

confined to the unpublished consideration of the advisory board and the directors' meetings. The subject will be discussed with more or less feeling, and each delegate who expects to go should endeavor to discover the opinion held by the majority of the club she will represent. Owing to the peculiar reticence still exhibited by club members in regard to publicly expressing an opinion before a vote is taken, this information is somewhat difficult to obtain, and a personal canvass is not often convenient. But after a formal vote is taken and announced it is quite easy for a close observer to discover the opinions of each individual. And as that is all the delegate desires to know, the means are immaterial.

It is not the old subject of slavery, the heroic attitude of the Massachusetts club members and their insistence upon teaching their southern sisters liberality and catholicity to the contrary. It is a question of expediency, Mrs. Robert Burdette, while traveling in the south, met Bishop Grant who was on his way by invitation to the White house to confer with President Roosevelt. She asked him the question: "Can the white club women better serve the women of your race by bringing them into their organization?" The bishop answered: "Madam, as it always benefits the lower to associate with the higher, it would certainly help our colored women to come into the association of white women; but the question the white club women have to decide is how they can best serve womankind at large. Can they best do this by turning the back on the white club women of the south, who need the national organization in their development, and extending the hand to the colored women, or by holding on to the southern white women and continuing to help, as in the past, the colored women?" That is the issue which presents itself at this stage. This is the point. The bishop is right. It is not a question of emancipation. Are the few hundred colored women who would come into the federation worth the thousands of white women who would resign and organize a federation of their own south of Mason and Dixon's line?

Under such circumstances the south would be represented in the federation only by colored women and the friendships and interests which have begun to unite the north and the south by a stronger bond than the constitution, would be torn asunder. Other interests and friendships would doubtless form again but the south would then have reason to suspect the sincerity and warmth of our friendship. The colored women have repeatedly said that they did not care to belong to the white woman's clubs. Urged by the strenuously insistent women of Massachusetts, enough colored women have been induced to appeal for membership in the general federation to make it likely that the meeting in Los Angeles will be an occasion for violent discussion between the champions of admission and its opponents. Triumph for the proponents would be empty. It would be followed by the secession of the southern states and the federation would be crippled in numbers and in potential service, the greatest and most important phase of which is the cultivation of acquaintance and sympathy between the different parts of this republic.

After the last meeting of the federation at Milwaukee where the burning question was not settled but deferred, the Massachusetts state federation adopted a resolution to the effect that the general federation should be composed of delegates from state federations, each state being left free to control its own membership. Thus Massachusetts might admit colored clubs and Georgia might exclude them.

Then the executive board of the Georgia state federation adopted a resolution to be presented to the board of directors of the general federation. According to this plan, state federations are not represented in the national body but individual clubs send a delegate apiece.

To reconcile if possible these oppos-

ing views the general executive board recommended a conference between Georgia and Massachusetts for the purpose of effecting a compromise. The conference was held in New York on February 6 and 7, 1902. The resolutions were discussed in a spirit of peace. The Wednesday club of St. Louis, one of the strongest and most progressive clubs in the country, suggested to the delegates that the color question be settled by an application of the principle of state rights, without reorganization, and the resolution provisionally accepted by the representatives of Massachusetts and Georgia was an embodiment of the suggestion: "Resolved, That the color question be settled without reorganization by the strict application of the doctrine of state rights, individual club membership in the general federation to remain as it is."

Perhaps the Georgia and the Massachusetts delegates represent the most willful and bigoted of the two extreme views. If they can agree upon a compromise it is likely that the federation composed of a large majority of western women will be able to invent a resolution that will satisfy the exigent passion for reforming other people and calm the deep-seated prejudices of a people whose problem we can not settle for them.

The Oleomargarine Bill

In a general way there is a great deal of indignation expressed concerning the adulteration of foods and the passing off on innocent customers a cheaper article at the price of that for which it is substituted. But when it comes to the point of protecting the buyer, the manufacturer is at the elbow of the congressman to warn him that he is about to commit a great injustice against an industry which has built this country up and made it rich and courted among countries. The buyers are far, far away attending to business. In this case it is doubtful if the butter-buyer would have been pro-

ted against the manufacturer of butterine if it had not been for the fact that the latter composition is an imitation of butter and lessens its sale. Reforms are accomplished through the operation of the law of selfishness. There was a representative, probably a number of representatives, of the great creameries at Washington while the oleomargarine bill was in the rapids. The arguments in congress mentioned the consumer. The consumer, in fact, had the place of honor. The creamery man's triumph is to the good of the consumer's stomach, pocket-book and faith in the market. But the consumer did not figure in the private discussions of the reasons for and against the bill. He was prominent only in the discussions strictly for publication and the gallery. It was strictly a captains' battle, and the creamery captains won.

The Sunday School Address

It is a discouraging aspect of feminine human nature that ninety-nine women out of a hundred mount the platform to exhort their fellow-women. Their audience may be as traveled, as cultured, as bent upon reform and upon doing good as they are themselves, but they do not recognize that. Ninety-nine women adopt the tone of a missionary, a tactless missionary addressing benighted heathen. The hundredth conceals her missionary purpose under a veil of humor or of sarcasm. At any rate the hundredth woman does not make the mistake of underrating the moral purpose and habit as well as the intelligence of her audience. A recent address delivered by a prominent club-woman might have been delivered fifty years ago by the conventional Sunday-school spell-binder to an unsophisticated Sunday-school. She is the wife of a once well-known newspaper man and his popularity is an introduction to the good graces of an audience; but the kind of talk she addresses to club women will not for long be numbered among the things that make life tire-

some. The high-school girl is no longer allowed in an up-to-date school to write that sort of a valedictory. Being young and a female, she is of course tempted to reform the world; but her teachers tell her that there are other preachers who have taken the full theological course, and that it is more appropriate for her to write about something she knows about and to tell it in as modest a manner as her scholarship and very beautiful Swiss muslin gown will allow her to.

There is no one who dares stop the traveling club woman who feels that she has a message to deliver to the women of whatever place she finds herself in. The type is irrepressible and the ennui she disseminates is unintentional. She thinks she is the angel of sweetness and light. Nay, Nay, Pauline.

The Namesake

The April Lippincott's contains a poem by Miss Willa Cather, a Nebraska girl and a graduate of the state university. In a line or two is the picture of the confederate and the federal graves side by side and the vision of the youngster of today revisiting the battlefield where lies his mother's brother who will always be young because he died when he was young. The nephew has kept in his heart the story of the young patron saint who died for a lost cause. To paraphrase it is to make prose of poetry. The vividness and the realization of youth and the passion of patriotism and of kindred is what makes it such good poetry; but the versification also is clever and musical.

THE NAMESAKE.

To W. L. B., of the Thirty-Fifth Virginia
By Willa Sibert Cather.

"Vigesimum post annum in Obscurum correpto Ivem vigesimi gaudens percipisse."

Two by two and three by three
Missouri lies by Tennessee;
Row on row, a hundred deep,
Maryland and Georgia sleep,
And the wistful poplars sigh
Where Virginia's thousands lie.

Somewhere there among the stones,
All alike, that mark their bones,
Lies a lad beneath the pine
Who once bore a name like mine—
Flung his splendid life away
Long before I saw the day.

Once my mother told me how
Hair like mine grew on his brow.
He was twenty to a day
When he got his jacket gray,
He was barely twenty-one
When they found him by his gun.

Tell me, Uncle by the pine,
Had you such a girl as mine,
When you put her arms away
Riding to the wars that day?
Were her lips so cold, instead
You must needs to kiss the lead?

Had the bugle, liltng gay,
Sweeter things than she to say?
Were there no gay fellows then,
You must seek these silent men?
Was your luck so bad at play
You must game your bones away?

Ah! you lad with hair like mine,
Sleeping by the Georgia pine,
I'd be quick to quit the sun
Just to help you hold your gun,
And I'd leave my girl to share
Your six feet of glory there.

Proud it is I am to know
In my veins there still must flow
There to burn and bite away,
That proud blood you threw away;
And I'll be winner at the game
Enough for two who bore the name.

The Fate of The Loquacious

General Grant's military talent would not, of itself, have been sufficient to insure success. Unless he had had power to keep still while all around him were chattering and between times endeavoring to make him chatter, it is likely that he would not have been appointed to the supreme command of the army in time of war. The study of the characters and habits of men in charge of trusts or of large and complicated systems of any kind will repay youth better than attention to the advice to young men who wish to succeed written by these very men. The written advice is honest enough, but Mr. Schwab or Mr. Pierpont Morgan or Mr. Harriman are not literary men,



JOHN H. MOCKETT, JR.

John H. Mockett, jr., one of the successful insurance men of Lincoln, was born in Genesee, Waukesha county, Wisconsin, in December, 1860. His parents came to Cuming county, Nebraska, in 1872. Here Mr. Mockett attended the public schools and later for two years was a teacher. In 1880 he came to Lincoln where he has since remained.

In politics Mr. Mockett has made a reputation. He was elected councilman from the Seventh ward in 1897 and again in 1899, without opposition from either party, and was president of that body from April to December, 1900, resigning his seat to serve in the house of representatives of the state legislature in 1901. He was chairman of the revenue and taxation committee and was a member of the insurance committee.

Mr. Mockett introduced the first bill in the lower house and was the author of several measures that ran the gauntlet of the legislature, among which was the new Lincoln charter. He also displayed marked ability as a parliamentarian and was looked upon as one of the leaders of the republican majority in the house.

After studying three years in Nebraska university Mr. Mockett, in 1883, became a member of the firm of J. H. Mockett & Sons, general agents of the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance company, the fourth in size in the United States. When the agency was established in 1881 by J. H. Mockett, sr., the company had in force in the state less than one-half million of insurance. On December 31st last the amount had increased to \$6,655,000. The firm offices in Lincoln in the Burr block.