

CLUBS.

A meeting was held on Tuesday afternoon at the home of Mrs. A. W. Field, 1828 N street, to decide more fully upon the necessary arrangement for the meeting of the state federation, which is to be held in Lincoln on the 9th, 10th and 11th of next month. Mrs. Bushnell, president of the Woman's club, was the chairman. The reports from the committees appointed at the last meeting were read, discussed and approved.

The following committees were appointed: On place of meeting, Mesdames Scott and Ricketts. On receiving delegates at the train, Century club and New Book Review club. On decorations, Atheneia club. On housing the delegates, Sorosis. On providing a place where the delegates may lunch together, Mrs. A. A. Scott. On evening receptions, Lotos and Fortnightly clubs. The committee on ushers was not selected, but Mrs. Bushnell is in charge for the present.

The ladies were very much interested in meeting Mrs. Draper Smith of Omaha, the chairman of the state program committee. Her plans are fascinating, and the program promises to be one of the best the federation has ever enjoyed.

Addresses which are looked forward to with a great deal of pleasure are those by Mrs. Decker of Denver and Miss French, better known as Octave Thanet. Mrs. Decker will remain throughout the entire session, Mrs. Ricketts arranged some time ago to entertain her.

The federation is indebted to the program committee, composed of Mrs. Draper Smith of Omaha, Mrs. Cross of Fairbury and Mrs. Field of Lincoln.

Those present at the meeting were: Mrs. Bushnell, president of the Woman's club; Mrs. Hoover, president of the New Book Review club; Mrs. Barbour, president of Sorosis; Mrs. Gere, president of the Lotos club; Mrs. Ricketts; Miss Haskell, chairman of educational committee; Mrs. Draper Smith of Omaha, president of the state program committee; Mrs. Field, member of the state program committee; Miss Miller, Mrs. Scott, Mrs. Welch and other chairmen of local committees.

It was regretted that Mrs. Cross of Fairbury, a member of the state program committee, was unable to be present.

The program that follows is conditional. The official program will be printed later:

PROGRAM.

Household Economics.

Are Cooking School Methods Practical in the Average Home?

J. F. HARRIS,

No. 1, Board of Trade,
CHICAGO.

STOCKS

—AND—

BONDS.

Grain, Provisions, Cotton.

Private Wires to New York City and
Many Cities East and West.

MEMBER
New York Stock Exchange,
Chicago Stock Exchange,
Chicago Board of Trade

The Domestic Problem and Its Solution.

Food Adulteration and the Enforcement of Pure Food Laws.

Home Making from a Father's Standpoint (Dr. Wharton.)

The Ethics of Home Life.

Education.

The Public Schools of Nebraska—

From a Mother's Standpoint.

From a Teacher's Standpoint.

From a County Superintendent's Standpoint.

From the School Board's Standpoint.

Address Octave Thanet.

Industrial.

Consumers' League.

Industrial Laws of Nebraska (Mrs. Decker.)

How Can the Clubs of Nebraska Better Industrial Conditions?

Art.

Mrs. Hall—Illustrated Talk on the Sculpture and Paintings of Paris.

Series of Talks on Ceramics.

Antiquities of Potteries.

Prehistoric Potteries of the United States.

Pioneer of Ceramic Art in America.

The Influence of Ceramic Art on the Home.

Ceramics as an Industry for women.

The Courier has received the Year-Book of the Woman's club of Seward. It is a comprehensive condensed outline of the year's work. It contains, besides a list of the officers, dates of meetings, and the club motto, 'United effort toward peace, charity, equity and a higher civilization.' It was organized in April of this year and federated in May, 1900. Nothing could be prompter. The club color is old rose, and the flower is a white carnation. The club is a reorganization of the old XIX. Century club. The charter members numbered fifty enthusiastic women.

Officers—Pres'd't., Mrs. Grace Miller; first v.-pres'd't., Miss Frances Miller; second v.-pres'd't., Mrs. Phoebe Callendar; rec. sec., Mrs. Nellie B. Anderson; corr. sec., Mrs. Nellie W. Keefer; treas., Mrs. Nellie D. Redford; custodian, Mrs. Lydia B. Blanchard.

Club meetings are held Saturday, September 29, 1900, at 1:30 P. M., and each fourth week thereafter.

Residents of Seward not registered as members of the Woman's club may be admitted on payment of ten cents.

Special Committees: Program—Mrs. Carey, Mrs. Stoner, Mrs. Ritchey, Mrs. Anderson.

Auditing—Mrs. Dickinson, Mrs. Moore and Mrs. Weatherby.

House—Mrs. Dickinson, Mrs. Merriam and Mrs. Schultz.

Custodian and Doorkeeper—Mrs. Blanchard.

Meetings for the Year—September 29, Introductory address of the president. Talk on Paris exposition. Business. Music.

October 27—French art. Music.

November 24—Household economics.

December 22—Literature—Tennyson.

January 5—Annual business meeting.

January 26—French art. Music.

February 16—Banquet—Evening with Mrs. Stowe.

March 2—Economics. Music.

March 30—Literature—Walter Scott.

April 27—Current events. Music.

May 11—Business meeting.

Literature Department—First meeting Tuesday, Oct. 2—3 P. M. Leader, Mrs. Emma H. Schemel. Meetings every Tuesday afternoon. Outline:

I. Idyls of the King—Six lessons, with history of the time. a. Enid. b. Vivian. c. Elaine. d. Guinevere. e. Morte De Arthur.

II. The Golden Supper, Legal question.

III. The Princes—Four lessons. a.

Woman's rights discussion. b. History of the crusade movement. c. Its influence on literature.

IV. Tennyson—Life and works.

V. Scott, Ivanhoe—Six lessons.

VI. Lady of the Lake—Six lessons; History, Fitz James, Clan System.

VII. Marmion—Six lessons. a. Flodden Field. b. Feudal System. c. Recitation—Lochinvar. d. Quotations.

VIII. Life and works of Scott.

Household Economics Department—First meeting Saturday, October 6, 3 P. M. Leader, Mrs. Treasa Carey. Meetings every alternate Saturday afternoon. Outline:

I. The aim and scope of household economics. Arts and crafts employed in household science.

II. Life-giving agencies—Sun, water, atmosphere.

III. Domestic architecture—Ventilation, durability.

IV. Household arts—Essential principles.

V. Nutritive—Value of foods; chemistry of cooking.

VI. Educational agencies.

VII. Debate: Resolved, That the mistress, and not the servant, is responsible for the imperfect system of housekeeping.

VIII. Modern housekeeping.

IX. Music—Value in the home.

X. Christmas program—(Christmas gifts; gift-making; origin.) Christmas Carols.

IX. Patriotism—Historic mothers of the present century.

Art Department—First meeting Friday, October 12, 7:30 P. M. Meetings every alternate Friday evening. Outline:

I. French race and soil. General condition of painting before the Renaissance, 1100-1500.

II. The Renaissance in French painting, 1475-1589.

III. Art under Henry IV—Louis XII, 1589-1643.

IV. French art in the Eighteenth century. Revolution.

V. Nineteenth century. The classics.

VI. The Romantic school.

VII. Landscape painters—Two lessons.

VIII. Peasant painters.

IX. Military painters.

X. Genre painters and Orientalists—Two lessons.

XI. Imagination painters. a. Decorative. b. Easel.

XII. Impressionists.

XIII. Leon Bonnat—Duran, etc.

XIV. James Tissot.

Sorosis at Central City was organized the latter part of June, 1900, Mrs. Apperson being present with us. The officers elected are: Mrs. E. H. Bishop, president; Mrs. J. H. Marsh, vice president; E. Lena Spear, secretary; Mrs. J. W. Hutchison, corresponding secretary; and Mrs. J. H. Withrow, treasurer. A committee was appointed to draft the constitution and bylaws and the meeting was adjourned to meet on July the fifth.

In this second meeting, the committee report on constitution and bylaws was discussed and accepted after some amendments. An executive committee consisting of Mrs. J. H. Nash, Mrs. A. Ewing and Mrs. J. T. Harris, was appointed. It was decided to make it an unlimited organization, and to take up the study of American work i. e. American history, literature, etc., for the first year. The club now consists of twenty members.

The first meeting is appointed for October the sixth and the meetings will be every fortnight. Very neat year books have been printed and whether or not the club will become a part of the Federation will be discussed at our first meeting. Mrs. J. W. Hutchison.

UNDER A GILDED DOME.

BY FLORA BULLOCK.

I read in three different publications at Des Moines that Iowa had the lowest percent of illiteracy of any state in the Union. I queried, "Since when? What has become of Nebraska? Are we out of the Union? Or has the matter of literacy or illiteracy been left to the acute discernment of the Reverend Rollin Lynde Hartt?" Of course it is natural that an editor of daily paragraphs, anxious to please the crowds at fair time, should tell them all sorts of nice things about themselves; and persons visiting in the state for the purpose of 'doing it into print' will commonly be impelled to mingle the usual pinch of flattery with the otherwise flawless truths they utter. But when they rob Peter to pay Paul, Peter and his friends are privileged to object—mildly, of course, mildly. The truth is that the fair state which lies to the westward of Iowa, separated from it by a river which, according to a recent writer, saves Iowa from direful populist contamination, holds the banner in the matter of percent of illiteracy. Iowa may borrow some of the glory—"we live next to Nebraska"—but steal she may not.

And yet unless we look to it, Iowa may some day snatch our crown from us. Though it is true that their higher educational interests are crippled by the policy of scattering, common school work is on a high plane. And further, the Iowa legislature of two years ago established a system which does more for the diffusion of knowledge and culture than great universities—the system of traveling libraries. Iowa has thus fallen into line with other progressive states like New York, Wisconsin, Michigan and others and in this respect as in several others forges ahead of her sister states, and sends a call to us to come along and get into the band wagon.

Traveling libraries, under the control of a library commission, managed by a trained librarian who is appointed by this commission, are now in many towns and out of the way corners of Iowa lending their aid to the common schools. About eighty libraries of fifty volumes each are the property of the state and are sent out from the state library. People write in from small towns and wish to know how to get a start towards a library. Even such a town as Red Oak has no public library, and in many other well known burghs difficulty is experienced in starting the libraries on account of the law. This requires a vote of the people on the proposition for the levy, instead of a winning over of a few conscript fathers. As Iowa is full of foreigners in the more or less raw state the obtaining of a majority in favor of a library is sometimes a task. But those who are interested in the library movement secure a traveling library for three months, then another, getting possibly the juvenile libraries. The little Bohemians, Russians, Swedes and all read these books, they show the pictures to "mutter" in all languages, the leaven works down to the voters, and all in due time the library is obtained because it is really wanted. Then the beautiful books go into country districts where no public library is in reach and continue their mission. Iowa has put only \$2,000 a year into the business of disseminating culture this way, and of course cannot compare with eastern states that have invested thousands. But a good beginning has been made.

This traveling library system and the library commission was secured in Iowa largely through the efforts of the woman's clubs, and the federation is represented on the commission, I believe. The members of the commission are not paid but they receive traveling expenses. They employ a secretary, not