

"In whatever direction we look, and whatever improvement in existing conditions we seek to effect, we come back to it again and again, that the end is determined by the beginning, and that the foundations of all public betterment have to be laid in the children."

Achievements are always in proportion to aspirations. Self-satisfaction is as fatal to an organization as to an individual. There is nothing that cannot be accomplished by united womanhood. Life is large; its opportunities are large. As an organization of earnest, high-minded women, our opportunities are immense, because the individual is lost and becomes a part of the great force that is influencing the world. The duty is sacred. For these developments of a finer humanity let us give our deeper selves.

An important subject for consideration at the Federation meeting next year will be the proposed amendments to the constitution, the result of careful study by the constitution committee, Mrs. Draper Smith, Mrs. Stoutenborough and Mrs. Gault.

It seemed advisable to have the article relating to membership precede the one concerning officers, therefore Article V becomes Article III. As it now stands, the article reads: "Clubs desiring to join this federation shall make application." By the proposed change the sentence will read: "Any woman's club with objects unsectarian and non-partisan." It is also proposed to strike out the closing sentence: "A majority vote of the executive board present at any meeting shall be necessary to admit to membership," and to substitute a new section called "section 2," which declares "The corresponding secretary shall present each application to the executive board at the session following its receipt, and a majority vote of those present shall admit the club to membership."

Article III becomes Article IV, and as amended will read: "The officers shall be a president, vice president, recording secretary, corresponding secretary, treasurer, auditor and librarian. These officers with the General Federation secretary shall constitute an executive board for the transaction of the business of the state federation, subject to its directions, and shall make a full report at each biennial meeting. In addition to these officers above mentioned there shall be a vice president for each congressional district in the state."

Article VI, in regard to the annual meeting, will be changed to "meetings shall take place every two years, the second week in October, beginning in 1904, at such place as the executive board shall decide."

In Article VII, referring to the election of officers, the sentence "The election of officers shall take place at the annual meeting," will be changed to: "Officers shall be elected biennially and shall not be eligible to successive reelection to the same office." It is further amended by the addition of a new section, which is, "No person shall hold more than one office at a time."

Article VIII now reads: "The annual dues, payable in advance of the annual meeting, shall be two dollars for each club of fifty or less members, and one dollar additional for each fifty members or major fraction thereof after the first fifty members." When amended, and with the addition of two new sections, it will read: "The annual dues shall be three dollars for each club of fifty or fewer members and one additional dollar for each fifty members or major fraction thereof after the first fifty members, and shall be paid annually to the treasurer by September 15, beginning with the year 1903." "Section 2. The dues for the ensuing year shall be paid to the treasurer before any club shall be entitled to representation." "Section 3.

Clubs may be restored to membership upon the payment of all arrears."

In article X, referring to amendments, the clause, "Notice of the proposed amendments having been printed in the year-book," will be eliminated, and the article will read: "The constitution may be amended at any meeting of the state federation by a two-thirds vote of those present and voting, notice of the proposed amendment having been submitted to the executive board and appended to the call for the meeting."

Section 1 of the by-laws, defining the duties of the executive board, will read: "The duties of the executive board shall be to decide upon the admission of clubs, to fill all vacancies in its own body, to appoint such committees and make such appropriations as may be required to carry on the work of the state federation, and to conduct the business of the general federation in the state." The former section becomes section two and reads: "The president shall preside at all meetings of the federation, the executive board and the board of directors, and shall supervise all work of the association."

Section 2 will become section 3 and will read: "The vice president shall in the absence of the president perform the duties of the president."

Section 4 will be amended to read: "It shall be the duty of the district vice presidents to have general supervision over the clubs in their respective districts, to encourage the extension of club work and the organization of local or district federations wherever possible."

Section 6 will be added to by-law 1: "The duties of the other officers shall be those that usually pertain to the officers."

By-law 6 becomes by-law 7 by the insertion of a new by-law to be numbered 6, between those numbered 5 and 6. It will read: "The executive board and chairman of committees appointed to report at any biennial meeting shall be members of the meeting and entitled to introduce motions and vote."

The following supplementary report of Mrs. Peattie's informal talk at the Wayne federation is contributed by Mrs. D. C. McKillip of Seward:

While the convention was waiting for the report of the nominating committee, Mrs. Peattie was called to the platform and induced to express her views on the color question. Said Mrs. Peattie, in substance: "In regard to this question I feel very de ply. I sincerely trust the club women will do nothing rash. Let us wait. I do not wish to see this new harmony that has so lately united North and South broken. Just as the battle scars are covered by a mantle of charity and kindly feeling, just as the old ranking pain of defeat in the south and the bitter prejudices of the North are forgotten, and women of both regions have joined hands and are working as one harmonious whole for a common cause, why should we destroy the peace and beauty of it all by offering the most cruel insult possible to our sisters of the South? Let us think this subject over carefully and—let us wait."

If the colored people needed to come in, it would be different; but they now have all the helps, all the literature, all the advantages that we can give them. They have their own clubs and their general federation. They do not need us and we are better off without them. They would not be happy with us. There is a difference—we did not make the difference—God made it. He made them a different race, with racial peculiarities. While there are many noble people among them, yet they are not like us, and God never intended the black and the white to mix. Their tastes are different from ours; their pleasures are not the same; their songs have the weird rhythm of their race, and they can never be natural without these



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characteristics. There is a colored woman in our club in Chicago, but she is not happy with us. She feels that she is not like us, and she cannot forget it.

There are noble women in the South who are earnestly working for the betterment of the colored race. It is their question, let them settle it in their own way. A prejudice so deeply grounded that religion cannot alter it can never be uprooted by thrusting the colored race into the General Federation of Woman's Clubs. Let us be charitable, and let us wait."

The Lincoln Fortnightly club has issued to the members the year-book for the season of 1901 and 1902. The topic for the year is the "Study of Colonization." What is particularly noticeable is the admirable and illuminating division into topics as follows: The mercantile system and colonial policy from 1500 to 1800.

England's present policy toward her colonies (Canada, Australia, New Zealand, etc.)

England's present policy toward her dependencies (India, West Indies, etc.)

Symposium—Is colonization the inevitable outgrowth of national development?

Peculiarities of modern Dutch, French and German systems.

Russian methods of colonization.

Symposium—Does colonization pay?

Transformations in European colonies in the Western Hemisphere.

Territorial growth of the United States. Constitutional aspects of the relations between the United States and dependencies.

Symposium: What are the conditions of good colonial government?

Pending problems: (a) Natural prob-

lems, as race, climate, etc. Pending problems: (b) Political problems, as government, civil service, military, etc.

Pending problems: (c) Economic problems, as trade, commerce, labor, etc.

Pending problems: (d) Educational, moral and religious problems.

Symposium: What will be the reflex influence of dependencies on the United States?

The bibliography is a catalogue issued by the library of Washington entitled: List of books (with references to periodicals) relating to theory of colonization, government of dependencies, protectorates, and related topics, by A. C. Griffin, Chief, Division of Bibliography.

The officers for the year are, president, Mrs. H. H. Wilson; vice president, Mrs. W. G. L. Taylor; secretary, Miss Belva Herron. Besides these the members of the club are Mrs. E. B. Andrews, Mrs. E. H. Barbour, Mrs. F. M. Brooks, Mrs. S. H. Burnham, Mrs. A. W. Field, Mrs. C. H. Gere, Mrs. W. A. Green, Mrs. E. L. Hinman, Mrs. A. J. Sawyer, Mrs. W. J. Lamb, Mrs. G. M. Lambertson, Mrs. A. D. Levering, Mrs. H. E. Lewis, Mrs. A. S. Raymond, Mrs. L. C. Richards, Mrs. A. C. Ricketts.

From 1894 to 1897 the Fortnightly studied American literature, in 1897 the Netherlands, from 1898 to 1900 Russia, and last year reviewed the nineteenth century.

A most interesting recital arranged by Mrs. A. S. Raymond and Miss Mary A. Smith, leaders of the first division, was given at the regular meeting of the Matinee Musicale on Monday afternoon. Nevin's song cycle entitled "Captive Memories" was rendered with a true appreciation of its artistic possibilities. The singers were Miss Eleanor Ray-