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Maine Federation of Women's Clubs

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Augusta
Maine

Maine Federation News

Official Organ of the Maine Club Women

Published at Augusta, Maine

by the

Maine Federation of Women's Clubs

VOLUME XXIII

FEBRUARY, 1947

NUMBER 3



President's Message

Dear Club Members,

During each new Federation administration, problems arise within the individual clubs of so disturbing a nature that they are sometimes brought to the attention of the State President for her expression of opinion. Throughout my nearly two years of service to our organization, the matter which I find most plaguing to club presidents is the almost flagrant abuse of the veto in the matter of admitting new members.

There are several valid reasons for the acuteness of this particular problem at this particular time. First, this administration has experienced the most phenomenal membership gain probably ever recorded within so short a period. Secondly, this gain has been seemingly brought about by the cessation of our former war service activities. It is only natural that the many women who first discovered their latent talent for service during the stress and strain of the war years, should now wish to employ these same talents for community service through the medium of our federated women's clubs.

We should be deeply thankful that such women have not been content, now that the war is over, to fall back into useless anonymity. There should always be a place in our clubs for willing hands and hearts. If for some very excellent reason, such as limited club membership and a long waiting list, these candidates cannot be considered within a reasonable length of time, they should be encouraged

RADIO ACTIVITIES

On December 21, a new series of radio programs was started over Portland's WCSH. These programs are put on by the radio committee of the Federation and are under the direction of Mrs. Paul Fraser of Cumberland Mills. This is the first time we have been able to have the facilities of a Portland station, and of course are eager to have programs of general listening interest so that we may continue to hold our spot. Therefore, we are asking, through this paper, that any club who has among its members musical talent will notify us—since we feel that musical programs will be most appreciated.

Mrs. Harold Swift of Orono has, for two years, been responsible for a very fine series of programs over WLBZ of Bangor. We owe our thanks to Mrs. Swift and also to Mr. Guernsey of the staff of WLBZ who has been so helpful to Mrs. Swift with her broadcasts.

We feel that many excellent programs exist in all the clubs throughout the state; and we also feel that, were the members asked to broadcast these programs, they would find it very interesting and enjoyable work. So we are appealing to all clubs in the state: If you have a program which you are willing to broadcast, will you please notify either Mrs. Paul Fraser of Cumberland Mills or Mrs. Cecil Witham of Newcastle. We will then arrange your time for you and we can assure you that your efforts will be rewarded by knowing that you have done a good thing well. It will also be fun doing a broadcast, especially if you have never done one before.

The Maine Federation radio programs are on the air over WLBZ on Tuesday afternoons at 2:45 and over WCSH on Saturday afternoons at 2 o'clock. Write the stations if you enjoy these programs, for that is the only way they have of knowing how the programs are being received by the public. Then write us for time for your broadcast and make your club a part of the "Woman's Club of the Air"!

MRS. CECIL WITHAM,

Chairman, Radio Committee

to form a new club. There is always room for more than one club in any community. Rich indeed is the town which can boast more than one club, for the healthy spirit of rivalry and competition keeps each club on its toes. The tendency is always in the direction of growth and

(Continued on Page 2)

BOOKS TO ENJOY

Coming out just after Christmas, we find Kenneth Roberts' "Lydia Bailey" attracting much attention and receiving many fine reviews. History, romance and adventure are again skillfully blended by America's greatest historical novelist. He gives the reader the sense of sharing the lives of his characters and actually living in their own time. The writing of Lydia Bailey was interrupted for half a year to enable Mr. and Mrs. Roberts to translate Morcau de St. Mery's American Journey from which so much valuable material for his book was obtained.

The Miracle of the Bells now occupies third place on best seller fiction list. It tells the story of the devotion of a press agent to the memory of a young movie actress, manifested by the four day ringing of the bells of the little church of St. Michael, the Archangel, in a mining town of Pennsylvania. A story of God's grace, manifested through the goodness and faith of a young girl. Russel Janney, the author, understands the good in man however dull or selfish may be his outlook.

All the King's Men by Robert Penn Warren, well-known for his poetry and two other novels emerges now in this story of Georgia and its politics. A magnificently stirring story.

The River by Rumor Godden, tells us of a child growing up in India. It is not a long story but filled with deep experiences. Christopher Morley says of it, "Approach it warily. It hurts."

The countless readers of My Friend Flicka and Thunderhead will find the same magic touch in Mary O'Hara's "Green Grass of Wyoming". All the qualities of human understanding and the feeling for nature and horses are again drawn in this third volume of the story of the McLaughlin family.

Dr. Harry Emerson Fosdick gives us another volume of his really unique sermons in his latest publication, "On Being Fit to Live With." His lucidity, his skill in illustration and the flavor that spices his prose are some of the qualities that make his sermons the best of reading.

"A Prince in Their Midst," the adventurous life of Achille Murat on the American Frontier by A. J. Hanna, brings us a thorough knowledge of Florida history and the Bonaparte character in this account of a man who achieved democracy and was thus characterized by Emerson "A philosopher, scholar, man of the world and ardent lover of truth."

Alpheus T. Mason has given us a powerful and arresting picture of a Free man's life in his fine biography of Brandeis

(Continued on Page 5)

Edited by**Adelaide B. Knowlton**

The official organ of and published by the Maine Federation of Women's Clubs.

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In one issue of Federation News:

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1/2 page 7 in. x 5 in.	15.00
1/3 page (two 1/2 columns)	9.00
1/6 page (1/2 column)	5.00

President's Message

(Continued from Page 1)

such a town need never fear for its decay.

I find in looking over the constitution and by-laws of our individual clubs that the more democratic process of accepting a candidate upon the recommendation of two members in good standing, is the general rule. In the case of clubs employing the veto, or where the negative ballot of two or three members may exclude a candidate from membership, the responsibility for right conduct in such matters, falls heavily upon both club president and members alike.

In studying the veto problem as it relates to the excluding of potential club members, I have failed to discover a single sound reason for its use. I see it for what it is, a weapon which should be used ever so rarely. The same opinion is held for the provision where a minimum of two or three ballots may exclude. A negative ballot should never be cast for petty, personal or spiteful reasons. If one cannot find a sound and logical reason for the act of veto or exclusion, it would be a triumph over self to refrain from voting at all.

The negative ballot contains the potentialities of incalculable harm to your club if thoughtlessly employed. The denial of membership is like saying in effect: "We do not want you." The act goes even farther than that, causing embarrassment to club members who do not deserve it. The act both questions and refutes the good judgment of the co-signers in whose honest opinion the candidate was worthy of membership. It reflects upon the president of the club who as its innocent leader, is made responsible for its actions. It causes bad feelings among the majority of the members who voted for the candidate, with the effect of sometimes turning a club into an armed camp. But above and beyond all this we should give serious thought to what effect our act of exclusion may have upon the community. Communities have been known to be ex-

**Department of
American Citizenship**

CLARA M. PAUL, Chairman

We are upon the threshold of a new year and another session of the Maine Legislature is already convening. We must keep a watchful eye upon the business of that body and make known our opinions of any legislation which concerns the public welfare.

At the New England Conference at Portland Spring Mrs. Dickinson expressed regret that the Equal Rights Bill didn't pass in the last Congress and wishes our support when the bill comes up again in the next Congress.

Before the last war there were many organizations with patriotic names, which had been working in this country to the detriment of our form of government. In this republic there is no room for any foreign "isms."

Recently Mrs. Corey has suggested that the clubs in the state study "Communism in Action," a pamphlet compiled by Representative Dirksen of Illinois and a Committee from the House. It may be obtained by sending twenty-five cents to "Supt. of Documents, Library of Congress," Washington, D. C. Where it is not possible for a club to study this subject, may we suggest that small groups do so, that we may know just how Communism works.

It is a privilege to be a citizen of this great republic, let us cherish the freedom for which our forefathers sacrificed their lives and fortunes.

Let us all—every club—learn the American's Creed and repeat it together at every meeting after the pledge of allegiance.

President's Message

(Concluded)

plosive on occasion. Denying membership to some woman whom our community as a whole may think well of, leaves our clubs wide open and vulnerable to attack from the outside.

In the light of the foregoing, I sincerely recommend that a club which sanctions the veto or allows a minimum of ballots to exclude, shall provide an opportunity for open discussion on the pros and cons involved. If this is done with consequent enlightenment and a new perspective derived, there is every reason to hope that future ballots will be cast with more understanding, more tolerance, and a larger spirit of Christian brotherhood.

Sincerely,

LILLIAN H. COREY,

President

MAKE RESERVATIONS EARLY

Fifty-fifth Annual Spring Convention
Maine Federation of Women's Clubs,

Eastland Hotel, Portland, Maine

MAY 7th, 8th, 9th, 1947

This is Election year. We know that you will wish to be on hand to vote for the candidates YOU want.

Money-Raising Ideas Wanted

Club President:

Will you take a few moments at your next meeting to bring this matter before your members?

In response to many requests, and as an additional National Bureau service, we are preparing a book which should prove valuable to women's organizations.

The book will be a compilation of the many effective ways used by clubs to raise money for their treasuries. Clubs and individual members are invited to submit the ideas which have proven most effective in their own groups.

It has been our experience that clubs in certain areas employ money-raising ideas which are totally different from those used in other areas. We feel that the interchange of these ideas will provide clubs in every area with many new and useable ideas.

We would like to have as many ideas as possible forwarded by your club or its members. In the finished book, publicity will be given each club, or individual, for the method explained.

Since most clubs plan their programs during the spring months, we hope to have this material in printed form by April 1st, 1947. To accomplish this, it is necessary to have the material compiled, edited and in the hands of the publisher by February 15th. We will appreciate your earliest consideration in this matter.

To facilitate the gathering of this information, there are certain facts we would like to have covered. They are:

Type of program, its name, if one was used.

Name of person or persons who originated idea.

Number of people on working committee, length of time devoted to plan, its preparation and execution.

Number of members in organization.

If it was necessary to procure cooperation of non-members, will you explain who cooperated and how they were persuaded to do so.

Types of publicity employed.

Amount of money raised and if sale of tickets was used, how much per ticket.

In addition to the above facts, whatever additional details you send will greatly assist in the work of producing this book. If your club, or any member of it, has several such ideas—we shall be glad to hear about all of them.

Cordially yours,

LYNNE CRIDER LOCKWOOD

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to our

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PARLIAMENTARY PATTERNS

MRS. CLARENCE G. GOODWIN
Parliamentarian
Illinois Club Woman

NOTE: During the temporary absence of Mrs. Roselle Huddilston, Chairman of Club Institutes, we submit the following articles on Parliamentary Procedure in the hope that they will prove of value in meeting your own club problems.

— :: —

Let's Review the duties of a Chairman.

Chairmen should know their bylaws and never allow the organization to act in a manner contrary to them. Bylaws are for the guidance of the activities of the group and following them will always insure harmony, speed, and accuracy.

QUESTION: Our president moved out of the state two months after her election. She appointed the chairmen of departments according to her duties. Do these chairmen continue in office or do they retire with her?

ANSWER: The chairmen fill the term for which they were appointed, the president's leaving does not affect their terms.

QUESTION: We are still in doubt about the manner of giving reports. Should the chairman address the president and members or, because the president has assigned her the floor, simply read her report?

ANSWER: The chairman should always be courteous and address the chair and members before reading her report.

QUESTION: Should one ever call "Question," when she feels that discussion has reached the limit?

ANSWER: No. The word "question" means nothing but disturbance. She should call for the subsidiary motion, the "Previous Question," which means stop debate and vote. If carried by a two-thirds majority, the motion is voted at once.

QUESTION: When a motion is laid on the table, can it be taken up without a motion?

ANSWER: If the motion were laid on the table "subject to call," any member may call it up without the formality of a vote to take from the table. The member should say: "I call for the motion (state it) laid on the table." No second is necessary.

QUESTION: When is a roll call vote used? How is it done?

ANSWER: It is used when the club wishes a record of each person's vote and desires to be sure of the correctness. A member calls for the yea and nay vote which the chair puts at once. If carried, the motion is stated, and each member responds "Aye" or "No" to her name as called by the secretary. The record is put in the minutes for verification at any time.

QUESTION: Who appoints committees and just what is their real value?

ANSWER: The bylaws should state whether the chair or the club appoints the chairmen. Usually, the standing committee chairmen are elected by the club for a definite term. Special committee chairmen may be named by the president or by the club as the motion says.

The value of having a committee is that a much longer time can be given the

subject and less confusion is evident than when a large assembly discusses the motion. Many things can be investigated without publicity. Standing committees do the work assigned them and report to the club at regular intervals. This relieves the club from often puzzling responsibilities.

QUESTION: Our bylaws state the nominations shall be by ballot; may we also have nominations from the floor?

ANSWER: A ballot nomination is for the purpose of securing the real choice of the members without exposing the vote. To allow nominations from the floor would be out of order as it would defeat the reason for a ballot vote.

QUESTION: Are the ballots that are thrown out, as illegal, counted in the number of votes cast, or are they ignored?

ANSWER: Yes, every ballot, legal or illegal, is counted, although illegal votes are reported as discarded.

QUESTION: When a committee is appointed to do a definite piece of work and fails to bring a report or to respond to requests for its report, what can be done about it?

ANSWER: A committee that will not function should be discharged by the authority that appointed it and another appointed or elected to fill the place.

— :: —

Let's Review the Duties of a Chairman

MRS. HUGH BUTLER

Q. I know I should say the speaker's name and subject last in presenting a speaker to a meeting but where do I look as I say the final sentence—at the speaker or at the audience?

A. Do not say the speaker's name to the speaker—she knows her name—say it to the audience, especially to that part of the audience in the rear which has come in while you were speaking. The climax of your introduction is the name and subject of the speaker and this climax should be stated facing the audience though the speaker's name should be repeated again and this time to the speaker to indicate that it is now her turn to begin. For instance (looking at the audience), "Now I have great pleasure in introducing Mrs. LaFell Dickinson, President of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, whose subject is: "My six weeks in Russia." (Turning to Mrs. Dickinson) "Mrs. Dickinson."

Q. Where do I look as I repeat the question?

A. Here also continue to look at your audience, not the speaker. She can hear the questions as well as you, but it's important to have all the members of the audience understand the question before the speaker rises to answer it. If you repeat the question to the speaker, you cut yourself off from the audience and they can't hear what you are saying. Also by repeating the question, the speaker has time to think up the answer.

Q. What can a chairman do if the speaker makes another speech on each question?

A. She can graciously ask the speaker at the end of the first question and second speech to give as brief answers as possible so there will be time for more questions.

Q. What should a chairman do if during the question period members of the audience begin to make speeches?

A. She should interrupt the speech maker and ask her if she will put her remarks in the form of a question. She must be very gracious about this because it's a pity to discourage audience participation. If other members of the audience show signs of wanting to speak she could ask for a vote: Do they wish the question period continued or a discussion period with each speaker limited to two or three minutes? If the latter wins, then after the discussion period the speaker must be given five more minutes to answer the points brought up but the speaker does not speak after each discussor.

Q. What if a member asks an embarrassing or rude question or a question not bearing on the subject of the meeting?

A. Here again the chairman must be very gracious, realizing that, after all, those who want to speak are making more of a contribution than those who do their speaking afterwards. She can state that the question is not on the subject of the meeting but if the questioner would like to have another chance she will return to him a second time.

Q. How can a chairman take material from Who's Who and present it without having it sound like the multiplication table?

A. Biographical material furnishes the mere skeleton for the speech of introduction. The speech itself must be woven together into a narrative with emphasis on the material which is of particular interest to the audience and elimination of points which may not be pertinent to a specific audience but which might be used with a different group.

Q. Is it bad form to give the date of birth of a speaker?

A. Yes, women never want the date of their birth known and I am with them there. Men seldom do. Besides, it's unimportant. Audiences want the facts about the speaker's life which qualify him to speak on the subject before them. What educational background he had; what positions he has held, what books he has written or what other qualifications he has which fit him for this speech. The build-up—so helpful to a speaker—should consist only of biographical material. Such material makes the speaker feel at ease because it aids him to secure the respectful attention of his audience and then he can deliver a more effective speech.

Q. Should the chairman escort the speaker to the platform before introducing him?

A. I have written on this point so very many times but I will repeat it again. NEVER leave the speaker seated in the audience while being introduced. The best moments the speaker will have with his audience occur after the speech of introduction and while the audience is clapping. That is the moment he needs to get the audience situation, but if at that moment he must turn his back on the audience to mount a platform he then finds himself face to face with them and utterly cold. It is very cruel to leave a speaker off the platform during his introduction and I hope that I will never see a woman's club do this again, unless the club is very small and the situation informal.

—The General Federation Clubwoman

YOUTH CONSERVATION

MRS. PHILIP MARSTON, Chairman



MRS. PHILIP MARSTON

How many of you remember, during the administration of Mrs. Leroy Folsom, that the Federation passed a resolution "to form committees within the individual clubs which shall work toward the co-ordinated effort of all organizations and agencies in the community interested in the welfare of children and youth to combat juvenile delinquency through the establishment of such community services as a survey shall prove to be necessary in the local community"?

All of you know, I am sure, that the General Federation during the past three years has considered Youth Conservation its major project. Those of you who have not seen the packet on this subject issued by the General Federation should do so soon.

"Conserving" youth means protecting it from everything that could bring harm. It is obvious that if we Maine clubwomen are to protect youth, we must do more than give attention to the subject of Youth Conservation for one meeting a year. We must become familiar with the problems of youth and do all we possibly can throughout the whole year to make our own communities better places for young people to live in.

There are so many phases of community life which involve children: the home, the church, the school, community recreation of all types, both free and commercial. In every community, these phases differ according to the set-up of the town (its size, its public buildings, the land available for recreation) and the resolution mentioned above includes provision for a survey to be made in each community to determine what women's clubs can do to help carry on or improve all facilities for young people.

Everyone of us who has a family must realize that Youth Conservation begins in the home. Are we going with our children to church? Are we taking every opportunity to share family interests with our young people? Are we encouraging their self-expression through music, dancing class, hobbies? Are we encouraging their participation in whatever youth programs the community has? A parole officer in a Massachusetts city told me that he had found that those boys and girls

who were kept busy with interests in the home seldom had time for mischief outside.

Judge Francis McCabe of the Rhode Island Juvenile Court lists lack of religious training, lack of proper home environment and lack of proper home supervision as the principle causes of juvenile delinquency.

We clubwomen cannot go into the homes of our communities and see that the young people in them go to church. We can, however, help to sponsor week-day religious education, which will bring ethical and moral training to all boys and girls whose parents will let them have it. Miss Marion Ulmer, executive secretary of the Maine Council of Churches, Portland, will speak to women's clubs on this subject upon request.

Every child has the right to the kind of education which will fit him for life. How many of our schools are providing the right kind of education for every child? As clubwomen, we can make our influence felt in demanding vocational guidance and vocational training, in asking for a readjustment of the curriculum to give equal emphasis to non-college and college training. It seems to me that clubs which do not keep informed on the progress of education are not doing their part in helping the young people of the community.

Even the small communities can give children the educational advantages of the city school if they will band together and build an area high school, financed by several communities which could not pay for one large school alone.

The health of our children is important both in the home and in the school. Women's clubs should make every effort to see that health and behavior clinics are established in every community. Moreover, they should work to see that the services of a public school nurse are available in the community. The health of America is only as good as its citizens, and the last war should have taught us a bitter and shameful lesson regarding the importance of health to the country.

It is the right of every young person—and of every adult, too, for that matter—to have time to play, and a place in which to play. If our communities do not provide the right recreational facilities for our young people, they will find the wrong ones, as well as the right ones, elsewhere. Women's clubs all over the country, including Maine, are responding to the challenge and establishing recreation centers. Often this is done in cooperation with other organizations. (For instance, the Newcastle-Damariscotta Woman's Club is cooperating with the American Legion in the maintenance of a youth center, while the junior club of the twin cities sponsors Girl Scouting.)

To know what is needed in our communities, we must make that "survey" mentioned twice above. There are splendid suggestions for a survey in the General Federation Youth Conservation Packet.

Recreation centers and youth canteens are not enough. We must see that the schools provide the best recreational facilities and help them to get the best if they do not have funds to do it themselves. We must help to provide public playgrounds for both summer and winter play. We must keep the standards of commercial recreation high—by loud-voiced disapproval of poor standards if necessary. We must see that there are

enough youth groups—Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Camp Fire Girls, Four-H Clubs and others—to meet the needs of all young people in the community. Whenever possible, we should give active support as well as money.

It is my dream that Maine may be united in its search for recreational opportunities through a director of recreation, such as Vermont has. It is my hope that the Maine Federation will lead the way to make that dream a reality.

As individuals, it seems to me that every clubwoman would have one hour a week to give to work with young people. There are so many ways to use an hour: leader of a Girl Scout troop, Sunday School teacher, cook for a hot lunch program in school, story teller for a Saturday morning hour at the public library, teacher of an art class after school hours, a member of a transportation committee to take children to the health clinic, assistant on a playground or in a youth center.

Clubs have a wonderful opportunity to work with young people in their own meetings if they will invite youth groups to take charge of a program or ask a school glee club or orchestra to attend a club concert or encourage talented young musicians by giving them a chance to play at club meetings. (Many of your clubs already do these things.)

We want good homes for our children and for all children. We want to foster an active spiritual faith in all children. We want sound health and better educational advantages for all. We see the need for constructive recreational opportunities. We wish to have our sons and daughters and all young people trained to become good American citizens. How are we to do it?

It is my desire to make all youth problems the personal concern of every single club woman in the State of Maine. Will you all help by giving one hour a week to work with and for young people?

NOTICE OF CHANGE

Fifty-fifth Annual Conference Maine Federation of Women's Clubs Headquarters: Eastland Hotel, Portland, Maine, May 7, 8, 9, 1947

Meetings to be held in Frye Hall

NOTE: In order to forestall any reservations being made at the Samoset Hotel, we desire to announce that, due to the fact that the General Federation is to hold its Annual Convention June 23-28, 1947, the dates being the same as those previously set for the Annual Conference of the Maine Federation of Women's Clubs, it has been necessary to change the time and place of the meeting of the M. F. W. C.

The officers of the Federation wish to express their sincere appreciation to the club women of District No. 9, for their gracious invitation to hold the Fifty-fifth Conference at the Samoset Hotel in Rockland, and also to express their regrets that it was not possible to do so.

It is with genuine thanks that the cordial invitation extended by the club women of District No. 12 to hold the Conference in Portland, on the above dates, has been accepted.

American Home Day At University of Maine

The Seventeenth Annual Meeting of the American Home Department of the Maine Federation of Women's Clubs will be held on Tuesday, March 25th, at the University of Maine, Orono, as a part of the Annual Farm and Home Week.

Mrs. Donald Folsom, Chairman of the American Home Department, is in charge of the meeting.

Although at this time arrangements for the program have not quite been completed, it is planned to have presented, among other subjects of interest, the following:

"Week Day Religious Education in the Home," "Clothing Specialties and New Trends in Textiles," also to show films pertaining to "Safety in the Home."

Luncheon will be served in Esterbrook Hall. Price \$1.00.

Mrs. Arthur A. Hauck has invited the members of the Federation to attend a Reception and Tea at her home, after the meeting.

As soon as all details have been arranged, Mrs. Folsom plans to send a letter, containing the program and other data, to the President of each club.

The programs for American Home Day are so practical and inspiring that it is hoped every member of the Federation who possibly can, will be present.

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BOOKS TO ENJOY

(Continued from Page One)

which is an authoritative record of his character and the impress he made upon law and life.

The recent excellent biographies of The Trollopes. Thomas Hardy and Balzac have aroused much interest in their writings and bring down from the shelves "The Barchester Towers" series "The Return of the Native," "The Woodlanders" as well as translations of Balzac.

A most charming and readable book is Thomas Lamont's, one of America's leading financiers, "My Boyhood in a Parsonage," in which is a delightful picture of his childhood as a Methodist minister's son in the Hudson River region. The life in the various parishes and the vicissitudes of parsonage life give realistic pictures.

While "The Egg and I" and "Peace of Mind" are still playing leap frog for first place on the non-fiction list, a recently written biography has crept up to third place and well deserves to top the other two. This is Frances Perkins outstanding book, "The Roosevelt I Knew." His intimate friend and associate for a long period of years Miss Perkins writes only of what she knew first hand. Her contribution must remain unique among all that may be written. Miss Perkins' book has been reviewed most favorably. Our warmest congratulations to Miss Perkins for her notable piece of work.

ELIZABETH LANE WEBB

WELCOME

We take this opportunity to welcome the newest member of the Federation family, the G. L. S. Woman's Club of Grand Lake Stream, whose officers are Mrs. Alice MacArthur, President, and Mrs. Verelette Curtis, Secretary.

SCRAPBOOK CONTEST

An item of great interest to the clubs is the scrapbook contest which is being announced by the Federation through its Department of Press and Publicity. Mrs. Ervin A. Center, Steep Falls, chairman. Scrapbooks of any size or material will qualify. Awards will be made on the basis of attractiveness and general federation interest. There will be a prize of \$5 for the first selection and two honorable mentions. Clubs will bring or send entries to the spring convention where they will be judged by a committee picked from various sections of the state.

IMPORTANT

Will all clubs sponsoring candidates for election to office in the Maine Federation of Women's Clubs for the next two years, please send in a notice of their sponsorship to the Editor of the Maine Federation News before March 1, 1947. This election will be held at the Fifty-fifth Annual Conference at Portland in May.

SAFETY BULLETIN

MRS. JAMES C. CARMARK, Chairman

Safety Committee, G.F.W.C.

Never in the history of our General Federation of Women's Clubs have we been offered a greater challenge or a better opportunity to demonstrate our place in the community as a real asset for the saving of human life than today.

The serious increase of traffic accidents on the highways of the United States, with the attendant fatalities and injuries, should become a matter of serious concern for the organized women of the country. The release from wartime restrictions and the average age of cars on the road make it imperative that the public be fully informed of the increased hazards on the highway.

With the purpose of placing this menace to the public safety directly before the people, President Truman called a Safety Conference in Washington last May. Top-flight leaders in all walks of life were invited to attend and to participate in the National Program as developed by the various committees charged with that responsibility.

The three "E's"—Engineering, Enforcement and Education—must go hand in hand. Education has always interested us, but how much do we know of the Enforcement Program? Visit your local traffic courts and observe surroundings and see whether justice is meted out to all traffic offenders on equal terms. Ticket-fixing and other violations have become flagrant since the end of the war. It is high time some of these abuses were corrected.

We must work for uniform traffic codes and devices and good-driver license laws. Probably our very gravest offenders are the "teen-age" drivers. Driver Training in our high schools will not be the cure-all for traffic accidents in that age group, but it is an important step in the right direction—and one in which every parent should urge the community to take an active interest. In addition to the terrific highway accident toll, the home still presents a very great hazard. Clubwomen, as homemakers, should assume the responsibility for eliminating the accident hazards in their own homes as they exist today.

Fire causes a serious financial loss to the nation each year. The industrial plants of the country are keenly aware of the great economic loss caused by accidents in factories and are fast taking necessary steps to correct unsafe conditions. Schools are doing a fine job with Safety Patrols and other measures.

What about the chemical tests for drivers suspected of intoxication? Legislation is necessary to make these tests effective.

Have you visited your local MGM Exhibitor and asked him about the film, "Traffic with the Devil?" If he is to show it throughout the state, inform your clubwomen so they may urge others to see the film. Editors of local papers might call attention to it and its importance from an educational standpoint in the nation-wide war on traffic accidents.

Have you informed your clubwomen of the material available from headquarters in Washington,—particularly the films which will be sent to you for club meetings?

You may have posters and radio scripts if you will write to your national chairman.

In each state the program for accident elimination must be geared to the community needs. What are you going to do about it?

Important Memorandum For Club Presidents

Children in desolated foreign countries are in dire need of school supplies of all kinds. Thousands of them are receiving no schooling at all because even the simplest materials are totally lacking in many communities.

The General Federation has agreed to cooperate with UNESCO by undertaking to provide some of these basic supplies. As you know, the General Federation of Women's Clubs is represented on the U. S. National Commission for UNESCO which is deeply concerned about the problem of educational rehabilitation.

If you wish to help in your state, will you kindly urge your clubs to send any of the following materials to UNRRA, 573 Hudson Street, New York 17, N. Y.:

Pens Chalk Notebooks Scissors
Pencils Crayons Pads Erasers
Kindergarten supplies
Recreational supplies

You might want to suggest that the club members bring the supplies to the next club meeting and that a committee be appointed to handle the packing and shipping, with the club bearing the expense of transportation.

Since UNRRA is completing its work, packages must reach UNRRA **not later than March 7, 1947**. They will be sent to China, Korea and Ethiopia, the only countries still receiving UNRRA shipments.

Packages must be marked on the outside as follows: **EDUCATIONAL SUPPLIES TO UNRRA FROM** (Name and address of club). At the time of shipping, clubs are asked to send a postcard to UNRRA stating nature of

shipment (educational supplies), mode of shipment, and date of shipment.

The General Federation of Women's Clubs (1734 N Street, N. W., Washington 6, D. C.) would also greatly appreciate receiving a postcard from every club making a contribution so that the **General Federation Clubwoman** can publish the results.

Despite the many calls upon them, clubwomen continue to respond to the world's needs in a most amazing way. It makes us proud and happy.

Hotel Accommodations for General Federation of Women's Clubs Convention New York City—June 23-28, 1947

Convention Headquarters
HOTEL COMMODORE
Junior Headquarters
ROOSEVELT HOTEL

Dear Clubwoman:

Please make your hotel reservation **now** for the 56th Annual Convention of the General Federation of Women's Clubs to be held in New York City at the Hotel Commodore, June 23-28, 1947.

Junior clubwomen should arrive on Sunday, June 22, as the Juniors are having a tea that afternoon. Members of the Board of Directors should arrive Sunday, June 22, or early Monday morning as preliminary meetings of Board members start at 10:00 A. M., Monday morning.

Single rooms are very scarce so plan to room with a friend and apply for a double room. One advantage, this will decrease the cost.

Please include the name of your roommate on this application. Be sure you have consulted her and she understands that you are making her reservation. **One** request for two persons in a double room will simplify matters for the Housing Bureau.

Remember that 1947 is election year. Each per capita paying club of one hundred members or fewer is entitled to one voting delegate; for each additional hundred members or major fraction thereof, one additional delegate. Dues are payable on or before March 1, 1947 and May 12 is the deadline date for payment of dues to entitle clubs to representation.

Please make your hotel reservations **now**, mailing it to Miss Sylvia Peltonen in New York.

APPLICATION FOR HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS GENERAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS CONVENTION New York City—June 23-28, 1947

Date 19..

Miss Sylvia Peltonen
Manager, Housing Bureau
General Federation of Women's Clubs
233 Broadway—Room 1536
New York 7, N. Y.

Please make the following hotel reservations:

..... Double room (twin beds and bath)
Price range \$5.50-\$12.50

Rate desired

To be occupied by:

Name

Address

Name

Address

List your name and that of roommate. If no roommate listed, one will be assigned by Housing Bureau.

..... Single room with bath
Price range \$3.00-\$9.00

..... Two room suite (parlor, one twin-bedded room and bath)

Rate desired

..... Because Housing Bureau cannot guarantee rate desired, will you accept best reservation available?

Arriving, hour....A.M.P.M.

Leaving, hour....A.M.P.M.

Name

Street

City State

Club
or

G.F.W.C. Board Member
(If G.F.W.C. Board member, give official title)

You will receive a confirmation from the hotel that can supply the accommodations requested by you. If, after making reservations, you find it impossible to attend, please notify the Housing Bureau promptly.

Applications received less than ten days before Convention opens may not be honored.

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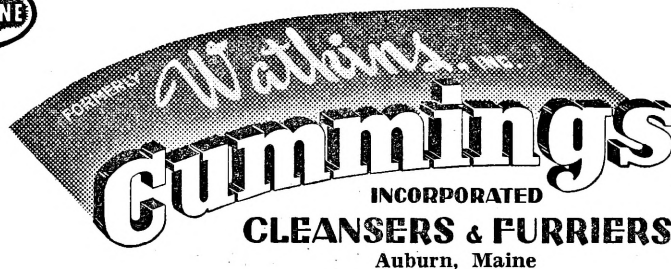
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PEACE PLANS PRACTICAL

By MILLICENT CHATEL

We have something new in the General Federation's Foreign and Territorial Club section. It is the French Women's Liaison Club of Washington, D. C. It already numbers some thirty members. Its aim is understanding through friendship.

"Peace Plans Practical," under the chairmanship of Mrs. Ruth Kelso Renfrow, was primarily working with countries where a federated club already existed. France has no French affiliated club as yet; despite this, French women are very eager to know and cooperate with Americans. Thus it was important that we have a liaison club here which would eventually form clubs in France. Soon other countries will have similar clubs in our national capital.

Many Americans themselves do not realize that women's clubs are primarily an American "invention." It is up to us to present this useful "invention" as an idea to the world. If dissemination of American plumbing, bath tubs, refrigerators, etc., is so ardently desired the world over for their material good, perhaps women the world over will be eager to form clubs when they know what a powerful force for peace they can be. We talk about mobilizing "man-power" when there is a war to be won. Why not mobilize "woman-power" for peace?

We ought to diffuse information throughout the world about what American women's clubs have accomplished in the past fifty years. Even now Americans would be amazed to know about the sum total of club accomplishments. Ignorance on this subject is especially prevalent among American men. What per cent of our public could even answer a satisfactory questionnaire about the betterment of their country through coordinated women's action?

Combine women's efforts throughout the world and humanity will begin to know a force heretofore lying latent at its doorstep. Nations may never again have to mobilize "man-power" for war if we mobilize "woman-power" for peace. By coming into being, the French club feels that it has cast a vote for this idea.

"Peace Plans Practical" was working primarily in countries where a federated club already existed. France has no federated French club yet; despite this, we have learned through many letters that French women are very eager to know America better. It is important that we now have a club to carry on liaison information and eventually assist in operating clubs in France. Other countries are now making plans to form liaison clubs in Washington.

Personal contacts are essential for success in any undertaking. Relationships of governments and embassies are not sufficient for understanding. Books and newspapers, movies and music are not sufficient. The majority of French women know America only through reading or hearsay. No book is as good as a living book, that is, a person. Foreign women coming to America for a limited stay are enchanted to see American home life first hand. Our club tries to "expose" its members to real American contacts which the average citizen takes for granted. They can thus take back to France a true and interesting impression of personal experiences. It has been our privilege to see our foreign friends enjoying a square dance—to see them examining gardens and homes of people they know—to see

them in our kitchen exclaiming over new gadgets and looking with amazement at well-stocked refrigerators.

Our American members are interested in their French hats, dresses and accessories, their particular charm and mannerism. We are starting an exchange library of magazines for the two countries. We are planning exchange scholarships. We are going to publish a French-American cook book. When our members travel, they will find charming doors of friendship open to them in both countries. There will be less time to form opinions by newspaper headlines and more time for human personal interest. The long reaching value of personal contact cannot be overestimated.

If we sincerely want to become One World, we must know this world. Strangers are suspicious of each other, but friends have mutual confidence.

—The General Federation Clubwoman

HAVANA

The Foster Club of the Maine Federation of Women's Clubs

The Woman's Club of Havana, Cuba, has been adopted by the State of Maine as part of the General Federation's plan of Peace Plans Practical. Organized in 1910 by a group of American women, the Woman's Club of Havana joined the General Federation in 1913 and now has a membership of over two hundred women. Thirteen different nationalities are represented among its members but the English language has usually been its medium of expression. The aims of the club are social, cultural and philanthropic. One of its earliest projects was the inauguration of a day nursery for the children of working mothers and this nursery has now grown into a well-endowed institution known as the Havana Creche.

FEBRUARY

The Month of Patriots

Excerpts from

"February for Remembrance"

By ALICE C. WEITZ

In these days of evil reports and troubled hearts nothing brings greater comfort to mankind than the recalling of various "happy endings" of days gone by. How hopeless seemed those days before and immediately after the Revolutionary War—how disunited the people, how sharp and bitter the dissensions, how seemingly unsolvable the problems. Faith was overtaken by doubt, friends became enemies, trusts were betrayed, the new nation was on the verge of collapse, but patience survived the day.

Today, in 1947, we read that thousands of visitors go to Mount Vernon each year to pay their respects to the memory of one who struggled through deep waters to found a great Republic which has survived to lend its strength to a new and greater world of United Nations.

While Mt. Vernon as it stands today is a living memorial to a great and devoted patriot, it is, nevertheless, a tribute to the women of America who comprise the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association of the Union, which purchased the home of Washington in 1858 and have kept it intact through all these years. "The movement was started and directed by Miss Ann Pamela Cunningham of South Carolina," says the recent report of its present regent, Mrs. Lucien M. Hanks of Madison, Wisconsin. "Miss Cunningham learned that the property had been offered in turn to the Government of the United States and the Commonwealth of Virginia but that purchase had been refused by each. Realizing that the home must be saved she appealed to the women of the country, and founded the above-mentioned association, the first women's patriotic association in the United States. Sufficient funds were raised by them to complete the purchase."

February, the birth month of Washington and Lincoln, brings us remembrances of men who died fighting for what they deemed right and playing what became eventually, an important part in the drama of the world. From them our courage stems. To them we owe the debt of ceaseless activity.

February Women

In 1936 the late Bishop of Washington, Rt. Rev. James E. Freeman, in a radio speech made at the request of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, said:

"It is worthy of observation that this month of February recalls vividly to mind the names of three noble women, women who in themselves embodied those sterling qualities that have always been the strength of the nation. Mary Ball, the mother of George Washington, certainly made her contribution to that pregnant period we call the birth of a nation. A gentlewoman of the South, her name is forever enshrined among the great mothers of the race.

"In this same month we couple the names of Nancy Hanks with that of Susan B. Anthony. Nancy Hanks, a rude, humble, simple woman of the open spaces who gave the nation Abraham Lincoln, the Emancipator. Susan B. Anthony, a gentlewoman of Massachusetts, born of Quaker stock, was the pioneer of women's suffrage. She, too, was an emancipator—the emancipator of women. She blazed trails and prepared new highways that opened out into a larger world, a crusader for the broader rights and privileges of women. It was a long and tedious road she followed, but she never faltered.

"Great women, these. After all, the qualities of true greatness do not change. Fashions and habits change. We may have more conveniences, travel a little faster, see more, hear more, have a few more luxuries; but these are quite apart from those more indispensable and enduring things that enrich and develop character. I am confident it is for these things the Federation of Women's Clubs stands. 'A better adjustment of human relations' is a supremely important task. To that task all high-minded women of America are called. It may involve inconvenience, sacrifice, selfless service, but if we are to build for our children the kind of a world we want them to live in, then we must, men and women alike, be prepared to carry our part of the load."

—The General Federation Clubwoman



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