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Other contributors to the fund:

W. D. Fitzgerald.....	\$100.00
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A. M. Davis Co.....	2.00
Lincoln Hardware Co.....	2.00
F. E. Voelker.....	2.00
.....	\$265.00
From letters.....	\$21.25
Previously reported.....	383.35
Reception fund.....	327.00
.....	731.60
.....	265.00
Total.....	\$996.60

The Lucky Tattooer.

The tattooing artist of the tribe remarked unto the glum one: "When I run short of food and funds I always draw on someone."

TOWN TOPICS JOKES.

"A penny for your thoughts, Mr. Barker," cried Miss Sweetlips gayly, to that young man as she suddenly entered the parlor.

"They are not for sale," replied Barker, gravely. "I am a free thinker."

"I sat down at the piano and played for that girl, and what do you think she said?"

"Goodness knows; what was it?"

"She asked me if I didn't wish I was musical."

"That 'Uncle Tom's Cabin' company didn't give the play."

"Why not?"

"The local iceman wouldn't trust them for the ice across which Eliza had to escape."

"How do you stand this boarding house, Billy?"

"Why, you see the landlady's daughter is so pretty that I forget to notice whether or not the food is good."

"What is a political feast, pa?"

"It's the first meal a man eats with his wife and children after he's sure he is elected to a remunerative office."

"See here, Dave, you said you'd try to return that \$10 in ten days."

"Well, how do you know I'm not trying?"

She—Do you think it proper for a woman to propose?

He—Certainly, if she can support a husband.

Clara—Isn't your waist smaller than it was?

Maude—Yes; my arms are growing stronger.

Is your mother-in-law in her usual good health?

Yes; can't you suggest something, doctor?

"There's one thing," mused the urbane idiot, "which always gives weight to the fish story—the scales."

CLUBS.

[LOUISA L. RICKETTS.]

OFFICERS OF N. F. W. C., 1899 & 1900.
 Pres., Mrs. Anna L. Apperson, Tecumseh.
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FIFTH BIENNIAL.

FIRST DAY'S WORK.

Milwaukee, Wis., June 4.

Mrs. Tod Helmuth, wearing thirty-six badges and belonging to thirty-six New York clubs, and a large party are here from New York. "Assure me Mrs. Lowe does not want the presidency and I'll take it," she said. "I'll take anything the federation wants to dispose of."

Massachusetts is here with a big delegation and a candidate for the presidency. "Who is she?" was asked. "She is Miss West." "From where?" "Oh, I forget." Club women keep on believing Mrs. Lowe will be re-elected, and it was whispered today that the disgruntled followers of Mrs. Alice Ives Bred, who was defeated by Mrs. Lowe at Denver, will support Mrs. Lowe provided Mrs. Lowe promises to help along Mrs. Helmuth or some other eastern candidate two years hence.

The call for reorganization of the federated body seems to be resting for awhile. It was not so very active at this morning's meeting of the council. Mrs. Horace Brock of Pennsylvania and Mrs. Williamson, president of the Minnesota Federation, spoke for it; and Dr. Dickinson of Chicago declared against it. The sense of the council was not for a clearing out of the old constitution. It rather indicated a return to the early days of the federation, when the representation was by clubs only and not through clubs and state federations, as at present.

The colored question came up today before the council of the federation and the whole matter was laid on the table. This means that the race problem is out of the way for a time, and that Mrs. J. S. P. Kuffin, a colored club woman of Boston, will be admitted to the convention as a member of the Massachusetts delegation.

This does not carry with it the recognition of a colored club, as she is credited as one of the delegates to the state federation. She will take her seat with the Boston delegation tomorrow. The question of receiving colored clubs into membership will come up in the convention tomorrow. The indications now are that the majority of the delegates will be opposed to the admission of colored clubs at this time. But there are some descendants of the old-time abolitionists among the delegates, and they will be heard from in protest.

The serious phase of this great gathering of women has to some extent been overshadowed by the interest aroused by the politics of the national body. The election of a president, the radical changes of those who wish a reorganization and the difference of opinion in regard to affiliation with clubs composed of colored women have all been a factor in causing this. But the real business of the convention will have for its object the bettering of the material and ethical condition of men as well as of women.

Co-operation between club women and wage-earning women was one of the topics discussed at the inaugural meeting of the council today. The wage-earning woman question—the working girl problem, from factory to retail store

and office—is one that in the opinion of many students of sociology can never be solved until the women of the country take hold of it in a practical way.

Another important matter, but which does not come up until Wednesday, is in relation to sectional needs in the public schools. This deals with work by club women in the elementary schools, and for the first time the needs and peculiar problems of southern schools will be brought before this great body of practical workers. Here the colored question again comes to the front and northern women will have it explained to them why southern women cannot do school work the same as their northern sisters. These and many other important questions will be before the convention that is representative of 150,000 women organized into a compact body for work for the good of the national community.

In opening the discussion today Mrs. Lowe stated that the first topic for discussion would be the vital one of co-operation between club women and wage-earning women. "The topic was chosen," said Mrs. Lowe, "because so many times active club women would say: 'How can we reach the wage-earning women? We want to come near to them, to help them, but how can we bridge the chasm? If we only knew the way,' and so," continued Mrs. Lowe, "I thought it would be of interest to you all to talk upon this subject that is so near to us all, and that much good might be accomplished by its full and free discussion."

The discussion of the relation of the federation to the wage-earning women was then taken up. Mrs. Holme of the state of Washington, told about a club in Seattle composed of working women called the Evening club, which was a part of the state federation. She said the wage-earners of that club did not wish to be branded as different from the members of any other club.

Mrs. Tyrell of Texas said the Fort Worth Woman's club used its influence toward closing the stores during the summer at seven o'clock. Club members generally in that city pledged themselves not to do any shopping after six o'clock.

Mrs. White of Massachusetts told of how working women were taken into the club at Battleboro, Vermont, on the same footing as other members and how well the plan worked. She thought this a very good place for small cities, but one which might not serve for large cities.

Mrs. William Tod Helmuth of New York caused a smile when she said she did not see that there was much difference between wage-earning women and wage-earning men. She had yet to see a woman who was not a wage-earner, and, addressing Mrs. Lowe, in the chair, remarked that all the women on the platform were wage-earners.

Mrs. Hartley of Georgia urged that the women who spent the most money did the least work and that the women who work the hardest spent the least money.

No action was taken and the subject was left open for further discussion by the council later in the week.

The discussion on reorganization was opened by Mrs. Williams, president of the Minnesota State Federation. She at once declared that she was in favor of the minority report for the reason that the federation has now "an illogical organic structure"; there was too much of "me and my club"; that the time had arrived for a broad national organization of the women of America. She quoted the Minnesota delegation as proof that there was something radically wrong in the present system of representation. The Minnesota state federation with a membership of 5,000, had nine delegates, while four hundred and

fifty-six women, members of independent clubs, were represented by eighteen delegates.

Mrs. Williams was followed by Dr. Dickinson of Chicago. She came armed with a large number of documents showing the wisdom of the finding of the committee. She pointed out that Virginia and West Virginia were the only states and Arizona the only territory not represented. That was making a rather good showing for a system which it was now proposed to destroy. As a five minute rule had been adopted, Dr. Dickinson did not have time to make the elaborate address that she had prepared, but she was granted some extension of time. Later she will be heard at length on the question.

Mrs. Denison of New York said the minority report was totally out of conformity with the articles of incorporation. It was not organization, but disorganization, that was now proposed.

Mrs. Elizabeth D. Gosse of Boston spoke in reference to clubs in the country and pointed out a number of reasons why reorganization would not be advisable.

Mrs. Brock of Pennsylvania brought the discussion to a close by pointing out that it might be wise to get a legal opinion on the proposed change in the corporation. Perhaps no steps could be taken at this time. She thought a woman sent as a delegate from the state federation represented her club as much as if sent direct from the club.

Mrs. Allen of Massachusetts made the point that the rich clubs objected more to the per capita tax than did the poor ones. She favored the reorganization. A motion to adjourn was made and carried when she took her seat.

The Milwaukee young man with crude ideas of club women hustled home this noon and spruced up a bit. He had an impression that the convention would be a sort of composite of short skirts, glasses, alpaca gowns, gingham umbrellas, lisle thread gloves and poke bonnets. He realizes his mistake, for there are hundreds of as bright and as pretty, as charming and as fashionably gowned women as can be found in all America—or all the world for that matter.

"By Jove!" exclaimed a young Milwaukeean this afternoon, "I couldn't stand it any longer. No more golf for me this week. This is a better game. I wandered down to the Plankinton to see what they looked like, and I found out. You see, I have an aunt in Vermont, who is a club woman, and I thought I knew what they were like. Well, I found out."

The discovery that club women are really what they are has set the men to scurrying about for cards to the various receptions and social functions that are on the program for the week. The Mil-

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