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Maine Federation News

Mrs. FLORENCE WAUGH DANFORTH, President

Mrs. SARAH PENNELL REED, Editor

Vol. 1

JANUARY 1925

No. 2

PRESIDENT'S GREETING

Dear Club Women of Maine:

The Club year of 1925 is before us. This is the month when great industrial plants and individuals of wealth take account of stock and measure their material goods in dollars and cents. Our federation is saved that task, for as an organization it started with no thought of commercialism; the sole object being that of service and its motto has always been "Give, not get."

So as we begin our new club year, we feel that we have our background of last year with a sum total of accomplishments, failures and omissions and that our account of stock consists in laying aside that which has proved useless and starting anew. We realize more fully than ever before that real progress means failures, beginning again perhaps more than once, but always with our standard raised a little higher each time.

How glad we are that there is another year in which we may renew our efforts to approach a little closer to our high ideals and to arrive at profitable results. One visible asset of the past year is our Maine Federation News that has met with great success; many copies were given away and enough sold so that we have a substantial sum with which to launch our new issue. Some of our club ladies have been kind enough to say many more might have been sold. We believe this little bulletin is a means of bringing the clubs and State Federation much nearer than ever before and the splendid co-operation of our unions and federated clubs, as well as the individual efforts of our club members, makes us feel assured of a fruitful future for our paper. We expect that our issue of September next will be double the size of this number and that material left over for lack of space in this will be used in the next.

Another asset is the interest created among the clubs in our Scholarship Fund; there has never been a club visited by your president that she has not urged the giving of just a small sum towards the education of some worthy girl in the State; never has she failed to receive a quick response to her appeal. The State Federation of Oregon is helping support seventy-three girls in colleges and normal schools. To give an exact statement according to the Oregon year book, 123 clubs have contributed \$2311.10, which added to assets on hand makes approximately \$23,000 which the federation has at its disposal. But some of us will say, how can it be done? The answer is, by a fixed method of uniform raising of funds. The last Wednesday in

CALL

The mid-winter meeting of the Maine Federation will be held in Waterville on Thursday, January, 29, by invitation of the Waterville Woman's Club. The meetings will be held in the Unitarian church and luncheon will be served in Ware Parlors, an annex of the church.

There will be an afternoon tea at the home of Mrs. E. P. Fish, 11 College Ave.

January is known as Red Letter Day. A resolution has been passed to that effect which reads as follows: "Resolved, that the Oregon Federation of Women's Clubs adopt the last Wednesday of January as Scholarship Loan Fund Day, when every club in the State is asked to do something to increase the fund which is being loaned young women to assist in their education.

I would that looking forward to our assets for the year 1925, we might adopt some such resolution for the worthy girls of our State.

In closing, your president wishes every one of you a happy and prosperous New Year. We have all enjoyed the holiday season and now in thankfulness for all this feasting and giving and receiving of gifts, ought we not all of us to carry over the deeper meaning of Christmas Day into the coming year's work? By so doing we shall experience a new birth of renewed energy to carry on our work to the best of our ability, bearing always in mind that the finest way to express our gratitude for all material blessings is to direct our energies toward a spiritual growth in ourselves and in our surroundings.

Loyally yours,
FLORENCE WAUGH DANFORTH,
State President.

Miss Florence Dibert, second vice-president of the General Federation, sends greeting to our Maine Federation and tells us she is very anxious that we get Junior Membership clubs formed in this state. Miss Dibert says she wishes to help wherever she can, but she needs the assistance of the state and club chairmen for new inspiration. She closes by saying, "A success reported means new successes." A book which she recommends, because she has found it helpful in assisting her nieces, is "Meeting Your Child's Problems," by Miriam F. Scott.

SPEAKERS FOR CLUBS

The Woman's Literary Union of Portland offers five speakers who will give talks before any Maine club without charge except to cover their actual expenses. The list follows:

"Americanization," Mrs. Edmund DeGarmo, 127 Emery Street; "Days and Nights on Mountain Trails," "In Foreign Lands," Mrs. Clifford E. McGlaughlin, 38 Columbia Road; Nature, "Under the Open Sky," "The Ferns of Maine," "The Flora of Old Falmouth," "Preservation of Wild Flowers," Miss Dora H. Moulton, 9 Hill Street; Travel Talks, "Japan," "Norway," "Scotland," Mrs. H. Wallace Noyes, 83 West Street; "Nutrition Classes for Children of School Age," Mrs. Richard D. Small, 7 Deering Street.

Among the list of University Extension lectures offered by the University of Maine to Maine schools, clubs and Chambers of Commerce, free of cost except for actual expenses, the following will appeal strongly to Maine Women's Clubs: Dramatic Recital, Mark Bailey; "The Science and Art of Dress," Louise Bancroft; "Crossing the Bar," "The Poets of Maine," "A Talk on Contemporary Poets," H. M. Ellis; "An Evening With Henry Van Dyke," "A Miscellaneous Program of Readings," "Reading of A Play," A. C. Eurich; "Homemaking as a Profession," "Budget Meals," Pearl S. Greene; "Mount Katahdin and Its Surroundings" (lantern), A. L. Grover; "Mark Twain" (after Feb. 1), C. P. Hotson; "Immigration to Maine," Bertha Howard; "The Past and Future of the Fine Arts in Our Country," J. H. Huddleston; "Education and Social Efficiency," "Heredity, Environment and the Child," L. J. Pollard; "A Trip in the Orient," A. M. Turner; "Women and the Professions," Esther McGinnis; "Sir Walter Scott and His Friends," C. A. Mendum; "Tendencies in the Modern Novel," "Parodies of Contemporary Poets," H. L. Flewelling.

The Club Women of our State have always assisted in the Christmas Seal Campaign, but it seems as if they had taken hold of the work this year more systematically than ever before. Some of the results accomplished read like a story. We have finished this season's campaign, but let us pledge ourselves anew to continue the fight till this destroyer of humanity has been stamped from the face of the earth.

The editor wishes to know which club has the oldest club house in the state.

The Tyngtown Club of Wilton will observe its 25th anniversary with a banquet on January 23rd.

LIBRARY EXTENSION

The committee on Library Extension for 1924 and 1925 are making plans for the year's work and ask for the co-operation of the Federation members.

Do all the members of the Federation know that books may be borrowed from the State Library at Augusta at just the small cost of mailing, and may be kept three weeks? And in many cases, if the book or books are not in urgent demand, may be renewed by just the sending of a post card to that effect?

Do you also realize, if your club is in the country away from Library facilities, that a traveling library of 50 selected volumes will be sent for the small sum of \$2.50 to cover transportation?

How little it would mean to a club to help some rural community that has no library by paying that transportation!

There are rural schools which are experiencing a book famine. Clubs should take an active interest in this matter and bring the library to these people that would be glad to have these books which would make them bigger, broader and happier.

The State Librarian has notified the people very widely of the privilege, but even so, there may be some communities that do not know this, or there may be no one enough interested to take the initiative.

It would be a splendid thing for the clubs to ascertain whether the rural community nearby would be glad to avail itself of the opportunity of the traveling library, or the privilege of borrowing books for personal use.

How many club women have grown mentally lazy? Many of the clubs now engage speakers, and because it is easier to sit back and listen, we get into the habit of reading less and less, books worth while. I am not depreciating the value of these speakers, they are very necessary for our enlightenment along the lines on which they have specialized.

But on the other hand, don't we need to know something about these subjects, so that we may listen intelligently? Wouldn't it do many of us good if we read a half hour each day, some book along lines of our club programs? Also books that are talked about, so that we may become alert and appreciative? One gets interested before one realizes it, and what has been started as a duty soon becomes a pleasure.

Do we know Maine authors as we should? Are we ready to select our twelve books of non-fiction, written by these same State of Maine people?

We should encourage the children in home reading by perhaps offering prizes for the best list of books read during a certain length of time. A summer vacation list, perhaps, with a book offered to the child reading a certain number of books, the list from which he can choose being submitted by the local club.

The books our boys and girls read will govern their reading as they grow to manhood and womanhood.

Let us, as club women, inculcate in the minds of youth a desire for good books. Most children would be glad to read "right," if they were only directed. There are so many good books and so many poor ones. Let us help the children to choose the best.

MRS. HARRY C. BURNHAM,
Chairman.

A GREETING FROM CALIFORNIA

Glendale, California.
Dec. 10, 1924.

To the Corresponding Secretary of the Maine Federation of Women's Clubs.

Dear Madam:

I have received the very beautiful book "When North Winds Blow," the gift of the Maine State Federation, and I wish to express my very sincere thanks for the same, and the enjoyment and appreciation of the book by the "Tuesday Afternoon Club" of Glendale, of which I am a member.

Very sincerely,
LILLIAN E. DOW.
650 N. Kenwood St.

MUSIC COMMITTEE'S SUGGESTIONS

Chairman Social & Industrial Con.

The Music Committee sends the following suggestions for 1925-26:

1. Every club held toward having at least one community concert each year, all local talent.

2. To urge members to have more music in the home.

3. Would suggest The American Home Music Album in your public library, also in the homes. Your local music dealer will order it for you. It is published by D. Appleton & Co., New York City. If purchased in sheet form, contents would cost about seventy-three dollars. The book as it is costs five dollars. Encourage local talent.

MRS. HENRY F. DRUMMOND,
Chairman,
Music Committee of the Maine Federation of Women's Clubs.

The Near East Relief is grateful for the generous response to the Christmas appeal, but there are still 25,000 children in refugee camps who will starve in the next few weeks unless immediate help is given. The Club women must help. Let us all do what we can for these children who are standing in the shadow of death. What if your child were in such a place?

The next meeting of the New England Conference will be held at Poland Spring, September 21-22-23. Make your plans for attending early, so that the Maine clubs will be well represented.

INTERESTING CLUB ITEMS

The Pittsfield Tuesday Club will be hostess to the Onawa Literary Union at its annual meeting on May 19th.

The Current Events and Civics Department of the Berwick Woman's Club has built up children's interest in the public library; brought in able speakers on live questions such as tuberculosis in York County, legal questions of interest to women, and library work.

Wednesday afternoon, Nov. 26th, several members of the Norumbega Club of Bangor visited the Anti-tuberculosis Sanatorium and gave a Thanksgiving program consisting of Thanksgiving toasts, papers and music. Mrs. Frank Atwood played the piano, Mr. Arthur Atwood the 'cello, and Mrs. Alton Robinson the violin. At the close of the program the patients expressed their pleasure and invited the club to come again soon. A Christmas program was given at Christmas time.

The civic work done by the Webhannet Club of Kennebunk covers a period of several years. We were instrumental in getting a new high school started and collected over twenty thousand dollars by private subscription for the same. We bought the silver and case for same, to be put into the new Town Hall. The club planted a row of trees around the village green and superintended putting on a lecture from which \$135 was realized to be used by the park commissioners. We have kept the domestic science in the schools by concerted efforts at the annual Town Meeting, and have assisted in the local public health work.

The Olympian Club of Kennebunkport reports that their lyceum course has been well attended, that they have done quite a bit of community work, have sent two boxes of books to the state prison, have given a box of books to the Marine hospital in Portland, and that their latest ambitious project is starting a fund for a club hall.

The Thursday Club of East Winthrop has given a series of suppers, from the proceeds of which \$50 was given for the benefit of the community hospital to be established soon, and a part sent to the Children's Home in Augusta. Money has been raised to furnish three cuts to be placed in "The New History of Winthrop," now being written.

The work done by the Village Improvement Society of Norridgewock is as follows: Extensive repairing of library and club room, a community Christmas tree, reception to teachers, furnishing a much needed light for grades I and II, furnishing dishes for serving hot lunches in grades V and VI; \$2 for Bates scholarship fund; \$5 for Endowment fund; \$2.50 for headquarters fund. One member, Mrs. Fanny Hussey, contributed \$5 for the Endowment fund.

Mrs. John H. Huddilston of Orono, ex-president of the Maine Federation, writes from Mentone that she and daughter are greatly enjoying their winter in Europe, and she sends warm greeting to her Maine club friends.

INDUSTRIAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

This department of the Federation, having no definite program outlined for it by the General Federation last year, decided to study three things, namely: business conditions in Maine during the past year, the effect of the enactment of the Eighteenth Amendment upon the employees of industrial plants, and the condition of the State Prison at Thomaston.

What we accomplished, is contained in our report given at the September meeting in Portland and printed in the Year Book for 1924-25.

In connection with the State Prison, one of the present needs is for books (their library having been destroyed in the prison fire), so your chairman is asking each member of the Federation to send to her at 39 Chestnut St., Rockland, Me., a worthwhile book from her library. Remember that we must be careful of their reading, so please select your book with a great deal of thought. Several clubs have responded to the appeal made at the Fall Meeting in Portland, and will you not see, Madam Club President, that we have a box of books from your club as soon as possible?

Your committee has not fully decided upon its work for the coming year. The General Federation chairman has sent to each State Chairman her program of work for the next two years which includes so much that it seems impossible to accomplish it in so short a time.

The needs of each state are so different we feel that it would be impossible to carry out the same program in each state; so the one thing your committee wishes to study especially is the condition of our county jails, and what we, as a Federation, can do to better conditions, as we understand them to be far from what they should be.

We should also like to take up the work of delinquent women and girls, as outlined by the General Federation. We feel that we cannot do as much as we should like, but if we can accomplish some practical good in one line of work only, we shall feel that we have not labored in vain.

RUTH ELLINGWOOD,

Chairman Social and Industrial Conditions.

MOTHCRAFT DEPARTMENT

The work of the Mothercraft Department is in its infancy in this state at the present time. The real object when formed was the placing in the schools of the state the book called "Mothercraft." This word has perhaps misled many as to the nature of the work expected to be accomplished.

The committee is planning to urge Superintendents to take up this work as part of the hygienic course scheduled for each school. We also hope to introduce a traveling library treating on child welfare, all ages and conditions being considered and problems worked out. Different organizations are doing so much in schools and communities in every line, it is sometimes difficult to persuade people to take on new ideas, but we hope to accomplish a few things at least.

We would urge an understanding

of the needs of the children of each specific community. What works well in one place may not in another. In these days children are rushed through school at such a rate of speed they cannot comprehend it all and surely there is great need of wisdom along certain lines to balance and start them on a secure foundation for the duties of life.

The woman's clubs may be of great assistance by making special efforts to help these boys and girls in forming right habits and friends, and in obtaining a clearer, nobler outlook on life that will carry them over many difficult places. How many girls might be shown by just a cheerful, kindly word, or deed, to know some one is interested in their welfare and willing to assist them. May we, as club women, do our part in making the world a cleaner, better world for them to live in, surround them with all the beautiful, uplifting things possible; devoting time to this greatest of work, the training of the coming leaders of our great nation.

This work is widespread in its range, so many divisions may be outlined and worked out in unison with different organizations. Throughout the state, the aim of all is the same, the desire to do the greatest good in solving the problems of today.

The universal cry, what shall we do with our young people, is echoed alike from church, school and everywhere. What to interest them in and how to keep them in the right channel and bring out the best in them, is surely the great question. How to answer it requires united effort of all our forces.

Let us study our own community, its needs and how best to supply them, always keeping in view the greatest good we may do. We ask the co-operation of every club to carry out as far as possible the suggestions contained in our circular letter, that the work may be carried on as planned. It is only by co-operation that results may be obtained. The clubs must comply with the Federation program to accomplish the work desired.

(MRS.) EFFIE FRENCH

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Just at the close of the Holiday Season, when our thoughts were so often, "Peace on Earth, Good Will to Men," seems a fitting time for the Department of International Relations once again to ask your attention and co-operation.

There was probably never a time in the history of the world, when it was more necessary that thoughts of peace and good will should no longer come to our minds as vague generalities, but as actual facts on which the very existence of civilization depends. We shall not get peace by desiring it alone, nor by faith and prayer without work.

So then, let us work, as Clubs and individuals, for surely there can not be a woman in this State who does not desire above all things International Peace.

Since there are wide differences of opinion in the methods by which we may move toward this Peace which we all desire so much, and as to the part the United States should play—

differences of opinion that may cause feelings of enmity—it seems best that we do not too strongly emphasize the partisan lines, but take steps to become a body of intelligent thinking women, better informed about world conditions—histories, natures, and present day lives of other peoples. Thus informed, we shall be able to give real backing to our avowed wish for universal peace.

The General Federation Department of International Relations recommends for Club study and discussion the following topics:

I. Is it possible for the United States to isolate itself from world politics?

II. What are the kinds of questions that are likely to produce future wars?

III. What are the foundations upon which international harmony and peace can be laid?

IV. What is the League of Nations?

V. What is the International Court of Justice?

VI. What do we mean by International Law?

The above are only a few topics selected from the list given in the last bulletin issued by the General Federation Department, Chairman Mrs. Alice Ames Winter.

Magazines:

Since the world is constantly going through rapid changes and public opinion getting new points of view, we must depend a great deal on current magazines to keep abreast of International Interests. "Our World," "The Literary Digest," "Current History," "The Outlook," and many others, give space to world topics, while "Inter America" and "Asia" have their special fields of service.

Books:

Some of the newest books on the subjects are:

"America's Place in the World," by Herbert Adams Gibbons. (The Century Company.)

"Ways to Peace," Esther Lape. (Contains the twenty outstanding peace plans submitted for the Bok prize.) (Scribners.)

"The United States and the League," by Thomas Dickinson. (Dutton & Company.)

"World Peace," by Fred Aldrich. (Drake.)

"The Nations Today," by John Buchan. (Houghton Mifflin.)

"Our Foreign Affairs," by P. S. Mourer. (Dutton & Company.)

The present Administration is pledged to support America's adherence to the International Court of Justice—but our government needs public expression and awaits such backing. You can all help, by sending from your Club letters to our Senators and to Senator Borah, Chairman of Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, expressing your sentiment on this subject.

No better message can we give you than the one given in our first letter to each Club President.

Study world conditions. Think, talk and work for World Peace. Begin by taking from your own hearts any trace of "race prejudice" that may be lurking there.

MARION P. NICHOLS,

Chairman

LITERATURE DEPARTMENT

The Literature Department begs your co-operation in an important project. Will each club (or the literary department of each club), prepare a list of twelve books (non-fiction), which constitute MAINE'S BEST CONTRIBUTION to the literary world, and forward this list to the chairman of the literature department as soon as possible? Only a few clubs have responded to the request which was presented at the September meeting.

We believe in the combined wisdom of the club-women of Maine. Therefore we desire to secure representative lists from all parts of our state. We intend to compare these lists and to compile a selected list for presentation at the February meeting at Waterville. At that time an opportunity will be offered to any twelve clubs to volunteer to purchase one of the twelve books selected. These books will then be sent by the Chairman to the Library of the National Headquarters at Washington as the gift of the Maine State Federation.

The list may include poetry, essays, scientific works, historical and other works, written by Maine writers, that is by writers who were born in Maine, or whose literary work has so closely identified them with Maine that they may be considered Maine writers. Fiction, unless written by club-members, must be excluded.

For the honor of our state, let us make a careful and thoughtful selection of our list. A state which gave Longfellow to American poetry, and which is being honored today by the writings of Edna St. Vincent Millay in the realm of poetry, and by Arthur G. Staples in the field of essays, can claim a high place in American literature.

Also please report all literary activity of your club to the literature chairman before the end of the club year, that it may be reported to the General Federation and win deserved recognition in the national body.

MRS. HARRY BURNHAM,
Chairman of Literature Dept.

CLUB EXTENSION

A throng of women with earnest faces and note-books in hand are greeting each other with pleasant smiles and cordial hand clasps. Who are this happy company and whence came they? 'Tis the women of Our-Town Club gathering with singleness of purpose to enjoy the program which has been carefully prepared by the Civics committee. A five minutes talk on "Town Government" by the First Selectman, a poem entitled "How Mother Voted," a short symposium on "How to Beautify My Town," and two appropriate musical selections gave these women pleasure and valuable knowledge.

You ask, "How can they leave their work? Who is caring for the children?" Why, the women of Our-Town Club make all their plans very carefully. The children are left with reliable care-takers, some in kindergarten schools, some with relatives, others with safe nurse-maids or in the "Day Nursery."

These women by studying food values and health problems have

practically done away with sickness with its attendant expenses and consuming of time. By systematizing the house-work and eliminating the unnecessary things, such as fancy cooking et cetera, much time is found for things other than house-work, and, Sh-h—don't breathe it, but some of those women have learned that a little dust here and there in the house is not so harmful as "cob-webs on the brain," and, Sh-h—again, they have learned, too, that time is not profitably spent in gossip, talking style, or playing bridge and mah jong.

They have learned also to economize time, to concentrate on whatever they do and to do it for all it

LAST CALL FOR HEAD- QUARTERS FUND

Probably some club presidents have forgotten that the vote at Portland was to increase Maine's gift to General Federation Headquarters to \$500.00 on or before the mid-winter meeting. About 110 clubs have given to the fund, 25 of these having recently made a second contribution. Will not the clubs (about 40) that have not yet contributed show their loyalty and interest by making up the \$70 that must still be raised? Send contributions to Miss Anna C. Witherle, Castine, or let your representative bring your gift to the mid-winter meeting.

is worth, whether it be working, reading or sleeping,—realizing that dawdlers and dreamers don't get far. And most important of all, they know that the woman who drudges at home all day and never goes out, dwells on her ills, real or imaginary, and becomes narrow-minded, while the woman who sometimes uses "the wings which lift her above the house and all things in it," will return to her home a better home-keeper and a finer mother.

The Our-Town Club women have arranged programs on many subjects because they know that a well-balanced club broadens their views, so they have programs on art, literature and music to develop the soul-life, and on civics, philanthropy, health and welfare work to prepare them for citizenship and franchise duty.

They try to work as many of the Federation departments as practicable in their locality so that they may be a real help to their community, knowing that a wide-awake woman's club can do splendid things for a town.

Now the Our-Town Club women are unselfish and are thinking of the many women who do not have the advantages of club life, so they are trying to interest women in every locality and especially the farmers' wives, to form clubs.

This club is a typical Maine Federation Woman's Club, and it is eager

to co-operate with the Club Extension Committee of the Federation, so it forgets self in its eagerness to do good, and its members talk up the advantages of a federated woman's club whenever there is an opportunity; and they often make the opportunity, writing to friends in nearby towns where there may be an opening for a club.

The Maine Federation of Women's Club Extension Committee has divided the state into ten parts, each one of the committee of ten members taking one part for special work.

Mrs. Charles P. Barnes, Houlton, has Aroostook County; Mrs. J. S. Sturtevant, 37 Weld St., Dixfield, has Oxford County; Mrs. Jere M. Buelduc, Bucksport, has Hancock and Waldo Counties; Mrs. Virgil C. Tolman, Oakland, has Kennebec, Lincoln and Knox Counties; Mrs. H. C. Hussey, Norridgewock, has Franklin and Somerset Counties; Mrs. Alice T. Isley, South Berwick, has York County; Mrs. A. M. Penley, 23 Drummond St., Auburn, has Androscoggin and Sagadahoc Counties; Mrs. Frank Daggett, 132 Parkview Ave., Bangor, has Penobscot and Piscataquis Counties; Miss Harriet Abbott, Fryeburg, has Cumberland County; Mrs. F. W. Bowker, Machias, has Washington County.

Will any Federation Club woman who is helping to start a club please communicate with the member of the committee who has charge of the work in the county where the club is to be organized for helps and suggestive club programs.

Then let us all try to extend the club to every section of Maine, organizing the young women into Junior Clubs, the single clubs into County Federations, and urging co-operation of all clubs and other organizations in community work. Thus we can help to develop our good Pine Tree State of Maine.

ANNIE M. R. BARNES,
Chairman.

CLUB NEWS ITEMS

Waterville Woman's Club, which is hostess for the mid-winter session of the State Federation, is 300 strong, with a long waiting list. Each of its four departments meets every two weeks. It has aided local charities: the Salvation Army; the Women's Association; the Sunset Home for Aged Ladies; the Boys' Clubhouse; the 34 children at the Central Maine Sanatorium; and it has given \$50 to the State Scholarship fund of the Federation and aided Charities and Corrections, and sold Health Seals beyond its quota.

A \$5,000 improvement on their clubhouse has been made this year by the Women's Educational and Industrial Union of Saco. It also has financed a playground for eight weeks, with three trained workers in charge and furnished milk, daily, a total of 700 quarts. It maintains the loan closet for the Red Cross; finances an English class for Greek women and girls; and aids charities generally. Its social life is interesting, it co-operates with the local teachers, and its big feature is its February Bazaar, with special entertainment for the children in the afternoon and a dance in the evening.