

jects of ridicule on account of their opinions concerning the enlargement of the suffrage. Consequently, the Muncie women had a horror of the word "club." At last, through the influence of Mrs. McRae, the word "club" as a part of the title was carried by a small majority. The duties at the first meetings were voluntary and the willing ones were selected by the committee to take part in the program. The meetings resulted in one or two coming "prepared," the rest of the evening being occupied with charades. The first anniversary was spent by holding a sort of self admiration meeting, over the fact that they had held together so long.

At this time Mrs. McRae suggested "history" as a subject for systematic study. In 1877, the membership fell from 82 to 44 and as the members began to realize they must take part or withdraw, 1878 rolled in with 26 active members.

The manner in which the club has carried out its motto, "Progress," is demonstrated by the subjects discussed in the twenty-five years. "Incarnation of Thought," "Our New Babies," were samples of early topics. During this time interest in the meetings seemed to lag and nine months elapsed at one time between meetings. In several instances it took the death of a member to revive interest, for then a called meeting was held to draft a memorial.

In 1877 Julia Ward Howe wrote a letter to the club offering any assistance she might render.

The first verbal work introduced by the new activity was by Miss Jennie Neely. In 1878, Mrs. McRae attended the woman's congress and upon her return inspired the members by her report.

In 1879, Mrs. Hattie Patterson read a paper on "What shall be done with the children out of school in Muncie?" and explained the need of a truant officer. The first printed club programs were published in 1884.

One of the interesting meetings of the club at that time was held at the home of Mrs. Andrew Kennedy. The walls of the parlor were covered with paper brought from China 38 years before. The paper represented the principal scenes as described in Sir Walter Scott's *Lady of the Lake*. The pictures were fully discussed.

The years passed on and the secretary's books began to fill rapidly. To be a club woman grew to be the correct thing; the struggle for existence had passed and through the faithful members, the motto, "Progress" began to be true in deed and in word. Today the Muncie Woman's club has members from the Atlantic to the Pacific, members of more than local note.

At one of the recent meetings of the Chicago Woman's club, Amusements was the topic of consideration. Members gave their idea of pleasures. There was much difference of opinion as to the ways and means of obtaining pleasure as well as to pleasure itself. The opinion however was general that American women do not enjoy amusements for amusements' sake but rather with the ulterior hope that some educational advantage may be gained therefrom. This then is one of the causes for the intensity and strain of American life, there being little time for spontaneous pleasure and gaiety.

Honor has recently come to both the Deborah Avery chapter at Lincoln, and the Omaha chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Mrs. Stephen B. Pound of the Deborah Avery chapter has recently been elected state regent. Mrs. Pound was elected several years ago to this office for one term and reappointed for another year. Her election again to the office is testimony of the efficient and enthusiastic manner in which she has always performed every duty and furthered every interest in regard to Nebraska chapters of the D.A.R.

Miss Dutcher, a charter member of the Omaha chapter, has just been granted the concession for the exclusive manufacture of souvenir badges of the D. A. R. The D. A. R. have heretofore had but one pin symbolic of their organization. The design of the authorized pin is a spinning wheel and distaff and though an artistic emblem being five-eighths of an inch in diameter, surrounded by thirteen five-pointed stars, for convenient every day adornment and use. Miss Dutcher has long felt the lack of some simple, inexpensive symbol for the society and has experimented for some time until she has obtained

practical results. Before the Trans-Mississippi exposition she devoted much thought to the matter and evolved the plan of cementing the insignia of the order to an old breastpin. This pin, which Miss Dutcher wore during the exposition attracted much attention and many visiting Daughters expressed their hope that this idea might be adopted by the general organization. Miss Dutcher who is a ceramic artist, continued her experiments, making use of ceramic and jeweler's enamel until she finally made the design which has lately obtained such hearty approval. The pin is about the size of a ten cent piece with an insignia of blue enamel upon a white enamel background, thus introducing the colors of the association. The spokes, stars and lettering are in gold, the whole being enclosed in a gold rim which does away with the disagreeable tendency of the rough edge of the other pin to catch and tear laces and chiffon. The price of this pin is one dollar, the price of the other badge is eight dollars. The original emblem will doubtless be used for all formal occasions, but Miss Dutcher's device will permit many a Daughter for whom a pin was formerly too great an extravagance, to indulge in a souvenir of her society. Ten per cent of the cost of each pin will be paid as a royalty to the general organization, the amount thus made going to swell the fund for the Continental Hall which is now the fond hope of every Daughter.

This pin was presented at last year's congress, but its adoption could not be acted upon as the official manufacturers of the emblem claimed such an action to be an infringement upon their contract and an amendment for its adoption this year was proposed. The manufacturers were immediately notified that their contract would expire February 1901.

The pin was widely and favorably known before the last congress of the D. A. R. which occurred two weeks ago. The Omaha chapter and the Deborah Avery chapter passed resolutions before the convention in Washington approving of the pin and petitioning for its use. The pin was also well known among the many strong chapters of New York and Connecticut. Miss Dutcher should certainly receive an expression of the approval and greeting of Nebraska women, as she is the first among thirty four thousand D. A. R. to propose a pin that is acceptable from all points of view as an emblem of the organization.

The Lotos club met Friday afternoon with Mrs. E. B. Andrews. Mrs. Bessey spoke of Dr. Asa Grey as a man. Dr. and Mrs. Bessey have been guests of Dr. Grey, and Mrs. Bessey's reminiscences were very interesting.

The current topics department of the Lincoln Woman's club met on Tuesday with the largest attendance of the season, forty women being present. Miss Green gave a general history of the Passion Play; Miss Rogers, the architecture of the village of Ober Ammergau; Dr. Wood, the spiritual effect of the Passion Play. Miss Rogers exhibited an old man carrying a bundle of fagots, that was carved by a child of twelve.

The New Book Review club met with Mrs. Cornell, 1235 Q street Wednesday. Mrs. Cornell read from Nicholas Nickleby where he leaves the Yorkshire school. Mrs. Cook read a biography of Zangwill, and Mrs. Baker reviewed *The Mantle of Elijah*. The meeting adjourned to meet again in two weeks when it will assemble to hear Mr. Harry Shedd talk about new books.

The literary department of the Woman's club met Thursday in the club rooms to discuss Coleridge's poem of the *Ancient Mariner*. A short summary of his life was presented and then the poem

was read and discussed. Considerable discussion as to what a reader would gain from the *Ancient Mariner* was indulged in and the ladies told of what it had meant to them. To some it was a mysterious poem devoid of meaning, to others it contained the theme, "The punishment that comes from lack of harmony with the law of love." At the next meeting election of officers for the ensuing year will take place. The program will be in charge of Mrs. Hall—a study of Shelly and Keats, and Doctor Marsh will estimate New England's debt to Whittier.

Sorosia met Tuesday with Mrs. Taylor Mrs. Sawyer spoke of the Consumers League, bringing out the points in favor of the League and the conditions that the League on the other hand did not seem able to remedy. Mrs. Sawyer said that she spoke from a non-partisan point of view as she had not yet been able to decide whether the use of the Consumer's label would mitigate the evils of sweat shops and other places of labor.

The music department of the Lincoln Woman's club met Friday with Mrs. James. Mesdames Lucas and Williams were in charge of the program, French and Italian Opera, being illustrated by both voice and piano.

Mrs. Ella M. Henrotin ex-president of the general federation of Women's clubs has written a brief review of the club movement. She gives some interesting statistics in regard to club growth. It is ten years since the organization of the general federation. In 1893, three years after the establishment of the general federation the Iowa federation of Women's clubs composed of clubs from all parts of the state, some members, but more not members of the general federation applied for membership in the general federation. At that time as there was no provision whatever in the constitution for state associations, Iowa was admitted as an individual club paying a biennial due of \$10 and sending the president and two delegates to the biennial meeting. In the early part of 1894, Maine and Massachusetts were admitted on this same basis. Between May 1894 and May 1896, Utah, Kansas, Illinois, Nebraska, New York, New Jersey, Kentucky, Minnesota, Missouri, Michigan, New Hampshire, Ohio, Tennessee, Rhode Island, Pennsylvania, Washington and the District of Columbia organized federations and were admitted as individual clubs, though even at that time some state federations comprised more than one hundred clubs.

At the Louisville biennial held in June 1896, the recognition of the state federation per se as entitled to a large recognition than individual clubs was established. The influence of the state federation has been constantly increased since that time. Between May 1896 and May 1898, Wisconsin, North Dakota, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, Georgia, Florida, Vermont and Oklahoma were admitted as state federations. Since 1898 Maryland, South Carolina, South Dakota, Indiana, California and Texas have been admitted. At the Denver biennial the per capita tax was agitated and adopted. This was the beginning of the demand for a reconstruction of the general federation, not as a federation of clubs, but of state federations and other societies.

Ohio possesses the largest state federation, 250 clubs, and Indiana the smallest, five; Nebraska 98, averages well, with the other state federations; New York has the largest per capita membership, 30,000 members; Illinois 25,000, and Massachusetts over 21,000. Statistics are rightfully acknowledged

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