

had known what it meant to Chug to do something to help some one.] He had never helped any thing before, except the little colts that scratched their necks on the barbed-wire. His work for his mother and sisters, he had done because they "kept a naggin'." The sisters were older than he.

He had never seen a baby at short range before. He had always avoided them. They cried. But this one did not cry, after the first. It laughed to him, and pounded its two hands on the window pane when it saw him coming. Chug viewed these manifestations with secret wonder, and another new, queer feeling, that made him half-afraid of the little blue-frocked thing.

The day he got a new suit of clothes, he ventured to take it on his lap. He was in unusual spirits that day. Mrs. Woods noticed it. She thought perhaps it was the black horse. This month's wages made the last payment on the pretty animal, whose movements he had followed ever since he had sulked into her stall with a curry comb, on the first day of his coming, and had dodged a well-aimed kick.

When Joe came home from school he surveyed the new suit with a whistle. "Hello! Goin' to the chivaree?"

Chug shifted his feet uneasily. "Joe," said his mother, "I wish you would get me an armful of wood."

The next morning the farmer called Chug, at the foot of the stairs three times. When he came to the table Joe winked at his sister. "Had a good time, Chug?" "Oh," said Chug, indifferently, "purty fair. Never ben to one o' them doin's before." He ate his pancakes with conscious unconcern, looking under his eyebrows, occasionally, at his yellow and blue suspenders.

He was looking at them when Joe rushed in to supper.

"Jefferson's skipped!" he announced excitedly.

Chug looked up quickly, then looked down at his plate. Suddenly he laid his knife across his fork, and his whole face wrenched spasmodically. He stumbled out to the stable, and they saw him lead out the black horse and ride down the road through the second-bottom pasture.

It was late that night when Mrs. Woods heard the creak of the windlass at the well. It went very slowly. After a while, she heard the thump of the water-pail, on the kitchen table. Chug always set it there, now, before he tramped up the stairs to his room. He set it down more softly, tonight. After he had gone up stairs, she did not hear the clump of heavy boots dropping on the floor. Instead, there were slow steps, in the room above, creaking and creaking, in a painful effort to be soft. Then she rose, and dressed, and took a lamp into the kitchen. When Chug opened the door, presently, he stepped back a little, and she saw his face working. She looked at the bundle, tied in a red handkerchief, in his hands.

"Where are you going?" she said quickly.

"I dunno"—and then with lips that twisted, "my sister—"

The little woman paled suddenly. She remembered things whispered of the older of the two black-haired, sullen-browed girls, and she was silent. She looked with something like awe at the boy's bent head, and his fingers, twisting the blue and yellow suspenders. Who would have thought a Marvin would care? She opened her lips, and then something in his white face stopped her.

"I want to thank you—" Chug stopped again, and the farmer's wife put both her hands on his hard, grimy wrist.

"You mustn't go," she said slowly. "That's what he's done."

Chug did not remember the rest, until he stood, with the smoking lantern in his hand, in the corner of the barn

where his old clothes lay, the clothes in which he had come from home. He picked them up, but the holes seemed to have grown larger. The new, blue patches on the shirt-sleeves were soiled and black, and one was worn through. He felt in the pocket of the ragged trousers, a pocket tied around, half way up, with a string, and found a small, black wad of tobacco. He put it into his mouth and chewed it savagely.

That night, far away on the country road, a solitary rider galloped through the dark. He rode faster and faster. The moon began to come up, shining red through the trees beside him. His horse was damp with perspiration. He drew in the rein. All the way a voice seemed chasing him—ringing in his ears. He heard it plainer, now. "That's what he's done."

The heat from the smoking horse, made him gasp, yet a chill went over him, as if two hands had touched his wrists. Those hands, worn and bent, would carry the pails of water, now.

"I wish't I was hauled out to the bone-patch," he muttered, and turned his horse's head.

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Next morning, when David Woods called, at the foot of the stairs, a voice answered more promptly than ever before, "All right."

## CLUBS.

Edited by Miss Helen G. Harwood.

### CALENDAR OF NEBRASKA CLUBS

February	25, W's. c., French Department.....	Lincoln
	25, Boys' c., American History.....	Plattsmouth
	28, Monday c., French lesson.....	Wayne
	25, W's. c., Home.....	York
	25, 20th Cen. c., Miscellaneous.....	Pawnee City
	26, Fortnightly England.....	Lincoln
	27, Friends in Council, Burgundy and Paris.....	Tecumseh
	27, Sorosis, Topic of the Time.....	Tecumseh
	27, Cozy c., Nebraska Day.....	Tecumseh
	28, W's. c., Value of good Literature.....	Auburn
March	1, Self Culture c., History.....	St. Paul
	1, Round Table, Queens of England.....	Crete
	1, Athenae, Aboriginal American Architecture.....	Lincoln
	2, Zetetic c., 18th Cent. Lit.....	W. Water
	2, Review & Art c., Ceramics.....	York
	2, W's. c., Authors & Books.....	Columbus
	2, W's. c., Literature.....	North Bend
	2, History & Art c., Seven Years War.....	Seward
	2, Fin de Siecle c., Samuel & John Adams.....	Seward

The sixteenth annual calendar of the Wayne Monday club, compliments of Mrs. E. M. Smith, vice president, has been received. Sixteen on rare occasions is the sign of age and certainly congratulations ought to be extended to this long-lived and prosperous association. The club is federated and has for its chosen colors, pink and white. "In great things, unity, in small things, liberty, in all things, charity," are the chosen words of aspiration. The officers are: Mesdames Norris, pres.; Smith, vice P.; Harrington, sec.; Northrop, treas.; Ruckon, librarian. The year's program is devoted to France and the index offers many attractive subjects. There is evident that happy arrangement of heavy and lighter subjects that always insures continual interests and consequent benefit.

Miss Nannette E. McCarn, recording secretary of the Fremont Woman's club, has kindly sent the Courier their year book. The calendar comes in a purple and white binding, tied with a white cord and with a handsome monogram of white upon the cover centre. The club was organized December 1893 and federated March 1895. The color is crimson and the motto, "Striving toward all that will enrich and enoble life." The officers are: Mesdames Mullin, Pres.; Richards, 1st vice P.; Veazie, 2nd vice

P.; Misses McCarn, rec. sec.; Hicks, corr. sec.; Turner, treas. The arrangement of programs is scientific in method. There is first a brief outline of subjects according to months, February, March and April being taken together, then May and October, followed by November, December and January. This outline is succeeded by a program for each meeting in detail. The topics under the first division of months are: French history, literature, miscellaneous, science of home-making; under the second division there are the same themes of the study with the exception that "Musicals" are substituted for "miscellaneous" and under the third division topics are arranged the same as under the first. Visitors' day on which papers are read by members of neighboring clubs, is a suggestive idea. The club has a small but excellent library of its own, which must be of great service. Its membership is very large; 187 members.

The Lincoln Bank Clerks' club has been recently organized here. The object of the new association is the promotion of knowledge of education in matters of finance.

Twenty-five active members already enrolled make the club an assured success, and in the two months of its existence five meetings have been held. These gatherings occur bi-weekly, and are the occasion of discussions upon some prearranged topic in connection with banking and the banking business. The subjects are announced in advance, and a leader is appointed for each meeting's discussion. Comment and argument are general.

The topics thus far considered at the club meetings have been "The National Bank Act," "Paper Money," "Comparison between State and National Banks," and "Postal Savings Banks." The last meeting was held on Thursday night, February 7th, and a feature of it was an instructive talk on the general subject of banking by Prof. W. G. L. Taylor of the department of political economy of the State university. Mr. R. W. Finarty is the leader for the next discussion which will be on the subject of "Branch Banks."

Clubs of this nature are being organized throughout the country, under the stimulus given by the American Bankers' association in establishing a fund for a bank clerks' institute. The Lincoln clerks were among the first to perfect an organization. They will join the national association, which is conducted under the supervision of the American Banker's association, a competent secretary having been appointed to have complete charge of the central organization. The main idea of the whole scheme is to perfect and educate bank clerks in their work and to prepare them for the time when they will themselves be managers of large banking institutions.

The officers of the Lincoln association are: Messrs. Frank Parks, Pres.; W. B. Ryons, vice P.; Philip R. Easterday, sec.; J. W. Auld, treas.

The program of the Fairbury Woman's club last week was patriotism. Mrs. Culliton discussed the Fourth of July, and Mrs. Grumphy considered whether noise is essential to patriotism. The afternoon was concluded with two trios, Mrs. Smith, Misses Cuykendall and Boyle; Jubelfur and Summer Breezes.

The Exeter Woman's club entertained their husbands and friends at the residence of Dr. and Mrs. McCleery on Thursday evening of last week. The club has given several banquets and entertainments during its existence and has established a reputation of giving the social functions of the town. Lunch-

son was served after which were recitation, and music, and games.

Those present were Messrs. and Mesdames Taylor, McKinnon, Cox, Wilson, Frost, Stratton, Manning, Gustin, Benedict, Nevins, Wilson, Chenoweth, Kinney, Grimsley, Costello; Mesdames Babcock, Roper, Craft, Nash, Hulbert of Urica; Misses Lester, Cox, Wilson; Messrs. Kimberly, Waite, Grimsley, jr.

The Woman's club of Central City gave amateur theatricals on Tuesday evening of this week in order to create a fund for a fountain to be placed in Market Triangle of the town. An original burlesque "A Shaksperian Comedy" was the curtain raiser. This was followed by a farce in one act "The Old Maids' Association." There were also recitations and music. It is always encouraging when a club makes such practical application of its art studies and art instincts as to put forth earnest effort to beautify its dwelling places.

The executive board of the Nebraska Branch of the A. C. A. met Tuesday at the home of Mrs. Wilson. It was decided to have a program March 31th at the home of Mrs. William Hardy in honor of the senior young women of the University.

On Saturday, February 16th the Chicago Woman's club celebrated its twenty-fifth anniversary with a luncheon given in the Fine Arts building. More than four hundred and fifty members did honor to the birthday. The room was suggestively decorated in silver tinsel in honor of the twenty-five years. On the table, at which Mrs. Edwards, the president, and the seven founders of the organization were seated, a handsome silver service was set. The toasts following the luncheon were responded to by representatives of the six departments of the club: philanthropy, art and literature; education, home, reform; philosophy and science. The various phases of work done by the club during its existence were spoken of by those toasting. Many amusing stories were told and puns made. Great was the merriment and so genial the feeling that time sped with a fleet foot. The story considered the best in regard to a club woman's alleged neglect of homes and family was related as follows as a true instance:

"Two little boys in Evanston were playing together one day when one of them remarked that he was born in New York.

"I was born right here in Evanston," replied the other. "Mamma was away from home at the time. She was down at the Woman's club meeting with Grandma."

A brief talk on Prospect and Retrospect, was also given. Mrs. G. F. Logan presented the club with a valuable oil painting by William Keith. The afternoon closed with music.

The following program was given by the Fremont Woman's club last Saturday afternoon:

"And Christ's love, and his apostles twelve He taught, but first he followed it himself." —Chaucer.

Piano solo, Miss Doane; "Bavaria," Miss Whiting; Details concerning the Passion Play, Mesdames Veazie, Roberts, Aronson; Misses Spickard and Piper; piano solo: the Passion Play, Miss Hicks; vocal solo, Miss Greves.

Omaha, Nebr., Feb. 20, 1901.  
Club Editor Courier:

Should you ask me the policy and ambition of the present administration, I should say at once, club extension. We feel that in proportion as the federated clubs are increased, trouble will diminish. A club extension committee has been appointed, Mrs. Durland of Nor-