

Tuesday morning at the office of Mrs. Richardson to discuss plans for the carnival. It was voted to increase the salary of the secretary from \$100 to \$300 per year. The election of officers resulted in the re-election of Mrs. W. G. L. Taylor as president; Mrs. W. E. Ogden, vice president; Mrs. Richardson, secretary; Mrs. Lewis Gregory, treasurer, and Mrs. Levering, auditor.

Members of the Cozy club of Tecumseh, held an open meeting and reception at the home of Mrs. A. C. Sullivan on Monday evening. The house was elaborately decorated with flowers, and with the club colors, heliotrope and white. Refreshments were served, and a lecture by Miss Mary Tremaine of Lincoln and several musical numbers furnished the entertainment.

Club women all over the country feel a personal loss in the death on December 23 of Mrs. Jennie June Croly. Over thirty years ago Mrs. Croly organized Sorosis, and it was directly owing to her efforts that the Federation of Women's Clubs was formed. Mrs. Croly was also the founder of the New York Women's Press club, of which she was president at the time of her death. Mrs. Croly was the author of the "History of the Woman's Club Movement in America."

On Tuesday afternoon the executive board of the Nebraska Federation of Women's clubs met in this city. Meeting with them in executive session for the first time were the chairmen of the new committees. The civic committee, a new addition to the list, will be composed of Mrs. F. M. Sacket of Albion, Mrs. Nellie B. Miller, of Douglas, Mrs. Belle W. Gue of Winside, Mrs. S. C. Langworthy of Seward and Mrs. W. G. L. Taylor of Lincoln. At the next annual meeting the important business sessions will be held in the evening, and the social entertainments in the afternoon. Present at the meeting were Mrs. Draper Smith, president of the state federation, Mrs. Durland of Norfolk, Mrs. Bushnell, Mrs. Hinman and Mrs. Ricketts of Lincoln, Mrs. Holmes of Kearney and Mrs. Mac Murphy of Omaha. Following is the list of standing committees:

- Reciprocity committee—Mrs. A. A. Scott, Lincoln; Mrs. Cora E. Nevin, Laurel; Mrs. Mary F. Kelley, North Bend.
- Industrial committee—Mrs. Etta R. Holmes, Kearney; Mrs. Kate M. True, Tecumseh; Mrs. T. L. Fisher, Auburn; Mrs. May Wright, Scotia.
- Constitution—Mrs. A. R. Gault, Omaha; Mrs. Nellie Vest, Plainview; Mrs. N. S. Clark, Stromsburg.
- Music—Miss Rebecca Wilson, Falls City; Mrs. Robt. McConagy, York.
- Program—Mrs. J. M. Pile, Wayne; Mrs. J. A. Erhardt, Stanton; Mrs. Jennie C. Hosford, Crete.
- Household Economics—Mrs. H. S. MacMurphy, Omaha; Dr. Georgiana Grothan, St. Paul; Mrs. L. M. Wolf, Neligh.
- Art—Mrs. F. M. Hall, Lincoln; Mrs. Robert Fenton, Wymore; Miss Nina Lombard, Fremont.
- Educational—Mrs. E. L. Hinman, Lincoln; Miss Bertha Bloomingdale, Grand Island; Mrs. Jennie Unruh, Plattsmouth.
- Credential—Miss Minnie Becker, Columbus; Mrs. O. H. Schenck, Pawnee City; Mrs. H. E. Crum, Madison.
- Library—Mrs. E. M. Stoutenborough, Plattsmouth; Mrs. C. F. Steele, Fairbury; Miss Margaret O'Brien, Omaha.
- Transportation—Mrs. C. S. Lobingier, Omaha; Mrs. A. J. Evans, David City; Mrs. Corydon Road, Talmage.
- Badge—Mrs. Hord, Central City; Mrs. Mayme Humphreys, Franklin; Mrs. Anna Huse, Fullerton.
- Club Extension—Mrs. Winnie E. Durland, Norfolk; Mrs. Emma Page, Syracuse; Mrs. Julia Hoobler, Omaha.

After the regular business meeting, the following resolutions were adopted by the executive board:

"Whereas, In the recent death of Mrs. Jennie Cunningham Croly all women have sustained an irreparable loss, and  
 "Whereas, From her life and labor women's clubs in particular received most valuable aid and inspiration:  
 "Therefore be it resolved, That the executive board of the Nebraska Federation formally express its appreciation of her services and offer a tribute of love to her memory:  
 "And further be it resolved, That this resolution be recorded in the proceedings of the board."



MISS DORRANCE HARWOOD  
 Daughter of Mrs. N. S. Harwood



MISS RUTH PRENTISS  
 Niece of Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Leonard



MISS LILLIAN FITZGERALD  
 Daughter of Mrs. John Fitzgerald

Miss Prentiss and Miss Harwood are students at Ferry Hall in Lake Forest, Ill. Miss Fitzgerald attends the convent of the Sacred Heart in St. Joseph, Mo. All three young ladies are enjoying holiday visits at their homes in Lincoln.

## IN THE REALM OF POLITICS

Notwithstanding the fact that the congressional elections are almost a year away, a pronounced activity is noticeable among the various gentlemen who would like to represent Nebraska in the lower house. The delegation now consists of four fusionists and two republicans, but there is every reason to believe that this fall the delegation will be solidly republican. This opinion is based upon the returns of the last election, when every district in the state gave good majorities for the republican state ticket. Two years ago the fusionists won in the Third, Fourth and Fifth districts by the slenderest of margins, and if doubt enters into the result this fall it will be only in the Sixth district, where politics is always mighty uncertain and where republican hopes have been repeatedly dashed.

Mr. Burkett in the First district has made no public announcement of his candidacy for a third term, but it is generally understood that he desires a re-election. In fact he has repeatedly said that he believes a congressman's value to his constituents lies largely in his being indefinitely retained at Washington to represent the district. Dave Mercer has represented the Omaha district for ten years. He has been able to do this by getting things for his people. Public buildings and good appropriations, not a high order of statesmanship, are the weapons with which Dave has beaten down competition in the past, and it was early evident in Mr. Burkett's career that he intended to adopt the same method. Following out this theory he has been indefatigable in looking after the interests of his individual constituents and has secured several good things in the way of appropriations for the federal property holdings here. He has succeeded in securing a place on the appropriations committee and expects to be able to do a great deal more if he is retained. If he can succeed in doing something for Lincoln at this session he will strengthen himself greatly.

But he is pretty certain to have opposition at home. It is no secret that Judge E. P. Holmes of the district bench would not object to being congressman and if he believes there is a chance to defeat Mr. Burkett that he will enter the race. Mr. Holmes is a master hand at the game of politics, and is an opponent not to be lightly held. The third term idea is never popular among those men who take an active interest in politics for the good and sufficient reason that it narrows the possibilities of office holding. Add to this the dissatisfaction that exists among them over Mr. Burkett's se-

lection as postmaster, and the opposition promises to be formidable. Mr. Sizer personally is a fine gentleman and fully competent to discharge the duties of postmaster, but the politicians think he has had enough in the line of political rewards. Mr. Burkett is known to hold Mr. Sizer in high regard. It was Mr. Sizer who piloted Mr. Burkett through his first congressional campaign, and although no promise of the postmaster was then given, it is fair to assume that both gentlemen had it in mind and immediately after the senatorial contest was ended and Mr. Thompson said he had no man for the place, the promise was passed. It has



J. C. F. M'KESSON

been stated that W. H. Clark, another Fifth warder, and said to be the original Burkett man, is slated for deputy postmaster. This will not prove a very popular appointment, either. One rumor has it that Postmaster Bushnell, who does not believe that Mr. Burkett is consistent in asking a third term for himself while denying a second term to him, will enter the race for congress. He lives in the same precinct as Mr. Burkett, and this would mean a sharp, quick fight. At one time Ex-County Judge George M. Spurlock of Plattsmouth was credited with having congressional aspirations. Judge E. A. Tucker of Humboldt, was another, but he can hardly oppose Mr. Burkett now after the latter's earnest endeavors to land him in the New Mexico judgeship that Ben Baker nabbed.

Mr. Mercer is home again and has opened up his campaign. He cheerfully

discussed with a reporter the other day, his chances in this wise:

"I am a candidate for re-election, and I stand on my record. It has been my purpose to do what I could for Omaha and the Second congressional district, and I think I have succeeded pretty well in that direction, if I do say it myself. I understand that Mr. Roosevelt is not quite satisfied. That is too bad. The old man is getting along in years, and he has had a good deal of trouble of one kind and another.

"Of course I know that the impression prevails that Rosey is going to make a hot fight against me. All there is to it, I am in the ring, and in a scrap to a finish, I will give them the best there is in the shop. The trouble is that a good many people here at home take the old man too seriously. Why, when he comes down to Washington—Oh well, never mind about that. I don't want to say anything personal, but just for fun you ought to come to Washington the next time he makes a trip to the capital. It would be well worth your time."

Out in the Fourth district it is understood that Charles H. Sloan of Geneva, who was defeated for the nomination by J. D. Pope of Friend, two years ago, is to be given the nomination this time. There are a number of tentative candidates in the other districts, but matters are a little too nebulous to admit of definite discussion.

J. C. F. McKesson, recently appointed as the confidential secretary of Governor Savage, is one of the best known politicians in the state. Mr. McKesson is something more than a politician, however. He is a level-headed business man and something of a statesman, if three terms in the legislature are to be accepted as evidence.

Mr. McKesson is a young man yet, although his hair is beginning to be silvered. He has lived many years in Lancaster county, his family being one of its oldest settlers. He is a graduate of the state university, and has to his credit several years as a newspaper man, being, in fact, one of the founders of The Evening News.

Mr. McKesson served as a member of the house in the most turbulent portion of the state's recent history—in 1891 and 1893, when the populists had the majority and thought they were in control. In 1895 he was a member of the senate, in the memorable year when the senate, through the pure force of political genius and pull, organized the house.

In all of the stirring events of those sessions Mr. McKesson took a prominent part. He has a natural bent for politics, he knows the mainstrings of political action, and as a tactician, philosopher and friend he is in a class by himself—and indispensable.

As secretary of the senate last winter he came into close personal contact with the lieutenant-governor, and after Mr. Savage's elevation to the governorship the knowing ones picked him as the coming private secretary.