

Beside her bed of moss;  
the swaying trees  
O'er head; the whispering  
winds that kissed the flowers;  
The birds with bursting throats;  
in one great chord  
Had blent their manifold  
enraptured notes.

Then, suddenly the woman  
felt within  
Her heart a joy  
that ne'er before  
Had found expression,  
and her throat began  
To swell, and through her lips  
there came a sound  
Of rarest melody,  
so pure and clear  
That every other sound  
was hushed in awe.

It echoed through  
the garden paths and lanes,  
And wonderingly the beasts  
crept near to hear  
While through the morn  
came sounds of rushing wings,  
And trooping angels  
glowed amidst the green;  
The very heavens  
seemed to bend and bow  
To hear the strains  
of earth's first human song.

And Adam, lost amidst  
the tangled brakes  
Astonished, heard the  
marvelous voice, and in  
An ecstasy he grasped  
a hollow reed  
To blow thereon a wild  
accompaniment.  
'Twas thus the earth  
first heard the voice  
Of music and her noble  
sister, song.

William Reed Dunroy.

#### HOW A GIRL CAN WORK HER WAY THROUGH COLLEGE.

A glimpse at a students' bulletin-board with the eager group of girls scanning its advertisements affords much insight into the supply and demand that make it possible for the young woman scant in purse but fertile in invention to win her degree in spite of adverse circumstances. The girl who has been instructed by her mother in the old-fashioned art of sewing, mends clothes for a next-door neighbor, darns stockings at a "cent a hole." Another girl, who has the neck, and who played milliner at home because she had to, finds her work at a premium, and perhaps even advertises an "opening" of really charming spring or winter hats. Another clever needle-woman, whose skill is always in demand, makes shirt-waists in true taylor style, and with the proceeds supplies her own wardrobe for an entire year. Sometimes a girl is clever at "making over," and can turn her hand to little jobs for which a dressmaker would charge more than their worth. One girl of my acquaintance made herself a reputation as a "packer," and when vacation came around found it a paying business. Another was famous for her "shampoos." There is newspaper correspondence, if one is literary, and there is always tutoring for those who have distinguished themselves in their classes. The athletic young woman can make a goodly sum by teaching her timid sisters to swim, skate or ride the wheel. A good dancing-teacher can almost always form classes, and the girl who can play the banjo or guitar is likely to find pupils.—Harper's Bazar.

When a man's world is as good as his bond he doesn't stick to give the bond.—Town Topics.

In seeking the happiness of others no man ever yet lost his own.—Town Topics.

## CLUBS.

[LOUISA L. RICKETTS.]

The following are the officers of the General Federation of Women's clubs:

President—Mrs. Rebecca D. Lowe  
Atlanta, Ga.

Vice President—Mrs. Sarah S. Platt,  
Denver, Colo.

Recording Secretary—Mrs. Emma A.  
Fox, Detroit, Mich.

Corresponding Secretary—Mrs. George  
W. Kendrick, Philadelphia, Pa.

Treasurer, Mrs. Phillip N. Moore, St.  
Louis, Mo.

Auditor—Mrs. C. P. Barnes, Louis  
ville, Ky.

State Chairman—Mrs. Louisa L. Rick-  
etts, Lincoln, Nebr.

Officers of the State Federation of  
Women's clubs;

President—Mrs. S. C. Langworthy,  
Seward.

Vice President—Mrs. Anna L. Apper-  
son, Tecumseh.

Recording Secretary—Mrs. F. H. Sack-  
ett, Weeping Water.

Corresponding Secretary—Mrs. D. G.  
McKillip, Seward.

Treasurer—Mrs. H. F. Doane, Crete,  
Librarian—Mrs. G. M. Lambertson,  
Lincoln.

Mrs. A. B. Fuller, Auditor, Ashland.

In reading the report of the annual meeting of the Massachusetts federation, I was impressed by the fact that at the close of the election of officers the nominating committee for the next year was elected by the convention. In the first place I commend the democracy of this action, which thus places the appointing power of this very important committee in the hands of the people. Secondly, because it gives this committee the advantage of time, which means, time to consult with each other, time to confer with proposed candidates, and time to inform themselves as to the qualifications and eligibility of the nominees.

The constitution of the Nebraska federation provides that "the executive board shall appoint a nominating committee which shall ascertain the nominees from each club in membership and present at this annual meeting two names for each office specified by the constitution." This would be very well if it only read, "the executive board shall, at its first meeting appoint a nominating committee. In the past this committee has been appointed upon the convening of the annual meeting oftentimes only a few hours previous to the election which gives neither sufficient time nor opportunity for this committee to do intelligent work. Now if we consider it best for the state work to amend the constitution on this point shall we change "Article VII" of the constitution by inserting "at its first meeting" after "the executive board shall appoint" or shall we change Article III by adding nominating committees to the list of officers to be elected at each annual meeting? We shall have plenty of time to consider this amendment as article X requires, "proposed amendments to be printed in the year book, and also to be appended to the call of the meeting," hence it cannot be voted upon before the annual meeting of 1900.

Let us hear from the club women of Nebraska on this proposition.

Since the request made, in The Courier of July 1st, that the club women of the state use these columns to express their opinions upon the question of the reorganization of the G. F. W. C. so many inquiries have been received asking for information on this subject,

that I deem it best to again publish the action taken at the recent council of the General Federation held in Philadelphia. This council is composed of the board of directors. The chairmen of state correspondence, the presidents of state federations and the vice presidents of the General Federation.

This council meets the day previous and the day following each biennial, also at the call of the board of directors. This recent meeting of the council was largely to discuss certain subjects that have greatly disturbed club circles in certain sections of the country. So far, Nebraska does not seem to have taken much interest in these questions which are of vital importance to the work. And which must be intelligently understood if we as a state take an intelligent stand at the next biennial when the final vote will be taken.

The recent council was occupied with many earnest discussions of important questions connected with the work. Undoubtedly the most important of all, was the discussion of a change in representation at biennials, which involves the further question of a reorganization of the General Federation. This question was brought before the council by Mrs. A. L. McCullagh of Worcester, Massachusetts, in the form of recommendations from the Worcester Woman's club, that the representation should be changed to include delegates from the state federations only, with the exception of such national or foreign associations as may now belong and such federated clubs as belong to states where there is no state federation. This proposed change, Mrs. McCullagh explained, would relieve the growing unwieldiness of the meetings of the General Federation.

The Worcester Woman's club made itself famous by submitting suggestions last spring to its state chairman of correspondence in regard to changing the representation in the General Federation from that of individual clubs to that of representatives from state federations. These suggestions were also forwarded to the National President, Mrs. Lowe, whose discrete answer,—which however, left no uncertainty as to her position on this question,—has become club literature of general interest. She says in part:

"Whatever may be your position on the subject of the General Federation, if you have the interests of women at heart—to say nothing of the General Federation—to withdraw from a great and powerful organization of women, will, in no sense, help the cause. If, as your resolutions decided, your club favors state representation only, or, to go farther, if you are dissatisfied with the tax, I would advise that you remain in the General Federation and remedy the things which seem to you to be wrong. Thus you will be working according to your own ideas, and also doing a great good to the cause of the Federation.

In assuming, however, that the Federation needs reorganizing on account of its having become burdensome and awkward to handle, I think you are going a little ahead of the facts before us. It seems to me (and I hear the same expression from all over the country) that the biennial was most successful, although not so perfect, and, perhaps, not fulfilling the requirements of some who were in attendance. This is nearly always the case with all or any organizations; therefore, I can not see on what you base your reasoning. The next council meeting I will call for June 1st and 2nd, and I hope your club will state your views and objections, for I believe the discussion which will

grow out of it will be helpful to all concerned."

When the recommendations for this proposed change in representation were presented to the council it was soon evident that the general sentiment of the meeting was opposed to them. Mrs. William Tod Helmuth, president of the New York federation said: "I question the statement about the unwieldiness of the body. I do not think it belongs to any individual club to find fault unless the General Federation does so. It is, moreover, the function of the federation to bring a large body of women together from every part of the United States. I move that this motion be laid on the table." Mrs. Helmuth's motion was lost and a dozen women were on their feet at once. It took a discriminating presiding officer to pilot that meeting through the lively discussion which followed. Miss Whittier, of Lowell, and Mrs. Leighton, of Boston, both presidents of large clubs, left no doubt on the minds of their hearers that the sentiment of the Worcester club was not theirs, indeed it transpired in the discussion that the Worcester club was in a small minority in Massachusetts. Mrs. McCullagh, who is an able talker secured the floor again to explain further her position; she argued, "If the United States government deem it unwise to have a business body exceeding 400, where these members are men, and supposedly Solons, what should we, a body of club women think?" Members of the Council attempted to check her flow of arguments by calling for a five minute limit, but through the courtesy of Mrs. Lowe Mrs. McCullagh was permitted to finish her remarks, but in spite of her eloquent efforts her motion was lost.

The loss of this motion was followed by a set of resolutions presented by Mrs. Horace Brock, president of the State Federation of Pennsylvania. These resolutions had been previously adopted by the Executive Board of the federation of Pennsylvania, and printed in circular form:

"Resolved, First—That the president appoint a committee of nine to draw up a plan for the reorganization of the G. F. W. C.

"Second—That this committee be instructed to send a circular to the president of each State Federation and the president of each federation club, asking that the question of a reorganization of the G. F. W. C. which shall do away with club representation, together with the dependent question of proper taxation and representation, be thoroughly discussed in each club if possible before the annual meeting of their State Federation, at which time these questions shall be acted upon. That the president of each State Federation report said action to the chairman of the Committee on Reorganization, and also that the president of each federated club report the wishes of her club to said chairman before January 15.

"Third—That the reorganization committee issue, not later than March 1, a plan of reorganization and send it to the president of each State Federation, with the request that it be circulated through her state, and also send it to the president of each federated club, and urge upon all discussion of the plan, and invite criticism and suggestions.

"Fourth—That the Committee on Reorganization make their final report in time to have it sent to the clubs a month before the Biennial meeting of the G. F. W. C., at which time it shall be acted upon."

These resolutions were adopted as a whole with the exception of increasing the number of the committee to fifteen. This committee will be appointed by President Lowe in the near future.

Mrs. Rebecca D. Lowe, president of the G. F. W. C. in giving her report to