

The travelling libraries of Nebraska will ever be a beautiful memorial of a well-spent life, of a life that went out on the very day the library bill passed the house.

To all who have so cordially aided me in this work of library extension, I wish to express my thanks, especially to the club women of Nebraska, who were not slow to realize that the opportunity was here to do a beautiful service.

Belle M. Stoutenborough,
Chairman Literary Extension.

Reciprocity Bureau.

(By Mrs. Archibald A. Scott, Chairman Reciprocity Bureau.)

The Reciprocity Bureau of the N. F. W. C., which was organized two years ago for the purpose of exchanging papers and the interchange of ideas by means of lectures, has perceptibly enlarged its capabilities by an increase of manuscripts and an increased number of lecturers. The manuscript department has added thirty new papers since last October, having now 125 manuscripts ready for exchange. In the lecture department there are now nineteen club women who are willing to give their services in this behalf, some for their expenses, others for a small compensation. The business of the bureau for the past year is as follows: Manuscripts loaned, 49; speakers requested, 64; letters received, 81; letters written, 78. The bureau charges no fee whatever, except for postage. During the past year it has been entirely self-supporting, except for 45 cents. All clubs are urged to make free use of this bureau and thus to enjoy the full significance of the word reciprocity which always consists in giving something for something.

Art Department.

Owing to the fact that there is no official organ by which the chairmen of the standing committees of the federation can reach the several clubs of the state, the art committee has not been able to send out any suggestions or helps. The burden of entering into correspondence with 89 clubs is too great for the committee to assume.

However, the committee has been of service to those clubs that have asked for suggestions and stands ready to assist in every way it can to build up an interest in this department.

We urge that every club in the federation take up some phase of art study if it be for not more than one meeting a year.

We would be glad to correspond with those clubs that are contemplating taking up the study next year. Will you not write us? Sincerely,

Mrs. F. M. Hall, Chairman,
1040 D Street, Lincoln.

Mrs. S. C. Langworthy,
Mrs. Anna Morey.

Report of the Chairman of the Constitutional Committee.

The rapid growth of the Nebraska state federation has necessitated a revision of the entire constitution which will place us in the ranks with states most progressive in club work.

Perhaps the most important of these changes is the addition of six vice presidents to the officers heretofore elected, giving one vice president to each congressional district, whose duty it will be to supervise the clubs in their respective districts; to encourage the extension of club work and the organization of local or district federation wherever possible.

It has been thought best to limit office-holding to two consecutive years, but that any one may be eligible for

re-election to an office after the interval of one year from the time when she last held it, and further that no person shall hold more than one office at a time. By thus distributing the offices, it is hoped to extend the interest in the work of the federation.

The committee has aimed to be most explicit in regard to dues, which must be sent to the treasurer by September 15 of each year in order to entitle a

Wayne.

(E. Cunningham, Chairman Press Com.)
As the annual meeting of the state federation of clubs takes place in Wayne, it is well perhaps to give the club women of the state a little glimpse of that city. This gem city of northeastern Nebraska is situated 110 miles north of Omaha on the C., St. P., M. & O. R. R., in the Logan valley, and is the county seat of the same named county with a population of 2,200 inhabitants. Wayne lies in the midst of the richest and most fertile agricultural lands in Nebraska and the farm homes surrounding it are of the highest order. The town is nicely built; many elegant residences that would do credit to a city having been erected, and a number more are in the process of construction. Religious denominations are well represented, there being six churches. The Presbyterian church, which is especially fine, has been secured for the sessions of the coming annual meeting of the state federation. A new Methodist church is being erected at a cost of \$15,000, which will be completed in October. As an educational center Wayne stands first of any city of its size in the state, having a fine public school which occupies two buildings and employs twelve teachers. Mr. U. S. Conn, state president of the teachers' association, being the superintendent, having acted in that capacity for the past four years. Another educational institution is situated here, the North Nebraska Normal, which, under the able management of Prof. J. M. Pile, prepares a large class of excellent teachers every year. The average attendance of this normal is 250 pupils,

club to representation, however, (a club) may be restored to membership upon payment of all dues.

Another change is the addition of one by-law to those we already have, making the executive board and chairman of committees appointed to report at any annual meeting, members of the meeting with the right to introduce motions and vote.

The advantage as well as justice of

coming from all over the west. Out of these surroundings one naturally looks for women's clubs, and not in vain, for this little city is one of the "clubbiest" in the state, having seven clubs, viz: The Acme, Monday, Minerva, U. D., Pyerian, Juvenile, History and Fortnightly Musical. The Acme club claims the proud distinction of being the oldest club in the state and recently celebrated its sixteenth birthday with a number of charter members present. The Monday club was organized soon after and all these years has supported a library, it being the only public library in the city. The five last named clubs are of later organization, but are active and enthusiastic in club work. The first five are organized in a city federation and are at present bending their energies toward the procuring of a large public library. Wayne feels the distinction of having her invitation to the state federation accepted, and is looking forward with great pleasure to the coming October that will bring representatives from the different clubs of the state into conference. Local committees have been appointed to act in conjunction with the state committees and any communication directed to the chairman of the following committees will receive prompt attention: Mrs. Dan Harrington, room and reception committee; Mrs. F. Cunningham, press committee; Mrs. F. W. Burdick, corresponding secretary of the city federation. It is hoped this October meeting of the state federation will prove a success in point of numbers and the club women of the state can rest assured that they will be well taken care of, and be given a hearty welcome.

this by-law is apparent. No one is better qualified to discuss, introduce motions and vote upon a matter than a chairman who has given her time and attention to a subject for weeks or perhaps months.

Lillian Cox Gault.

Reasons Against a Separate Woman's Department at the St. Louis World's Fair.

(By Florence W. Richardson.)

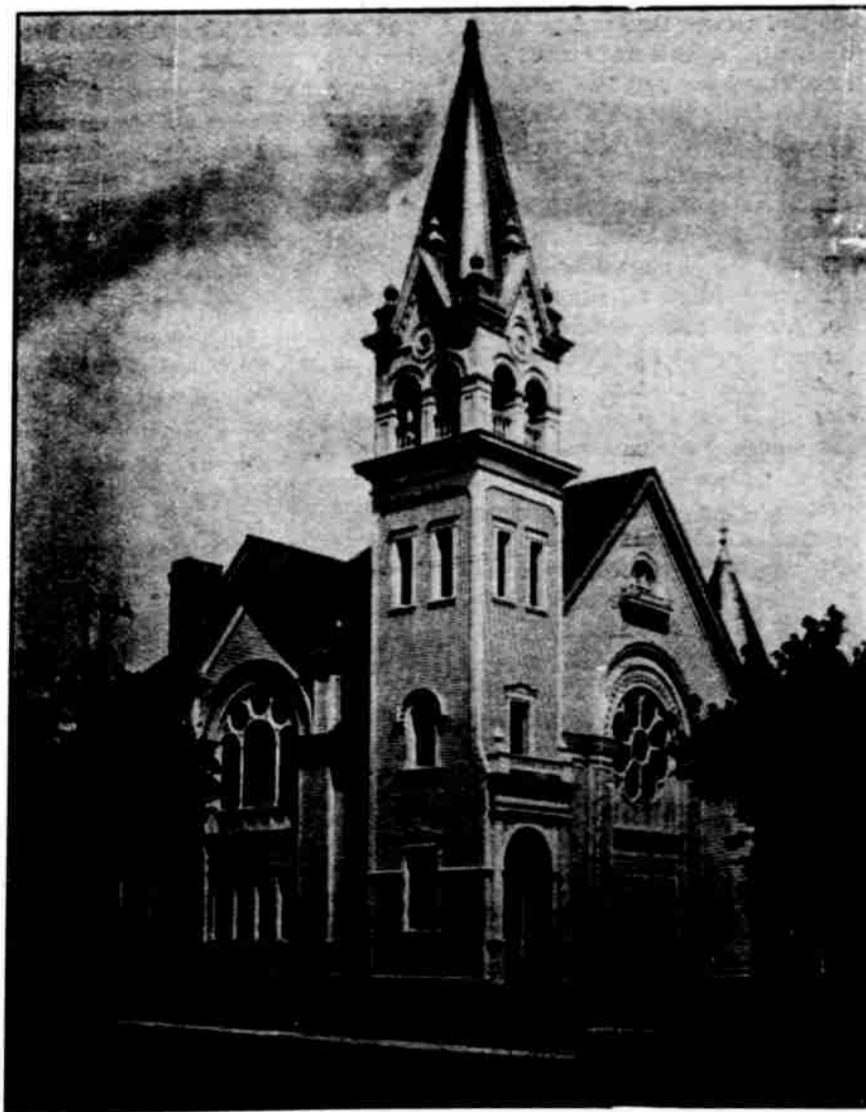
A summary of reasons opposing a woman's department at the coming World's fair—a summary reflecting universal law and the relation of our particular era to it, is found in the resolutions against such a department recently formulated in the Wednesday club of St. Louis. These resolutions were unanimously passed by the Missouri federation of women's clubs (a body of four thousand women), sent to the world's fair legislative committee in Washington, copied by many press organs and are in process of general circulation throughout the country. Students of religious, philosophical, scientific, sociological and so-called practical phases of human nature, will each find something of his own cult in this summary:

First—The distinctive, characteristic work of woman—as woman is of such a nature that it cannot be publicly exhibited.

That part of the world's work which is done by human agency may be divided into the work of men, the work of women and the work of individuals. Women have shown that as individuals they can do almost any kind of work, but as women, under the limitations set up by the term, their work is specialized by conditions which permit a product appreciable, certainly, but not necessarily material and in no sense adapted to public representation. Take as examples the daily, hourly physical nurture of children—their constant ethical training, and all the finer requirements of home-keeping in contradistinction to housekeeping. Here, as in all slow, unseen processes in which tireless, persistent forces furnish impact upon impact, working for far-reaching and permanent results, the relation between cause and effect, between effort and product, is often not obvious. It is this lack of obviousness which has obscured woman's work with a nebulous, indefinite misconception, marring its noble proportion of one-half in the work of the world. As the crude man sees no difference between woman as a subjective being and woman as a subjected being, so even highly evolved men (and women, too,) are slow in properly appraising the more subtle activities of the human spirit which largely constitute woman's distinctive work.

Second—The work which woman does in common with man should be exhibited under the same conditions and judged by the same standards as his.

There are times when women feel the stirring of forces which are not generated nor developed by special conditions. Without renouncing their order, woman, they become conscious of their genus, human. They seek forms of activity which are less particular and more general—they enter upon lines of work which are common to man and woman—phases of general human activity. This field of common effort grows wider and wider as race-evolution progresses. Large areas of it have, in the past, been confused with man's special "sphere," but the debatable land comes up less and less often for debate as evolutionary experience is more and more recognized as sufficient ground for any choice of occupation a human being may make. This



The church at Wayne, Nebraska, where the State Federation of Women's Clubs will meet in October, 1901.