

PAGE DEVOTED TO THE WOMEN OF KEOKUK

EDITED BY MRS. WINONA E. REEVES

Historical Sketch of Visiting Nurse Association

Story of What This Organization Has Done in Its Short Life in Keokuk for All Classes of People.

The first suggestion for the establishment of a visiting nurse association in Keokuk was made by the late Mrs. C. D. Streeter, president of the Young Women's Christian Association. She appointed the chairman of the educational committee, to do the preliminary work and to interest twelve women who should form the board of directors, which work she did.

Mrs. Hugh L. Cooper made the first large contribution which made it possible to establish the work at once.

The first formal board meeting was held on January 1, 1913, in the old Y. W. C. A. headquarters on Main street. Mrs. C. M. Rich was elected president, Mrs. J. J. Ayres, vice president; Mrs. I. A. Sawyer, recording secretary; Miss Elsie Buck, treasurer; and Miss Agnes Trimble, corresponding secretary. The first directors were: Mrs. Hugh L. Cooper, Mrs. C. D. Streeter, Mrs. Harry J. Reeves, Mrs. Robert Wright, Mrs. Richard Washburn Child, Miss Younker and Miss Stanton.

Collections were taken in all the churches in January and a number of personal pledges made, in all about \$900. The loan closet was also equipped in January and February.

On January 25 Miss Margaret McClure, superintendent of nurses in St. Louis, and Miss Emma Habenicht came to Keokuk. Miss McClure met the board and explained the work of

established between the physicians and the association at the beginning, which has done much to promote the usefulness of the nursing service.

Miss Habenicht began work on February 1, 1913. Early in the year the Metropolitan insurance work began and has been carried on every month since. The nursing work in the public schools was begun as an experiment. On December 8 Dr. Stewart, director of school hygiene of St. Louis, gave a public lecture in the interests of school work. In January, 1914, the nursing service was established in the public schools, Miss Habenicht giving a half day five days in the week to the work.

Factory nursing was begun in December, 1913. Twenty-one factories and wholesale merchants give monthly to the association in exchange for nursing service to their employes. A number of substitute nurses were employed at intervals during the year. The second nurse, Miss Maud Brown, was elected and began regular duty on December 1, 1913.

She has been in Cleveland, Ohio, the past three months, taking a special course in child welfare work, and in maternity nursing. There are now seventy babies under the care of the nurses and the child welfare work will receive especial attention from the association.

In March an educational campaign was conducted to familiarize the public with the dangers of tuberculosis. Dr. A. E. Kepford, state lecturer for the state board of control, gave twelve lectures and visited the districts in this city where tubercular cases are found. This city has a much larger percentage of tuberculosis than is found in other cities. It is a disease which effects particularly the colored people, and our large colored population makes the percentage of cases high here. The visiting nurses have given very special attention to tubercular cases, since the disease is so contagious and unless treated properly is always fatal. The Visiting Nurse association, together with the industrial association, are working for the establishment of a tubercular hospital as provided by the state law. There is a great deal of sentiment among the factory owners and those who employ labor in favor of this hospital. The carrying out of the law rests with the board of supervisors, and one of their functions being to carry out the law, it is hoped the hospital will be established.

The work of this association has been successful from the first day, due to the fact that the work is needed and because the board has given to it careful thought, the public has given generous support and the nurses have given conscientious, skillful work.



MRS. CORYDON M. RICH
President of the Visiting Nurse Association.

the visiting nurse, Miss Habenicht was unanimously elected to be our first visiting nurse, at a salary of \$85 a month. The work began with a conference between the nurse and directors and the physicians of the city. Cordial, co-operative relations were

A Year of Achievements For Keokuk D. A. R.'s.

THE Keokuk Chapter, D. A. R., is one of the oldest chapters in the state, having been organized in 1898. The organization was affected largely through the efforts of the late Miss Cora H. K. Pittman, who was its first regent. The first meeting was held at the home of Mrs. J. B. Diver.

The object of the D. A. R. society is not alone to keep in memory the heroic deeds of their ancestors, but to promote patriotism.

In the years of its existence, the Keokuk chapter has many achievements to its credit. For several years prizes were offered in the public schools, in the higher grades, for the best essay on some topic of American history. This chapter aided in securing from the legislature an appropriation to mark with a suitable monument the grave of a revolutionary soldier, who is buried in Sheron cemetery in this county. Largely through the efforts of this chapter adequate law for the protection of the American flag in Iowa was passed at the last session of the legislature. The completion of the Keokuk monument, with a splendid bronze statue of Chief Keokuk, at a cost of more than \$4,000, is too fresh in the minds of the people of this city to need comment. The president of the national society, Mrs. William Cumming Story of New York, on her visit here at the unveiling of the statue, said: "No chapter in the United States has done so great a work this year."

The accusation has been made now and again against the D. A. R. society that its excuse for existence is merely an aristocratic one, resting upon the deeds of its ancestors. Most certainly that accusation does not apply to the Keokuk chapter, for they themselves have accomplished many things worth while. There are many small things they do, as always displaying in their homes, the American flag. On the wall of every good D. A. R. home, every day of the three hundred and sixty-five, hangs an American flag. On patriotic days as July Fourth, Memorial day, Flag day, etc., a flag is hung on the outside of every D. A. R. home. D. A. R.'s always stand when the Star Spangled Banner is played and many stand also for America. A D. A. R. chapter always sees to it that the children in the public schools are taught to salute the flag and D. A. R. mothers teach their boys always to stand with uncovered head while the flag is passing. The children are taught too, always to hold the flag up, it must never drag on the ground, even if it is only a ten cent cotton flag—it stands for the great republic of America. There is little danger for the patriotism of the future, so long as every morning all over this land, little children with hands and eyes raised to the flag repeat:

"I pledge allegiance to this flag and to the republic for which it stands, one nation indivisible with liberty and justice for all."

The members of the Keokuk chapter and the ancestors upon whose service they joined the D. A. R., is as follows:

Hamilton, first lieutenant; Ezekiel Rambo, private; George Douglas, captain.

Mrs. Virginia Wilcox Ivins—James Prichard, private.

Mrs. Ernestine Leech Smith—Ephriam Deming, private.

Mrs. Julia McGee Root—Stephen Harrison, private.

Miss Ora Belle Cole—Phillip Cole, colonel.

Mrs. Annie Flack Bowen—Daniel Brown, major; William Flack, captain.

Mrs. Lucy J. Cherril Marsh—William Mack, private.

Mrs. Minnie A. B. Newcomb—Ludm Blodgett, soldier.

Mrs. Jane Ewing Blood—Michael Sowers, private.

Mrs. Sadie Searle Clark—Rev. Jonathan Searle, private.

Mrs. Geo. Edward Marshall—Benjamin Birdsell, lieutenant-colonel.

Mrs. Jean A. Summerlin Hughes—Wilbur Summerlin, private.

Miss Jane Adda Carter—Elijah Wilcox Jr., private.

Mrs. Abigail Tyler Bisbee—Abraham Tyler, first sergeant.

Mrs. Winona Evans Reeves—Daniel McFarland, colonel.

Mrs. Lida Hiller Lapsley—James Mulliken, soldier.

Mrs. Jean Blood Craig—William Mausur, soldier; Asa Blood, captain; Levi Whitney, lieutenant; Isaac Kimball, private; Abijah Smith, captain.

Mrs. Katherine Birge Elder—Jonathan Birge, captain; Richard Pitkin, captain; Titus Kellogg, private.

Miss Elizabeth Galland Ivins—Jas. Prichard, private.

Mrs. Martha Hamill Horne—Wm. Young, captain; Nathaniel Hamill, private.

Mrs. Lorene Townsend Sales—Zarah Curtis, private.

Mrs. Olivia E. Stricker—John Snyder, private.

Mrs. Grace Bisbee Hornaday—Abraham Tyler, first sergeant.

Miss Lucia Granville Pittman—Freeman Knowles, private.

Mrs. Nettie Strickler Decker—John Snyder, private.

Mrs. Karl Keldalsch—James Hamilton, private.

Mrs. Ella Connor Ferris—John Lamb, private.

Mrs. Harriet Louise Murphy Sage—Thomas Austin, sergeant.

Mrs. Delinda A. Cowley—Moses Hall, first lieutenant.

Miss Anne B. Davis—Isaac Cox, colonel.

Mrs. John De Prado Rubidge—Da-



MRS. D. A. COLLIER
President of the Benevolent Union.

vid Chambers, colonel.

Mrs. Johnson Heywood—David Chambers.

Mrs. J. O. Boyd—John Mills, lieutenant.

Mrs. Harry E. Foster—William Rice, private.

Mrs. Harrie Collins—Joshua Kopp, private.

Mrs. Mildred De Lano Griffith—John Roach, private.

Miss Grace Strickler—John Snyder, private.

Mrs. Henry Huiskamp—John Norton, private.

*Deceased.

Founding P. E. O.

A long time ago in 1869, there were seven young girls in the Iowa Wesleyan University at Mt. Pleasant, among whom there was a strong bond of friendship. It was nearing the close of the school year and some of them were not to return the next year, and they longed for some bond to cement that friendship. It was before the days of clubs for women; sorority had been formed in New York and was a much written of organization, and there had been army aid societies during the civil war, and so these seven girls conceived the idea of a society. They met one morning in the music hall of the university to organize some sort of club. They hadn't any very definite idea, one said: "What shall we call the society?" and another suggested the name which that day bound together seven girls and today holds in one great sisterhood twenty thousand women. They were ambitious and chose for their emblem a star. Among the girls was one, Alice Bird (now the wife of Judge W. I. Babb) who had a ready pen and still quicker wit. One girl said to her: "Now, Alice Bird, go home and write the constitution and bring it back as you come to school after dinner." She went home and ate her dinner, wrote the constitution and got back at half past one, bearing in her hand the document. The strange thing about it all is, that the essential principles laid down by those seven girls that day are practically unchanged today. For many years P. E. O. was a college sorority, having city chapters somewhat after the nature of alumnae chapters. With the coming of Greek letter sororities it ceased to be a college organization, not being willing to give up the English letters in its name, and is now purely a city organization. It has chapters in twenty-six states in the District of Columbia and in British Columbia. Its principal philanthropy is the maintenance of an educational loan fund which loans money without security to young women desiring a higher education, with a view of self support thereby. Hundreds of girls have been educated and thousands of dollars loaned. Not one dollar has ever been lost because a girl failed to repay her loan.

Favors Woman Suffrage.
President David Starr Jordan of Stanford University, favors woman suffrage. He says:
"Equal suffrage would tend to broaden the minds of women, and to increase their sense of personal responsibility. It may help to solve the problem of honest and clean local government, and make our cities centres of sweetness and light, as well as of activity and strength."



MRS. CHARLES POND
President of the Y. W. C. A.

1914-1915 Directory of Women's Clubs

Name and Officers of Organizations Devoted to Social and Charitable Work of Keokuk.

Civic League.
President—Mrs. Joseph J. Ayres.
Vice President—Mrs. A. D. Ayres.
Second Vice President—Mrs. O. B. Towne.

Recording Secretary—Miss Alexine Reid.
Corresponding Secretary—Miss Caroline Baldwin.

Treasurer—Miss Nettie Younker.
Directors—Mrs. Geo. D. Rand, Mrs. Wm. Ballinger, Mrs. D. A. Collier, Mrs. J. F. Elder, Mrs. Harry J. Reeves, Miss Anne B. Davis, Mrs. Eugene S. Baker, Mrs. Wm. Logan, Mrs. James B. Diver, Mrs. Jas. Cameron, Sr., Mrs. John Rovane, Sr., Miss Lida G. Howell, Mrs. W. J. Roberts, Mrs. Wells M. Irwin, Mrs. J. B. Weil.

Visiting Nurse Association.
Mrs. Corydon M. Rich, president.
Miss Nettie Younker, first vice president.
Mrs. Eugene S. Baker, second vice president.
Miss Laura Alton, recording secretary.

Miss Agnes Trimble, financial and corresponding secretary.
Miss Elsie Buck, treasurer.
Directors—Mrs. Joseph J. Ayres, Mrs. Harry J. Reeves, Miss Alexine Leroy Reid, Mrs. Robert Wright, Mrs. Robert M. Lapsley, Mrs. Edward L. Kruse, Mrs. Hugh L. Cooper, Stamford, Conn., honorary director.

Miss Emma Habenicht, superintendent of nurses.
Miss Maud Brown, assistant.

Young Women's Christian Association.
President—Mrs. Chas. S. Pond.
Vice President—Mrs. T. R. Board.
Recording Secretary—Mrs. Anna Steele-Robison.

Corresponding Secretary—Miss Anne B. Davis.
Treasurer—Mrs. G. M. Covell.

Directors—Mrs. Henry W. Huiskamp, Mrs. H. R. Miller, Mrs. E. Layton, Mrs. Harry J. Reeves, Mrs. Leonard Matless, Mrs. Corydon M. Rich, Mrs. C. M. Teeters, Mrs. R. L. Reid, Miss Harriett Solomon, Miss Etta Ayres, Miss Lucretia Huiskamp, Mrs. Rudolph Meinberg, Mrs. E. C. Aldrich.

Benevolent Union.
President—Mrs. D. A. Collier.
First Vice President—Mrs. Eugene S. Baker.

Second Vice President—Mrs. Joseph J. Ayres.
Third Vice President—Mrs. John H. Cole.

Secretary—Mrs. E. E. Hawkes.
Treasurer—Mrs. H. E. Ratcliffe.
Directors—Mrs. J. N. D. Dickinson, Miss Anne B. Davis, Mrs. John W. Collier, Mrs. D. B. Hillis, Mrs. Lee H. Hamill, Mrs. B. F. Jones, Mrs. Geo. Merriam, Mrs. C. F. McFarland, Mrs. C. S. Pond, Mrs. J. B. Weil.

Ladies of Charity.
President—Mrs. Alois Weber.
Vice President—Mrs. C. A. McNamara.

Fortnightly Club.
President—Mrs. Henry Huiskamp.
Vice President—Mrs. W. S. Phillips.
Secretary—Mrs. W. G. Blood.

Alpha Triet Club.
President—Mrs. A. Hollingsworth.
Secretary-treasurer—Mrs. F. C. Hayden.

Thimble Club.
President—Mrs. Harry King.
Vice President—Mrs. Ralph Cushman.

Afternoon Bridge Club.
President—Miss Elsie Buck.
Vice President—Miss Elizabeth Miller.
Timekeeper—Miss Elizabeth Collier.

Parent-Teachers' Association.
President—Miss Harriett Solomon.
Vice Presidents—Mrs. John Housh, Mrs. O. W. Weyer, Mrs. Lee Daugherty, Mrs. D. A. Uhler, Mrs. C. W. Lantz, Mrs. Lillian McDowell, Miss Francis Martin, Mrs. Joseph Fisk, Miss Van Grieken.
Secretary—Mrs. Leonard Matless.
Treasurer—Mrs. J. Fred Keldalsch.

W. C. T. U.
President—Miss Ida Hinman.
Vice President—Mrs. R. W. Lilly.
Second Vice President—Mrs. F. B. Dorsey.

Recording Secretary—Mrs. Best.
Corresponding Secretary—Mrs. H. H. Crow.
Treasurer—Miss Mary C. Jackson.

Woman Suffrage Views.
Judge Lindsey, of the Denver juvenile court—"We have in Colorado the most advanced laws of any state in the union for the care and protection of the home and the children, the very foundations of the republic. We owe this more to woman suffrage than to any other one cause."
Henry Ward Beecher—"We need the participation of woman in the ballot box. It is idle to fear that she will meet with disrespect or insult at the polls. Let her walk up firmly and modestly to deposit her vote, and if any one ventures to molest her, the crowd will swallow him up as the whale swallowed Jonah."
—Read The Daily Gate City, 10 cents per week.

Recording Secretary—Mrs. I. A. Sawyer.
Corresponding Secretary—Miss Mary Seibert.
Treasurer—Mrs. Joseph O'Brien.

Daughters of the American Revolution.
Regent—Mrs. E. B. Newcomb.
Vice Regent—Mrs. J. F. Elder.
Recording Secretary—Miss Elizabeth Dunlap.
Registrar—Miss Anna Gage.
Historian—Mrs. J. L. Canby.
Treasurer—Mrs. A. C. Decker.

P. E. O. Chapter.
President—Mrs. E. M. Majors.
Vice President—Mrs. C. F. Dickinson.
Recording Secretary—Mrs. C. J. Christenson.

Corresponding Secretary—Miss Isabel Herbert.
Treasurer—Mrs. Henry Strickler.
Chaplain—Miss Harriet Fulton.
Guard—Miss Harriet Solomon.
Journalist—Miss Lou Boyer.
Planist—Mrs. W. J. Fulton.

Wednesday Reading Club.
President—Mrs. D. A. Collier.
Vice President—Mrs. J. A. M. Collins.
Secretary—Mrs. Frank LeBron, Sr.

Mentor Reading Club.
President—Mrs. Harry J. Reeves.
Secretary-treasurer—Mrs. C. F. McFarland.

Travel Class.
President—Mrs. T. J. McGrath.
Secretary-treasurer—Mrs. Ira W. Wills.
Leader—Miss Harriet Solomon.

Art Club.
President—Miss Linnie Hagerman.
Vice President—Miss Nettie Younker.
Secretary—Miss Harriet Solomon.
Treasurer—Mrs. Geo. W. Delaplane.

Woman's Whist League.
President—Mrs. W. J. Roberts.
Secretary-treasurer—Mrs. J. D. Rubidge.



MISS MARTHA BALDWIN
President of Monday Music Club.

Ladies of Charity

In Keokuk there is a branch of the first charity organization ever formed by lay women, the original organization having been established by St. Vincent in 1617. Up to that time the charity work had been done by the priests in cloisters. The Ladies of Charity antedated the organization of the Sisters of Charity seventeen years.

The Keokuk branch of the Ladies of Charity was formed January 13, 1913 and is affiliated with the international society, the headquarters of which are in Paris. The suggestion for an organization of a Ladies of Charity in the three Catholic parishes here came from Mrs. I. A. Sawyer. The active work of organization was done by Sister Margaret, who has been a very helpful advisor. Mrs. Alois Weber, the president has worked very hard and with the faithful co-operation of all the members, a great amount of good has been accomplished. The society has 206 members and meets on the third Sunday of each month at 4 o'clock at St. Vincent's hall, which they have recently furnished and redecorated.

The aim of the society is to co-operate with every organization in the city doing public welfare work. They have expended in money since their organization, \$464.92; have given the V. N. A. \$25; furnished a room in the B. U. Home at a cost of \$59.89; gave the Red Cross fund \$5; furnished St. Vincent's hall, \$50.95; and gave St. Vincent's school \$25. They have aided families, given out 450 articles of clothing, furnished fifty baskets at Christmas, given toys and gifts to seventy-five children at Christmas and at Thanksgiving distributed three hundred cans of fruit, vegetables, jelly, etc. They placed one elderly woman in a local hospital and cared for her until relatives assumed the responsibility. An elderly woman was

placed in an institution in Quincy and cared for by the Ladies of Charity until relatives assumed the charge. A third woman, who had for years been a wanderer on the streets,



MRS. ALOIS WEBER
President of the Ladies of Charity.

was sent to an institution at St. Louis. Three patients suffering from acute disease were cared for by the Ladies of Charity in a local hospital, until they were well. The society will be represented at the conference of charities to be held in September at Washington university, where public welfare work of every kind will be represented.

Bishop Spalding (Roman Catholic).
There is also the question of woman suffrage. The experiment will be made, whatever our theories and prejudices may be. Women are the most religious, the most moral, and the most sober portion of the American people, and it is not easy to understand why their influence in public life is dreaded.

Elected Members.
Mrs. Mary Higbee Brownell—Abijah Peck, private.
Mrs. Clara Idella Sheidon—Samuel Vrooman, private.
Miss Sarah Ellen Duncan—Peter Norton, major.
Mrs. Florence Jenkins Blood—Jas.