

# CLUBS.

ANNIE L. MILLER, EDITOR.

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The COURIER will give a full report of the Denver Biennial next week.

The fourth biennial convention of the General Federation of Women's clubs was called to order by Mrs. Henrotin Wednesday morning at 10 o'clock in the Broadway theatre. Twenty-two delegates were present from Nebraska. The auditorium seats 1500 and a few times that number were without clamoring for room.

Daintily dressed in a white brocaded skirt and Dresden silk bodice, the president bowed to the salutation of the big band of women, while handkerchiefs waved over heads of seatholders. Mrs. Henrotin said she was glad the federation was a sort of traveling show, because it gathered a lot of inspiration as it wound around the country; and just then some of this article came in when Governor Adams walked toward the footlights. He said he could appreciate women's clubs, women's thoughts and every id a, in fact, which springs from a woman. "For," he said, "were it not for women and women's votes, some other man would be taking up my space here."

There were several other addresses of welcome, with a response by Mrs. Henrotin and the reports from the officers.

The meeting was continued in the afternoon, when further reports were heard.

The ways and means committee recommended that the annual dues for clubs whose membership consists of fifty or less shall be \$5; the annual dues for clubs of over fifty members shall be at the rate of 10 cents per capita. The annual dues for state federations shall be at the rate of 25 cents per club. Dues shall be paid annually the first of May, beginning with the year 1900.

Who shall obtain the nomination for the presidency is still the question of paramount interest. Failing Mrs. Platte, who has positively declined the honor, the name of Mrs. W. B. Lowe, of Atlanta, Ga., is given most prominence.

The new state regent of the D. A. R. is Mrs. J. R. Haggard of Lincoln, who is a lineal descendant of Deborah Avery, for whom the Lincoln chapter is named.

The statement made by Mrs. Mumford in her remarks on sewing that patches cannot be put on by machine, is contradicted by a bright club woman who says she always patches that way.

The programs were well arranged for the visitors in Omaha on Saturday. The morning was given to the exhibits and there was still time for two grand orchestral concerts besides the afternoon program. Those who attended the evening concert by the Marine band missed several good addresses, otherwise there was no conflicting of attractions.

One of the best reasons given for the placing of women on school boards and otherwise in charge of the educational interests of children, was given by Mrs. Mumford. She said that women view the needs of the children individually,

while men only notice if their pet machine revolves right merrily. It may grind the life out of the children and still be a successful machine.

At the evening club meeting at Omaha on Saturday, the speakers were Mrs. Alice Ives Breed of Lynn, Mass., Mrs. Sadie American, the secretary of the national council of Jewish women, and Mrs. Cornelius Stevenson of Philadelphia. Mrs. Breed gave a short account of her travels in Japan and China, and Mrs. American spoke of "A Summer Duty," which is our obligation to the poor, herded during the warm months in our large cities. Mrs. Stevenson is president of a Civic club, and her paper treated of that subject.

Woman's club day at the exposition grounds on Saturday was all the success and more than had been anticipated. The Omaha women rendered every courtesy to the visitors. Numbers of the reception committee met the morning trains to distribute printed slips announcing that the evening meeting would also be held in the auditorium instead of down town. The afternoon program assembled an inspiring audience of vast numbers, which almost filled the auditorium.

Scidom have so many intelligent, educated women been brought under one roof. The program lasted about three hours and, in spite of the intense heat, retained the interest of those present remarkably.

Mrs. Winona S. Sawyer, president of the Board of Lady Managers of the exposition association, presided. She had intended to ask Mrs. Henrotin to assume that duty, but the latter was unable to remain long at the meeting, as she took an afternoon train for Denver.

Mrs. Sawyer opened the meeting with a few well chosen remarks, and introduced each speaker in her usual charming manner.

Mrs. Margaret J. Evans, dean of Carleton college, Minnesota, offered a brief prayer, after which the Lorelei quartet, consisting of Miss Lillian Terry, Miss Flora Philleo, Mrs. A. G. Edwards and Miss Francis Roeder, sang Moring's "Legends." For an encore "Old Kentucky Babe" was given and received with warm applause, despite the fact of its inappropriateness for so an intelligent audience. However, "intellectual" is by no means synonymous with "musical."

Mrs. Draper Smith, president of the Omaha Woman's club, then welcomed the visitors on behalf of the organization. Her few, pointed remarks were charming and had the wisdom of brevity. She said that it falls to the lot of few citizens to be refused a convention and then receive the cream of it in advance. This was the unique position that Omaha now occupied. She then bade them thrice welcome in the name of the club, the city and the state.

President G. W. Wattle, of the exposition association, welcomed them in its behalf. His address lost force through

its delivery from manuscript, as also did those of some of the succeeding speakers.

The ladies preceding him had spoken entirely without notes. Mr. Wattle's words were most complimentary to the work of the women in connection with the exposition.

Mrs. Henrotin, president of the General Federation, replied to these greetings. She was given an enthusiastic Chautauqua salute as she stepped forward on the platform. She said the history of the General Federation was, in fact, a history of expositions. In this connection she compared the part that the women had taken in the Centennial with that which had been performed by

them in connection with the Trans-Mississippi exposition. This illustrated the progress of woman's clubs.

Immediately after the address, amidst enthusiastic waving of handkerchiefs, Mrs. Henrotin, graceful and smiling, left to take the train for Denver.

A boy soprano from Milwaukee, Master Horace Sims, gave Ardit's "Love in Springtime." He has a very sweet voice, but the selection was unsuitable—first from its difficulty and also because, like other choir boys, he is evidently accustomed to singing only sacred music.

Mrs. Mumford, of Philadelphia, followed with an excellent address on "A Phase of Education." She began by

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