

Notes About Club Women of North Carolina

A Page For Women, Edited by Mrs. Al Fairbrother.

Need Of Rural Clubs.

As a result of the picnic two weeks ago given by the Jamestown Civic Club, Miss Annie Lee Rankin, who organized that club in connection with her work in the county schools, has been asked to organize clubs at Colfax and Brown Summit.

This goes to show an awakening interest in rural community work, for which there is just now a distinct need along lines calculated to promote social life in the country.

These straws, indicating the direction of public sentiment—though at present but a gentle breeze—are especially gratifying to the editor of this page, for the reason that she has stressed this point in all of her appeals for organization and for a county federation of women's clubs. The rural free delivery of mail, the rural telephone lines and other modern conveniences, while apparently indispensable in our Twentieth Century existence, have the effect, in the country as in the city, of discouraging social visiting and keeping us too much to ourselves, too wholly absorbed with our own pursuits. A lack of social advantages and wholesome recreation has more to do with driving young people from the farm into the towns and cities than all other agencies combined, and the question of making rural life attractive is an economic problem which community clubs can go a long way towards solving.

The community club, to be a success, must not only devote itself to means and measures for promoting physical cleanliness and beauty, but it must provide wholesome amusement for the young men and women who need the stimulus of frequent contact, of social intercourse and informal discussion of public questions in which they, along with the rest of the civilized world, are interested and on which they should be informed.

And for the members themselves—the fathers and mothers of the bright boys and girls who are to take their places after a few fleeting years, and on whose shoulders will rest the responsibilities of state and nation—the rural club is "the door of Opportunity" through which they enter the large sphere of service to themselves and to their families. The broadening influences, the enlarged vision, the grasp on things hitherto illusive, all summed up in the two words "self development," are worth many times the price in time and energy expended.

Wonderful the difference in the view point of the chronic stay-at-home and the busy, happy community worker who feels that her responsibility as an individual does not end at her own yard gate but who has something to contribute to the comfort and happiness of her neighbors. Wonderful the difference in community spirit where the club has brought together and concentrated effort for a common cause—wonderful what one man or woman can do for a neighborhood by simply having the people meet and talk things over.

We are glad that Colfax and Brown Summit are going to organize—glad to see the sentiment growing. We would like to see every rural school house in Guilford county a civic center in the broadest sense of the word, and the rural teacher is the logical leader. Miss Rankin is doing a great work, not only among the children but for the mothers. She is on the right track and the older clubs of the county should give her their most earnest and loyal support.

Revive The Quadrille.

At the recent Biennial in Chicago the club women of America pledged themselves to discourage immodesty in dress and all demoralizing tendencies of the modern dance. With this resolution went a recommendation for the revival and popularizing of the old reels and quadrilles—those beautiful, graceful old dances from which our grand-mothers emerged as chaste as Diana.

We would like to see North Carolina, which has led in so many movements for moral uplift and educational greatness, lead in this revival of the old fashioned dance. As a minister once remarked in our presence, it is as natural for young people to want to be in motion as for other young animals to romp and play. There must be some vent for surplus energy and animal spirits, and keeping time to music is the natural expression of the normal child.

The way to get rid of the objectionable features of the modern dance is to substitute something that is decent and entertaining. If proper amusements properly chaperoned are not provided, the improper are sure to be patronized.

It was a wise recommendation on the part of the General Federation of Women's Clubs to revive the old time reel and quadrille—a practical way of settling a big question with which press and pulpit have for a long time wrestled in vain.

Charlotte's Play Grounds.

Charlotte is preparing to open a real city play ground, with professional director, soon after the opening of the city schools. This great accomplishment has been brought about by the interest and activity of the Park and Play Ground Association, made up of leading men and women of the Queen City, who appreciate the importance of intelligent play, under proper direction and discipline, as the best possible training for youthful minds and muscles—forces for great good or great evil when left to their own guidance.

Charlotte is doing what every town that ever expects to become a city should do, in securing play ground room before all the available space is taken up.

The opening exercises are to be attended with appropriate exercises, and Charlotte club women are rejoicing over the anticipated realization of at least one of their long cherished dreams.

Progress In Pitt County.

The people of Pitt county are demanding a whole time health officer—that is, some of the people. People who have watched the improvement in sanitary conditions and the appreciable lowering of the death rate in counties where a competent physician devotes his entire time to the prevention and stamping out of communicable diseases, people who have studied the question from an economic as well as from a humanitarian standpoint, realize that the health of its citizenship is a state or nation's most valuable asset, and that if the whole time health officer in each county saves, directly or indirectly, the life of one average man or woman, he has earned his salary in dollars and cents, to say nothing of the suffering he has saved and how much he has added to the comfort and happiness of the community.

The movement in Pitt, like most all good movements these days, is led by the club women. Mrs. Mark H. Quinerly, president of the End of the Century Club and chairman of Health in the State Federation, being especially anxious that her home county fall into line with the ten or twelve other North Carolina counties where the plan is being most successfully carried out. She recently addressed a letter to the Board of County Commissioners urging the adoption of this system, pointing out that it means to treat the health of a crime with present opportunities for enlightenment, and that the first step in any permanent reform is to leave no excuse for ignorance.

Guilford county, North Carolina, enjoys the distinction of being the first county in the South to employ a whole time health officer. Perhaps the whole time officer has not yet been appointed to get busy and arouse public sentiment to a sense of responsibility for this grievous sin of omission.

The marked improvement in health conditions all over Guilford county since the present system was put in operation, is an illustration of what it means to treat the health question in a practical way, and one to which Guilford can point with pride.

We are glad to see the club women of Pitt active in demanding similar provisions for their county and suggest that clubs in all counties where whole time officers have not yet been appointed to get busy and arouse public sentiment to a sense of responsibility for this grievous sin of omission.

As An Advertisement.

"Woman Suffrage is the biggest press agent there is," said the real estate man from the West. "It puts towns on the map. Whenever a woman's convention is held in a town, nowadays, the world learns to know about the town as it never did before. And more than one town in California has reported its population just doubled since the women were enfranchised. How came it? Simply because the suffrage press bureaus all over the country got busy. Real estate agents and railroads have spent hundreds of thousands of dollars to advertise the climatic, scenic, and commercial values of Seattle, but when the women by their votes recalled the mayor of that city, the name of Seattle rang all the way round the earth, and they gave it more publicity than any amount of paid advertising could have done. If you want to put your unheard-of hamlet on the map, just you negotiate with the suffragists. They will fix you all right."

North Carolina Composers.

To the music departments of the North Carolina women's clubs has come the suggestion to devote one entire program to patriotic music. This leads Mrs. Flinger, in the Charlotte Observer, to remind her readers that:

"Mrs. Mary Speed Mercer's 'United' was honored by an orchestration by Sousa and has been very popular with the D. A. R. and the Children of the Republic, having been played and sung frequently at the National and State Congresses.

"Miss Janie Alexander Patterson of Concord, a member of the Charlotte Woman's Club and several times a winner of prizes in the State Federation musical composition contest, is the composer of the 'Mecklenburg March' written in honor of the Mecklenburg Independence signed at Charlotte. The march is catchy and lends itself well for parade or patriotic occasion as well as the other general purposes of march time music. Miss Patterson's songs are possibly better known than the march mentioned and she is a musical composer with the real musical conception of thought and expression of feeling and her work in that line is of great promise for higher development. Mrs. A. D. Glascock has placed her adopted State under lasting obligation by setting H. E. Harmon's poem 'Carolina Hills' to music. The combination of poetic sentiment and musical expression is very happy. The South Carolina Federation with the permission of Mrs. Glascock has adopted it as their State song. Mr. Harmon thought at present an Atlanta man was born in the Palmetto State. Mrs. Glascock is head of the music department of the Charlotte Woman's Club and has done much to further the cause of good music and an elevated public taste for music in the Queen City."

Mrs. Philip Carpenter

Mrs. Philip Carpenter, of New York, prominent as woman lawyer and active club woman, is a leading spirit in all progressive movements in the Empire State.

Mrs. Carpenter came into national fame when she ran against Mrs. Percy V. Pennington, of Texas, for the presidency of the General Federation of Women's Clubs at the Biennial in San Francisco in 1912.



In that memorable contest Mrs. William Todd Helmuth, the distinguished pioneer club worker of New York, acted as campaign manager for Mrs. Carpenter; and the election was one of the most exciting in the history of the General Federation.

Mrs. Lingle Writes.

As some confusion has arisen as to the names, titles and relationships of the Lingle men, I should like to clear it up by stating in the first place that I claim relationship to all three of them, when they do or say anything especially good or timely.

I did not hear Dr. Walter L.'s address at Montreal but I am willing to stand for it just the same. If he touched on any of the many phases of woman's activities in these days, I am quite sure he stood true to the colors, for we have thrashed out all these topics together. This is the Dr. Lingle of Union Theological Seminary fame.

The oldest brother, Wm. H., for many years missionary in China, met me on the pier in New York the last time I returned from Europe, and helped me and my children through the custom house ordeal. Of course I have a very tender feeling for this brother, and anything he says about the revival of chivalry and old time courtesies toward the 20th century woman is all right. The youngest brother is Thos. N., the original Dr. Lingle, of Davidson College. It is true because he was called back to serve his alma mater and his state, that I am here among you and have adopted "the sprig of pine with the cone, the fruit of the pine tree" as my emblem. The unity of the three branches of the family was not expressed by our all summing in the same place, in fact it took three big summer assemblies to accommodate us. The Virginia brand stood by Montreal, the missionaries at home on a furlough took a cottage at Northfield, Mass., and Chattanooga has proved good enough for me. My husband chose something more exciting, and after a very pleasant month in the French provinces, he now finds himself marooned in Nice. Cablegrams and letters long delayed on the way announce that he and his party are very delightfully located in this famous and beautiful seashore resort, and are watching the great tragedy being enacted in Europe as from a first floor box.

Aside from having their movements somewhat circumscribed, being separated from part of their baggage, and knowing that their return passage tickets are worthless, the party seems well contented. For amusement they go swimming at the bathing hour, with other American refugees, in the blue waters of the Mediterranean, or they ride that wonderful coriche road as far as Monte Carlo—now enjoying a long Sabbath day's rest. Why not let it and all other gambling dens open only for some better purpose when the new peace finally spreads its blessed, healing wings over the sad, sore earth?

Off the coast of Villa Franche they catch a glimpse of the great game that is being played on the sea as when some French warship hauls in a German vessel as its prey.

The best sight that greets him is the stars and stripes waving above two battleships of our own navy, anchored in the harbor. Encouraged by this and by the kindly advice of the American Consul, they have hopes of getting back very soon to the "land of the free and the home of the brave."

Clara S. Lingle.

Chautauqua, N. Y.

Woman's Club Of Murphy.

The Woman's Club of Murphy, Mrs. Lucretia Phillips Kinsey, president, is one of the clubs which has not taken a vacation but which has done some of its best work—especially in the civic department, during the summer months. Not feeling the necessity for leaving home in search of scenery and climate, as is the case with some of their less fortunate co-workers in localities not so favored by Nature, they have been content to improve the golden hours by enhancing the attractions of their home town, the park, or public square, having received a large share of their attention. In this park the club proposes to erect a marble fountain with figure of an Indian chief as a memorial to the Cherokee Indians as a distinct people. The fountain is planned to cost about \$2,200 and to be of historical value. Liberal contributions have already been made and the club gives twice each month a silver tea for the purpose of adding to the monument fund.

The Jewish Wife.

Referring to the fact that the Lord Chief Justice of England owes his success to the inspiration and encouragement of a wife who understood his character and capabilities better than he understood himself, the Christian Standard pays the following deserved tribute to the Jewish wife and to women in general:

"It seems a peculiar coincidence that while a persecution of the Jews which reminds one of the early Middle Ages is going on in Russia, over in Great Britain a Jew has been elevated to the highest judicial position in the gift of the nation. Sir Rufus Isaacs is the first Israelite to become Lord Chief Justice of England, and his success has been almost phenomenal, even barring the question of his race and his religion. It is a striking characteristic of his brilliant career that it began with his studying law at the persuasion of his wife after he had signally failed both as a sailor and as a broker. He is not the first great man who has owed success to the foresight and wisdom of the woman who was willing to sink both name and identity in those of her husband. The son of Erin who remarked that he would not be surprised if in the end the greatest men in the world should turn out to be women was not far wrong. When the influence of mother and wife is subtracted from the average man's credit column there is left not much to worry over. No deed of heroism in recent years has matched the exhibition of quiet courage and devotion displayed by the wife of Straus when the 'Titanic' went down in the Atlantic over two years ago. Mrs. Straus, like Lady Isaacs, was a descendant of Deborah and Miriam and Judith."

Better Baby Contest.

The Woman's Club of Greensboro is busy getting ready for the Better Baby contest to be held during fair features of the Central Carolina Fair, week as one of the most attractive features of the Central Carolina Fair.

Ample accommodations for mothers and babies have been provided by the Fair Association and examinations will be made under much more favorable conditions than last year. These examinations will be under the direction of Dr. W. M. Jones, health officer for Guilford county, assisted by city and county physicians, a number of trained nurses and a committee from the Woman's Club.

Besides \$125 to be given in prizes by the Central Carolina Fair Association, silver cups have been donated by the following organizations and individuals: Merchants' Association, two cups; Meyer's department store, one cup; the Woman's Club, one cup; Mrs. R. L. Justice, one cup; Mrs. W. D. McAdoo, one cup; Mrs. E. Sternberger, one cup; Mrs. R. D. Douglas, one cup; Mrs. Bernard Cone, one cup.

Babies over one and under three years may be entered for this contest by sending a postal card to Dr. W. M. Jones, Greensboro, stating what day the baby will be at the Fair Grounds. The contest will not be restricted to Guilford county, as it was last year, but will be open to the entire state, and mothers are urged to make their entries early.

In connection with the contest a fund will be raised by the Woman's Club to aid in supplying proper nourishment for babies whose parents are unable to provide for them.

Club Commandments.

At a delightful board luncheon recently given by Mrs. Henry A. White, president of the High Point Woman's club, the place cards were yellow parchment rolls, tied with white ribbon—the club colors—on which were inscribed ten club commandments:

1. Thou shalt have no other clubs before this one.
2. Thou shalt not worship any false thing.
3. Remember thy club engagement.
4. Honor thy club sisters.
5. Thou shalt not murder the King's English.
6. Thou shalt not covet thy sister's fine feathers.
7. Thou shalt be prepared for roll call.
8. Thou shalt not at the eleventh hour begin to hunt material for thy paper.
9. Thou shalt not speak in meeting when thy sister has the floor.
10. Thou shalt diligently keep these commandments so that thy club days be lengthened and thy name spread unto the uttermost parts of clubdom.

Woman For Lieutenant Governor.

Helen K. Williams, republican, is candidate for lieutenant governor of California. Mrs. Williams is editor of the Woman Citizen and is highly endorsed by leading men of the state. Among other good measures to which she is pledged, are:

"To reform conditions in State Prisons and for the Honor System.

"To the establishment of schools at State Prisons for the education of youthful prisoners.

"The securing of legislation promoting the welfare of women and children.

"To the most economical administration of the affairs of the State and to promote the best interests of all."

Judge Gavin W. Craig of the Superior Court of Los Angeles and candidate for the Republican ticket for presiding justice of the District Court of Appeals, referring to her candidacy, says:

"There is no real reason why a woman should not be a candidate for the office of lieutenant governor and no reason why she should not be elected to it. And less reason why, if elected, the progress woman should not be just as able an official in that office as any man."

Organized Community In Sampson.

A practical experiment in community organization is being successfully carried out in Sampson county, with the village of Samburg as the civic, social, educational and religious center.

The plan grew out of the demand for better rural conditions in all parts of North Carolina, and at a conference held last November with State Superintendent Joyner, educational leaders decided to test the practicability of the scheme.

Miss Lula M. Cassidy, supervisor of Rural Schools in Sampson county, after watching the progress of the movement, writes in the News and Observer interestingly and at some length of its success.

"The League," she says, "has been at work for four months, 'developing the resources of soil, of home, of manhood and of womanhood.' The most active agents in this work are Dr. John Collinson and Mr. J. T. Tregellas, who were located in this community by Rockefeller Sanitary Commission and the State Board of Health to make a sanitary survey of the entire district (which comprises about twenty-five square miles) and to eradicate all preventable diseases. From the middle of April to the first of August these health officers visited and inspected every home in the district, wrote into their records a complete health history of every individual for three generations.

"The housekeepers of Samburg are organized into a strong Matron's Club, which is doing very significant work in the way of promoting home industries, household management, and general uplift work. The entire membership is divided into several working committees, each of which is visiting every home in its section of the community for the purpose of soliciting co-operation of every family in the health campaign, and these committees are systematically caring for the sick and suffering in their respective territories. Very recently the Woman's Club has organized the young ladies of Samburg into a branch club, the prime purpose of which is to promote the cultural side of life, and to co-operate with the older Woman's Club in its efforts to establish a community library."

It is expected that the young ladies will in turn lend their influence and aid to the young girls, who have a very interesting industrial club. The women have caught the vision and have gone about their part of the work in a way that must give back results.

"The young men have built a tennis court, organized a baseball team and also a local band, which will soon be in shape to furnish creditable music for the public gatherings in the community. The social life of Samburg has been greatly stimulated by the general quickening of community life and the young people are constantly making opportunities to enjoy life through wholesome and innocent means.

"In every phase of the organization one can see the quickening of life, and the current of civilization, which has always been more or less dammed up in Samburg, as in all other rural sections of the South, has broken through the confining bounds of local traditions, customs, and self-content, and has become a freely flowing stream which is carrying the most of the barriers beyond the border, and is flooding the community with new ideas and activities. Every channel of activity and development is operating under the auspices of the Community League, and the success of the experiment is already assured, although the work which has begun will require not months but years for complete development."

Farm Women Organizing.

Texas is to have a woman's farm organization, the first of its kind in the south. The United States Census report for 1910 discloses the fact that nearly two millions of women are engaged in agriculture. Many of these are widows who successfully manage farms and in some cases perform all the duties attendant—ploughing, reaping and care of live-stock. While these efficient women are contributing to the food supply of the nation, are bearing their share of taxes to support the Government, and raising families, in every southern State they are classed politically with the idiots, insane, paupers and disfranchised negroes.

The Latest War Song.

Mrs. Richard Baxter Hester, a professional pianist of Raleigh, has written a new war song which is being favorably received and of which the following is the opening verse:

"Do you see those flaming headlines? Have you got the war news scare? Far across the seas a rumble, War on land and sea and air. Ain't you glad that we're not in it, And I hope we won't begin it, Ain't you glad we're free today? In the good old U. S. A.? Ain't you glad? You bet I am, I belong to Uncle Sam."

Odell Hardware Company

An appeal to save wild birds, which are being rapidly destroyed by hunters for milliners, was made by speakers before the conservation committee of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, at the recent Biennial meeting in Chicago. No resolutions were adopted, but it was the general sentiment that women should refuse to wear stuffed birds or feathers in their hats.

In Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, Idaho, California, Washington, Oregon, Kansas, Arizona and Alaska women have full suffrage. In Illinois women vote upon practically all questions, except for members of the State Legislature. This means that in the next presidential election nearly four millions of women will be enabled to voice their preference for the president of the United States, and may be a determining party factor.

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