

The LOS ANGELES Soroptimist

Service
Loyalty
Co-Operation
Tolerance



VOL. V.

OCTOBER 16, 1928

No. 6

Soroptimist Club Program

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1928

MUSIC ROOM—BILTMORE HOTEL—12:00 SHARP

President AMELIA F. JOHNSON, Presiding

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

ADELAIDE BREWER-DOUGLAS, Chairman

presents

BEN BLOW

Field Secretary, National Automobile Club

Subject—"Highways"

Attendance Prize - - - Agnes Reusch

Hostesses:

Theodora Balsbaugh, Frances Shaner, Margaret Reordan

- - and last week

Business Meeting—Members Only. You know I think we like that very much, while we all, I am sure, like to bring guests to Club with us, just to show them one more beautiful thing in life, yet I really think we are all happy to meet with just the members and be alone like one big family, and talk over the things that best promote our growth, and I am sure we are not selfish in this either, but it is only as we are able to bring before the members the various subjects for consideration, that we may hope to grow in service and strength.

It was an exceptionally well attended business meeting, and while the birthday group seemed to predominate in number, yet it was such a splendid looking group, so rich with feminine beauty and intellect, that I can see the advantage of having an autumnal birthday as well as one in the spring, as it was announced some of our members managed to have. The decorations were very attractive and well carried out. The candies furnished by Margaret Reordan gave a colorful as well as sweet touch to the tables.

Our President presided and the meeting was carried forward to conclusion with well-timed subjects and discussions. The secretary's report was read reviewing the previous business meeting, and was very

helpful. Our Past President, Mae Carvell gave us a report on the International Convention held in Washington last summer. I wish that I might have gathered the details more clearly, in order to give some of the outstanding features here, but the one thing I can't forget is how our dear Mayme V. overcomes all handicaps at home or elsewhere to carry her sunshine to those about her, and I am sure California means more to some of those Washington folks than it ever did before.

Adelaide Brewer-Douglas says we can't afford to miss a single October meeting as the programs are especially fine. Adelaide they are all fine and we will not fail you.

Ruth McClintock sent regards, by special messenger, we missed her and we are glad she missed us, since she could not be with us. Members who have not reported to Anna Colburn's request for correction in classification, kindly do so at once. Co-operation and loyalty spell success not only to our club but to us as individuals. So do not cheat yourself.

Dr. Traugher gave a short talk on the Community Chest and its need. Mary Russell was with us again, and she spoke so beautifully of her deep appreciation of Soroptimism, and of the cheer and comfort brought her in her recent illness through flowers and loving notes. Mary Russell, we are all happy indeed to know that you are well on your

(Continued on page 4)

S-R-P-T

BROADCASTING

Let me be a little kinder
Even though a little blinder
To the faults, of those about me.
Let me praise a little more.
Let me be when I am weary
Just a little bit more cheery.
Let me serve a little better
Those that I am striving for.

S-R-P-T

Marie Haas and several of her Soroptimist friends are practicing the slogan "When business interferes with pleasure, give up business." They are having an enjoyable time sharing a cottage at Topanga Beach which belongs to one of Marie's clients. They are not giving up business entirely as they drive back and forth when necessary.

S-R-P-T

Sylvia Harding and Adelaide Brewer-Douglas gave a program for the Aveill Study Club October 9, at the Figueroa Hotel.

S-R-P-T

Amelia F. Johnson attended the first state convention of the California State Bar Association which was held at the Huntington Hotel, Pasadena, October 11, 12 and 13.

S-R-P-T

Mrs. Mary Jean Henley was one of twenty old-time friends of Mrs. Joseph Robinson who enjoyed a lovely luncheon on Tuesday, October 9, at the Biltmore Hotel with the wife of the Vice-Presidential candidate.

S-R-P-T

On her Alaska trip this summer, Agnes Woodward enjoyed the novel experience of shopping in that far north country at midnight and during the wee small hours of the morning. An airplane trip was another interesting experience.

S-R-P-T

Lena R. Pepperdine left last Tuesday for Chicago. She will spend her vacation of three or four weeks in the east.

S-R-P-T

Mother Gilbert is spending her second week in the Georgia Street Hospital. Of course all Soroptimist wish her a speedy recovery.

S-R-P-T

Madge Burnham has a new house at the beach. She invites all her good friends to drop in at 111 Gillis Street, Palisades Del Rey.

S-R-P-T

Helen Roberts Rankin is now occupying the position of manager of the Resident Income and Leasing Departments of F. J. Buckley at 5040 Wilshire Boulevard.

S-R-P-T

We are sorry to hear of the illness of Mr. Golter, but are glad to know that he is improving. We missed Hilda at the October 2nd meeting.

(Continued on page 3)

How Do You Do?



NETTIE TAFF

Food Demonstration

Yesterday I spent an hour with Nettie Taff in her attractive home listening to that energetic little woman tell of the constructive upbuilding of her educational and demonstration bureau of food and household products which she has so successfully mastered. Many different products were shown me and so appetizingly were these varied and dainty morsels prepared, I would have gone away hungry had not Mrs. Taff insisted upon me sampling some of her delicious wares. The old-time theory that the good cook must be the much cartooned large and buxom type of woman is thoroughly exploded in Mrs. Taff's case, for in her we have the small type of femininity—full of energy and perfectly capable of daily originating new ideas along the food line.

Almost every woman can remember a time in her childhood when to cut out wee biscuits with a thimble was a keen delight; Nettie Hughes was no exception, only she wanted to spend her entire time that way. She was so small it was necessary for her to push a wooden box against the kitchen table, climb upon it and there work busily at her biscuit cutting, stopping only long enough to go to and from school.

And the wooden box and the thimble and the tiny biscuits must have become firmly fixed in Nettie's mind for all through her school days in Ohio she looked forward to taking up a line of study which would fit her for work of a culinary nature. She figured everyone had to eat, and if one could specialize in food, why would it not make a lucrative profession? About this time one of her girl friends was demonstrator for a manufacturer putting out a cooking oil and she had a booth at the Buffalo Exposition. Nettie Hughes went there to stay with this friend all summer, delving into the details and learning all she could, not only about vegetable oil and how to show it, but the difficult and necessary art of meeting the public. She was more determined than ever to become a food demonstrator and prepared herself to this end but before she had a chance to put her knowledge into action, Dr. John A. Taff, a practising physician came into her life and swept the diminutive Nettie off her feet. They were married in 1904 and for quite some time

the thoughts of creamy cakes, brightly garnished salads and savory meats and other good foods became secondary, and Nettie rode in state with her husband behind a dashing span of horses, wore huge hats and fluffy dresses, and so big was this husband of hers that she looked like a gaily dressed doll by his side. But Nettie had been too active to settle down to a life of idleness—she must have an outlet for that energy of hers, so when they went to reside in Washington, D. C., she took up the study of music, for Nettie had a voice both strong and sweet and was able to give much pleasure to her husband and their friends, although she did not sing in public. Then the Taffs moved to Boston, and Nettie grasped a long desired opportunity and took a thorough course in Home Economics. A force much stronger even than Nettie's mere love of the art of cooking must have dominated at this time for she was to be called upon to put into practice her learning long before she had any thought of so doing, for at this time, just three years after her marriage, her husband passed away. And we find Mrs. Taff at this time a broken wisp of a woman of only a hundred and two pounds, utterly discouraged and in such a state of collapse she was devoid of an ambition even to live. She was sure she was going to die—so sure she began to get rid of her household belongings and looked around to find a home in which to place the Taff pet bull dog "Pat." She knew not where to turn but having read much of the beauty of California, decided this would be the place to come. Nettie Taff had no intention of coming here to be benefitted by the warm sun, nor to enjoy the fruit and flowers, nor to gaze on the restful Pacific, nor to enjoy the invigorating air of the mountains. No indeed! She came here because she thought California would be a beautiful place in which to die! And she was certain she was going to die and that was just about the only thing she was certain of. Her home at this time was in Chicago, and the night she left that city a blizzard was raging as only a Chicago blizzard can rage, and Nettie started on her way to sunny California and to die. And not once did she falter in that determination until she rode right into this wonderful state of ours. Nettie told me she was so thrilled by the sight of the bright fruits, the exquisite flowers and the sweet fragrance of the orange blossoms wafting through the train as they rode along through the orange groves, she felt a complete uplifting of her saddened spirits and for the first time she forgot her sorrow and made up her mind it would be much pleasanter to live in California than to die. It was this decision, together with the encouragement of some of her old friends sojourning here that helped put Nettie Taff back on her feet and very soon she was boasting of an additional eighteen pounds gain, and a new lease on life. And it was this revived spirit of Nettie's which helped to recall the picture of that little girl, the wooden box, the thimble and the tiny biscuits, and in a few months we see her started well on her way to the goal which for a while had sunk so deeply into oblivion.

She took up her demonstration work in earnest and immediately became identified with the educational department of one of the national companies putting out a vegetable oil and a shortening. I asked Mrs. Taff if she found her work difficult to start and she assured me she did not, that it was intensely interesting and she made a splendid record with both products. She traveled far and wide seeking always for more and more information on food and household products and never failed to find crowds of women hungering for the knowledge along these lines. She met with such success

handling her two products, she determined she would not tie herself down to a limited number, but would establish her own place of business where she could take on as many accounts as she saw fit, and thus enable herself not only to be independent but to increase her earning capacity. But before she did this Mrs. Taff traveled in practically every large city in the United States, visiting the manufacturers and going through the factories and getting first hand every bit of information she could that she might impart it knowingly to her sisters throughout this state who were waiting anxiously for information on the later methods and newer foods and ways of preparation.

For Nettie Taff is a wise woman—she knew she would handle only the food and household products ranking one hundred per cent. And she has built up a tremendous business—a business any woman would be proud to be the head of. And instead of Nettie Taff going to solicit business from the manufacturer, the manufacturer comes to Nettie Taff asking her aid in putting his products before the public. She is one of the best authorities on Home Economics in the United States. She is an education and publicity food specialist, a home economics adviser, a director of food expansion sales, a new foods business developer and she has trained a large number of women to demonstrate.

And now my business has grown to such an extent," said Mrs. Taff, "I have been compelled to put an addition to my home where I can seat one hundred people and which can be used exclusively for lunches, dinners and demonstration plans. Girls all over the world are taking up many professions but so far a very small percentage have gone into this line of work because they do not realize what a splendid business can be built up—what a vast field there is for a good demonstrator. This is deplorable and one of my greatest ambitions is to encourage this line of work—and I am arranging for a class for girls twice a week in my new quarters. The lessons will be free of charge and I shall take the greatest pleasure in teaching the girls the intricacies of cooking and demonstrating." In spite of her ever increasing business she finds time to lecture before women's clubs and high schools.

Mrs. Taff has to be prepared to answer any and all kinds of questions before her class of women—she must know how to distribute heat in a stove and whether refrigeration is run by sulphur or ammonia, and how much butter fat is found in milk, and you can imagine what a lot of questions she hears, for last year alone she talked before fifty-five thousand women in California.

If you attended the Food Show at the Ambassador last fall you must have tasted one of Nettie Taff's biscuits, for she baked twelve thousand biscuits for them in one week's time.

Mrs. Taff has done educational work in other states as well as California, and tells of an interesting campaign she waged to introduce a certain product to the women of the state of Texas when they had used a rival product for many years. It was a regular battle and you can imagine how happy Nettie Taff was when she wired her manufacturers an order for seven carloads of the new product.

Her work is to educate the public to better food and household products, for the manufacturer, and with the ever alert mind of the American people and their desire to give birth to new ideas and create new material with which to work, Nettie Taff has a busy life before her.

Mary E. Smith.

LOS ANGELES SOROPTIMIST

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JUST BE GLAD

O heart of mine, we shouldn't
Worry so!
What we've missed of calm we couldn't
Have, you know!
What we've met of stormy pain,
And of sorrow's driving rain,
We can better meet again,
If it blow!
We have erred in that dark hour
We have known,
When our heart fell with the shower,
All alone!
Were not shine and shower blent
As the gracious Master meant?
Let us temper our content
With His own.
For we know, not every morrow
Can be sad;
So, forgetting all the sorrow
We have had,
Let us fold away our fears,
And put by our foolish tears,
And through all the coming years
Just be glad.
—James Whitcomb Riley.

GOOD CITIZENSHIP

FOR WOMEN

by Myra Nye

I'm going to be old-fashioned dealing with this subject my friend and college confrere, Anthenette Foster gave me. I feel it in my finger bones and in the muscles that help me tap the keys to my typewriter. And what Soroptimist is there who likes to read old-fashioned theories? But please, my dears, my ideas are so old, they have become new without any help from me.

To get it off the type ribbon and put in in a nutshell of copy paper, let me say at once I believe that a woman to be a good citizen, should be a good wife, a good mother and failing, just a good woman. Soroptimists to be good citizens must be good in their profession and in their business.

Too general. Get down to particulars. When you come to talk about either goodness or badness, there are heaps of particulars. But I'm going to deal with just one particular in good citizenship and I'll mention that in my post script a la Will Rogers and all women of the Victorian era. Old-fashioned and new—both, you see.

The citizenship of women throughout the ages has had an especial interest because, in its accepted meaning, it is not common. Men only were supposed to deal in citizenship until quite lately. Women were not supposed to possess the qualities to make for citizenship. But those two suppositions like many another were not founded on fact. Citizenship has to do with government, with civic affairs, and with organization. When, I ask you, did not woman govern, was not interested in having the garbage carried away (civic affair indeed) and when did she not organize?

From the day of Eve—not during that glamorous courtship in the garden—but as grandmother to Cain and Abel's children, women have organized for citizenship. Eve gathered her daughters, her daughters-in-law, her granddaughters and all her grandsons' wives together under the fig trees to organize a club which was the first woman's club. It was too large to hold its second meeting even in the garden, let alone beneath the fig tree. They talked about how they should keep their husband's fig leaves in good order. But that was only incidental. Their chief purpose was "co-operation," civic enlightenment and most of all how to govern their men folk so they, the men, would become good citizens and not sell things for messes of pottage, or any other real estate messes.

After Eve, came those women prominent in citizenship—Hypatia, Claudia, Joan D'Arc and the whole long line of them who were interested in citizenship outside their homes and caves. Then came the many "citizenesses" of the French Revolution. But I don't think they were so particular about civic affairs. They just didn't want any duchesses or princesses. They were willing to die for that. Instead they made the duchesses die or the marquises; for there were no duchesses in France if I remember my languages and history correctly. Anyway that is the first time that women stood out, and together as citizens. However I think that was bad citizenship for women.

Now standing together is so common here in the United States that we do not pause to be surprised. The longer I mingle with men and women of affairs in my profession as a newspaper woman, the more I am inclined to think that women are good citizens only as they perform their duties in the place they, working with God, have put themselves. That is the reason that every Soroptimist who does well the task entailed

by her profession or business is automatically a good citizen. The repetition of this paragraph is for emphasis.

Certainly there is no one thing a man may do which is so good for his State and country as the natural function of a woman to give sons and daughters to carry on. No, not even fighting to defend one's country or living or dying for it is so great a service as this one *woman*. But far be it from the woman to boast or take credit for that service she has performed for her country. She did not have her child with that thought in mind and good citizenship is self conscious citizenship. She can take no more credit for bearing children than the oak may take for its millions of acorns.

You are too general. Again I think I hear you comment. But one of my pet philosophies of late has been this idea: Be Yourself.

If you still insist upon a particular appeal to good citizenship, I will say what every club president—whether for Smith or for Hoover—every bulletin, every minister, every newspaper, every preacher, every educator will say between now and election day: "You are not a good citizen unless you vote." So I say: "Vote."

And here is the postscript I promised:

P. S. VOTE!

S-R-P-T

(Continued from page 1)

Marion Lois says, "I love it—moving, you know." You will find her now at 432 So. New Hampshire, Apartment 411. Her new phone number is Fltzroy 1719.

S-R-P-T

Sylvia Harding is very happy in her new studio in the California Music Building.

S-R-P-T

Miss Joy, Assistant to the Dean, of University College, University of Southern California, was the guest of Agnes Mahoney at our meeting of October 2nd.

S-R-P-T

Bertha Pearce leaves October 21 for Sacramento to visit Grand Chapter of the Eastern Star. Bertha is Worthy Matron of Westlake Chapter this year.

S-R-P-T

Cora Sheffield's son sailed last Saturday on the City of Los Angeles for a pleasure cruise around South America, returning through the Panama Canal.

S-R-P-T

Dr. Dunsmoor has moved into her new office, 939 Pacific Mutual Bldg.

S-R-P-T

Dean Crawford spent three months this summer touring England, France and Switzerland. The Dean was chaperoning twenty young women on this trip but still found time to lecture in the larger cities visited.

S-R-P-T

Mrs. Annie Colburn spent last week-end with her niece, enjoying the quiet and beauty of Del Mar.

S-R-P-T

Our most efficient secretary, Mattie Wallace is finding herself more than usually busy these days; the California Furniture Company which she has long been connected with, having recently been taken over by the New York and San Francisco firm of W. & J. Sloane Co.

S-R-P-T

Bertha Pearce had for luncheon last week four guests from the University of the West; Mesdames Dwight, McLean, Bolton and Miss McQueen.

EXTRACTS FROM THE REPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOROPTIMIST CONVENTION

by Miss Kerr-Sander, President,
European Federation

(Reprinted from the London Soroptimist)

The International Convention which took place at Washington, D. C., from June 4 to 8 was an event of the greatest possible importance in the history of Soroptimism and one that will undoubtedly bear far-reaching results. It was a very great privilege to the European delegates to meet so many fine women and to assist them in working out a strong basis on which to found the future of Soroptimist Clubs. The ideals for which we stand were upheld in the finest possible manner, each delegate working untiringly and whole-heartedly towards the furtherance of the movement and the good of the whole. The results obtained from the interchange of ideas and such friendly co-operation were highly satisfactory and more than justified the holding of the Convention and all the work and travel it entailed.

The first business transacted was the reading of the Minutes of the San Francisco Convention held in August, 1927, in connection with which it was decided to call that Convention a Preliminary one and the Washington Convention the first International Convention, the latter being the first to have International representation.

The next point was the formation of the European Federation, and I was invited to address the Convention on the necessity for its formation and the working thereof. I explained in full detail the European viewpoint, the many problems confronting us and the absolute necessity for Europe to be self-supporting and self-governed. I expressed the hope that the American Clubs would see their way to establish a Federation as their supreme governing body, and that with the spread of Soroptimism to other parts of the world the same procedure would be adopted. In conclusion I suggested that the Federations be linked together into one body by the formation of an International Association with a short Constitution binding on all. It was extremely gratifying to find at the end of my address that this scheme met with general approval, the American and Canadian Clubs deciding to group their Clubs under an American Federation. Committees were formed to draw up the American Constitution and to draft an International one.

It will be noted that there are at present no International officers, it being decided after some discussion, that for the present such necessity did not arise, but that an International Convention be called for 1930 to review the situation and further consolidate the whole.

The wish was expressed at the Convention that the 1930 Convention be held in London, and this proposal, when submitted, met with the enthusiastic approval of the members of the London Club. They look forward with great pleasure to meeting their American sisters of whom they have heard so much. The European delegates to Washington await the Convention with real impatience, for it will be the means of meeting some very good friends again, whom we shall endeavor to make us happy and at home in our midst as we were in Washington.

Officers of the American Federation of Soroptimist Clubs:

President—Mrs. Ruby Lee Minar, 1405 New York Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

First Vice-President—Mrs. Jennie Todd, 695 37th Street, Oakland, Calif.

Second Vice-President—Mrs. Bertha K. Landes, Seattle, Washington.

Third Vice-President—Mrs. Hannah A. Hood, 600 Boyer Building, Detroit, Michigan.

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North Atlantic District—(to be elected—Miss Pauline E. Mandigo of New York, who was elected at the Convention, being unable to serve.)

Middle and South Atlantic—Mrs. Ethel Knight Pollard, 1405 New York Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

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- - and last week

(Continued from page 1)

way to good health again, and to know that your are with us—not only in person, but in the true spirit of Soroptimism.

Mme. Anna Till talks over radio KPLA, Saturday, October 13 at 10:30 a. m. Don't forget the time and station for I am sure that Mme. Anna has a message for you. Our president spoke briefly of the steps taken to prevent cruelty to animals, and we all feel that we want to promote and support any movement to further that protection. And wouldn't it be fine if one of us could earn the \$25.00 prize for our service fund.

Agnes Reupsch was the lucky girl today, as she drew the prize, given by Paula Stienen-Grath. and while I did not see it, yet it must have been a favorite piece of "Cutlery that Cuts."

Our President brought before the club our privilege and duty in regard to the elimination of war. There has never been a time in the history of our country when the strength of organized women is so distinctly a part of the national fabric.

Mr. Reed spoke for a few moments, enthusiastically, on the opening of the Figueroa Repertory Theatre with a view to giving us the best in Literary Drama and Spoken English. It opens November 19, with "The Silver Cord." It is very much worth while and I hope many will be able to enjoy it.

Addie, Addie, Addie Marks how could you do it when they have only one birthday a year and then have to pay \$20.57 for it, but I am sure they would gladly double it either for you or the cause you represent.

I read somewhere a few days ago, the following words which have stayed with me, and today they are again in my thought, "Love is the beginning of all things, Love is the center of all things, and Love is the ending of all things." So ended another business meeting.

Frosta Willis Pasley.

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