

FOR GOOD GOVERNMENT

Municipal League to Be Formed.

RESEARCH CLUB OUTCOME

Plans Outlined at Meeting Last Night When T. McCants Stewart and E. M. Boyd Spoke.

The Municipal League, formed for the purpose of studying forms of city government, which will embrace the young men of the community without regard to race or opinions, will be the outcome of the meeting of the Research Club in the drawing-room of Dr. W. M. Kincaid last evening. The meeting was called for the purpose of considering what political action might be taken but that phase was lost in the unanimous vote in favor of the report of the committee which had spent two weeks in considering the course which might best be followed.

Percy M. Pond, chairman of the committee, reported that it had been decided that there should be a committee of five, named by Chairman Case, which should call to its aid such young men of the community as they needed and the augmented committee should frame a scheme of action to be submitted to a general meeting which would be called at a future date. That meeting will be the first of a series which will form and continue the Municipal League. It was proposed that the object of the League should be the study of municipal questions and perhaps embody the results in a charter which might be submitted to the Legislature for ratification.

The discussion of the question brought out many speakers, but the burden of the talk was that there was needed now some body which would discuss the many plans for city government, assemble a library devoted to civic topics and furnish a medium for education in city matters for the young men who will make up the electorate of the future municipality. The speakers brought out the fact that there was to be no close corporation but that every class and race would be urged to take part in these discussions so that the work accomplished would be without any savor of partisanship, but would appeal to all citizens as the best possible basis for an organic law.

Lorin Andrews opened the discussion of the motion to adopt the committee's report. He urged that acquaintance with all sides of the question was needed and that such an organization as was proposed would bring together men whose knowledge of local conditions would enable them to frame such a charter as would be best for the city. Mr. Andrews said that as the Legislature would pass upon an charter for the city that the election of good men to that body must not be overlooked in the needs of the city.

Professor Hosmer took the stand that good city government could only come from every man doing his whole duty, attaching as much importance to the nomination of reliable and patriotic men whose character and capacity would stand as a guarantee that the government would be honestly administered.

Instead of making independent nominations, municipal leagues can aid party organizations by assisting those social and economic questions, upon which people must be educated, before they can be made political issues. But an objection may be raised here, that there are no political questions that enter into the government of a municipality. It is a common thing to hear men say that the municipal corporation is a mere business concern, requiring good business men for its management. While all men agree that the affairs of a municipality should be managed on business principles, yet it must be admitted that there are many municipal questions causing wide differences of opinion, upon which it is necessary to educate the electorate. Among them are such questions as these: Limited, or unlimited public franchises; municipal ownership and control of street railways; street cleaning; street lighting; removal of garbage; sterilization of milk as a sanitary precaution; material for sanitary streets and pavements; filtration of water; the licensing of department stores; prohibition of liquor traffic; high license, or local option. Such questions can well be agitated by clubs outside of party organizations, and by educating the people upon them, these clubs prepare the way for the introduction of such questions into the party platforms.

It is a mistake, gentlemen, to think that we can ignore politics or party in the management of either our municipal or territorial affairs. Let us not forget, that from now on, we shall enter upon our career towards statehood. Our entrance into the sisterhood of States will depend upon our growth in political philosophy, political science, and political management; it will depend upon our ability to conduct honest and efficient territorial and municipal governments upon broad gauge principles. Remembering this every citizen will be a true patriot, who does his whole duty towards establishing here what that typical American called "a government of the people, for the people and by the people."

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from our nature, having to rise in the strongest passions of the human mind, it exists under different names in all governments, more or less stifled, controlled or repressed; but in those of the popular form, it is seen in the greatest rankness, and is truly their worst enemy.

The common experience of mankind in all ages shows, that we cannot eliminate party from politics. Washington stood up against party and yet it grew and flourished under his eye, and in his immediate political family, Hamilton organizing the Federalists, and Jefferson, the Democrats. It is not in human nature to think about the same and identical lines.

As soon as men separate into groups for attaining certain political objects, they naturally organize themselves into parties; and, as in warlike, so in political pursuits, the success of organization depends upon solidarity, upon discipline. Epaminondas, the great Theban general, conquered all Greece, because his style of fighting was to mass his forces, divide the enemy, and conquer each part singly. Napoleon used the same tactics and became master of Europe. The power of Tammany Hall in New York lies in the solidarity of its forces, in its strict discipline, imposing individual responsibility from sachem to word leader.

But our party organizations are never educative forces. They run with the tide of popular sentiment; they never pause to ask the question, "is it right?" Leaders of the party machine never take up an issue unless they think they can win a majority through such issue. They do not follow Henry Clay's principle, "I would rather be right than be President." The offices are the objective point of party activity. In Great Britain, as well as in our own nation, most political reforms have resulted from the campaigns of education, which clubs, independent of party organizations, have conducted in different periods.

I believe, however, that here and in this our formative period, these clubs, in order to be most effective, should be partisan organizations. I have never been a hide-bound, knuckle-dance partisan; but the result of my experience is, that non-partisan organizations are short-lived and ineffective. They are spasmodic and iconoclastic, not institutional and constructive. In times of great public excitement, arising out of some extraordinary official malfeasance, some reckless abuse of power, or shameful corruption, and when all the large party organizations blindly miscanthorize or ignore public sentiment, non-partisan movements succeed for a time, as in the election of Mayor Strong, in New York, and Mayor Schieren, in Brooklyn.

At certain eventful periods in municipalities, citizens organize non-partisan clubs, because they feel that their parties have fallen under the control of corrupt leaders. But they have themselves to blame for the degeneracy of the party organizations. They rail against the "Boss"; but they are too blind to see that he is the creature of their own inactivity. Everywhere, under our form of government, there is provided the local meeting for the election of delegates to nominating conventions, or the primary election, at which citizens vote direct for the persons whom they wish to represent them, either in nominating conventions, or on the party ticket.

If, instead of remaining at home, and leaving the field to the "Boss," men of character and intelligence would go into their neighborhood meetings, or attend their primaries, they would make themselves felt; they would elect as delegates to nominating conventions reliable and patriotic men; they would nominate for officers men whose character and capacity would stand as a guarantee that the government would be honestly administered.

The members of the junior class taking part were: Ernest Kooka, Walter Alvarez, Sherwood Lowrey, Geo. Robinson, Lawrence Judd, Paul Schmidt, Henry Lee, Moses Aheon, Hamilton Pratt, Herbert K. Allen, Alan Lowrey, Robert Thurston, Lavo Reeves, Edwin Scoville, Ellis Lando, Philo Hall, Clarence Peterson, Lawrence Kerr, Oscar White, Philo Ehrlich, M. Schmidt, Jas. Whitney, Clarence Peterson, Frederick Lowrey, Jas. Peterson.

USELESS FURNITURE TO GO.
Government Will Sell Royal Odds and Ends at Auction.

Curio hunters will soon have the opportunity of revelling to their hearts' content in some interesting relics of the bygone days of royalty in these Islands.

It has been decided by the Government to sell all superfluous furniture in the Executive building at auction, and Minister Young has in charge the matter of the sale. No time has yet been set for the grand "knock-down" of valuable curiosities to the highest bidder.

Royal bedsteads, couches, sofas, divans, armchairs, chairs, curtains and hangings will be removed from their places of dignified repose and brought forth in the glare of speculative public scrutiny. The couch whereon some royal form at one time lay in luxuriant repose will soon be carted far from the executive atmosphere and taken, perhaps, to the up-to-date home of some well-to-do resident or bought, maybe, by some slumberous bachelor, whose comfort will be increased by its inviting restfulness.

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THE GYMNASTS

Excellent Exhibition at The Y. M. C. A.

Many Clever Athletes Give Evidence Of Skill and Training in

(From Monday's Daily)

The second annual gymnast exhibition of the Young Men's Christian Association was held on Saturday evening in the presence of a large number of friends of the institution. The galleries in the gymnasium proper and the observation room were filled with enthusiastic people who cheered the athletes on in their efforts. The appearance and performance of the young people were surprises to many people and much credit is due to A. J. Crave, the gymnasium director, for his interesting labor.

Since his connection with the local Y. M. C. A. the physical director has been able to bring under his skillful training the largest classes, and the young men taking part in the exhibition were assembly in the pink of condition.

The program was opened by a march of the athletes, who ranged from young men of experience with physical apparatus down to small boys just beginning their gymnastic work. The march was solely for the purpose of displaying proper carriage of the body and limbs free from artificial restraint. In their neat fitting suits they presented a splendid appearance.

In the dumb bell drill, the aim was to display grace and skill in bringing the principal muscles into play to bring about a general symmetrical development. The clock-like precision of the drill brought forth generous applause from the audience.

Interest was largely centered on the real hard work of the entertainment which consisted of individual and class work on the parallel bars, horizontal bar, spring board jumping, and the horse. The leaders in the classes were splendid examples of careful training.

Frank C. Albertson's popularity as a club swinger has not diminished, and he proved himself an expert and a general favorite, especially among the youngsters who regarded him with awe. Mr. Coats also went through the intricacies of the movements with a skill that was surprising. The blind-fold boxing match was a source of laughter to the spectators and to the contestants as well. The fencing drill gave promise of much good work with the foils in the future, and although the blades have been in use for less than a month, their wielders showed splendid wrist movement.

The concluding feature of the evening was the human pyramid, formed of three tiers of young men. The formation of the seemingly difficult pyramid was easily accomplished, but when the entire group suddenly stretched themselves out and came down in a heap, several of the ladies present screamed, knowing nothing of the trick in falling which saves the performers from the slightest injury.

Just as the entertainment was drawing to a close the electric lights went out and the gymnasium was left in darkness for sometime.

The members of the evening class taking part were: Fred. Wright, H. Coffe, F. Farrier, C. Freeth, R. Axtell, L. Alves, A. Aheon, A. Shunk, C. Young, A. Y. Shen, W. Hielborn, B. Hielborn, W. Wright, C. Wolfe, H. Hart, W. H. Barth, E. Schmidt, Sam Johnson, L. Rives, E. W. Henry, W. A. Butler, Edwin Irish, J. M. Moore, M. G. Johnston, W. Kerr, W. A. Naylor, A. May, Joe Dias, J. I. McLaughlin, W. King, A. Elerath, Dan Falvey, Joe. Clark, O. Bernester, F. Burzer, Ben. Clark, O. Grundman, W. Aheon, D. Lyman, Jno. Templeton, H. Bachelor, A. Fraga, Jno. Lennox.

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