

interest to her works. The musical program which followed consisted of songs without words, hunting and spinning songs.

The chorus met before the program to rehearse some music intended for the "Open Meeting" on December 13th.

The Club will soon open a musical library in its club rooms, which it is hoped will be a convenience not only to its members, but to the people of Lincoln.

On the payment of a small fee, music can be drawn out on cards, similarly to the books in the public library system. A committee consisting of Mrs. P. V. M. Raymond, Mrs. D. A. Campbell, Mrs. H. B. Ward, Miss Schofield and Miss Miller will select the music and act as directors. The custodian will be Mrs. E. P. Brown, and the treasurer, Miss A. L. Miller.

A gift of a basket of mushrooms a few weeks ago, gathered from the pastures of Belmont, after the late October rains, brought with it the thought of how few persons in the west appreciate that delicious and wholesome article of food, or know of its abundance in Nebraska.

The first Mycological Club in this country, devoted solely to the study of fungi, was started in New York last winter, and was a success from the beginning. Its principal objects were stated as "The identification and classification of the larger fungi of the United States, and the study of edible mushrooms and truffles, and those poisonous kinds that may be mistaken for them. It aims to arouse a wider appreciation of the value of a cheap and abundant food supply, which in America is comparatively neglected, and hopes to do so by holding exhibitions, giving lectures and issuing publications on the subject." During the winter, the club meets for discussions and lectures, its work the rest of the year being more practical. Field trips are an attractive feature in pleasant weather.

A similar and older club exists in Boston, but there is a branch of Horticultural Society. At the Boston exhibition last winter, many varieties of mushroom were shown, which were found growing even in that cold latitude as late as January. After the early spring rains, the pastures towards Havelock and also north of Lincoln, are covered with the common mushroom, which we know as the "Lutton" when young.

No doubt many of the more than a hundred edible varieties are plentiful in other localities. This untrifling food is left to be gathered by foreigners, or often lies wasted on the ground, because so few Americans know the edible from the poisonous toadstool. A club of Lincoln people could easily be organized, if a leader could be found; and by a little study through the winter, they would be ready in the spring to search the country for specimens.

An illustrated article on "Edible Mushrooms," written by the late William Hamilton Gibson and published in Harper's Magazine a couple of years ago, would be a good text book for a beginning. One lady in Lincoln identified several rare specimens from those drawings, afterwards ate them, and is still living to prove the correctness of her classification.

It might be of interest for any one considering this study to know that a sure antidote to the poisonous toadstool is said to have been discovered, and the cautious could provide a supply of it before undertaking experiments.

As the smallest children of English working people know the common varieties of mushrooms and gather them, the subject should not be beyond the average American with his boasted intelligence.

Mrs. J. H. Canfield who did so much

towards the growth of the club movement in Lincoln, seems to be as active as ever in the work at her home in Ohio. At the meeting of the Ohio Federation of Clubs at Piqua, Mrs. Canfield gave the report for the Club Committee of which she is chairman. Of the fifty clubs added to the Federation during the past year, thirteen have been organized since last February in Columbus alone. We suspect that many of these new clubs owe their origin to the energy and enthusiasm of Mrs. Canfield.

Many matters of interest were discussed by the federation, among them the length of office of presidents and the question of delegates. A plea was also made for the clubs to add a department of civics to their work and improve the condition of the streets, as well as banish objectionable posters.

The child study division of the Women's Club, had a good attendance on Saturday. Mrs. Dr. Wolfe, Mrs. Neal and Mrs. Hampson each delivered a well prepared paper on the subject announced and a general discussion followed. This department counts a number of teachers, as well as mothers among its members, and much benefit should accrue to both from their study in common, of the child and its developments. The subjects for the meeting next Saturday are "Food, Clothing and Hygiene," with papers from Miss Rand, Mrs. Sawyer and Mrs. Dinsmore. The discussions will be led by Mrs. Allen, Mrs. Neal and Miss Bird.

The Century Club met on Tuesday afternoon with Mrs. G. W. Wolfe. In the plan of work adopted by the club for this year, one paper is assigned for each meeting, but a leader is also appointed who distributes several minor topics or briefs, among other numbers. This compels systematic study from all. The paper of the afternoon, on the "Palaces, Art and Modern Life of Venice," was given by Mrs. Kirker. Mrs. Waiter was the reader of the briefs which included the Arsenal, St. Mark's Square, Lacomaking and Literary Landmarks of Venice.

The department of Household Economics met with Mrs. Marsland on Monday afternoon. Two papers were given, "Household Economy" by Mrs. McLaughlin and "Thanksgiving and its Observances," by Mrs. Guy Brown. Plum pudding and coffee were served the ladies, with a practical demonstration of the former by Mrs. Marsland. Adjourned to meet with Mrs. Ames in two weeks.

The friends of Mrs. Ella W. Peattie will doubtless be glad to hear that she is nicely settled in Chicago, and is doing well and is satisfied. She says she has no one to answer to for her work, is not compelled to do work that is disagreeable to her and is generally happy and satisfied. From a letter to a friend in this city I quote the following bit: "I have no public responsibilities and am not compelled to do any newspaper work. I feel very peaceful—not quite rested from the storms of my western life—but well content." She says that her children were never more interested than at the present time.

Mrs. Peattie has been gaining fame since she left Nebraska and now is working for the *Atlantic Monthly* and the *Harpers*. A new book for the holiday trade she has given the characteristic name of "Pippins and Cheese."

The Birthday Party of the Woman's Club on Wednesday afternoon, called forth about three hundred and fifty members of the club. All afternoon the spacious parlors at Mrs. Lahr's were crowded with guests. The short program opened with the reading of a message of good wishes from Mrs. James A. Canfield, who was one of the originators of the club three years ago. Next came a "Prophecy" foretelling its future scope

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The president, Mrs. Archibald Scott, gave a "Birthday Greeting" in a short poem of her own composition. That pretty, but rather depressing little song of James Whitcomb Riley, "There! Little Girl; Don't Cry!" was sweetly rendered by Miss Edna Eaker, with a guitar accompaniment. At the close of the program, tea and cake was served, and the birthday cake with its candles of violet (the club color) was cut by the president with the usual ceremonies.

All friends of this strong organization will be glad to add their good wishes to the many received on Wednesday. The fourth year of the club opens with a most encouraging outlook. Great interest is manifested in all of the departments, and the membership has never before been so large. All things forecast a future of great prosperity and usefulness.

At the close of the program of the Art Department on Tuesday afternoon, a committee composed of Mrs. I. M. Raymond, Dr. Rush M. Wood and Mrs. H. H. Wilson, reported on plans for art in the public schools.

The scheme of work, which had already been met with the approval of the board of education, was heartily endorsed by the ladies present. Chairmen of committees were appointed for the different school buildings, and work will be begun at once by the Art Department.

The idea is to cultivate a love of art and literature in the children, by placing a loan collection of pictures on the bare walls of the schools, by giving talks to the children on the meaning and stories connected with the pictures, and by encouraging the children to read books relating to the same subjects.

The small attendance at the annual

meeting of the city federation on Thursday afternoon, indicates little interest in that organization on the part of the club members.

The short program was opened by a piano solo, "Annie Laurie," with variations by Willie Pape, from Miss Maude Riiser. The paper of the afternoon was given by Miss Annie L. Miller of the Century Club, and recorded her personal recollections of London. A waltz song, "L'Ardeur," closed the program.

As a quorum of last year's delegates were not present, no business could be transacted, and the meeting adjourned till Monday, December 6th, at 1:30 p. m., preceding the regular meeting of the Woman's Club that day.

It is hoped that all the delegates, (those serving last year, as well as those newly elected,) will make an effort to be present at that time. If any club is in favor of a change in the methods or constitution of the federation, —and no club seems entirely satisfied—the matter can be brought up at this meeting. It seems highly probable that the federation, if retained at all, will only be a union of clubs for official business, and no club will be pledged to uphold the present organization by sending delegates now. We understand that a number of the clubs are awaiting the outcome of this annual meeting before taking definite action, but the responsibility cannot be shifted without danger of destroying the federation altogether.

Let each club send delegates who are willing to discuss the question fairly, and decide by a vote of the majority if this union is necessary, but it should not be allowed to die for lack of representatives from the clubs.

The "Round Table" of Crete, which met at the residence of Mrs. Judge Morris on the afternoon of November 12th, was most delightfully entertained

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