

**CLUBS.**

Edited by Miss Helen G. Harwood.

The Lincoln Woman's club will meet on Monday, January 14th, at three o'clock. The subject for the afternoon will be "The Art Exhibit" and will be under the direction of Miss Hayden, leader of the Art department. Members are requested to bring their catalogs of the exhibition.

The ladies of the Exeter Woman's club entertained the children of its members Thursday afternoon, January third.

The general meeting of the Columbus Woman's club was held Saturday, January 5th. The Literary department had charge of the program. Roll call—response, "Current Literature;" paper, "Books of the Hour." Mrs. A. J. Baker; piano solo, Mrs. W. A. McAllister; book review, "To Have and to Hold," Miss Becker; vocal duet, Mesdames Heintz and Fridig.

A New Year's reception was given by the Woman's club of Plattsmouth on Tuesday evening, January 1st, 1901, at the residence of Mrs. B. Eleon. Every member of the club had the privilege of inviting guests.

Saturday's meeting, December 31st, of the Fremont Woman's club, was president's day, it being the fifth Saturday of the month. The president, Mrs. Mullin, having gone to New Mexico for her health, her vacant chair on the rostrum was draped with roses and ferns, as a tribute of the esteem of the members of the club. The program was of her arranging. It was given over to the men who had been invited to address the club on the question of a public library for Fremont. Miss Stella Keene presided. Reverend William H. Buss discussed "The Value of Public Libraries;" Mr. G. G. Martin, the "Exposition of State Library Laws;" Mr. Ross L. Hammond, "Practical Methods of Securing a Public Library."

Dr. Buss adverted to the great practical value of books, how they have been invaluable aids to the educational, moral and religious development of the race. He traced the growth of the public library idea in this country, showing it is practically a product of the century just closing, though one of the first was earlier established by Benjamin Franklin in Philadelphia, it being still in existence. He thought there was no greater problem to which we could profitably devote ourselves than to that of devising plans for placing an abundance of good books within the reach of the persons who cannot otherwise enjoy their use. It is particularly important for the young to have this opportunity, for what is read in early life is largely the formative influence which shapes the whole career. The daily press does not meet the requirements. It is a great power for good and is improving, but it presents an undigested and indigestible mass of material to the reader that is debilitating. There must be the careful and studious perusal of good books. That there is need for such a

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public institution in Fremont he was very sure.

He read briefly from a report of the work of the Burlington, Iowa, library, showing the wonderful influence that library has had on the community.

Mr. Hammond said he appreciated the humor of the situation presented by his representing the question of cash in the discussion, since the poverty of country editors is proverbial; yet he supposed it was his right to tell others what to do and how to do it, just as it is the privilege and practice of others to tell the editor how to conduct his paper.

He had, he said, written to librarians of libraries in other cities of the state to learn how they had procured their libraries and how they were maintained. He had endeavored to learn if there was a sustained interest in them. He read letters covering interesting and primary features of library building from librarians and secretaries at Nebraska City, Beatrice, Plattsmouth and Crete. These were all enthusiastic. They all testified to the continued interest and benefit of their libraries and they made clear the steps that should be taken to procure a library for Fremont. The speaker said he was conservative. He thought a fund of \$2,500 might be raised to buy a library. When this was done he believed the city council could easily be induced to make a levy for its support. A tax of one mill on the dollar may be raised. This would yield about \$800 a year, which would meet current expenses and add to the number of books in a small way. He would have no building erected for library purposes until the need of it was plain. He believed the fund named could be raised and suggested how the Woman's club could organize to successfully do it. The intelligent citizenship of Fremont is surely in favor of such a worthy movement for the education of the masses.

At the conclusion of their remarks a vote of thanks was tendered the gentlemen for their addresses.

The addresses were followed by general discussion. Among those who spoke were Mr. J. W. Richards and Prof. J. L. Laird, both of whom were enthusiastic for a library for the city. Mrs. R. D. Kelly recited an appropriate poem.

No formal action was taken at this meeting for a definite start toward a library, but there was manifested a favorable disposition that is likely to soon lead to results.

The program of music for the meeting was very enjoyable. Miss Katharine Richards sang a solo. Mr. J. W. Johnson sang. Miss Nina Foote was accompanist.

The Century club met on Tuesday with Mrs. George G. Waite. Mrs. W. E. Kirker read a paper on "The Religion and Astrology of Ancient Egypt."

Sorosis met on Tuesday with Mrs. T. M. Hodgman. Mrs. M. D. Welch discussed "Opening of China."

The First Year Book of the Columbus Woman's club, compliments of Mrs. John B. Geitzen, president, has been received. The cover is most effective with a pink carnation, the club flower, done in water colors, and 1900-1901 Columbus Woman's Club, Year Book, done in gold. The club colors are pink and green. The club has certainly made practical illustration of its motto: "Spare moments are the gold dust of time," for it must have taken many spare moments to paint a carnation on each booklet. The officers are: President, Mrs. Mary H. Geitzen; vice president, Mrs. Bertha Cramer; second vice president, Mrs. Lillian S. Reeder; recording secretary, Martha Turner; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Carrie B. Voas; treasurer,

Mrs. Mary Williams. The club work consists of the general meetings, one each month from October to May and the work of the departments of which there are four, art, history, literature and music. The art study is devoted chiefly to the sculpture, architecture and paintings of France after the Renaissance. Afternoons are also given to the Italian masters, and the different schools form another topic. The instructive art game is also made of frequent use. The History department has France for its theme. The work is carefully planned and begins with the Feudal System and includes the main events in French History from 1436-1896. The Department of Literature has for its leading topic modern literature, including book reviews and quotations from new books and poems, with occasional gleanings from older writers. This course gives one afternoon to Nebraska writers, an unusual but a goodly topic. The Music department offers in the following successive order two programs of Chopin, one of Mendelssohn, two of Schumann and Liszt, one of each Berlioz and Rubinstein, and two of both Wagner and Gounod.

The Review and Art club of York, have prepared a neat, little calendar with a greenish cover, fastened with a white cord. "Dutch and Early German Art and Miscellaneous Topics" are the chosen work. The arrangement of topics is brief and scholarly. The artists to whom special attention is given are Hubert and Jan Van Eyck, Memling, Maseys, Rubens, Van Dyck, Frank Hals, Vermur, Terburg, Ruysdael, Paul Potter, Rembrandt, Durer, Teniers and Holbein. A short program in English Literature is also offered. One meeting each month is given to Current Topics. The officers are: President, Mrs. C. F. Gilbert; vice president, Mrs. C. H. Bell; secretary, Miss Alice Dillon; treasurer, Mrs. Robert McConaughy.

The fourth general meeting of the Woman's club of Seward was held in the parlors of the Windsor hotel December 22nd. There was a good attendance considering the storm. All who were on the program were present and prepared.

The Literature class furnished the numbers: Quotations from Tennyson, by class. Life and works of Tennyson by Mrs. Callender. Piano solo by Miss Alice Sexton. Recitation by Margery Rans. Legends of King Arthur, Mrs. U. O. Anderson. Talk on the work of the department, Mrs. Ross Anderson. Vocal solo, The Brook, by Miss Victoria Hedden. Business followed. Miss Miller reported tickets sold by club for the entertainment course, \$11.50.

A motion was carried to ask Mrs. Hall to come and give a lecture on Art before the club, arrangements to be left with the art class. A vote of thanks was tendered to those who contributed to the musical part of the program.

Sorosis of Tecumseh has been kind enough to send The Courier the club's year book for the season of 1900 and 1901. Printed on rough, deckle edge paper and bound in the club colors of rose and white, the Tecumseh Sorosis year book is a valuable addition to this year's collection, for each one of which the editor, and the editor of the club department are very grateful. The Sorosis officers are: President, Mrs. C. B. Scott; first and second vice presidents, Mrs. Mabel Lattan and Miss Lib J. Hervey; secretary, Mrs. Sadie E. Harman; treasurer, Mrs. Clara A. West. Program committee: Mesdames Anderson, Davies, Leach; chairmen social department, Mesdames Chenoweth, McKay and Lattan. At each meeting a paramount issue is discussed after which English literature is studied with illu-

ations of the times and works. The course began in October with a study of early English and will be concluded on the eighth of May with a review of English poetry since 1832, English poets laureate and the Brownings with a finale of quotations from Tennyson. Each page of the year book has at the top, an apt quotation. "That book is good which puts me in a thinking mood;" "Reading without purpose, is sauntering, not exercise;" "Books are yours, Within whose silent chambers treasure lies Preserved from age to age." "For poetry is the blossom and fragrance of all human knowledge, human thoughts, human passions, emotions, language." Familiar names and epochs in the progress of literature from Beowulf to Browning appear in the synopsis compiled by the Tecumseh Sorosis, such as Chaucer, troubadours, Elizabethan age, etc.

On December the 29th, the class in Household Economics of Seward, met at the home of Mrs. Harvey. The members show great interest and a large number were present. The subject was a debate.

Resolved, That the mistress and not the maid, is responsible for the present imperfect style of housekeeping.

Affirmative, Mesdames J. F. Skeede and George Merriam. Negative, Mesdames Will Dickinson and C. E. Holland. Remedies: Doubtful in domestic service, Mrs. Bradley; Possible in domestic service, Mrs. Strayer; discussion by class, Mrs. Teresa M. Carey, leader.

The Literature class of the Woman's club of Seward, met with Mrs. Keefer January 2nd. In the absence of the leader Mrs. Ross Anderson took up the work which consisted of studies and readings of the first seven chapters of Ivanhoe. The class will study Scott until the close of the year. Mrs. Spear gave a sketch of the Princess, which has been one of the studies of the class from Tennyson. Quotations and answers followed which had been given out by the leader upon the history of the times written of in Ivanhoe. This department has made good progress, meeting every Tuesday afternoon at the homes of the members under the direction of their efficient leader, Mrs. Emma K. Schemel.

The Art department of the Woman's club of Seward met with Mrs. W. W. Stoner, January 5th, at seven P. M. Mrs. Manning, the leader, gave a review of the previous lesson, Miss Miller's subject was the Romantic School in Art, with the two artists Gericault and Delacroix. Mrs. Blanchard had Ary Scheffer and Delaroche.

Mrs. Stoner had received a new consignment of pictures which were placed

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