

## History of Club Life In Harrodsburg to 1922-24

Written By Mrs. W. W. Ensminger While She Was President, At The Request of Courier-Journal And Published In That Paper.

Club life in Harrodsburg began in the form of a little neighborhood reading circle April, 1894. In January, 1895, it was formally organized into a club and took its name, The College Street Club, from the street on which a majority of the members resided. At once it joined both the State and General Federation. It used its influence always in the community for the highest and best. The Harrodsburg Public Library is a result of a committee from the College Street Club. The next work of a special philanthropic interest and activity was the organization of a Civic League for the moral and material betterment of local conditions.

This work of the Civic League created wide interest not only in the town but throughout Mercer county. An organization composed of both men and women was made in March 1902 and during that year so much was accomplished, and so effectively that the Civic League became firmly established as a creative center not only in Harrodsburg but throughout Kentucky, as the first president of the Civic League was at the same time Chairman of the State Civic Committee. The plan of organization was made educative throughout the State, resulting in many fine organizations in other places.

The Harrodsburg Civic League federated in 1909.

Although not directly yet indirectly The Study Club, organized by the younger women in Harrodsburg in September 1905, may also be called the child of the mother club, its influence and inspiration being from the older organization.

The Study Club entered the Federation in 1908.

The Teachers Club of Mercer County was organized in 1907 as a part of the great educational awakening then beginning in Kentucky. It resulted from a School Betterment League, the second formed in Kentucky, this was organized during the meeting of the Education Committee of the State Federation of Clubs in session at Harrodsburg in 1907. The Teachers Club federated in 1908.

The Harrodsburg Music Club was the result of an informal meeting of four Harrodsburg musicians whose aim was to promote musical culture and stimulate musical interest in the community. It did work of high standard, it brought artists to the town, and encouraged the cause of music every possible way. It joined the Kentucky Federation in 1897 and the National Federation of Music Clubs in 1901. In June 1911 all these organizations merged into one body known as The Woman's Club of Harrodsburg with five departments, namely: The Literature Department, formerly The College Street Club, The Music Department, The Study Department, The Civic Department and Educational Department, formerly Teachers Club.

These departments with the aims and ideals upon which they were founded have accomplished a great deal in their distinctive lines of work. Other departments have been added. A Mothers Department has done fine practical and philanthropic work. Art has been fostered by either department or committee work. A Home Economics Department is now found most interesting and beneficial, and the Dramatic Department, with the aim of a little theater, is flourishing.

The Woman's Club of Harrodsburg has kept its interest always in the things they were trying to accomplish, yet has done the necessary things that the times demanded. The Club has kept intact all during the war, but did war work through the club, first establishing a Service League, then working at the Red Cross rooms, while carrying out its literary programs. And it was most significant fact that the head of every unit of war work was a club woman.

At a meeting of the Civic League in 1910 it was voted to use the funds on hand to establish a hospital. A house was rented and by the Autumn of 1911 it was equipped and opened to patients. Under the management of the Civic League, which had then become a department of the Woman's Club, the hospital flourished and plans were made to build and equip a modern hospital, now the property of the donors and managed by a Board of Directors elected from the members of the Civic League and the public spirited citizens who hold the greatest number of shares of the stock. The building is beautifully equipped and centrally located and was dedicated in 1915. It stands as another monument to organized woman's financial cooperation.

Our Club Room is The Public Library which is significant in that as now we are benefited by the library, so was the Club in the past its mother and benefactor. Club life in Harrodsburg has given to the Federation work more officers than any town of its size in the State. Three State Presidents have been elected from among us, Mrs. Cornelia O. Hansford, second President of the Federation, 1896-1898, Mrs. Letcher Riker 1907-1909, Mrs. Lafon Riker 1917-1921. Women having filled other prominent positions in the State Federation are Miss Martha Stephenson, Recording Secretary 1897, and Second Vice-President 1902-1904 also State Chairman of Education 1901-1902. It was a report made by her, while in this office, which helped to arouse the State to the necessity of an awakening along educational lines. Mrs. G. A. Curry was State Treasurer 1902-1904 and Chairman of Civil Service Division 1907-1909.

Mrs. Letcher Riker, Chairman Civics 1904-1905, State Treasurer 1906-1907, Mrs. Howard Davis, State Chairman of Art Committee 1904-1905, Miss Haldon Hardin, now Mrs. George W. Edwards, State Corresponding Secretary 1907-1909, Chairman of Art 1909-1913, Chairman of Forestry Committee, 1915-16, Mrs. John Lafon, State Corresponding Secretary 1917-1918.

Mrs. Lafon Riker, State Chairman Health 1909-1915, Third Vice-President 1916-1917, Federation Secretary 1917-1918, President 1917-1921, Chairman of Child Hygiene under Health Department of General Federation 1913-14, General Federation Director 1921-1922.

Mrs. W. L. Beardsley, State Corresponding Secretary 1918-1921.

Mrs. W. W. Ensminger, State Chairman Conservation 1918-1919.

Mrs. D. Lee Currey, now Chairman of Home Service Division.

Our Club Slogan is "The Greatest Good To The Greatest Number." And in viewing the progress along all lines in our dear old town in the last twenty-five years, it is agreed that Club life has not failed to make good its aims.

## CLUB EVENTS IN CALENDAR ORDER

Federation Activities, Interspersed With Business, During 3-Days Session Here.

The calendar of events, interspersed with business, at the three-days session of the Kentucky State Federation in Harrodsburg, May 13, 14, 15, 1936:

Wednesday, May 13—Display of advertisers in The Kentucky Club Woman, Federation magazine, at court house under Mrs. R. A. Tate, Louisville.

Tea and inspection of Model Kitchen, 3 to 5 p.m., at Kentucky Utilities offices.

Banquet at 8 o'clock at Christian church dining room.

Exhibit by Kentucky artists in Lecture Hall at the Christian church all week under Mrs. T. W. McKinley, of Shepherdsville.

8 p.m. Opening session. Mrs. Paul R. Wickliffe, Greenville, Federation president, presiding at Christian Church auditorium. Greetings, Gov. A. B. Chandler; Welcome from Harrodsburg club, Mrs. W. W. Ensminger; Speaker, Dr. Alfred Upham, President of Miami University, subject "Education." Music by Harrodsburg Choral Club.

After program, reception honoring Federation officers at the home of Mrs. Lee Sims, Beaumont avenue.

Thursday, May 14—9 a. m. Memorial for Mrs. H. G. Reynolds, of Paducah, chairman of Federation trustees, who died during the past year. Tributes to her: solo, "There Is No Death." Mrs. Charles N. Riker, Harrodsburg.

Thursday afternoon speakers, Hon. Frederick Wallis, Paris, subject, "Kentucky's Welfare Program." John W. Manning, Frankfort, "The Merit System of Government."

After program, sightseeing at Pioneer Memorial State Park with tea at Fort Harrod; motor trip to Dix Dam.

6 p.m. Dinner at Beaumont Inn for Past Presidents and District Governors.

8 p.m., Speaker, H. L. Chailleux, Indianapolis, Director of National Americanism, American Legion, subject "Citizenship." All Legionnaires invited.

After program, reception at Mooreland House, home of Mrs. D. L. Moore.

Friday, May 15—Friday the various speakers on the programs are to be Mrs. Frank McVey, wife of President McVey, University of Kentucky, Lexington; Mrs.

HON. FREDERICK WALLIS



Director Department of Welfare, addressed club women on Thursday on "Kentucky's Welfare Program."

John L. Whitehurst, Baltimore, chairman of education, of the National Federation of Women's Clubs; Mrs. H. B. Ritchie, Athens, Ga., President of the Georgia Federation of Women's Clubs.

Tea, 3 to 5 p.m. at Doricham, the home of Mrs. Charles N. Riker honoring Mrs. McVey, Mrs. Whitehurst and Mrs. Ritchie.

Banquet, 6 p.m. Beaumont Inn, stressing Junior Club work and with program by the Junior Federation. Following banquet informal reception at Beaumont Inn.

### Reunion Of Oxford Students At Federation

Mrs. W. W. Ensminger entertained with an informal get-together breakfast at nine o'clock Thursday morning for former students of Oxford College, to meet Dr. and Mrs. Alfred Upham. Dr. Upham is president of Miami University with which Oxford College was merged into a co-educational institution at Oxford, O. He was the speaker before the Federation of Women's Clubs Wednesday night. Other guests at the breakfast were Mrs. George Brayton, Fort Thomas; Mrs. Warren Shonert, Fairmouth; Mrs. C. E. Bohon, Shaker-town, the other former student being Mrs. Ensminger.

Over 10,000 human sterilization operations have been performed in California since 1909.

## Committees On Arrangements for Kentucky Federation Convention

Mrs. Lee Sims, President, Announces Groups For Various Activities of 42nd Annual Session of State's Club Women in Harrodsburg.

Forty-second Annual Convention, Kentucky Federation of Women's Clubs.

President, Mrs. Paul R. Wickliffe; Hostess Club, Harrodsburg Woman's Club, President, Mrs. Lee Sims.

Local Convention Committee—General Chairman, Mrs. B. T. Hume; Registration, Mrs. G. L. Johnson; Hospitality, Mrs. D. M. Hutton; Transportation, Mrs. Wm. F. Reed; Social, Mrs. Donald Edwards; Music Chairman and Organist, Mrs. Andrew Alexander; Decorations, Mrs. S. E. Cooke; Platform, Mrs. C. E. Rankin; Art Exhibit, Mrs. B. G. Alderson; Advertisers Display, Mrs. Hugh Crozer.

Pages, Miss Anne Dedman, chairman; Miss Virginia Lee Sims, Special Page to the President; Miss Martina Hume, Miss Carolyn Smith, Miss Nancy Lee Johnson, Miss Mary D. Allen, Miss Mary Elizabeth May, Miss Joanna Coleman, Miss Mary Agnes Penny.

Ushers, Miss Mary Elizabeth Hutton, Miss Jane Hutton, Miss Susie Etta Allen, Miss Mary Handy Ensminger, Miss Irene Nooe, Miss Esther Christianman, Miss Elizabeth Vanarsdall.

Registration, Mrs. Greene L. Johnson, Chairman; Mrs. H. C. Wood, Mrs. Ernest Prewitt.

Transportation, Mrs. Wm. F. Reed, Mrs. J. P. Farmer, Miss Nancy Smock, Mrs. John B. Shewmaker, Mrs. J. W. McClellan, Mrs. W. B. Keightley, Mrs. Robert T. Ballard, Mrs. Errol Draffen, Mrs. Fred Lee Wilder, Mrs. Claude Clark.

Hospitality, Mrs. D. M. Hutton, Mrs. Waller Latta, Mrs. Charles Ison, Miss Lilly Hunter, Miss Ora McCoun, Mrs. LeRoy Bonta, Mrs. P. H. Conover, Mrs. J. W. Carpenter, Mrs. T. H. Bowen, Mrs. Carroll Smith.

Decorations, Mrs. S. E. Cooke, chairman; Auditorium, Miss Frances Chelf; President Room and Guest Room, Mrs. S. E. Cooke; Banquet, Christian church, Mrs. D. L. Moore; Reception at Mrs. Sims, Mrs. Lee Smock; Reception at Mrs. D. L. Moore's, Mrs. J. W. Carpenter; Tea at Mrs. Chas. Riker's, Mrs. J. Hal Grimes; Dinner at Beaumont Inn, Mrs. Lafon Riker.

Advertisers Display Committee, Mrs. Hugh Crozer, Chairman; Mrs. Nelson Brown, Mrs. J. Herman Allen, Mrs. Roy Cooke, Mrs. T. C. Wilkerson, Mrs. DeWitt Adams, Mrs. Elmer Robertson, Mrs. Harry Blanton, Mrs. Claude Clark, Mrs. O. H. DeBaun, Miss Carolyn Grimes, Mrs. James Isham, Mrs. W. H. Johnson, Mrs. W. N. Lyen, Mrs. Curry Marksbury, Mrs. J. W. McClellan, Mrs. W. B. Marshall, Mrs. Hugh Crozer, Mrs. L. B. Mayfield, Mrs. Bacon Moore, Mrs. Charles Matherly, Mrs. Charles Noel, Mrs. Elmore Mills, Mrs. W. R. Penny, Mrs. J. C. Royalty.

Social Committee, Mrs. J. D. Edwards, Chairman.

Reception Wednesday night at the home of Mrs. Lee Sims, honoring the State officers, Mrs. G. A. Curry, Mrs.

## Welcome Address By Mrs. George Handy to Federation Here 1896

(Mrs. Handy Was President of the College Street Club)

Madam President and Members of the Federated Clubs of Kentucky:

It is with personal pleasure I bear to you a cordial welcome from the College Street Club.

When Rome on her seven hills sat a queen, and sceptered men bowed at her feet—conqueror of the world, rich, haughty, magnificent, resplendent in her glorious beauty, pleasure loving, cruel in her sports, pitiless in her tyranny—yet mindful of the joy and dignity of hospitality, and with conscious feeling of that tie binds us in a kindred love—"Salve" was carved in stone on the threshold of her gorgeous palaces, speaking graciousness, comfort, cheer and fidelity to those who entered.

More fitting symbol than letters carved in immovable and insensible rock—we have taken from "God's growing covenant"—a substance, though not animate—"yet of spiritual mould" and draped our entering way—"Blue and Crimson." Emblems of truth, purity and power—our club colors. And we ask that with spiritual eyes you may see in its heavenly hues the inscription there in presage—Welcome—A welcome for yourselves. A welcome for the members of the federated clubs of the state—a welcome for the people of the state within whose boundaries there breathes no soul so dead it is not thrilled at mention of "My Old Kentucky Home."

May I use the word in another sense and say you are well come to Harrodsburg.

Here you stand on, metaphorically, consecrated ground but in view of woman's acknowledged power in that leverage which propels affairs and the degree of emancipation she has compelled you are not asked to take off your sandals—not even your bonnets.

Famous as Mercer county and her Capitol have ever been in historic interest, to individualize would be absurd because of the immensity of the undertaking. Written history is familiar to all.

An adopted daughter, I have a pride in my home little less than that of a native, but of necessity must acquire familiarity with traditions at second hand. Investigation developments that in record and tradition we are pardonably boastful of all which contributes to an assured immortality in the Bye and Bye—and woman has been a sparkling gem in the Crown to this date.

We boast no monuments of art, memorial halls, fine statues in bronze or marble—but as an "Antique" we stand unrivaled in the annals of the state.

'Twas here the Harrods and the McAfees—antidating by twenty days the Boones as settlers—planted the pioneer banner of civilization.

Beneath the starry roof of a lowly cave near by—its little stream slipping between the ridges—doubtless, prophetically babbling of the future celebrity of waving bluegrass, fine horses, gallant men and beautiful women—Daniel Boone spent his first winter in Kentucky.

A gifted young townsman—his own name already entwined with the laurel of fame—holds in cherished possession the initials "D. B." cut not in enduring marble, nor traced in color lines on parchment, old, but deeply carved in the rough bark of a primeval oak standing near the lowly cave and babbling stream. What sifter page on which to trace the autograph of the famous pioneer. He could doubtless wield the hunting knife with far greater skill than the pen and to his preference for the knife we owe the existence of this valued proof of our distinction.

Now, within the limits of the town lies the field first to yield its treasure store to man's command—Yonder upon the gentle rise of Old Fort Hill man's first protective shelter was built. And yonder, too, the first Christian burying place in the "Dark and Bloody ground" the mossed slabs and half obliterated names—telling of many a famous hero dead.

Gen. George Rogers Clark was seated from Harrodsburg—the first credited statesman to the "Assembly" of Virginia. To his herculean efforts, exercised in argument and threat, the County of Kentucky was indebted for ammunition to sustain the advantage already gained over the Indians.

When the state was in her early teens, a Mercer County woman was the magnet irresistible to one of the nation's most famous men—Andrew Jackson—the hero of war, the champion and idol of a nation—to-day the embodiment of a great national principle.

This was long ago, and the town—like Elijah gladly yielding her mantle of activity to younger places and marching serenely and gracefully though quietly, abreast the procession has celebrated her Centennial. Her full list of names of sons and daughters noted in statesmanship, education and literature, justifies the pride of her people that has neither waned nor slept and bears witness to those "influences whose mild persistence urge man's search to vaster issues."

Within the year Mercer County mourns the loss of a venerable native, noted for her many excellences of heart and head, a wise and loving wife and mother, a true and

helpful friend, an earnest active Christian, a large minded Humanitarian—the champion of everything she believed consistent with the principles of justice—a practical business woman—a writer of national reputation—Mrs. Maria T. Davies "has gone to join the Choir invisible of the immortal dead—but still lives in minds made better by her presence." A worthy model and type of the woman "whose yea and nay must soon have weight in deciding a nation's fate"—Not a "new woman"—but the dear old woman Bible in her hand, her love of home, and children and her love of man (the worthy man) unchanged; but with deepened vision, and "through confusion of the times" harkening the beckoning call to new duties and new privileges, brought by new conditions and necessities.

Women are looking through their clubs into new purposes of life. They are becoming better acquainted with questions that vitally concern their welfare and that of the weaker ones about them—they are inquiring the right and wrong of this and that—asking more light concerning the science of government—earnestly, and prayerfully, searching the way from the narrow selfishness of the barbarous past into the broader highway of the glorious future whose dawning is already growing grey.

The up-to-date Club is no longer a mere literary or tourist club—its members are studying and discussing best methods of educational work, household economics, current topics, social science, politics—even finance.

There is nothing more certain than that we are in the midst of a transition period—Old ideas, old methods, are dead or dying—the new are still embryo—still untried—with the ghost of the old hovering round and holding us, and it is vital that we inquire, and discuss problems, old and new, and settle whether we are helping or hindering the inevitable reconstruction—Public spirit, a genuine interest in all questions of social and national importance has grown to be as an essential part of true womanhood as of true manhood, and happily it is become the fashion for women to be thinkers as well as workers.

The New York Sun said of a recent effort of an association of women in N. Y. City—"they have calmly organized to influence the reason and justice of the coming Constitutional Convention and it is noticeable, too, that the headquarters of the committee of ladies who sent out the circulars are at a fashionable resort on 5th avenue and not at a place with which radicalism and eccentricity is associated—the 25 women composing the committee was said to be worth \$20,000,000 in their own right and to have husbands whose wealth aggregated more than \$100,000,000."

Phillip Gilbert Hamilton tells us it is one thing to admit that esthetic culture is conducive to human happiness, and another thing to admit that it is a fundamental requisite of human happiness.

However important it may be, it must yield precedence to those kinds of culture which bear more directly upon the duties of life—and consequently that part of human conduct which constitutes good citizenship is of more moment than that which goes out in accomplishment or exercise of the tastes and in educational preparation, for the one must take rank before preparation for the other. I cannot presume to offer a solution of so complex a problem as that of preparing an exact guide to that true culture which develops a sense of personal responsibility and duty to others; a morality which sees and resents an injury done to another as much as when done to one's self—a self respect, not overawed by position or place or power, but sees the right to do it. But, "the rest—less greatness of the age, the fact that events of destiny are happening beneath each newly risen sun" has doomed the Club organized for mere social entertainment, or mere self-culture, and I would say with Lady Somers—"we may bridge ourselves about with luxury for the body and every amenity for the mind but far and away in its sweep is that larger life of each for all and all for each that is rapidly becoming the passion of the hour."

And I believe that only as we embody these higher motives and principles in our club efforts shall we attain our chief good or assure the perpetuity of our club organizations.

The Woman's Club movement in our own Country is but a part of a great whole—"one of the struggling tides of life that seem in wayward, aimless course to tend: But are the eddies of a mighty stream—that rolls to its appointed end."

Meetings such as this do much to accomplish good will and unanimity of feeling between the women of the state and I trust that these days of association in a common interest may prove us

"One in our faith and one in our longing"

To make the world within our reach Somewhat the better for our living And gladder for our human speech."

## SATURDAY'S SPECIALS!

### Peoples Cash Store

COFFEE Pre Ground 2 lbs. 18c  
No. 1 Santos Peaberry 2 lbs. 29c  
Boscul Vacuum Tin only 27c

Macaroni and Spaghetti 3 boxes for 10c  
Temple Garden Tea large box 9c  
Armour Pork and Beans No. 21/2 can 3 for 24c

Syrup per gallon 47c  
Heavy Pack Cherries per gallon 44c  
Pure Partridge Lard 2 lb. bulk 24c  
All Broom Corn, Four Tie Broom only 19c  
Screen Wire, all widths, per yd. 17c and up

We've just received an assortment of green and ivory enameled ware—going at 24c each

Wall Paper at Bargain Prices.

We are now receiving wool at the market price.

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