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CLUBWOMEN GET READY FOR ELECTIONS

A custom peculiar to the club women of Honolulu is the retention of the same officers year after year.

In nearly all of the cases the women who have served on the board of directors would like to have some change made so that each might be come, for a year or two at least, one of the laywomen.

As the population in this city increases new members are flocking to each of the woman's organizations. Some of the new members are former club women and have held offices in other cities, still at the elections their names are not proposed for office.

As the January meetings approach more or less thought is given to the annual election, as many of the clubs hold their elections at the beginning of the new year.

In many of the clubs a nominating committee is appointed by the president, sometimes this committee consists of one member and sometimes there are two or three members named. As a rule this committee nominates the officers and they are accepted. Often the same officers who are in office are renominated and again serve on the board of directors.

In some of the clubs the officers are not allowed to serve more than two consecutive years. This is not a written by-law, but when the club were formed it was understood that such should be the case.

As a rule it is extremely difficult to find a competent treasurer and secretary. These two offices entail a good deal of work and very few women like to occupy either place. A secretary must of necessity be accurate, as must a treasurer. In organizations where donations are asked of a community the business men like to know that the treasurer is able and fitted for the position she occupies before giving large sums of money.

Two of the best women secretaries and treasurers in the woman's clubs in Honolulu are in the Woman's Board of Missions. These two ladies, Mrs. B. F. Dillingham and Miss Sheely, have served for a number of years and probably no one in the organization would be satisfied with new officers so long as these ladies will serve.

With few exceptions the women who hold the presidency in the local clubs would like to see new presidents elected at least every five years. Naturally it takes more than one year for an officer to become thoroughly fitted for the work and to feel competent to carry on the executive work. It is well for an officer to serve two or three consecutive years and, when desired both by the officer and the members of the club, five years, and then she should be given a rest.

Some of the presidents have gone so far as to say that new ideas always are sure to come from the new officers and that new women should be given an opportunity to show their ability. There are always as many women in the laity who are as competent as those who have been in office, and if given an opportunity they might bring about some excellent changes in some of the organizations.

In the Morning Music Club no president has served more than two consecutive years and the board of directors is usually changed every year. In an organization of this kind the officers may be changed so often but in clubs where a great deal of money is handled such as the Free Kindergarten Association and the Woman's Board of Missions, it is the secretary and treasurer who should serve as long as they are willing. Other officers might be, say those interested, allowed to be active officers for either three or five consecutive years.

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