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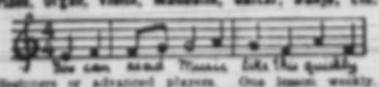

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Farm Women's Clubs

NOTES FROM ALBERTA

Hear the brown snowbird, high in the cherry tree
Merrily piping his blithe little lay:
How can he whistle and sing and so merry be
If he remembers a happier day:
If he remembers the spring and the rest of it,
When the cold winter winds ruffle the breast of it,
Oh, but it's brave to be making the best of it
Up in the cherry tree.

These lines, taught over and over again to primary children, come to my mind when I hear the song birds this late spring. The joyousness of them! What optimists they are! The springtime is love time, and with little apparently to cheer them they make the world a brighter place for us.

Are we going to let sorrow rest like a leaden weight upon our hearts this springtime the saddest springtime, perhaps, that the sun ever rose upon—or are we going to take courage from the wakening life about us? If there is one lesson that the springtime teaches it is that of immortality—persistence of life. Could anything be more hopeless looking than the bulb you put in the earth? But the marvel of it a month or two later! And what evidence had we in February that we could expect crocuses and columbine in the same old places? Yet with a faith born of experience we look for them where they withered and died last year, and with a thrill of joy we find that nature has not disappointed us—and the same kind of crocus that we knew of old. Not only persistence of life, but persistence of individuality as well; "to every seed his own body." Surely in the re-animation of nature there is a message of hope and cheer for you and me who may have little graves in the home cemetery or larger ones "Somewhere in France." This is the message that Easter should bring us, "Sown in corruption, raised in incorruption; sown a natural body, raised a spiritual body. O, grave, where is thy victory?"

Speaking of Easter, our community decided to have a real Easter service this year, with real Easter music. We did not rise to the heights of an oratorio, but we did improvise a choir and sing in harmony carefully selected Easter hymns which were new to the congregation. Six small school girls took part in this service also. Besides that, we had real Easter lilies and tulips from a real greenhouse, and the schoolroom—our meeting place—was appropriately decorated for the occasion. People came from adjoining districts and there was scarcely standing room. Simply and easily done, wasn't it, but the pastor's heart was gladdened, and in the impressionable memory of childhood one link more connected the season with its sacred associations and their young lives with the church of God.

LEONA R. BARRITT.

The High River Secretary reports: The High River club held its regular meeting Friday, March 30, and we had a very pleasant meeting and needles and thread were busy doing the mending for our city hospital. We have formed an egg circle and are waiting for the U.F.A. Central office to handle the eggs.

Four new members were added to the roll.

Acme reports four regular meetings and one special since convention. The club is taking up the study outline, "Rural Problems." "Mother's Pensions" is also scheduled for discussion. To the president, a former provincial director, we extend deep sympathy in her bereavement.

The following is from Mrs. James, secretary Maple U.F.W., Funska: We now have 24 members and are looking for still more to join. We held a shadow social on March 23, when the sum of $36.65 was raised to help towards paying for a hall which is being built in the district, and in which we expect to hold our social gatherings.

Red Cross sewing is distributed at each meeting and each member is doing her bit to help this great cause. We are also preparing for a booth at a bazaar, which is being held in Penoka by the Red Cross society in May, and we do hope it will be a great success.

A 10 cent lunch is served at our meetings, the proceeds of which go to the Red Cross. The meeting was closed with a reading and song. We wish to make our meetings instructive as well as social so if you would give us hints on subjects taken up they will be gratefully received.

The following report of the Winona U.F.W. speaks for itself: During the winter months we have been holding our meetings every two weeks. A room has been added to the school, so we are able to meet in this extension at the same hour as the U.F.A. meet in the school. In this way subjects of particular interest to the U.F.W.A. can be discussed by ourselves and joint meetings to take up matters of mutual interest to both locals can be very conveniently arranged. The social features of the winter's program have been a box social and a banquet, held in conjunction with the U.F.A.

We have again arranged for Home Gardens for any children in the district who wish to enter. The supervision of this work is left in the hands of a committee of three, consisting of the teachers of Waverley and Winona schools and one member representing another part of the district. We are having a part of a chapter of "The Law of Biogenesis" read and discussed at each of our regular meetings. An offer by one of our members to teach singing to any who care to take it up, and particularly for the benefit of school children who receive little or no training in this subject, has been warmly accepted, and no doubt classes will soon be formed.

Our last meeting was held in conjunction with the U.F.A., as they wanted to hear our debate, Resolved, that legislative bodies should be elected by a system of Proportional Representation. We are indebted to Miss Montgomery and Mr. Woodbridge for material on the subject. "Poultry Raising," by Mrs. Wiley, was the subject at the previous meeting. The paper was full of practical suggestions and was greatly appreciated. Our next subject is to be, The Red Cross in War.

SASKATCHEWAN NOTES

Remember Grain Growers' Sunday, May 27.

The sense of fitness in having a Grain Growers' Sunday shows the direct relation of the work of the association to that of any organization working for moral uplift. To learn to live and work together is the great ideal of the members of the association. In its appeal to the intellectual and moral as well as the practical side of life the association acts as, and is, a broad religious movement.

Women who have harnessed their good will for their country and neighborhood to an organization will be in a position to make arrangements for special services on Grain Growers' Sunday. In districts where neighbors are so unfortunate as to have no church or as equally unfortunate in having too many, a public forum could be arranged for with success. In this open forum the ethical phases of the work of the association could be discussed and plans made to make them a part of the neighborhood life. Most of all follow Grain Growers' Sunday with such meetings that it will show that the association stands for applied religion.

ERMA STOCKING.

The Cory members are carrying on their work in the right spirit. Not only are they doing Red Cross work, but they are making an extra effort to keep up their educational work. They gave a patriotic eve. Their secretary, Mrs. Jordan, reports that the proceeds amounted to $46. They donated $20 to the Military Y.M.C.A. and $20 to the Belgian Relief Fund. A speaker from the Equal Franchise League of Saskatoon is invited to address a meeting in the near future. At a recent meeting an excellent paper on citizenship was read by one of the members. It

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