THINGS are moving lively just now in club circles, the coming biennial and the local elections engrossing the attention of club women of both the large and small clubs. The biennial, of course, does not interest the unfederated clubs, but it does the four who are in the federation and who, if they have a membership large enough, will have to elect a delegate. There is only one such in Butte—the Woman's—the delegate from which will probably be elected next week. In smaller clubs, where the membership is limited, only the president or the president's appointee can go as delegate.

One Butte club to be on the safe side, if an election should be necessary, in due form elected a delegate, who will be appointed by the president as her substitute if that is the proper thing to do. Next week the other clubs will probably learn whether their respective presidents will go as delegates, and if not, the appointments will be made so that those going can make preparations.

What They Will Wear.

Apropos of the preparations, it would seem by the club columns of the Eastern papers that these are strenuous days for the delegates who are undecided as to toilet. This week Mrs. L. T. M. Slocum of the transportation committee of the Illinois state federation has sent out to all the local clubs weather maps of California. She had to do this on account of the uncertainty. One would say: "I shall take a rain coat, two rainy day skirts, umbrella and rubbers and curling irons." Then another would tell of the summer gowns of fluffiness and lace and heavenly weather. In an interview Mrs. Slocum said: "Dress is never a secondary feature at the biennials. At Louisville the women were charmingly gowned; in Denver they were gorgeously costumed; in Milwaukee, well, they wore their best clothes."

At Milwaukee there was a laugh because a coupling pin between the baggage car and the special train from Chicago broke, due, it was said, to the excess baggage the club women carried. Another club woman said: "Just give me a suit case or two and I will not bother with trunks," and one who has had much experience said: "Take one street suit, shirtwaists, one reception gown, one dinner gown, two hats." So there you are—you pay your money and take your choice. It is safe to predict, however, that in Los Angeles, as in other biennials, the club women who are society women, or who know how to dress, will be, on the proper occasion, just as beautifully gowned as when attending society functions at home and they will have just as large a share of brains as the women who will insist on making club life a strenuous thing, a "brain barbecue" as Ade says, who will look like freaks in a street suit at an evening reception.

A circular from Isabel Bates Winslow and Mrs. Joseph F. Sartori on this page will give enlightenment on the biennial.

The West Side Shakespeare club will elect officers for next year on the 18th; the Woman's club nominated officers this week and will elect them on the 26th. The Homer club will elect on April 21st and the Atlas club on May 16th.

Men Must Stay Out.

Another cloud has arisen on the club horizon of Chicago. The burning question of the day is: 'Will men delegates from women's clubs be received as delegates at the biennial convention of Women's clubs?" At a meeting of the federation forum in Chicago this week, it was decided to challenge any man delegate's right to a seat. Dr. Dickinson said she thought it would revolutionize clubdom to admit them. Constitution and by-laws would have to be changed. Resolutions were passed requesting the committee to insist that the sex of the delegate be made known in writing before the credentials are accepted, also whether the delegate is married or single, and (mark this) to what race the delegate belongs.

And in the face of all this, Joseph T. Bowen has joined the Hull House Woman's club. His wife was at one time president of the club. No one seemed to know why he wanted to join, his letter stating he would be happy to join the club being sufficient to secure him an honorary membership. This seems to open up a way for the Butte men who are simply consumed with envy because they are left in the outer darkness.

Social Session of Literature Dept.

Another jolly afternoon session was enjoyed Tuesday afternoon by the members of the literature department of the Women's club and their guests, there being the largest attendance of any meeting. Mrs. J. W. Gunn and Mrs Christie indulged in some interesting reminiscences of the last biennial, having been requested to speak on the subject.

Mrs. Gunn said she remarked one thing, especially—the majority of the club women were gray haired, many of them at least 65 years of age, and some older still. The Montana delegation was about the youngest there. The two told of the speakers, of Kate Upson Clarke, of Octave Thanet, of the many brilliant women whose names are household words. It was very interesting, and when Mrs. Gunn said that until she went there she was not a club woman, but had been ever since, many of her hearers for the first time experienced a desire to attend the next biennial.

Current Events.

Current events came next, and many interesting subjects came up. One which proved especially interesting was the newspaper article stating that Senator W. A. Clark was being talked of as the democratic nominee for president next term. The color line was discussed informally, and several other subjects, among them, sub rosa, the coming election in the club.

Then delicious tea, wafers and cheese were served, Mesdames D. A. Dickson, David Reinhardt, George H. Berry and Arthur H. Whitcher serving, ably assisted by their chairman, Mrs. W. W. Cheeley. Some time was spent in sociability. Mrs. Sam M. Johnstone was surrounded by an eager throng, anxious to learn their fate. She read a few palms, and interesting it proved. Mrs. J. K. Russell was prevailed upon to tell several fortunes by the aid of tea leaves, and really some curious things have been foretold in palms and leaves since the session began.

The next social session will be on the 24th. Mrs. A. J. Campbell, Mrs. P. Sheehy, Mrs. Farrell and several others will serve.

Mrs. Daum's Paper.

Mrs. Daum showed clearly the object Shakespeare had in view in his use of dreams in his dramas. Citing those from "Richard III," of Antonio, in "Winter's Tale;" in "Triolus and Cressida" of the many times dreams are spoken of; by Romeo, when he says "My dreams presage some joyful news at hand;" by Shylock and the many others. She showed where dreams had influenced the different characters. Of the "Midsummer Night's Dream" she said: "Of all the dramas of Shakespeare there is none more entirely harmonious than this. The exquisite beauty of Shakespeare's conception is that under the supernatural influence the 'human mortals' move precisely according to their respective natures and habits." She gave a brief sketch of it, saying the entire play was a sort of ideal dream. Mrs. Daum's paper was warmly applauded, but lack of time prevented discussion.

Mrs. A. H. Whitcher read a paper on "Othello." No discussion followed for lack of time. Bon bons were enjoyed for a few minutes, and the club adjourned to meet with Mrs. George H. Berry, 305 North Alabama street, next Tuesday.

The questions for next Tuesday are as follows:

Othelo—Act IV:

Contrast Desdemona and Emilia.

What gives the prevailing tone to Desdemona's character?

What effect does the direct accusation of crime have on Desdemona?

"Thrown such despite." What characteristic of Emilia's is here shown?

"The Raven." Give superstition concerning the raven.

Give Schlegel's opinion of Othello.

Why had the spirit of adventure seized all Europe at this time?

Meaning of Callat, fleers, filchew, cogging, fobbed.

"'Twill do me good to walk, if I do die."

Los Angeles Meeting.

The circle of interest about the biennial meetings of the General Federation of Women's clubs is gradually widening.

Each year new clubs are added to this general federation and everywhere club membership is increasing, for the woman's club movement throughout the United States and abroad is assuming vast proportions.

These great federation meetings originally sprang from a happy invitation extended in 1889 by Sorosis of New York, to club women to join with them upon an anniversary occasion in discussing woman's club work. The invitation met with such generous acceptance and was so productive of helpful inspiration that a general federation of clubs was the outcome.

The first biennial meeting was held in Chicago in 1892, and the idea had by that time been enthusiastically embraced by hundreds of club women, many clubs having allied themselves with the general federation.

The second biennial held in Philadelphia in 1894, proved conclusively how far reaching was the interest aroused in these biennials; the third was held in Louisville in 1896, and in 1898, when the fourth biennial was held in Denver, the general federation included more than 2,700 women's clubs with a membership of 200,000, the United States and many foreign countries being represented.

Members Increasing.

No statistics showing the further increase have since been published, but the fifth biennial, held in Milwaukee in 1900, gave convincing proof that women's clubs were springing up everywhere, and the sixth biennial, which is to be held in Los Angeles during the first week in May, will bring together an army of club women whose numbers will surprise the most sanguine.

The value of these biennials is not to be estimated alone by the opportunities afforded for growth nor the immense stimulus received from the gathering together of so many brilliant women.

These privileges are perhaps inestimable and are appreciated by hundreds of club women. But there are hundreds more, members of struggling clubs in isolated country towns, who look forward to each great biennial meeting as an opportunity to make a little journey in the world.

For such, it is fortunate each place selected for the biennial meeting has given special opportunities for broadening a narrow perspective.

Yet no place which has heretofore been chosen has afforded quite such wonderful attractions as those which are tempting thousands of club women to attend this sixth biennial to be held in Los Angeles.

Women who would never think a visit to the Pacific coast possible under any other circumstances are determined upon this trip. The extremely low round trip rate is an inducement; the time limit is liberal; and the fact that so many friends and acquaintances will furnish congenial companionship clinches the matter.

Pleasures of the Trip.

The overland journey of over 3,000 miles is an education in itself. Whichever route is selected a vast amount of country must be traversed and some of the most marvelous scenery in the world encountered. Beautiful stretches of fertile country in early spring verdure are succeeded by mountain ranges whose gigantic snow-capped peaks pierce cloudless skies; icy crevasses, abysmal gorges show to the northward. Mere car-window glimpses give novel scenes in picturesque mining camps, Indian reservations, odd cliff dwellings, glistening rivers, long ranges of purple hills, lofty mountain gate-ways, precipitous passes are included in the long panorama. And to the southward, new pictures in the aspen and pinon dotted canyons, the long miles of red soil gleaming with varied tints of rocky formations; quaint towns, oriental in aspect, flushed with color.

Everywhere, dazzling sunlight, intense shadows, clouds luminously white, skies intensely blue, with occasional glimpses of distant prairies, fleeting visions of forests of pine and fir.

Even the desert makes its charm felt—this uninhabitable region or arid plains and barren mountains; cacti and grease wood take on distorted fantastic shapes, the desert willow and dwarfed shrubs spring mysteriously from sand and rock.

And at every stopping place new fruits to taste, picturesque venders with curious wares, a varied unclassified flora springing up by every wayside, trees hitherto unknown, unfamiliar birds.

Starting late in April when the first evidences of spring are venturesomely showing, travelers will find themselves, inside of four days, transpired into the heart of summer.

La Fiesta de los Flores.

And in Los Angeles what a reception will await them. The whole town en fete because of La Fiesta de los Flores.

Every street and thoroughfare gay with bunting and floating pennants in Mexican colors red, green and yellow; everywhere music, flowers, joyousness, for a gay insouciance characterizes this novel festival.

Already the women of Los Angeles are preparing for the reception of their guests, and every possible arrangement will be made for the comfort of the 6,000 visitors expected.

It is early yet to definitely announce just what hospitality will be extended beyond arranging suitable accommodations at reasonable rates as possible.

The one formal reception permitted by the program committee will be held on the evening of May 2 in the Woman's Club house. It may be one of the many surprises which await Eastern club women that the women of Los Angeles are the owners of a club house large enough and suitable for entertaining so considerable an assembly.

This club house, which is situated on one of the fashionable residence avenues, is commodious and ornate in its architecture. It is built in the style of the old California missions. The general plan is rectangular with a patio at the north, and it is enclosed on three sides by arcades; the front corridor is 100 feet in length, the north 165 feet. The building is two stories, roofed with terra cotta tile, and its south dormer, in its sky line suggests the belfry of the San Gabriel Mission. The interior decorations are of corresponding artistic elegance. Besides the great assembly hall there are several parlors, reception rooms, cloak and toilet rooms, a large banquet hall and a well-equipped kitchen, butler's pantries and all the things necessary to a modern, luxurious club house.

In order to afford ample accommodations for the large numbers who will be present at the biennial reception, the patio will be canvassed and enclosed, giving additional floor space of 35 by 165 feet, and this will be transformed into tropical bower.

Excursion in May.

One complimentary excursion will be given to officers, delegates and program speakers and the date set is May 7. So great are the inducements being offered by the nearby resorts possessing particular attractions to draw the visitors their way that it is a matter of regret that all the days are not to be given over to sight-seeing. Thus far no decision as to the nature of the outing has been made.

There are innumerable attractions around and about Los Angeles and in the two months' time allowed for travel the club women should be able to see much of California, though none need hope to see it all.

In response to urgent requests from intending visitors all over the United States, for literature in regard to Southern California and biennial matters, the club women of Los Angeles have issued an artistic, authentic and practical guide book describing places of interest, and how to get there, in and about Los Angeles, and are distributing the same freely. The chamber of commerce, the Pasadena board of trade, purely social clubs, civic and benefit orders as well as federated clubs are all interested in the entertainment of the club women, and have signified publicly on what days and at what hours their club houses will be open and hospitality extended to the women whose coming is so greatly anticipated.

The Homer Club.

On last Monday the Homer club met at the usual place.

During the first half hour many important current events were discussed.

The first paper of the afternoon, "King Humbert and Queen Margaret," by Mrs. Cunningham, was doubly interesting, as she was able to give her own personal opinion of their appearance and manners, having seen them both when in Rome. Of the king she said:

"He was a fatalist, brave and courageous; he faced death with indifference, but in matters political he did not display the same intrepidity. He was a man of exceeding regularity of habit and lived very simple.

"But he was without any literary in the intellectual movement of modern Italy. He built nothing, he repaired nothing, and passed away after his 20 years' reign leaving nothing to commemorate his presence in the city of the Caesars." Of the queen, she said:

"No marriage could have been more popular with the nation. She has an exquisite charm of manner, and beauty and grace. She loved the social duties her position demanded. She speaks French, German, English, Spanish and Italian; knows Latin and Greek, is acquainted with the literature of all ages, and very fond of music and the drama. She has improved the condition of all women in Italy, has founded hospitals, asylums and manual training schools for girls, and her praises are sung by every one throughout Italy."

Mrs. Atwater gave a most interesting and carefully prepared paper on "The Vatican; Its Sculpture and Library."

First describing the vatican proper, which is not a single building, but an accumulation of buildings, extending over 12½ acres of ground; giving the derivation of the word vatican, the history of the site and mentioning Nicholas V as the founder of this huge structure; building St. Peters as a starting point and describing the gardens and the location of the different buildings.

Of the sextine chapel, she said: "Here Michel-Angelo overshadows all with his ceiling and 'Last Judgment,' for of all the pictures and wonders seen in the vatican, the 'Last Judgment' is recalled with greatest clearness.

"In the loggia and stanza and picture galleries, Raphael has stamped his name by his beautiful frescoes and the 'Transfiguration,' pronounced the grandest picture in the world."

Passing to the vatican collection of sculpture, she spoke of the "Torso of Hercules," the "Apollo Belvidere," the "Laocoon" and the "Sleeping Ariadne."

The paper was concluded with a description of the papal and public libraries of the vatican, with their priceless documents in Latin and Greek.

On next Monday the Homer club will celebrate its eleventh anniversary at the home of Mrs. T. W. Bozzo, by giving a breakfast.

Mr. Wharton has very kindly made arrangements for a special car to leave the corner of Main and Broadway at 12 o'clock on that day.

West Side Shakespeare Club.

The West Side Shakespeare club met last Tuesday evening with Mrs. Woodbury, on Henry avenue. There was a large attendance and considerable business was transacted. A number of new members were elected, who have been acting as most efficient substitutes for absent members. The club is popular for the reason that all are congenial and no bickerings, no acrimonious discussions ever disturb the harmony, and above all, they study Shakespeare. For these reasons there is always a long list of would-be members waiting for a vacancy. But there are very few. This year a number of people have moved away, making a few vacancies.

To fill these five, who have been acting as substitutes, Mrs. David Reinhardt, Mrs. Woodbury, Mrs. Plummer, Miss Teague and Miss Robinson were elected. There is one more to fill, at the most two, and while there are many applicants, the two first on the list will be elected or, nominated for election.

Color Line Again.

The club also voted to instruct their delegate to the biennial to vote against the color question coming up, but if it did come up to vote against the admission of colored women into the federation. The club also elected their delegate, Mrs. Arthur H. Whitcher being unanimously chosen.

So much business was transacted that the lesson, the reading of Act III of "Othello" was postponed until next meeting. The roll call was answered, but the questions asked were not answered.

Mrs. A. J. Daum had a difficult subject for a paper: "Shakespeare's Dramatic Use of Dreams." There is not a book in the library bearing upon the subject. It was well handled, however. In her opening paragraph Mrs. Daum gave the keynote of her paper: "In complete sleep, there is probably an entire absence of consciousness of external things. Usually, however, there is a certain amount of mental activity, of which we are more or less conscious at the time, and of which we have more or less subsequent remembrance. This is the state known as dreaming. Dreams in all ages and countries have been considered indications of the future."

The Monday Night Club.

The Monday Night club met last week with Miss Teague at the Montana. The meeting was an unusually interesting one and was well attended. Miss O'Donnell read the first paper of the evening, which was devoted to French history from 1815 to 1825. This paper was followed by an animated discussion.

The next paper, "The French Literature of This Period," was read by Miss Coffin.

She devoted her paper to the two principal writers of this period, Madame de Stael and Chateaubriand.

Miss Briscoe read a very interesting paper on French art.

After a short discussion by the club Miss Ewing gave a delightful review of the popular novel, "The Right of Way," by Gilbert Parker. The treat of the evening was a short address by Mrs. Christie, on "How to Take Up Magazine Work in the Club." Mrs. Christie is a very pleasing speaker and the club received many valuable suggestions on a subject of much interest to all. After a vote of thanks to Mrs. Christie the club adjourned to meet next week with Miss Madden on West Galena street.

Anniversary Breakfast.

On Monday of next week the Homer club will celebrate another mile stone by giving a breakfast at the home of Mrs. T. W. Buzzo in Walkerville at high noon.

It will be a unique affair and rather elaborate. The club has the reputation of having the "Loveliest" anniversary affairs of any club in Butte. It was organized in 1891 and federated in 1895.

MISS HURBERT, MILES CITY.

DR. BERTHA K. MACKEL,
A Member of the Woman's West Side Shakespeare, Ethical Culture and Atlas Clubs.

MISS MABEL McGREGOR,
A Popular Resident [illegible]