WORK OF THE CLUB WOMEN

(Continued from Second Page.)

Miss Janet E. Richards, of Waashington, D. C., under fashionable patronage. Miss Richards has taken an unusually interesting European trip this summer, including The Hague and Peace conference; a visit to Ibelsingfoss, Finland, where she met some of the women members of the Finnish Parliament; a visit to St. Petersburg and many other places of interest in Europe. The patronesses for these talks are Mrs. Charles Warren Fairbanks, Mrs. George B. Cortelyou, Mrs. Seth Low, Mrs. Julia Ward Howe, Mrs. Charles W. Gregory, Mrs. William Cummings Story and others of equal prominence connected with the patriotic society of which Mrs. Herbert Ellsworth Gates, of Omaha, has been appointed organizing president for Nebraska.

Mrs. Gates is living, for the present, at the Park Avenue hotel, New York City, where she is anxious to hear from all those women in Nebraska who are elegible to membership, with the object of organizing a state society in Nebraska.

The Vermont state society, of which Mrs. C. F. R. Jenne is president, has been granted permission by the recent session of the legislature, to place in the state house at Montpelier a tablet commemorative of the deeds of valor of the soldiers and sailors of the war of 1812. During the year the same state society of the United States Daughters of 1812 has placed bronze markers over the graves of several patriots, notably those of Joseph Barrow, jr., confidential pilot to Commodore McDonough, Captain Horace Sawyer, of the United States navy, and the Rev. Hiram Safford, the exercises being held on the anniversary of the battle of Plattsburg.

Current Topics Department.

At the meeting of the current topics department Tuesday various phases of the world's work were discussed by Mesdames Andrews, Lockwood, Glover, Oehrle and Edward Johnson, Mrs. H. S. Rhoades being leader for the day. Miss Hopper assisted in the program with a vocal selection. A new feature instituted by the leader, Mrs. C. W. Hayes, is for each member to give some short current note, and on Tuesday religion, art, education, science and the recent financial stress were touched upon. A spirited discussion followed the wish of one member that she might have heard the recent address given before the teachers by Dr. Schaffer, in which he stated that teachers should bring sunshine into the school room. One mother thought parents were to blame for not making thorough investigations into this need which exists in many school rooms; still another held that it was sometimes imperative to place a child in another school where it could imbibe a more sunshiny spirit. Another fact presented was the lack of sympathy between many teachers and some pupils.

New Clubs in the National.

The membership committee of the General Federation of Women's Clubs announces the admission of the following clubs to that organization:

California—Selma. Walnut Improvement club. Twenty-two members. President, Mrs. H. N. Cutler.

New York—Saratoga. Saratoga Woman's association. Thirty-five members. President, Miss Anna Maxwell Jones, 2 Franklin square.

New York—Mechanicville. Friday Reading circle. Nineteen members. President, Mrs. Myra M. Moore.

Ohio—Warren. Book club. Twenty-four members. President, Mrs. A. F. Harris, Mahoning avenue.

Club Notes.

The club women's children are to have their inning Monday afternoon when they will be guests of the South Omaha Woman's club. The household economics department will be in charge of the open day program and has invited the club children and their friends to be their guests. Among other interesting features planned Dr. S. R. Towne will give a talk on birds.

The Council Bluffs Woman's club will hold a reception Friday afternoon of this week at the home of Mrs. B. C. Smith on First avenue. This will be the second of a series of receptions planned for this winter and members of the literature department will act as hostesses.

The current topics department of the Woman's club will hold its first kensington afternoon of the autumn, Tuesday afternoon, November 5, at 2 o'clock, at the home of Mrs. C. W. Hayes, 2616 Lake street. There will be an interchange of Christmas ideas and a program to which Mrs. J. Harden will contribute vocal numbers accompanied by Mrs. C. Y. Kenworthy, and readings by Mrs. Stephen E. Davies. Mrs. Edward Johnson, Mrs. G. P. Moorhead, Mrs. E. Oehrle, Mrs. Benjamin S. Baker, Mrs. W. H. Wilbur and Mrs. T. R. Ward will be the assistant hostesses.

For the benefit of the Ladies' Aid society of the First Methodist church Rev. Frank L. Loveland will present his lecture, "The Wandering Jew," Tuesday evening, November 12, at 8 o'clock, in the parlors of the church.

The Omaha Society of Fine Arts will meet Thursday morning, November 7, in the audience room of the public library, Mrs. H. D. Foy to be the leader of the day. Reubens will be the artist under discussion and Mrs. F. H. Cole and Mrs. M. B. Lowrie will contribute to the discussion.

PRATT DIVORCE OPENS AGAIN

Daughters Ask that Service on Them Through Publication Be Quashed.

The first skirmish in the Pratt divorce case, since the filing of the new petitions took place before Judge Kennedy Saturday morning when the attorneys for Mrs. Harriett Pratt Magee and Mrs. Margaret Louise Pratt Oleson asked the service had on them by publication be quashed. They are daughters of Colonel Pratt and were made codefendants because of the litigation over the property which Mrs. Pratt asserts was conveyed to defraud her out of the money she was entitled to under the ante-nuptial agreement. The attorneys for the defense contend this is not a case in which service can be had by publication and that personal service must be had, as the plaintiff has no legal title in the property in controversy.

The motion was argued by the attorneys Saturday morning and submitted to Judge Kennedy, who took it under advisement.

BEGGAR HITS LAW OFFICERS

Mendicant Strikes Detectives, Police Judge and City Prosecutor Without Knowing Them.

Dan Foley was up before Judge Crawford Saturday morning on the charge of begging on the streets.

"I had been on a drunk and blew myself," he said, "and simply asked a man for 10 cents to get across the bridge on."

"Do I look like the man you asked," said City Prosecutor Daniels.

"Do I look like another you tackled?" said Plain Clothes Officer Hiel.

"And me," "and me," "and me too," chimed in others whom Foley had begged from on the street.

"Guess you must have worked the wrong side of the street," said Judge Crawford. Ten and costs. Try the other side next time and maybe you'll have more luck."

MISSIONARIES IN AFRICA

Features of Work in Depths of the Dark Continent.

REDUCING JARGON TO LANGUAGE

Almost Insurmountable Obstacle Overcome by Christian Workers in Their Dealings with the Natives.

Among the many interesting women in attendance at the meeting of the Congregational Women's Board of Missions of the Interior, in session in Omaha last week, who have given up lives of comfort and refinement, home, friends and all the associations most dear, to carry Christ's gospel to heathen lands, none had a more interesting story to tell than Mrs. W. M. Stover and Miss Emma C. Redick, members of one of the mission colonies in central western Africa.

Reducing the jargon of an African tribe to a written language is the gigantic task in which they have had a part while engaged with other missionaries in establishing schools, and the general dissemination of Christianity and better ideas of living.

Twenty-six years ago a little band of missionaries made their way up the coast and then into the interior to the home of the Ovimbundu people, or Angola, as it is known, a Portuguese territory in west central Africa, where they established a mission village from which has grown one of the most important mission stations on the continent. The year after the founding, Mr. Stover joined the party and the following year Mrs. Stover "came out." While not contending with a hostile people, the task was a stupendous one, and chief among the difficulties was the inability of the missionaries to communicate with the natives, being unable to speak or understand a word of their language. Anticipating this difficulty, the party had picked up a Portuguese halfcaste on the coast, taking him with them as interpreter, but much to their disappointment and mystification, their overtures to the natives through this medium proved unavailing and no progress was made. Frequently their most friendly advances failed to elicit any response and instead of inspiring confidence as they had hoped among the people they had come to help, it was evident they were often regarded with suspicion.

Interpretor Was a Fake.

Finally the mystery was explained. After weeks of watching the natives and listening to their talk, the missionaries began to acquire some understanding of the language, and then they discovered that their interpreter was a fraud. Whether maliciously or from ignorance of the language himself it was never fully decided, but it was certain that this interpreter had not conveyed the messages intended for the natives, and he was hurried back to his home at the earliest opportunity. From that time the progress was more rapid, and while the workers have not mastered the entire language as yet, a vocabulary of several thousand words has been acquired and is being taught in the mission schools to fully 2,000 pupils.

With the progress of the work has come the important discovery that the Ovimbundu language is developed from roots that form a substantial part of the basis of many of the other African languages. Even among the Zulus many words and prefixes are identical with the Ovimbundu. It is one of what are known as the Bantu languages, and is supposed to have originated in the interior, as many tribes driven out of there base their language upon the same roots. The weary work of the missionaries in reducing the pure native language to writing before it had been corrupted by foreigners has been more than repaid and has proven valuable beyond their anticipation, as material assistance in learning the language of other tribes. The Ovimbundu is the commercial language of that section at present, and while the workers realize that it must in time give place to the German or English languages, its preservation in its purity is most valuable and its development is being steadily pursued.

Language Always in Order.

Miss Redick relates that even as she crossed the country, doming out to the coast enroute home, she fell in with a party of missionaries from the south and comparison of language showed marked similarity, and in some cases words and prefixes identical. So far translations have been confined chiefly to the books of the Bible, but the translation of "Pilgrim's Progress" has recently been completed and other work is in progress. A peculiar system of reading has been developed in the mission school. Instead of using letters syllables are used, and these are recognized by sight just as letters are in other languages in a system of sight reading much like that now employed in the primary grades of our own schools. The language so far embraces about twenty sets of syllables.

Mrs. Storer tells many amusing experiences incidental to her early acquaintance with the people and their language and the slow and tedious method by which the missionaries became familiar with them.

"We simply had to listen to and watch the people and then determine the meaning of the sounds they made by fitting them to their actions," she said. "It was slow work and many times we made ridiculous and even serious mistakes, but after we became sure of a number of words we found roots from which we were able to work and little by little our knowledge is growing."

Mistakes Easily Made.

In illustration she related an incident that happened soon after her arrival at the village. While opening a can of condensed milk one day she was attracted by a lot of children who, evidently much interested, stood about watching her. When the contents of the can became visible the children began chattering excitedly and she noticed that most frequently they used the word "okulla." Over and over they said it, pointing at the can and the milk, until she decided they meant milk. In the notebook which the missionaries all carried for that purpose she registered the word "okulla" and after it wrote "milk" with a question mark. A few days later while busy getting a meal she was again attracted by the children speaking the word "okulla," repeating it as they pointed to the food she was preparing. But this time it was a vegetable that she was working with and she knew her first conclusion had been wrong. Finally, after holding up various things for the children to name and with a questioning expression on her face (for by expression and gestures alone she could communicate with them), she discovered that for everything eatable they promptly said "okulla," and so learned that that was the native word for food. This was among the earlier important discoveries. On another occasion she relates when some inquisitive natives trespassed upon the privacy of her house she applied to them a native word that she supposed signified undue inquisitiveness. Evidently much astonished, the natives gazed at her, but without grasping the very broad hint she had intended. Then she noticed that two small boys who were employed about the house, after exchanging alarmed glances, dropped their work and hurried to Mr. Stover's study, where they explained as best they could that she had made a great mistake, having used an expression that women did not speak. Through this mistake Mr. and Mrs. Stover discovered the meaning of an important prefix and by this slow process the native language has been revealed to them.

Extension of the Work.

From the original station of Bailundu eighteen or twenty other stations have been established. Reading, writing, Bible study and mathematics are included in the school curriculum, which has not yet been developed beyond the elementary grades. A kindergarten has also been established and the games and songs have been made over to suit the life and conditions of the people. Out of the original colony of missionaries Mr. and Mrs. Stover and W. H. Sanders are the only survivors and are still carrying on the work. Miss Helen H. Stover, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Stover, was born in the mission village and lived there until 11 years old, when she returned to America for education. She is now a young woman, having recently completed a course of nurse's training and will return to Africa with her father in a few weeks to take up the work of her parents.

Mrs. Lydia Lord Davis and Miss Gertrude Wyckoff were two prominent missionaries returned from China. Both were in China at the time of the Boxer uprising, in which Mr. Davis lost his life. Mrs. Davis is at home on leave of absence, but returns soon to take up educational work at Shansi, 500 miles west of Peking. Miss Wyckoff is a missionary in the country working out of Pang Chuang, 300 miles south of Peking. Both women are enthusiastic in their belief in the future of China. "The reports of the wonderfully progressive attitude of the dowager empress are not overdrawn," said Miss Wyckoff, "and those who are familiar with the work of this wonderful woman attribute chief credit to Mrs. Conger, wife of Minister Conger, for bringing about her change of attitude. This Mrs. Conger accomplished through her audiences with the empress after the Boxer trouble and the good work is still bearing fruit." The progress among the women of China, while comparatively slow, is, both Mrs. Davis and Miss Wyckoff say, remarkable. Along the coast and in the larger cities the edict of the empress against foot binding is pretty generally respected, but out in the interior of China unbound feet are still looked upon by the better classes as significant of ill repute. The natural sized foot alone admits of any freedom among the women and as the women of the better classes know nothing but secluded lives they accept bound feet as no inconvenience and look upon a desire for normal feet as indicative of a desire to run about. But even this prejudice is being overcome and the missionaries are hopeful that in time this barbarous custom will entirely vanish.

Two Governors at Columbus.

COLUMBUS, O., Nov. 2.—Governor Folk of Missouri and Governor Hanly of Indiana arrived here today to speak tonight at a meeting in Memorial hall in the interests of law enforcement and Sunday closing, which is the feature of political campaign here. Governor Harris is not here to welcome the two governors, having gone to his home in Eaton.

SLIP IN 'STEENTH POCKET

Street Car Transfer Found After Much Excitement of an Eager, Anxious Throng.

A man with an armful of bundles stood at the corner of Sixteenth and Farnam streets with an excited look on his face. Wildly he thrust his free hand into one after the other of his pocskets. People gathered around him.

"Lost your roll?" inquired one.

"Was there much in it?" asked another.

"Where'd yeh loose it?" inquired a third.

But the man did not answer. He continued the wild search. He had already explored fifteen of his sixteen pockets and he was growing more anxious every minute. As he thrust his hand into the sixteenth a look of relief swept over his countenance. He drew a deep sigh of peace and smiled. Then produced a pink slip of paper.

"Gee, I thought I'd lost my transfer," he said.

Suicide Theory Being Probed.

NEW ORLEANS, Nov. 2.—While members of the family of Gustave Lehmann, sr., a New Orleans capitalist and the head of one of the largest wholesale dry goods houses in the south, who disappeared several days ago, are not inclined to accept the theory of suicide, plans are being made today to use dynamite to raise the body of a man who was seen last Wednesday to jump into the Mississippi river and disappear in the swift current. If this body can be recovered, it will either confirm or refute the declaration of two negro women who, when shown a photograph of Mr. Lehmann, said he was the man they had seen jump into the river. There appears to be slight chance of recovering the body.

Railway Notes and Personals.

Lee Spratlin of the Burlington is in Chicago.

Mr. and Mrs. Hal Buckingham have gone to Chicago to spend Sunday.

C. E. Spens, general freight agent of the Burlington, has gone to Chicago.

R. S. Hair, western representative of the French line of steamers, was in Omaha Saturday.

S. F. Miller, general freight and passenger agent of the Northwestern, has returned from Chicago.

J. B. Driggs, tariff clerk of the general freight office of the Burlington, has gone to Chicago to return with his wife. Mr. Driggs has been in the Omaha office but a short time.

The office of General Manager Holdrege of the Burlington was turned into a bank Friday when the clerks were paid off in gold. Gold of all denominations was piled all over the room and a representative of the Nebraska National bank helped to distribute the shining beauties amongst the employes of the building.