

and Mrs. Alice Rich Northrop was placed on the ticket for Vice-President. Mrs. Northrop was, perhaps, the only delegate who was surprised to find her name presented. The other nominee—also from the Greater New York section—was equally admirable. Neither received enough votes to elect, and your immense organization of practical, trained workers is this year not directly represented in the executive department of the Federation.

And now the moral. This Union is growing to be a force for influencing and conducting the thought and work of the women of to-day. This thought grows more definite, the work broadens in scope. Your own Association is an apt illustration of the value of federation. But it should also be a working factor in the two larger federations, that of the State and the General, in order to keep abreast of the times and to contribute its share to the common experience. An association of 1,400 should send two voices, should have two votes in the legislative body of club women.

This letter grows too long, but it is incomplete unless it bear testimony to the helpfulness of your interesting magazine. Condensed as are the reports of work done in Library, Kindergarten, Settlement, Summer Outings and Wild-flower Shows, they are missionary literature, stimulating other working clubs to do likewise, and showing how. The magazine seems a slight thing to look at, but it deserves to bear the legend: "How far this little candle throws his beams!"

MRS. JOHN A. GOODALE.

Convention of the Federated Clubs.

The Second Congress of the New York State Federation of Women's Clubs and Societies has come and gone. It was held in Buffalo on November 10th, 11th and 12th, at the home of the Women's Educational and Industrial Union, on Delaware avenue. About one hundred and fifty delegates were present, representing in the neighborhood of a hundred clubs. At the request of Dr. Requa, I attended as the representative of our Association, and I take this opportunity of giving a brief report of the proceedings. The various papers and the more lengthy reports are all to be published in full, and extracts from the more interesting will appear later in the columns of the "News." I will simply speak of their scope and of the work of the new Federation as a whole.

There were nine sessions in all, the mornings being largely devoted to business, the afternoons to the hearing of the various

club reports, and the evenings to the more carefully prepared papers and addresses. The reports were grouped as far as possible, but many individual clubs also reported. The following groups were treated of in ten or fifteen minute papers: Literary Clubs, Civic Clubs, Parliamentary Clubs, Shakespeare Clubs, Professional Clubs, Tourists' Clubs, Country Clubs, Philanthropic Clubs and Educational Clubs. Our Association came in the last group, which was reported by Mrs. Edwin Altwell, of Brooklyn, President of the Mt. Holyoke Alumnæ Association. She gave considerable space to our work, and particularly emphasized its philanthropic side (our Association, by the way, is the only federated club carrying on a regular Settlement). After the reading of Mrs. Altwell's paper, the President of the Federation, Mrs. J. C. Croly, asked me to speak further of the work of our Alumnæ. I did so, telling of what had been accomplished during the past year, of the new classes for the current year, the Picture Exhibition at the Alumnæ House, and of the pleasure given to the public school children by our annual Wild-flower Show. The last suggestion appealed to some of the delegates, as I hoped it would, and next spring there will in all probability be a Wild-flower Show at Buffalo, under the auspices of the Women Teachers' Association, and one at Utica under that of the New Century Club. I also spoke of the "News" and the benefit it has been to us. As far as I know, we are the only federated club having a monthly of its own.

Among the most interesting reports of the work of particular clubs was that of the Women Teachers' Association of Buffalo, given by its President, Dr. Ida C. Bender. The association numbers six hundred, and owns a beautiful clubhouse, which I had the pleasure of visiting. Its objects are: "To promote the welfare of the public schools; to cultivate a spirit of sympathy and goodwill among the teachers; to improve the character of the work done in schools; to develop the ability and resources of its individual members, and to create in the community at large a deeper sense of the dignity of the teachers' profession and the importance of the interests they represent."

Mrs. M. E. Trantenan, President of the Ladies' Health Protective Association of New York, told of splendid work done by them in abolishing abuses and bringing about more healthful conditions in the streets, the tenements and the schools. Mrs. Scrimgeour, of the Brooklyn Health Protective Association, spoke particularly of their success in enlisting the help of children in this subject of "municipal housekeeping"; of arousing in them a sense of responsibility and a feeling of pride in their city.

The report of the New Century Club of Utica, given by its founder and president, Mrs. Frances Goodale, struck a higher note than the majority of the other reports, and spoke not only of the work done by this flourishing departmental club, but of the necessity for such work and the far-reaching influence it exerts.

Mrs. Alice Morse Earle, of Brooklyn, represented the Daughters of the Revolution, and spoke of the necessity of preserving historical documents and relics of all kinds. The reports of the Women's Educational and Industrial Unions of Buffalo and of Rochester were the most interesting, as were those of the Professional Woman's League of New York and the Brooklyn Woman's Club.

But time fails me. Perhaps it would be wise to have accounts of one or two of the affiliated clubs in every number of the "News." We could then become acquainted with the work of our sister clubs, of which there are about one hundred and sixty-eight, representing over seven thousand women. The principal clubs comprising the educational group to which we belong, are the Associate Alumnæ of Packer Collegiate Institute, Brooklyn; Alumnæ Association of St. Mary's School, New York; Alumnæ of Women's Law Class of the University of New York; Emma Willard Association; Alumnæ Association of New York Medical College and Hospital for Women; College Women's Club of New York; Associate Alumnæ Adelphi Academy; Froebel Society of Brooklyn; Eastern Association of Wells College; Mt. Holyoke Alumnæ Association; Vassar Students' Aid Society (New York and Brooklyn branches); Women Teachers' Association of Buffalo, and the Alumnæ of the Teachers' College.

The reports, as a whole, seemed to me in advance of those given by the same clubs at the last convention in Brooklyn. There is still a tendency to become a "mutual admiration society," to come together to tell what has been done in the past, rather than to gain inspiration for the future. It would seem that discussion might prove even more helpful and suggestive than reports and papers. Various club problems might be brought to the conventions, and light would surely be thrown on them by the friction of so many minds. I was much interested to see that the classification of the clubs last year into Egoistic and Altruistic had borne good fruit, for this year there seemed very few who did not have some claim to the latter term. Many of the clubs had founded free libraries, and were interested in village improvements, in addition to their purely literary or social character.

I have time for but a word in regard to the papers and addresses of the evening sessions. Mrs. Helen Henrotin, of Chi-

cago, President of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, gave an address on "Civics in Clubs"; Dr. Bender, of Buffalo, spoke of the tendency of science in the public schools; Mrs. Barrett Montgomery, of Rochester, gave a scholarly address on the "Comparative Study of Literature"; and Miss Mary Cutter, of the State Library at Albany, read a paper on the "Scientific Study of Philanthropy." One evening was mainly devoted to the Reception tendered to the officers of the Federation and the visiting delegates.

Mrs. Croly was elected Honorary President for life.

The next convention is to be held at St. George, Staten Island, so that I hope many of our Association will be able to attend and to see for themselves the good results of this State Federation of Women's Clubs.

ALICE R. NORTHROP,
Delegate.