

Federation of Women's Clubs Elects Mrs. Mary Talbert Pres.

CHICAGO DEFENDER NEWS SERVICE
Baltimore, Md., Aug. 18.—The National Federation of Women's Clubs closed its tenth annual session last Thursday at Bethel Church, Druid Hill. One of the features of the meeting was the address of Mrs. Booker T. Washington. In her address she said: "Are we doing all we can to stimulate and direct the education of the Race?" She went on to say: "In that part of the country where there is little or no opposition against us are as many of our young people as should be entering the high schools and colleges and finishing the courses of study there? Are we keeping up with the trend of modern education, vocational and industrial training which is coming to be general throughout the country for white boys and girls?" The address was warmly received. On the platform were the leaders in educational and sociological endeavors. Those who delivered able addresses were Mrs. M. C. Lawton, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Mrs. Mary V. Waring, Chicago, Ill.; Miss Alice Simmons, Tuskegee Institute, Ala.; Mrs. Mary V. Talbert, Buffalo, N. Y.; Miss Elizabeth Carter, New Bedford, Mass.; Miss Marie Madre, Washington, D. C.; Mrs. Addie W. Dickerson, Philadelphia, Pa.; Miss Imogene Howard, New York City; Mrs. Agnes Aldridge, Pittsburg, Pa.; Mrs. Judith Horton, Oklahoma.

Brilliant Pageant Staged
Over a thousand people journeyed to Oriole Park in the afternoon where a pageant entitled "The Vindication of Negro Womanhood" was presented. It was written by Miss Margaret Williams and directed by Lewis H. Murray. It depicted Race women meeting prejudice on their advent into this country, their being sold into slavery, of southern whites making them wear badges of inferiority, the southern white man taking up arms to prevent the extinction of slavery, Race women guarding their offspring, the phenomenal rise of Colored women, following their emancipation, in various lines of endeavor, society recoiling from prejudice and the spirit of love joining hands of womanhood with those of society and the coming of justice and equity.

Ministers Speak
Mere man had his brief little inning Tuesday, when M. M. Harris, the Revs. C. H. Steptean, C. G. Cummings, W. Edward Williams, Edward Smith, E. N. Thomas and S. A. Virgil were introduced. The men looked a little diffident as they gazed into the sea of feminine faces, but each managed to stam-

mer out a word of greeting to the sisters.
Mrs. W. G. Pearson, North Carolina, urged that efforts be made to improve home life.

The lynching evil was discussed and a resolution scoring mob violence telegraphed to President Wilson.
"Negro Womanhood" was the general theme Wednesday night. Mrs. Edna Reid of this city gave an outline of the various civic and moral activities of women, while Mrs. W. T. Johnson, Richmond, Va., declared that women had played a conspicuous part in the uplift of the race. Mrs. D. H. Butler, Jackson, Miss., spoke on "The Negro Woman of Today," describing her evolution from the period of slavery, her education and general rise. Mrs. Maud H. Cotton, Henderson, N. C., said that the woman of today was prepared to meet the twentieth century challenge of the woman of other races.

Mme. C. J. Walker, the widely known manufacturer of hair preparations, spoke on the business activities of women, illustrating the same with stereopticon views.

Mrs. Charlotte Brown, Boston, eulogized the life and services of the late Booker T. Washington and urged interest in the nation-wide campaign to raise \$1,500,000 endowment for Tuskegee Institute as a memorial for the deceased educator.

May Purchase Douglass Home
The association, following a very lengthy discussion, voted to purchase the home of the late Frederick Douglass at Anacostia, D. C., the same to be national headquarters for the women. Booker T. Washington was one of those foremost in the movement to secure funds for the purchasing of the home of the anti-slavery orator as a memorial to his efforts.

A big debate, during which points of law and order were discussed, followed the introduction of a resolution to hire some one at \$100 to compile a history of the activities of the association. Several speakers made the point that the constitution did not allow payment for services, but Miss Hallie Q. Brown asserted that it only applied to officials and not agents. The resolution was lost, and no historian will be engaged at \$100.

The characters in the pageant were: Justice, king of the realm of Public Opinion, C. Stewart; Equity, queen, Miss J. Johnson; Negro Womanhood, the defendant, Miss Hazel Hughes; Prejudice, the prosecutor, Frank J. Sorrell; Fair Play, counsel for the defense, Lewis S. Flagg; the Past and the Present, witnesses for the defense, Misses C. Wharton and V. Maxwell, respectively; the Southern Woman, Mrs. Estelle Young; the Youthful South, Miss Geneva Simmons; the Widowed South, Mrs. Laura Wheatley; the Auctioneer, Edgar Thomas; Grief and Death, servants of Preudice, Georgia D. Briggs and Lula Briggs, respectively; the Spirit of Play, Miss Jane Smith; the Spirit of Progress, Miss Gladys Custis; the Spirit of Love, Miss Clorie Mossell.

The Drill Corps of Patriarchie No. 3, of Odd Fellows, gave an exhibition and the Boy Scouts maintained order. The committee that arranged for the pageant included Mrs. Florena K. Owens, chairman; Miss Daisy Walker and Mrs. Sarah Fernandis.

The wives of Bishop John Hurst, I. N. Ross and George W. Clinton were introduced and delivered brief addresses. "Social Community Work Among Our Women" was the theme of the discussion participated in by Mrs. Lena Harris, Johnstown, Pa.; Mrs. Gertrude Hall, Lexington, Mo.; Mrs. D. R. Woodland, Austin, Tex.; Miss Frances Keyser, of Florida, and Mrs. Mary M. Bethune, Daytona, Fla.

Reports of States
The presidents of various state organizations made their reports Tuesday morning. The work of the Empire State Federation was told in a graphic way by Mrs. M. C. Lawton, Miss Adena Minott and others from New York State. Mrs. Ruth M. Bennett, of Chester, Pa., told of the work the Pennsylvania women are doing. She mentioned the fight of Philadelphia women against the recent order removing our policemen from South street, Philadelphia. She said a big protest had been waged against the presentation of "The Birth of a Nation" at Chester this week.

Mrs. Mary F. Handy, head of the Maryland Federation, told of the activities of the Maryland women along various uplift lines.

Mrs. W. L. Wilkinson told of the work that the women of South Carolina are doing. Mrs. Jackson reported for Rhode Island and Mrs. J. F. Lane for Tennessee. Mrs. J. H. Palmer gave an outline of the work in Alabama and Mrs. R. L. Smith spoke for Texas. An excursion down the Chesapeake Bay was given in the afternoon, and all of the delegates reported having a good time.

Miss Dean Jackson, Newport, R. I.; Mrs. Lillian Anderson Bagnall, Detroit, Mich., and Mrs. Frances R. Keyser were among the speakers at the evening session. Miss Alberta Bell, St. Paul, Minn., gave a piano solo.

Papers on "The Unfortunate Woman" were read by Mrs. Ethelyn Collins, Dayton, Ohio, and Mrs. S. W. Layten, Philadelphia. Mrs. Layten, who has done considerable rescue work in her home city, told of the unfortunate woman's life, her likelihood of spreading disease and general misery. She did not fail, however, to score the men who made the existence of such women possible. She said that economic conditions, the use of liquor and being of weak mind are responsible for public and clandestine immorality. She urged the sterilization of the sub-normal, so that weak-minded and diseased children would not be ushered into the world.

Mrs. L. C. Snowden, of Kentucky, and Mrs. Norris R. Clark, of Virginia, read papers on "Raising the Moral Status of the Race." Good housing, excellent sanitary conditions and education were among the things suggested for this improvement.

Election Interesting

Mere man could have been given some points about conducting an election if he had been there to watch the way the women do it. It is true that it was a quiet affair compared with elections in the Daughters of the American Revolution, and one or two other bodies of white women, but it was interesting enough to those of the masculine sex sitting in the galleries. During the election only the delegates were allowed on the main floor, others having to content themselves with a "look-on."

The credentials committee reported that 389 persons were entitled to vote. Interest centered chiefly in the election of a president, Mrs. Washington being ineligible after having served four years. Miss Nannie H. Burroughs made one of her characteristically forceful speeches in nominating Mrs. Mary Talbert of Buffalo, N. Y., for that position. On the first ballot Mrs. Talbert received 230 votes and Miss Hallie Q. Brown, who had been placed in nomination by Mrs. Thomas W. Fleming, received 120 votes. Mrs. Talbert lacked three votes of the constitutional requirement of a two-thirds majority. On the second ballot Mrs. Talbert received 236 votes and her opponent 130. Miss Brown then with-

derw and Mrs. Talbert was declared unanimously elected amid applause.

Other officers were elected as follows: Miss Ida Cummings, Baltimore, vice president; Miss Georgia A. Nugent, Kentucky, corresponding secretary; Miss Roberta Dunbar, Providence, R. I., first recording secretary; Mrs. Charlotte Brown, South Carolina, second recording secretary; Miss Theresa Macon, Chicago, third recording secretary; Mrs. Ida Joyce Jackson, Columbus, Ohio, treasurer; Miss Hallie Q. Brown, chair-

man of the executive board; Miss Victoria C. Haley, St. Louis, organizer; Mrs. Frances Keyser, chairman of ways and means committee; Mrs. Helen Wilkinson, South Carolina, parliamentarian; Mrs. Mary V. Paris, Louisville, Ky., statistician; Mrs. J. C. Napier, Tennessee, auditor, and Mrs. Mary Evans, Indiana, chaplain.

The next meeting place will be Denver, Colo. A resolution thanking the Afro-American for its publications concerning the session was adopted.