyers for the home, and this means of informing themselves of home products is a long step in the right direction. I hope this meeting may prove a great stimulus to Nebraska products. Four hundred women pledged to home products means an impetus to home industries.

A Christmas meeting of the woman's club of Ashland was held at the home of Mrs. Chickering on December 27, with Mrs. Cowen as leader. The program opened with music by the Misses Mansfelde, Miss Joe playing the violin, Miss Belle the violincello and Miss Duty the piano. Following this was a paper by the leader, in which she portrayed the great influence which Christ's coming has produced on the world, and compared His leadership with that of others, the power and universality of Christianity, etc. Mrs. Camp read a paper written by Mrs. Marcy, "Christmas Customs of England;" Mrs. Jerome followed with "Christmas Customs of Holland." Mrs. Mansfelde told of German Christmas, and the difference between that of the North and South of Germany. Mrs. Scott read "Christmas in Venice," followed by Mrs. Pierson, reading "Crispus is Comin'." The program closed with music.

Saturday afternoon, December 23, the members of the English history department of the Stromsburg Woman's Club assembled at the residence of Mrs. D. D. Little. The topic for the day was discussed, followed by a review of the invasions, by Mrs. J. L. Johnson, assistant leader. Mrs. Johnson talks readily and received close attention. A club letter from the president, Miss Ada Coleman, who is spending the winter in Colorado, was read by the secretary, which gave information with regard to women in politics, and also mentioned some work done by clubs of Denver. After adjournment, a collation was served and the pleasure of a social half hour was enlivened by music. Mrs. M. A. Makeever has charge of the department of current events. The program for the last meeting was successfully carried out, and "Robert Ingersoll" proved interesting to the unprejudiced. The next paper will be "The Literature of the Nineteenth Century."

Holiday week brings a dearth of club reports, still we know that most of the women's clubs throughout the state held receptions on New Year's day, on which occasions the men were made the

guests of honor. The woman's club of Lincoln kept open house during the afternoon and although the weather was wintry there was a large attendance and those present found the occasion most enjoyable. The pink color scheme carried out in the decorations of the rooms, extended even to the refreshments, although pink lemonade was not served. Besides the beautiful floral decorations in pink, holly and evergreens were in evidence everywhere, contributing to the festive appearance of this beautiful holiday gathering.

A mandolin club furnished music throughout the afternoon. The ladies of this club of four hundred members outnumbered the masculine callers, so that each man who ventured in found himself the object of flattering interest. The guests were received by the following officers of the club: Mrs. A. W. Field, Mrs. I. N. Baker, Mrs. H. M. Bushnell, Mrs. Henry Gund, Mrs. T. H. O'Connell and Mrs. Morning. Mrs. Ackerman, Mrs. Castor and Mrs. Kelley assisted by several young ladies served ices and cake.

At the regular meeting of the Woman's club of North Bend, a miscellaneous program in charge of Mrs. Norris was given, and resulted in one of the most interesting sessions of the year. Quotations from Longfellow were given in response to roll call and many were the beautiful sentiments expressed. The vocal selection by Miss Ethel Hanks was received with favor.

The leader then introduced the paper on "The Negro Problem" by Mrs. T. H. Fowler. The excellency of this paper was clearly manifested in the close attention given by every member. "The solution of the negro problem rests in the application of the great truths of Christianity, both to black and white. The two great substantial and underlying facts of Christianity are that of a common nature and of a common relationship to Christ. Here is the cement of love that will ultimately settle the question. Legislation cannot do it, but Christianity can and will if we have patience, forbearance and the grace and spirit of God."

Interesting articles on Fred Douglas and Booker T. Washington were given by Mrs. Dana Dodge and Mrs. Roberts. The president introduced Miss Mabel Lee of Fremont who gracefully rendered "A Set of Furquoise." The debate, Resolved, "That the Negro is a Desirable Citizen" was participated in by almost all present. Owing to the club being pressed for time the Child Study program was postponed to the next meeting.

We were pleased to note among our visitors three of Fremont's club women, Misses Johnson, Lee and Summers.

Mrs. Eigler and Mrs. Grant will represent our club at the Fremont open meeting on Saturday. A number of other members will also attend this meeting.

The following is the standing committee on household economics for Nebraska: Mrs. Pugh, Thirty-sixth and Nicholas avenue, Omaha; Mrs. Milton Scott, Lincoln, and Mrs. Mary F. Paul, of St. Paul. This committee will be glad to assist in any possible way any club or department wishing to undertake this study.

The Woman's Literary Club of Stanton held an instructive and interesting session on Tuesday afternoon, January 2nd. The club met with Mrs. Crane. Twelve members responded to roll call, by giving New Years resolutions. The following officers for the year 1900 were introduced:

Mrs. Frank Huntley, president; Mrs. A. A. Kearney, vice president; Mrs. C. G. Clough, secretary; Mrs. Joe. Gratton,

treasurer. Addresses were made by the retiring president, Mrs. Kearney, and by the incoming president.

The literature lesson was Canto 11 of Lucile. This was followed by a social half hour. Mrs. Crane presented each guest with a dainty New Years souvenir. Adjourned to meet with Mrs. Drahos on January 8th.

The woman's club and mental culture club, the two federated woman's clubs of Auburn, held receptions New Year's day in the afternoon and evening, the woman's club at the Masonic hall from seven to ten in the evening, and the M. C. C., at the residence of Mrs. Robert Tears. Both receptions were well attended and those concerned expressed themselves fully satisfied with the work done.

Mrs. Sarah S. Platt, the very popular vice president of the General Federation of Women's clubs was married last month to Judge W. S. Decker of Denver. The ceremony was performed by Dean Hart in St. John's chapel in the presence of a few of the intimate friends of the contracting parties. The bride and groom left the same evening for St. Louis where they will remain for a few days. After returning to Denver they will be at the Hotel Metropole for the winter, expecting to take a house in the spring. The death of Colonel Platt left his business affairs much complicated and Judge Decker has been Mrs. Platt's attorney in her efforts to straighten the tangled condition. The engagement has been rumored a long time. May a long, happy, prosperous life be theirs.

The Fairbury Woman's club entertained a large company of friends at their club rooms in the court house New Years night. A very interesting musical program was presented, the leading musicians of the city participating. A series of questions, which were answered by giving the name of a popular play, was an amusement feature which created a good deal of amusement. The honors in this were carried off by Messrs. De Witt Hansen and Harvey Barker, two university students. Delicious refreshments were served at a seasonable hour. The ladies of the club are becoming immensely popular here as entertainers.

The members of the Plattsmouth woman's club were "at home" to their friends Monday evening at the home of Mrs. Agnew, who kindly threw open her spacious parlors for the reception of guests, from eight until eleven o'clock. The reception room, parlors and dining room were made most inviting by lovely decorations of pink and white, club colors, large bunches of pink roses and waxen hyacinths making a pretty picture against the background of Christmas greens. Mrs. Fellowe, the president, was assisted in receiving by different members of the club, who vied with each other in their efforts to make their guests perfectly at home. Partners were chosen for the refreshment room in an entertaining manner. Each guest was presented with a card bearing a pen and ink sketch of some article that needed a companion to render it complete. Much merriment ensued when the pen started to hunt the ink, the needle the thread, the cup the saucer, and many laughable incidents followed the matching of the bits of pasteboard. Mrs. Dr. Elster and Miss Stoutenborough poured coffee, Misses Marshall, Levings, Buzzell and Mapes served refreshment, and at the close of the receiving hour they all stayed a little longer "to talk it over," and good wishes for a happy and prosperous New Year to the Plattsmouth woman's club were