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INTERESTING READING
BY MRS. ELEANOR FYFFE

Paper Read Tuesday, Afternoon Before
 Local Womens Club. Gives much
 Information on Club
 Organizations

In discussing the work of the 10th District I have thought it might be interesting to you to give a brief outline of the first Woman's Club in Illinois, the starting of the General Federation of Women's Clubs. It seems hard to realize there was ever a time in our great state when the education of women was not considered necessary—yet in 1833 the early letters were so appalled at the ignorance surrounding them on all sides, the women of Jacksonville took it upon themselves to raise funds for new education of "indigent females" and a woman's club was started October 3, 1833, its purpose being stated as follows:

"The Ladies Association for educating Females" the principal object shall be to encourage and assist young ladies to qualify themselves for teaching and to aid in supporting teachers in those places where they cannot otherwise be sustained." This first group of club women continued for many years to raise money to educate girls and I was amused in looking over their records to note they were so modest that the minutes and reports of their meetings were always read by men. This club still operates under its original name. "The Ladies Educational Society." To trace the history of the State Federation it is necessary to transport ourselves to New York city.

When Charles Dickens made his second visit to this country in 1867, Mrs. Jennie June Croly and other newspaper women in New York, requested an invitation to the dinner given Mr. Dickens by newspaper men. "Not so," chivalrously replied the men, "we want no women." "Very well," naturally said the women, "we shall have a dinner for Mr. Dickens and ask no man but him."—And they did. These women diners formed a club which is today the Sorosis Club of New York. Upon its 21st birthday, March 1889, invitations were sent to all women's clubs near enough to meet with it and celebrate its birthday, and from this meeting the General Federation started, which in turn inspired the State Federation. The original movement was meant to include all the clubs in the world, hence the name, General Federation. Our own State Federation was organized at Chicago in 1894, and our first president, Mrs. Caudee of Cairo, is a familiar figure in the past presidents' row at the annual meetings.

I think the most of us little realize what tremendous advantages the different departments of the state offer us. The day has gone by when club women meet for a purely social gathering. We are interested in the problems of the day, and the old saying that a woman cannot be a good mother and a club woman is too absurd to even bring for it an argument. We can better serve our husbands, our children and our homes by knowing and understanding the laws and conditions which surround us.

It is my duty as well as my privilege to try to bring to the clubs of the 10th District the work being done by the State Federation of Women's Clubs, to ask your co-operation and your help in the work which can only be accomplished through united effort. Mrs. Prowin, in making her report at Springfield as chairmah of the civics department said the greatest problem before Illinois club women today is to be worthy of the faith the last legislature placed in us. Due to the voting efforts of our women the Suffrage bill was passed by the last legislature at Springfield, giving us all the privileges, putting upon all the obligations of the ballot in so far as it was possible till a change is made in the constitution of the state.

My father was present last fall at an Ossoli study class conducted by Mrs. Frances D. Everett. He has been more or less of a politician all his life and takes great pleasure in telling his Iowa friends that he has attended Republican meetings where Republicanism was preached, Democratic meetings where Democracy was the only thing, Prohibition and Socialistic meetings, each one the best and only party but that it was at a WOMAN'S meeting where he first heard good citizenship advocated, which reminds me of a story that a woman, on being asked what party her husband belonged to, replied, "I guess he belongs to me."—(Story against suffrage.)

One has only to listen to such men as Graham Taylor, Judge Pinckney, Judge Pain and many others, to realize they put their faith to the Illinois club women and they must make good. By co-operation, which is federation, we can accomplish anything so let us bend our energies to bring good civic housekeepers, teach our boys and girls good citizenship. The chairman of the legislation department has asked that we work dur-

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ing the coming year for a bill to provide a colony for the feeble-minded. This would enable these poor unfortunates to be placed where they could be self-supporting, away from curious eyes and would prevent the transmitting of tainted blood to future generations. Do you women realize that in Illinois today birth registration is not required? I noticed that one of the Cook county officials was finally waked up to this fact saying, he really could not make his records correct. We must work for such a bill, also for full suffrage.

The Civil Service department urges your co-operation in visiting public institutions and reporting any new management to them. Also that you inform yourselves as to how the city money is spent and do your share in electing good men (or women) to public offices.

The Home Garden and Canning schools held at De Kalb and Aurora during the past summer were under the direction of the educational department. Those of you who heard the report given at the district meeting in the fall, will remember that some school boys and girls made as much as \$175.00 during the season. The cry for bread is becoming more insistent each year in our big cities, hundreds of bushels of fruit and vegetables are left to rot upon the ground during the summer. The Federal Gov. in its Smith-Lever bill is to help the agricultural colleges of the states educate boys and girls along these lines. Our club women, co-operating with new public school teachers, should appoint a committee of "agricultural extension" whose duty it shall be to take up this work. Live up to the slogan adopted by our schools: "Set Illinois earning—save all the waste of fruit and vegetable products." Learn to use your state departments. They are only too glad to send all the information necessary.

We are fortunate, also very much spoiled in having on our wonderful work three to many resources, but we need the help our State Federation can so ably give us.

The Club Bulletin is the official organ of the state. Through its pages we can keep informed of the work being done in art, civics, civil service, conservation, education, home economics and pure food, music, library extension, public health, literature, philanthropy and legislation movements. In Illinois we have over 50,000 club women, only a few thousand of these, I think about three, subscribe to the Bulletin. It doesn't look as if you were much interested but I feel sure it is only because we have not realized its importance. I hope many of you here today will give me your subscriptions. It is only 50 cents a year and the state officers need your interest as well as your support. Trust your president will appoint a Bulletin committee and that the 10th District will respond to this request as it does so generously to all demands made upon it. The Park Ridge school for girls is furnished and paid for, but to keep it in repair contributions are necessary from individual clubs. You are asked to help in this good work from your philanthropy fund, also to donate something to the Library Extension committee. Unfortunately these departments have no money and in order to send the traveling libraries into the homes of those who are not fortunate enough to be able to afford books or who live near a public library, funds are necessary.

I quote from a report recently issued by Mrs. Warren, president of the state of New Jersey: "The greatest benefit to women from Federation work is the sense of periodical responsibility it gives. Every office, no matter how unimportant brings some development to the home-keeping woman. Women who do not hold office owe something to their clubs and that is a spirit of helpfulness. Clubs need members who can help only with their spirit of fellowship. Women with small children, members who for ill health or some other reason can not do a full share of detail club work, business women who need the mental stimulus of club connection. Our clubs and federations must be training clubs and federations must be training schools. We must avoid ruts and grooves by keeping mentally alert and constantly moving on to new fields of endeavor."
 I think we need more concentration. Let us work to eliminate carelessness and wastefulness and by so doing make life more livable by being personally efficient and careful.

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ELM PLACE PRIMARY COMPLETED
 (Continued from Page 1)
 under the building is below the office and toilet rooms and contains the Ke-wance smokeless boiler and the fan and motor room.
 The building is heated by steam and ventilation is secured by a fan driven by an electric motor. The air exhausts from each room into its cloak room through floor vents and from there it escapes by an overhead outlet directly through the roof. Each room except the kindergarten has overhead lighting from skylights. There are side windows to look out of and for ornament, but they are small as in dwellings. The light coming from above is so equally diffused that there will be no dark zone in any room. The kindergarten room is a sort of a sun and open air room, nearly its whole front being windows that extend to the floor and swing open like doors. The terrace without is nearly on a level with that of the room within, and in their games children can trip in and out, using the terrace and its floor as a part of the kindergarten room.
 The firm of Patton, Holmes and Flinn are the architects of the building, but the junior member of the firm, Mr. Raymond Flinn, has been largely responsible for the plans of the building, and the details of construction have been carried out under his supervision and that of his assistant, Mr. Huggill. Mr. Flinn is a product of Highland Park, having graduated from Elm Place school and the township high school. His father was for many years a valuable member of the Board of Education, and to older residents of Highland Park familiar with the elder Flinn's services to this community, it has been a source of gratification that District 107 has been able to profit by the professional ability of the son.
Obituary
 On Friday of last week, occurred the death of Mrs. Arthur Boyington, formerly of this city, at her home, 4449 N. Artesian Ave., Ravenswood. The funeral services were held Monday afternoon, burial at Rosehill Cemetery. Mrs. Boyington leaves to mourn her, her mother, Mrs. Marah Woodbury and four children, Warren, Mabel, Ralph and Woodbury, all of Chicago.