

Empire State Federation of Women's Clubs Closes Meeting; Delegates in Attendance From All Sections of New York

Mrs. Addie W. Hunton Re-elected President --- Founder Present --- To Raise Funds for Permanent Headquarters

"The end crowns the work." With this motto the Empire State Federation of Women's Clubs closed its eighteenth annual convention Thursday night at the Mt. Olivet Baptist Church, 120th street and Lenox avenue.

Noticeable progress in every aspect marked the three-day session. The number of clubs reporting was sixty-seven, almost double the number recorded last year. Prominent women, numbering over two hundred, from all over the state attended the meeting. It was the largest delegation that had ever convened since its beginning in 1908.

Obviously, the re-election of Mrs. Addie W. Hunton as president is regarded as an expression of confidence and appreciation for the complete reorganization of the Federation.

OFFICERS ELECTED.

Other officials elected were: Mrs. Mattie Burge of New York, vice-president; Mrs. Lottie Henderson of Brooklyn, chairman of the executive board; Mrs. Florence Monroe of Mt. Vernon, recording secretary; Mrs. Elizabeth Kidd, corresponding secretary; Miss Margaret Thomas of Ithaca, financial secretary; Mrs. Cecily Gunner of Hillburn, treasurer; Mrs. Estelle Berkley, organizer; Mrs. Elizabeth Mayfield, historian; Mrs. Florence Spencer of New York, chaplain; Mrs. Lullie Lytle Cowan of New Platz, parliamentarian, and Mrs. Mary D. James, auditor.

EVENING PROGRAMS.

Programs featuring music, art and literature were presented at different evening sessions. Outstanding men and women of the country spoke before the convention. Dr. W. E. B. Du Bois told them about Africa. Eugene Kinckle Jones explained the part that the National Urban League played in their daily life. Mrs. Elizabeth Ross Haynes pointed out salient features of the housing problem.

Other distinguished persons that spoke before the women were: James Weldon Johnson, Herman A. Metz, representing Mayor James Walker, Mrs. William H. Wortham, Mrs. Ruth Bennett, and Magistrate Jean Norris and Miss Frances Gunner.

SPIRIT OF THE MEETING.

From the general atmosphere of the convention the women are claiming all the rights of men and one more, that is the right to be protected. This attitude, however, was not interpreted as a blow to the home. Some of the women actually remarked that they regarded marriage as the holiest of institutions, and that they are merely rebelling against household slavery.

Every good government is made up of good families. The unit of government is the family, and anything that tends to destroy the family is perfectly infamous. The home is a place of sunshine and inspiration and should not conflict with the woman's affiliation with clubs. That is the spirit that dominated the convention.

Because of her last efforts to raise proceeds for the Frederick Douglass Home, the spirit of the late Mrs. Mary M. Talbert was obviously present. A Mary Talbert memorial fund to sustain the home is being subscribed to by the Federation.

FOUNDER PRESENT.

Mrs. Alice Willey Seay, founder of the organization, who now lives in Richmond, Va., was on the platform during all the sessions. Mrs. M. C. Lawton was the only honorary president in attendance. Mrs. Frances Keyser, the only other honorary president living, was not able to be present on account of illness.

One of the biggest things the Federation will undertake during coming year is to raise funds to finance the Pan-African Congress here in 1927.

TO RAISE FUND.

To build a greater association plans were put on foot to properly organize a Junior Federation, to aid the national organization in its drive for a \$50,000 scholarship fund, and to assist in establishing a permanent headquarters. The convention also launched a campaign for 50,000 new members.

AMENDMENT DEFEATED.

An amendment to the constitution prohibiting a member from holding the same office more than four consecutive years was turned down by the Federation. Power was voted to the president to appoint four district presidents. This

move came during the same session.

DELEGATES ELECTED.

Those delegated to attend the National Federation of Women's Clubs were: Mrs. Hunton, Mrs. Florence Spivey, Mrs. Lottie Henderson, Mrs. Florence Monroe, Mrs. Lancaster, and Mrs. Frazier. The alternates were: Mrs. Collins, Mrs. Borden, Mrs. Mary D. James, Mrs. Stockton, Mrs. Chester, Mrs. Wilson and Mrs. French.

The delegation representing the Empire Federation at the North-eastern Federation's convention includes: Mrs. Hunton, Mrs. Julia Clarke, Mrs. Frazier, Mrs. Saunders, Mrs. Borden and Mrs. Lawton.

Reports were made by chairmen of the following departments: Business: Dr. Julia P. H. Coleman.

Mary B. Talbert Fund and Douglass Home: Mrs. Lottie Henderson. Education and Student Loan Fund: Miss Layle Lane.

Social Service: Mrs. Mabel Wright.

Big Sister: Mrs. Jerome Burge. Program and Literature: Mrs. Drusilla Poole.

Fine Arts and Crafts: Miss Ellen Green. American Home: Mrs. Ida Wallace.

Publication: Mrs. Cora Calhoun Horne.

Junior Federation: Mrs. Lena Johnson.

Music: Mrs. Nellie B. Lofthouse. Peace and Foreign Relations: Mrs. Cicely Gunner.

Citizenship: Mrs. Rosa H. Lampkins.

Legislation: Mrs. A. A. Oliver. Health and Hygiene: Mrs. Mamie Taylor.

Press and Publication: Miss A. Willa Davis.

Church Relations: Mrs. M. M. Harden.

Rural Work: Mrs. Alice Scott Mapp.

Domestic Art: Miss Anna Glenn. Organization: Mrs. Lullie Lytle Cowan.

Anti-Lynching: Mrs. Elizabeth Johnson.

MRS. BENNETT'S ADDRESS.

Mrs. Ruth Bennett, president of the Women's Federation of Pennsylvania, glorified the Negro women of America. Speaking of great women she listed these as being some of America's greatest personalities: Mary McLeod Bethune, Nannie Burroughs, the late Mary Talbert, Lucy Slowe, Annie Malone, Addie W. Hunton and the late Margaret J. Washington.

DR. DU BOIS SPEAKS.

Dr. W. E. B. Du Bois, editor of the Crisis, travelled 2,000 miles from the West to get back in time to speak before the assembled clubwomen.

That the connection between American Negroes and Africa is something more than sentiment was pointed out by Dr. Du Bois in his address. The same thing can be applied to white and black; there is something between them more vital than sentiment, he said.

Digressing to praise the women for their work, he emphasized the fact that there was a transition of woman from household drudgery to a more leisurely life, so she can now take part in other activities.

E. K. JONES TELLS OF URBAN LEAGUE.

To explain the work of the Urban League, which is so generally misunderstood, Eugene Kinckle Jones, executive secretary of the national body, gave a brief history of the organization.

Through the efforts of the Urban League a Negro was appointed as interne at Bellevue Hospital and a Negro is to be appointed to the executive board of the American Federation of Labor.

At the beginning of the organization in 1910, he said, it set out to find out the existing social status of the Negro and how it could be improved. The association's policy is that



A GROUP OF DELEGATES to the Annual Convention of the Empire State Federation of Women's Clubs. Photographed on the Steps of Mt. Olivet Baptist Church, 120th Street and Lenox Avenue. Where the Sessions Were Held.

Tells of Women's Industrial Problems



Dr. Elizabeth Ross Haynes

white and black people work together.

In pointing out some of the results of the League's work, Mr. Jones explained that it had stimulated discussion of the Negro among thinking white people.

Branching off into one particular department, the executive secretary told of the tremendous value and importance of the Department of Research. The department has furnished data to industrial centers all over the country.

"Opportunity," a magazine supervised by the department, was mentioned recently in an editorial appearing in the New York Times as being one of the best edited periodicals in the country. White universities all over the South as well as Harvard and Yale subscribe to the publication, he said.

Mrs. William H. Wortham spoke in behalf of the Young Women's Christian Association.

At the close of the session Mrs. M. C. Lawton made this statement:

"I was perfectly delighted at the success of the Federation and the increase in membership. The program was perfectly splendid. The women acquitted themselves with marked ability.

Mrs. Alice W. Seay, mother of the organization, was also well pleased with the progress made.

Mrs. Josephine Frazier expressed herself in this manner:

"I feel that we have had great financial, numerical and spiritual gain. There has been excellent spirit exhibited along all lines."

SPEAKS FOR SORORITIES.

Representing the college and sorority women of New York, Miss Frances Gunner, secretary of the Ashland Branch of the Y. W. C. A., said:

"It is my greatest pleasure and privilege to extend to this convention greetings and congratulations on behalf of the college and sorority women of New York City.

We congratulate you first upon this, your eighteenth anniversary meeting, which marks the completion of eighteen years of unity and co-operation among the women's clubs of this city.

"In the second place, we desire to congratulate you upon the splendid leadership which has guided this organization from its infancy up to the present day.

"In the third place, we desire to congratulate you upon the broad program which this organization is developing, comprising, as it does, twenty-one departments covering all the important fields of the modern woman's duty and interest: Citizenship, Legislation, Health and Hygiene, Domestic Art, Music, Church Relations, the American Home, Anti-Lynching Education and others.

DR. HAYNES TALKS ON HOUSING CONDITIONS.

Making an appeal to the clubs of the federations all over the country, Mrs. Elizabeth Ross Haynes said in part:

"We must find some Negro women of college background and special training to take civil service examinations for positions in bureaus as economic analysts. This is the first task of the National Association of Colored Women in this field and upon which it is now directing its efforts for the meeting in Oakland, Calif., this month.

"There is great need of an awakened industrial and housing conscience in Negro Women all over. In New York City there are 12,000 organized white women in the Ladies' Garment Union and five hundred organized Negro women in this union. There are eight to nine thousand Negro women in the garment trades in New York unorganized; a large proportion of them are pressers—this is about the lowest paying and the hardest part of the work because these pressers have to stand all day at their work. There are quite a number of finishers too, who do piece work which is rather tedious and slow. New shops such as radio assembling parts open up and use Negro girls until the shop is sure it can go on all fours.

"In the crab factories of Virginia and Kentucky Negro women do the hardest work—stripping—and sit on the floor or on boxes and stools without backs; the tobacco dust and odors are severe.

"In Indianapolis, Ind., the Y. W. C. A., under the leadership of Miss Mae Belcher, has done a magnificent piece of work in getting Negro girls into the glove factories. A new glove factory was built for Negro girls.

"In domestic service, the hours are long and conditions are hard, and the numbers are declining in this service—trying to get into something else. There has never been a real and thorough study of Negro women in industry except on a small scale.

"Negroes must learn to keep their blocks cleaner and quieter. Dance parties two-thirds of every Saturday night are a menace.

Y. W. C. A. Sec'y Speaks for Sororities



Frances Gunner

Some buildings look and smell like garbage cans."

THOSE REGISTERED.

A complete list of those registered at the sessions follows:

A. Mrs. Betty S. Anderson, Buffalo; Mrs. Ida Amos, Hillbrook; Mrs. May Avera, Yonkers; Mrs. Sarah Anderson, New York City; Mrs. E. Alston, Brooklyn.

B. Mrs. Anna Borden, Yonkers; Miss Esther Brodley, Brooklyn; Mrs. M. Ebers, New York City; Mrs. Gertrude Browne, Brooklyn; Mrs. William Brooks, Mt. Vernon; Mrs. Berkely, New York City.

C. Miss C. M. Carter, Ithaca; Mrs. M. Carney, New York City; Mrs. Martin Christlow, New York City; Mrs. E. L. Cole, Albany; Mrs. L. L. Cowan, New York City; Dr. Julia P. Coleman, New York City; A. Clarke, New York City.

D. Mrs. Agusta Duckett, Brooklyn; Mrs. J. De Mond, Post Jervis; Mrs. H. C. Davonport, Buffalo; Mrs. W. L. Davies, New Rochelle; Mrs. J. Domingo, Brooklyn; Mrs. Clara A. DeLaney, New York City; Mrs. Besse De Groat, Hillburn.

E. Madame Estelle, New York City.

F. Mrs. Grace Forting, Staten Island; Mrs. Annette Poalme, Brooklyn; Mrs. I. Freeman, Brooklyn; Mrs. Elizabeth B. R. Fields, New York City; Mrs. Josephine Frazier, New York City; Mrs. Mabel Free, Middletown; Mrs. Margaret Free, Middletown; Mrs. N. Francis, Brooklyn.

G. Mrs. Estelle Greene, Newburg; Mrs. Anna Greene, Newburg; Mrs. Sadie Grant, New York City; Mrs. C. S. Gunner, Brooklyn.

H. Mrs. Bertha Hall, Troy; Mrs. Lucy Holland, Mt. Vernon; Mrs. Ethel Hawkes, Buffalo; Mrs. Rae Harris, New York City; Mrs. Alberta Hawkins, New York City; Mrs. E. Holmes, Brooklyn; Mrs. Lottie Henderson, Brooklyn; Mrs. Ada Hawkins, Newburg; Mrs. Addie Hunton, Brooklyn; Mrs. Bessie Hill, New York City; Mrs. M. J. Haugset, New York City; Mrs. Florence Hazel, New York City.

I. Mrs. Jessie Johnson, Ithaca; Mrs. Della Jefferson, New York City; Mrs. Agnes Johnson, Ithaca; Annie E. Jackson, Tarrytown; Mrs. Pauline Jackson, Ithaca; Mrs. Agusta Jones,

Staten Island; Mrs. Mary E. Johnson, New York City; Mrs. Arabella Jackson, New York City.

K. Miss Lucy B. Kearney, New York City; Mrs. Bertha Kearney, New York City; Mrs. Elizabeth Kidd, Brooklyn.

L. Mrs. M. B. Lofthouse, New York City; Miss Mary L. Lewis, New York City; Mrs. Della N. Lee, Buffalo; Mrs. George Lewis, Albany; Miss Mayme Lewis, Corona; Layle Lane, New York City.

M. Mrs. Alice S. Mapp, Brooklyn; Mrs. Susan Mooneau, Brooklyn; Mrs. Josephine McKenzie, New York City; Mrs. Emma B. Mercer, New York City; Mrs. Florence Monroe, New York City; Mrs. S. Montree, Brooklyn; Mrs. S. H. Moseley, Brooklyn; Mrs. Louise Martin, New York City; Mrs. Anna S. McCoy, New York City; Mrs. Susan Morris, Staten Island; Mrs. M. C. Marshall, Brooklyn.

N. Mrs. M. Norton, New York City; Mrs. Ethel J. Norman, New York City.

O. Mrs. Anna E. Oliver, Albany.

P. Mrs. William Payne, Ithaca; Mrs. Virginia Peterson, Newburg; Mrs. Isabella B. Poole, Brooklyn; Miss Drucilla Poole, Staten Island; Mrs. J. M. Paige, Brooklyn; Mrs. Minnie Flickens, New York City; Mrs. L. Patterson, Brooklyn.

Q. Mrs. Sarah Queenan, Yonkers.

R. Mrs. C. J. Reddine, Brooklyn; Mrs. Della Ruffin, New York City; Mrs. Certavia Robinson, New York City; Mrs. Carrie Ryerson, New York City; Mrs. Leonia Royson, Brooklyn; Mrs. A. S. Reed, Corona, L. I.

S. Mrs. Thone Smith, New York City; Mrs. Sadie E. Stockton, New York City; Mrs. Sadie Saunders, New York City; Miss Adella Stone, Brooklyn; Mrs. Ammanda Smith, New York City; Mrs. Florence Spivey, New York City; Mrs. Alice M. Seay, Mrs. J. Smith, Brooklyn; Mrs. A. L. Slighter, New York City.

T. Miss Margaret Thomas, Ithaca; Mrs. E. Thomas, Brooklyn; Mrs. Wm. H. Talbert, Buffalo; Mrs. I. J. Tucker, New Rochelle; Mrs. A. W. Talbert, Brooklyn.

V. Mrs. Pearl Velazquez, Brooklyn.

W. Miss Rosa C. Wilkins, New York City; Mrs. Nancy White, Brooklyn; Mrs. A. Wade, Brooklyn; Mrs. Florence Wright, Newburg; Mrs. Ida Wallace, Brooklyn; Mrs. James Walton, Buffalo; Miss L. Wheeler, New York City; Mrs. M. Wilson, Brooklyn.

Y. Mrs. Ida Young, New York City; Mrs. Elizabeth Younger, New York City; Mrs. Marie Young, New York City.