

Mrs. Margaret Sackett will lead in the discussion of the "Comparative Merits of French and English Literature."

Original papers will be a feature from which it is hoped both entertainment and profit will be derived. At any rate it is the idea that originality of thought is to be fostered. In all the varied programs spread before the club it cannot well be otherwise.

Studies of our own and other countries, of history and biography, must, more or less, be gleaned from books. The thoughts of others must be pursued and to some extent reproduced (as to how much, who can tell?) and all this when bright and original ideas are lying dormant for lack of opportunity to bring them out.

With the above program which is a mere mention of some of its leading features, we hope to begin the new year with as much enthusiasm as marked the past one. With our newly elected officers, who come on with the new program, the club looks forward to a year which will be fraught with much that is profitable to all, as well as to the fact that they must live up to their motto which is "mutual good will and mental growth."

A few ladies who are interested in the study of civics met by call at the home of Mrs. Rudolph Rehlaender Monday afternoon. The object was to determine upon plans for the year, which could be published in the Woman's club year-book which Mrs. Archibald Scott is editing. Mrs. Rehlaender has been elected leader to succeed Mrs. Langworthy Taylor.

Two plans were before the ladies. Mrs. Taylor suggested by letter that the department follow her papers on municipal government systemized which are to appear in the *Northwestern Journal*.

The ladies having studied municipal government three years and thoroughly reviewed their studies during the last year in the work of the city improvement league felt that a change would be desirable, and readily adopted the second course of study as outlined by Mrs. Rehlaender. According to this course, one lady will present an exhaustive paper at each meeting and a general discussion will follow.

The course will embrace quite a thorough study of the origin and source of American constitutional government.

The following subjects for papers are given: "The nature, form and function of the government," "Law, its nature and development," "The development of constitutional liberty in the English colonies of America," "The Puritan commonwealth," "The beginning of American nationality," "The source of the constitution of the United States," "The constitutional government of the United States and the nature of the federal government," "The United States and foreign powers—a diplomatic history of the United States," "The American electoral system," "Congressional government, practical features in the congressional system," "The Monroe doctrine, a concise history of its origin, growth and modern application," "Civil government in Nebraska and criticism of the state constitution."

The papers will practically be reviews of some representative writers whose works are good authority.

The department will probably begin work in the middle of October and will meet once in two weeks. The course will occupy the ladies until April.

An assistant leader and a secretary of the department will be elected later. The exact time of meeting will also be fixed when all the ladies who desire to take the course have returned from their summer outings.

The Woman's club of Lincoln is strong in organization, numbers and intellectual ability and culture of the members. A committee of ladies has been quietly at work during the summer as-

sisting the treasurer in making out the membership list. Some have not yet renewed for the next year and are asked to do so if possible by September 1, as it is desired to publish a list of all members for 1897-98 in the new year book which will be out the early part of September. All who have not secured their membership tickets can procure them of Mrs. Stonebraker, 1608 E street. All departments are requested to organize by September 1, and elect assistant leaders, secretaries and executive committees of three, and each leader to hand in her outline by that time. Several departments have organized and the membership promises to be large.

Dr. Katherine B. Wolfe will have charge of the department of child study the coming year, and Miss Brackett will lead a department in American history. The force of leaders is a very strong one and insures good work. Lincoln residents will not be admitted as visitors next year. Admission will be only by membership ticket. Visiting club ladies from other cities are admitted on presentation of their membership tickets. All club members having out of town guests who are not club members, will be admitted upon payment of the usual visitor's fee.

The board of directors will meet soon and complete arrangements for beginning the year's work and all will meet October 11 with renewed energy, ready for another enjoyable club year. The club is very proud to record as members names from Hastings, York, Crete, Fairbury and Eagle.

The city improvement league considered several new matters Tuesday morning. Mrs. Langworthy Taylor wrote from Denver to the ladies, saying that Dr. Munn, the health commissioner of Denver, would pass through Lincoln in September. She desired that the league make careful preparations so that all citizens interested in improvement might hear and see him. Mrs. Taylor will return about September 1, and will be present at the league's next meeting.

The city fruit dealers came in for a thorough discussion. The ladies thought that several of the stands were badly cared for. They objected to the throwing of decayed fruit into back lots and especially into street gutters. The stand at Thirteenth and O was especially considered. The question was raised as to the legality of fruit vendors selling their wares on Sunday. The league decided to look into the matter and if no good reason was found do all in its power to prohibit Sunday sales.

A favorable report was made by the committee on telegraph and telephone poles. Its members were taking steps toward the removal of all advertising matter from such poles.

The league received an invitation to take part in Lincoln day next month and have a float in the parade. A committee consisting of Mesdames Nellie Richardson, Rudolph Rehlaender and J. R. Webster, was appointed, which will have charge of the matter. The float will be representative of the advantages of the league's work to merchants.

Weeds were discussed with as much animation as ever. The ladies felt that their work in this direction has been very productive of good. One particular case was cited where a lady had carefully cut the weeds in front, but had permitted those in a vacant lot adjoining to grow six feet high. The ladies called her attention to the fact that she was violating the ordinance. She explained that she was letting the weeds go to seed for the benefit of her chickens. When the ordinance was read to her and the danger of spreading the pests explained, she readily consented to have the weeds cut.

The ladies will make a specialty of thistles. They believe that these are

coming in dangerously fast.

Miss Dea Loomis of the capitol school reported the work of an improvement club in Milwaukee, which turns its efforts to the schools. Truants are looked after. Ventilation and all sanitary matters connected with the schools receive particular attention.

Yesterday's meeting was prompt in beginning and all business was transacted.

If it were only for the beneficent and unselfish work of this one department of Women's clubs their *raison d'être* would be sufficient. THE COURIER suggests to the City Improvement League that it appoint a committee to look into the new charter which the council is asked to grant to a company for 20 years. Until 1917 Messrs. Vernon, Angleton and Steele want the exclusive privilege of advertising on the street corners. This is a privilege which should not be granted without serious consideration. The communal ownership of the streets is apt to be forgotten. The people of 1917 may resent a gift of their street corners. It is most important that the council should not give or sell what all the people own without a adequate compensation or reflection.

New York Fashion Better.

The fact that we have had very little warm weather so far this summer would lead one to suppose that the early Fall will be comparatively warm.

Ladies who have been to the mountains and seashore bring back with them a number of gowns that were lovely but are considerably crushed from being packed in comparatively small places. The damp air has ruined the lovely chiffon and crepe trimmings and has taken most of the freshness from the lawn and organdie gowns.

Cloth eton suits can be used for some time if one buys a pretty new silk bodice to be worn with the skirt. Many of the new Autumn silks are now on exhibition in the different large stores and there is a marked preference for plaids in this line of goods. They range from the quiet shepherd's plaid of black and white to the most glaring combinations of red, blue, greens and yellow. As Fall days are rather dull, these bright colors are accepted with more favor now than in midsummer. Many of these bodices are made with black satin or moiré collar, cuffs and girdle which tone them down considerably. The foundations of these girdles are made to fit perfectly and are boned back, front and over hips to keep them from wrinkling. They are shaped to suit the figure. Some are six inches deep all around. Others are very narrow under the arms and run up in a deep point back and front. Another shape is five or six inches under the arm and cuts down in a sharp point back and front, leaving the girdle only two inches wide. This style is particularly becoming to stout figures. The material is draped over this foundation in soft folds or pleats and it is fastened on the side under small ruffles or a large bow. A girdle of this kind can be worn with different costumes and adds a stylish finish.

Many silk waists for Fall wear are fastened on one side of the front under ruffles of lace, chiffon or ribbon. In making up a plaid silk these ruffles can each be made of a different color of ribbon. Of course the colors selected should be the most prominent ones in the plaid.

A pretty waist of second mousing is made of black muslin de soie over white satin. The sleeves are made mosquetaire and the waist draped quite full back and front with the black muslin. It is fastened at the side under three ruffles. Two of black muslin de soie and one of white between them. The neck and sleeves are trimmed with three tiny ruffles to match the side trimming. This waist can be worn with a black silk skirt and the girdle should be made of the same material as the skirt.

The English walking hats are quite popular at present.

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