

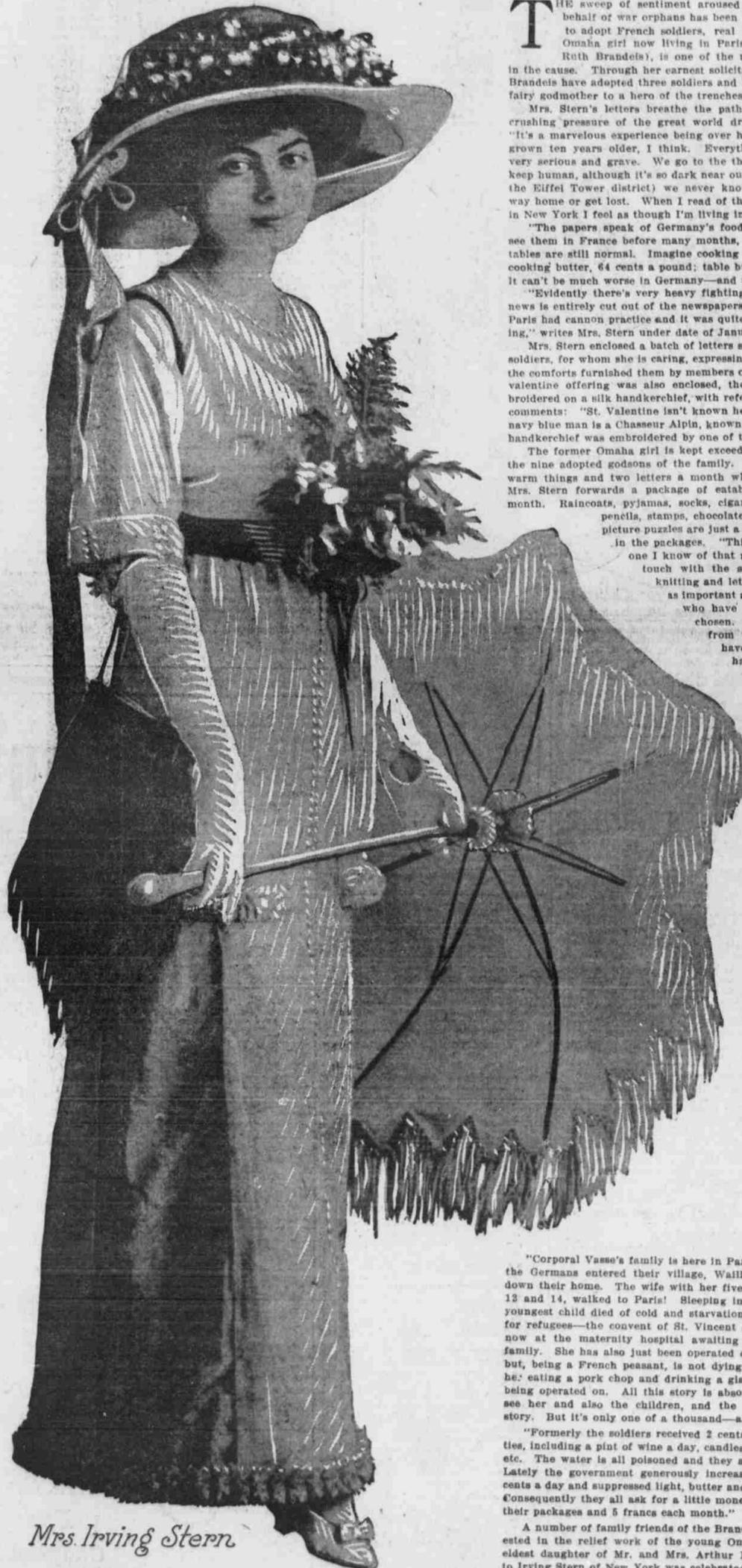
Omaha Girl Proves Angel of Mercy in War

CLUBDOM

Calendar of Club Doings

- Monday—**
Omaha Woman's club, Y. W. C. A., 2:30 p. m.; open program by oratory department, 3:30 p. m.
Sacred Heart Alumnae, lecture by Louis H. Wetmore, at convent, 3:30 p. m.
Drama league, city hall, 4 p. m.
City Federation of Child Conservation league, Dundee and North Side circles.
Chautauqua circle, Tennyson chapter, Mrs. A. E. Mack, hostess, 2:30 p. m.
Baby Health week exhibit, court house, 10 a. m. to 10 p. m.
- Tuesday—**
Omaha Society of Fine Arts, Hotel Fontenelle, 4 p. m.
Business Women's club, Y. W. C. A., 7 p. m.
South Omaha Woman's club, literature department, Library hall, 2:30 p. m.
Business Girls' council, luncheon and prayer meeting, court house, 11 to 2 p. m.
Baby Health week exhibit, court house, 10 a. m. to 10 p. m.
D. A. R., Omaha chapter, Mrs. W. A. Smith, hostess, 2:30 p. m.
- Wednesday—**
Dundee Woman's club, Mrs. Allen Koch, hostess, 2:30 p. m.
Association of Collegiate Alumnae, story tellers' section, Miss Elizabeth Mitchell, hostess, 4 p. m.
Omaha Woman's club literature department, Y. W. C. A., 10 a. m.
Visiting Nurse directors, city hall, 10:30 a. m.
Clio club, Mrs. E. McEachron, hostess, 2:30 p. m.
Social Settlement, annual election, Settlement house, 3 p. m.
Woman's Club of Railway Mail Service, Miss Nora Fritchhoff, hostess, 2:30 p. m.
Mu Sigma, Mrs. Waite Squier, hostess, 9:30 a. m.
Miller Park Mothers' circle, Mrs. A. Quisenberry, hostess.
Spanish War Veterans, Lawton auxiliary, Memorial hall, 2:30 p. m.
Baby Health exhibit, court house, 10 a. m. to 10 p. m.
D. A. R. state conference, Lincoln hotel, Lincoln.
- Thursday—**
Omaha Society of Fine Arts, annual election, Hotel Fontenelle, 4 p. m.
Omaha Story Tellers' league, public library, 4:15 p. m.
F. E. O. Sisterhood, chapter E, Mrs. Thomas H. Matters, hostess, 1 p. m.
Benson Baptist Missionary circle, Mrs. C. E. Burrill, hostess.
P. E. O. Statehood, chapter B. N., Mrs. J. C. Buffington, hostess, 2:30 p. m.
Baby Health exhibit, court house, 10 a. m. to 10 p. m.
- Friday—**
Child Conservation league, North Side circle, Mrs. C. J. Wonder, hostess, 2 p. m.
W. C. T. U. of Benson, Mrs. E. C. Hodder, hostess.
Close of Baby Health exhibit, court house, 10 p. m.
- Saturday—**
Association of Collegiate Alumnae, Commercial club, 2:30 p. m.; open program by story tellers' section.

Mrs. Irving Stern--Who Was Ruth Brandeis-- Whose Home is Now in Paris, is Bringing Comfort and Joy to French Soldiers in the Trenches



Mrs. Irving Stern

THE sweep of sentiment aroused locally by the appeal in behalf of war orphans has been reinforced by a movement to adopt French soldiers, real heroes of the war. An Omaha girl now living in Paris, Mrs. Irving Stern (nee Ruth Brandeis), is one of the most enthusiastic workers in the cause. Through her earnest solicitation Mr. and Mrs. George Brandeis have adopted three soldiers and Mrs. Herman Cohn, too, is fairly godmother to a hero of the trenches.

Mrs. Stern's letters breathe the pathos, the hopelessness, the crushing pressure of the great world drama going on about her. "It's a marvelous experience being over here in war time—but I've grown ten years older, I think. Everything and everybody is so very serious and grave. We go to the theater once a week just to keep human, although it's so dark near our apartment (being within the Eiffel Tower district) we never know whether we'll find our way home or get lost. When I read of the gaiety and extravagance in New York I feel as though I'm living in Mars.

"The papers speak of Germany's food riots. Believe me, we'll see them in France before many months, although bread and vegetables are still normal. Imagine cooking eggs at 60 cents a dozen; cooking butter, 64 cents a pound; table butter at 80 cents a pound. It can't be much worse in Germany—and they are blockaded.

"Evidently there's very heavy fighting going on, as the official news is entirely cut out of the newspapers. Today the forts around Paris had cannon practice and it was quite alarming to hear the firing," writes Mrs. Stern under date of January 24.

Mrs. Stern enclosed a batch of letters she had received from nine soldiers, for whom she is caring, expressing their deepest thanks for the comforts furnished them by members of the Brandeis family. A valentine offering was also enclosed, the figure of a soldier embroidered on a silk handkerchief, with reference to which Mrs. Stern comments: "St. Valentine isn't known here, but soldiers are. The navy blue man is a Chasseur Alpin, known as the Blue Devils." The handkerchief was embroidered by one of the French soldiers.

The former Omaha girl is kept exceedingly busy taking care of the nine adopted godsons of the family. Added to the package of warm things and two letters a month which the godparent sends, Mrs. Stern forwards a package of eatables to each soldier each month. Raincoats, pyjamas, socks, cigarettes, writing paper and pencils, stamps, chocolates, rum, jam, helmets and picture puzzles are just a few of the things included in the packages. "This organization is the only one I know of that really puts you directly in touch with the soldier who receives your knitting and letters—the letter being just as important as the former, as only men who have no one in the world are chosen. Many of the men come from the north of France and have families in the Germans' hands. Their letters of thanks are pitiful, none of them having had letters or comforts since the beginning of the war. There are still 9,000 soldiers waiting for fairy godmothers."

When the soldier adopted by Mrs. Herman Cohn was discharged from the hospital he obtained leave of absence and came on foot to Paris to thank Mrs. Stern for her kindnesses to him. Mrs. Stern was so touched by his plight that she housed him at her apartment in the Avenue du Trocadero for five days. In enclosing the letters of their three adopted godsons to Mr. and Mrs. George Brandeis Mrs. Stern writes:

"Here are the letters of Augustine Vasse, who is a corporal; Jules Buissonne, who is wounded in the right leg and is in a hospital in the north, and, lastly, Jules Lefevre, who had been reported killed, but turned up at last badly wounded, but alive, in a hospital in the south of France.

"Corporal Vasse's family is here in Paris. Thirteen months ago the Germans entered their village, Wally-near-Anas, and burned down their home. The wife with her five children, ages 3, 10, 11, 13 and 14, walked to Paris! Sleeping in the fields at night, the youngest child died of cold and starvation! They lived at a home for refugees—the convent of St. Vincent de Paul—but the wife is now at the maternity hospital awaiting another member of the family. She has also just been operated on for tumor and dropsy, but, being a French peasant, is not dying at all. In fact, I found her eating a pork chop and drinking a glass of wine six days after being operated on. All this story is absolutely true—I've been to see her and also the children, and the Sisters corroborated the story. But it's only one of a thousand—all alike.

"Formerly the soldiers received 2 cents per day and all necessities, including a pint of wine a day, candles at night in the trenches, etc. The water is all poisoned and they are forbidden to drink it. Lately the government generously increased their allowance to 5 cents a day and suppressed light, butter and half of the wine supply. Consequently they all ask for a little money, and I shall send them their packages and 5 francs each month."

A number of family friends of the Brandeises have become interested in the relief work of the young Omaha woman, who is the eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Brandeis. Her marriage to Irving Stern of New York was celebrated several years ago, since which time she has lived in New York, and more recently in Paris, because of Mr. Stern's business connections.

SOCIETY

Social Calendar

- Monday—**
Comus club entertainment, Mr. and Mrs. Ben Marti and Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Hood, hosts and hostesses.
Luncheon for Mrs. J. W. Paul at University club.
White Shrine Whist club at Masonic temple, Mrs. N. J. Sickler, hostess.
- Tuesday—**
Needlecraft club, Prairie Park club house.
Luncheon for Mr. Lorado Taft, given by board of directors of Omaha Fine Arts society.
Symposia club, leap year and masquerade dance, Prairie Park club house.
Monmouth Park Mothers' club, Mrs. Frances Kerrigan, hostess.
Thimble club, Mrs. Russell Harris, hostess.
Luncheon to Mr. Lorado Taft at Omaha club, given by board of directors of Omaha Fine Arts society.
Dinner to Mr. Lorado Taft, given by Dr. and Mrs. J. E. Summers.
- Friday—**
Tourney at Clark's Indoor Golf school between Field club, Woman's Golf club and Prettiest Mile Golf club.
- Thursday—**
Cincoas dance, Scottish Rite cathedral.
Swastika Card club, Mrs. E. W. Vanhawsen, hostess.
- Wednesday—**
St. Patrick's party at Y. W. C. A.
St. Patrick's dance at Turpin's hall, given by Le Mars club. ☺
- Saturday—**
Week-End Dancing club dance at Chambers' academy.
Buchanan-Adams wedding in Chicago.

L ENT launches into its second week with everything in fitting decorum with the season. Of the week just passed, Monday and Tuesday were most gay, and Ash Wednesday dawned upon many a pair of tired heels and toes wearied into willingness for rest and abstinence.

Of course, luncheons, teas and dinners are another matter. It would be hard to find anything in the writing and admonitions of the early Christian Fathers directly treating upon these subjects. For one thing, the holy men knew nothing about tea, luncheons were not yet in vogue the master mind that devised the game of bridge was still many centuries unborn.

There is no real reason, canonical or ethical, why a hostess should be timid in owning an afternoon affair between now and Easter.

Many affairs of religious and philanthropic concern are on the calendar. A retreat begins Monday among a circle of women, who will meet for meditation and prayer at the Sacred Heart convent. A few of the number will retire for the while from all worldly influences by taking up their abode at the convent.

Among the more active interests will be the lecture Monday afternoon at the Sacred Heart, under the auspices of the alumnae by Prof. Louis H. Wetmore, on "The Heresy and Orthodoxy of Literature."

In Episcopalian circles the forming of study classes is a pronounced feature of Lenten piety. This study is under the leadership of Mrs. Philip Potter, president of the Woman's Auxiliary of the Episcopal church for Nebraska. Mrs. Charles Turner of Lincoln, educational secretary of the society, outlines the course for each week. For the coming week, the classes will take up "Missions in Mexico." Other Omaha women actively interested and leaders in these classes are: Mrs. Oscar Williams, Mrs. S. D. Barkalow and Mrs. Albert Noe. Current topics in the mission field and the study of the business of missions will constitute the course of all the Lenten classes.

It will be some two weeks and more before the younger set begin coming home for their spring vacations. From letters received in Omaha by parents it would seem that an unusual number of young people are coming home this spring. Not a few Omaha students in eastern schools and colleges did not come home at the Christmas vacation, because of their parents' fear of the scarlet fever contagion. Now, with that danger past, the young people may be expected, all the keener for a sight of home for the mid-winter exile for safety sake.

A social meeting will follow the business session of the Omaha Fine Arts society Thursday afternoon at the Fontenelle. Mrs. Leonard Everett of Council Bluffs will give a reading on the "Five Young American Poets," presented earlier in the season to the society by Mr. Alfred Noyes and Dr. John Cowper Powys. Mrs. Everett has made a special study of modern American verse writers this winter and the members of the Fine Arts society wish to get the viewpoint of a critic and student and fellow countrywoman. Mrs. Ludovis F. Crofoot will give several piano solos.

The last meeting of the Fine Arts society this season in April will not be held at the Fontenelle. The meeting place has been changed to the home of Mrs. Charles Thomas Kountze.

One of the delightful promises of the week, and coming much as a surprise, is the social meeting to follow the business session of the Fine Arts society at the Fontenelle Thursday afternoon. Mrs. Leonard Everett of Council Bluffs will give a reading on the American poets that English critics, imported for the occasion, have been explaining to Omaha audiences this winter. Following Dr. Powys, Mrs. Everett, with her beauty and rare charm of personality and cultured intellectuality, comes to the society as water from a mountain brook after a noisome seepage from dark and mysterious caverns.

Additional Society News on Next Page.

DIVIDING interest with the Omaha Woman's club big project, the baby health exhibit at the court house this week, is the presentation of two Irish plays, "The Land of Heart's Desire," by William Butler Yeats, and "Spreading the News," by Lady Gregory, to be given for the open program of the oratory department, following the business meetings Monday.

Special enthusiasm has been aroused for the performance, because the state president, Mrs. J. N. Paul of St. Paul, will be the guest of the club Monday, and for the reception which follows the plays; and also because the author of "Spreading the News" was so recently a guest in Omaha, having lectured here under the auspices of the Drama league. Mrs. W. C. Lambert is leader for the oratory department, whose open programs are always a source of great pleasure to the club and bring out the largest audiences. Another feature of the program will be the group of Irish songs to be sung by Miss Gladys Louise Chambers.

The fourteenth annual conference of the Nebraska Daughters of the American Revolution, to be held in Lincoln Wednesday to Friday of this week is of state-wide importance. Omaha boasts two officers on the state board, the president, Mrs. H. Aull and the corresponding secretary, Mrs. R. E. McKelvey, and aside from these two, will send a large delegation Wednesday from the two local chapters, Omaha and Major Isaac Sadler.

Wednesday evening the two Lincoln chapters, Deborah Avery and St. Leger Cowley, give a banquet for the Daughters and Thursday evening there will be a musicale at the governor's mansion.

Governor John H. Morehead and Mayor C. W. Bryan will give the addresses of welcome Thursday morning, the response to be made by Mrs. E. G. Drake of Beatrice, state vice regent. Greetings will then be extended by Herbert Bushnell of the Sons of the Revolution, Mrs. Josie C. Bennett for the Woman's Relief corps, and Mrs. Max Hostetler of Shelton for the United States Daughters of 1812.

The Omaha delegation includes Mesdames Aull, McKelvey, F. R. Straight, W. L. Selby, J. B. Adams, William Archibald Smith, Ira W. Porter, Edgar Allen and John Speedie. Mrs. J. L. Baker, one of the elected delegates, is ill at Excelsior Springs and unable to attend.

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