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IT IS REALLY A CLUB NOW,

The Ladies Organized It, but Have Not Named It Yet.

SUCCESS OF A NOVEL VENTURE.

The Women's Club Completes Its Complement of 300—Others Want to Get In—Irrevocable Laws Prevent—Rooms Furnished at $3 Per Week—Leasing With Literary Accompaniment.

All that the women's club seems to lack is a name, and perhaps the informal title that now designates it will be retained. In this case the club lacks nothing. It has a habitation, a matter of only less importance than a membership. It has a membership by the by-laws. Those by-laws have not been adopted by the club as a whole, but they have simply been accepted. Ladies not in the fortunate 300 are clamoring mildly for an amendment, but those already in give the assurance that there is to be no amendment. The only hope of the non-elect is in death, removal or resignation on the part of some of the 300.

IT IS A REALITY NOW.

The women's club has been mentioned before, but then it was regarded rather in the light of a pleasant possibility than anything else. Some one, nobody knows who, thought that a useful resort for ladies little impulse, not large, but choice. Every member, as part of her initiation fee, will contribute a volume. It is intended to provide current literature, so that members may keep abreast with the times, but the club is in no sense a literary organization. There will be no meetings or discussions or the usual list of attractions.

There will be no buffet, and none is contemplated. The ladies, many of whom belong to the Women's Exchange, did not desire to start even the small competition that a club buffet might be deemed, and they say there is no necessity for a buffet. Refreshments can be procured at many places near by, and the dining-room service will be glad of the club adjunct, for at present so many are in the habit of making engagements to meet friends at the Palace that the transaction of business is often hampered.

GOVERNMENT OF THE CLUB.

The government of the club will be in the hands of a President and a Board of Directors. The Directors are nine in number. Six of the board have been appointed, Mrs. C. P. Eels is now acting as President until a permanent executive head can be chosen. There has been no wrangling, and no anxiety to fill the executive chair can be noticed. Mrs. Eels or Mrs. J. L. Baldwin are mentioned. Mrs. Baldwin is the present Vice-President and Miss S. Morgan Secretary.

The qualifications for membership were never discussed, there being of course no necessity for this. But the club is not made up of any one or two sets. It contains both single and married ladies. It grew merely by the originators speaking to their friends, and the 300 limit was reached when the circle many times overlapped. Only the general rules have been formulated. It has been agreed that club hours shall be from 9 until 6. It has also been agreed that men shall have no part or lot in the institution, the opinion that they would be superfluous and a nuisance. It is said, being unanimous.

THE LOUNGING ROOM OF THE LADIES' CLUB.

while down town would be practicable and mentioned the matter to another lady. The idea was taken up eagerly, and soon a list of 100 charter members had been secured. This list, containing names well known to social circles on both sides of the bay, has been published. The additional 100 names cannot now be given, because no list has ever been compiled. Individuals among the original 100 have sought out a friend here and there until the second 100 has been completed, and these will be known as an embassy for the first time at the club meeting next Monday.

Various names for the organization are now being considered. It may remain the Women's Club, be enlarged into the Women's Book Club, or, being changed altogether, become the Town and Country Club, in acknowledgement of its character, many members residing out of the city.

The object in view is not the creation of a lounging place in rivalry with home. It is for those who have to go down town, are forced to spend an hour or two down town may not spend it in profitless idleness or be forced to linger in stores after their shopping has been done. At the club they will find friends, an easy chair, a book or a magazine. A lady may go to the club to meet her escort or her self and could ready to do their bidding, and there will be a room where they can leave the parcels or extra wraps. The club will be a convenient place for appointments.

There will be a library, as one proposed to be filled out as the club needs the funds. This enabled the Committee on Furnishing to gradual while the Committee on House Rules has been formulating its thoughtful sections a yet unknown role.

The women's club, even in the matter of its rooms, is different from other clubs. The windows are so far back from the street that the rooms are secluded, and the service is quiet, and all much to the seclusion that has been sought. Some of the members say that the originator of the club had a dream about just such a club as the ladies have started and that out of that grew the actuality. At first the name Dream Club was suggested, but while it had a pretty sound it was not definite enough and was misleading, so it was dropped.

THE LIBRARY.

The library is to be of the circulating variety, where the ladies can have easy access to the leading French and English periodicals and new books as fast as they come out. They say it is too much to wait until things are a year old before being able to read them, as is the case in belonging to a regular library with a large membership.

MONEY IN ITS PLACE.

The club will not branch out any for a year at least, and beyond that members have no idea. They say that if the club is a success folk now but clever heads and determined characters have taken it seriously in hand. One thing is certain, the club will never die of inanition if the enthusiasm that backs it now stays by it another twelve months, and there is every prospect that it will. The ladies are not going to let the matter drop, and the idea that, once in connection with the least bit of shopping, instinct will understand—would keep it alive were they much less so.

The unpretentious character is shown by the dues. The first 100 paid an initiation fee of $5, the second 100 must pay $10, and the monthly dues from each will be $1. Should the club ever own a house, the money for its first expenses, say for the first clothing of the rooms, keep the library in good condition, and a healthy little sum to left over against a rainy day.

There is a feeling now that the women's club has assumed so rigidine an aspect that only the ladies who have been in the movement will want to be barred from the social life it incidentally affords or the convenience for which the feminine world has so long sighed in vain.

The first real meeting of the club will be held Monday afternoon at 1900 Taylor street, when by-laws will be read, officers and the like be elected. That club hour has been postponed to 3 o'clock, owing to the desire of the women to be present at the opening of the new apartments the final touches.

AT OUR BIG STORE.

How It Comes to Attract so Much Attention Just at This Time.

The people are slightly impressed with the great sale going on at Raphael's. The number passed includes other customers. Well-known imitation shows conclusively that Raphael's goods is a staple with the people, and a coveted prize by competitors. Ever since the announcement of this approximately turned shivering-out sale there has been a constant upcoming of customers. Every department has been thronged from morning till night, which has necessitated an increased force of clerks.

The magnificent stock done indicates several things. It indicates that Raphael's goods are reliable, that their ordinary merchandise prices are moderate, the stocks new and exclusive; the tailoring unsurpassed by the best and the judgment be final, so as such thing as blackballing will cease.

CAUSES OF THE SUCCESS.

Ladies who are not members have some privileges, but whether one being in a friend, and the one not a member will meet with a cordial welcome all the courtesies. But that is not the case. Ladies who are members are permitted to call with such friends as they please, and the non-members.

THE CLOAK-ROOM OF THE CLUB.

THE READING ROOM OF THE LADIES' CLUB.

PALACE OR ACROPOLIS, WHICH?

Adolph Sutro's Splendid Architectural Schemes for the Future.

IMPORTING A SHIPLOAD OF VENICE.

A Daring Idea to Bring to San Francisco One of the Splendid Marble Palaces of the Doges or, Failing That, to Erect a Beautiful and Famous Temple Overlooking the Pacific Ocean.

The millionaires of the Pacific Coast, when it comes down to a question of homes, are famous the world over. The palaces on Nob Hill stand in evidence of this fact. Money has been poured out like water upon the residences of the Floods, the Hopkins, the Crockers and the Stanfords, and these buildings have made San Francisco, or at least a part of it, the seeming pride of California. But there is at present no idea at work in the brain of Adolph Sutro that will cast the housebuilding achievements of the past in the shade.

Mr. Sutro has schemes that if ever carried out will surpass in their magnificence the wildest dreams of the romance kings.

At present these schemes are almost too colossal; they suggest artistic possibilities that fairly miss the imagination. But Mr. Sutro has had ideas before that were almost beyond the grasp of the ordinary mind. When he proposed to drill a hole over three miles into the solid rock of Mount Davidson, the engineering world stood aghast. They simply said it couldn't be done, and referred pityingly to Mr. Sutro's mental condition. To-day the Sutro tunnel exists as a monument—if a hole in the ground can stand as a monument—to what Western pluck can conceive and carry out.

Just what shape the Sutro idea may assume cannot be definitely stated at present. In fact, the millionaire's mind is occupied by two ideas, each one stupendous, and his judgment wavers between them. The one, the transporting bodily one of the famous palaces of the bygone Venetian Doges to grace our city, the other the erection of a splendid Grecian temple that will compare with the Acropolis at Athens, upon his domain overlooking the Pacific ocean.

Of course there is a wide range for the latter scheme, as there is room for it to grow to an admirer of both styles of architecture, and it is therefore a difficult task to determine which would be more desirable.

When interviewed yesterday Mr. Sutro said: "The plans you refer to have not as yet taken definite shape. Only a few hasty ideas have been thrown out to my friends as a variety of such suggestions for the improvement of my property at Sutro Heights. While in Europe the last time an idea occurred to me which made a most vivid impression upon my mind at the time, and which I have often thought about since then. It came to me in Venice while spending a few days there.

"Venice, you know, has been in the past one of if not the most magnificent cities of Europe. Those of her ancient splendor are still to be found in the miles of stately marble palaces which line her beautiful canals. Long ago the city's prosperity began to wane, and many of the most magnificent of palaces none of which have been occupied for years.

"In looking at those beautiful structures the thought occurred to me, why not buy one of them as a model and take it back to San Francisco?

Continuing with a touch of capriciousness in his voice as he thought over his large plan, Mr. Sutro added: "It would be one of the easiest things in the world to accomplish. The cost would need to do after buying one [illegible] of those palaces—as many as might be necessary—would be to have it carefully taken down, the various property numbered and loaded aboard a ship and landed at one of the wharves here in perfect condition for rebuilding. The freight, I found, from Venice to New York on a similar material brought from New York.

"I have thought very seriously about doing something of that kind at one time or another, and have often discussed it with a number of my friends. Other things have prevented me from carrying my mind, and I had almost made up my mind when I had more [illegible]

"At this time I kept thinking when I had a moment to spare of some plan for a new home to take the place of the one which I have at present. It was my wish to erect a structure that would beautify for all time the meanest spot above the Cliff House, and for a time I would have erected my Venetian palace.

"Not long ago, while pondering over this matter, another idea came into my head. It was to erect, instead of a house to live in, a magnificent Grecian temple, similar in style to the Acropolis at Athens, and dedicate it to the memory of the pioneers of San Francisco for purposes of interment. I did not hope to purchase the original Acropolis, but to import a duplicate of it, with all its surroundings to harmonize.

"This latter idea grew in favor with me the more I thought of it, and I could realize in my mind's eye a magnificent thing it would be; but, after all, I do not see that I shall be able to do anything just at present. I haven't even decided which plan I would prefer, and then, to tell you the truth, I have not just at present the money to carry out such an ambitious undertaking. It would be enormously expensive, and times are hard," and the millionaire sighed as he thought of the cost of his dream.

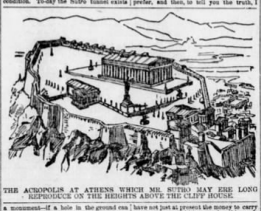
"A few years hence," said Mr. Sutro in conclusion, "I really have not given it serious consideration for some time, and may not live to carry out either of my plans, much as I should like to."

Despite all this, Mr. Sutro's friends intimate that he often discusses his architectural projects, and that while it is not actually known that he has any plans on hand, it makes a move towards the construction of one of the two proposed edifices on his grounds at Sutro Heights. Whether a Venetian palace or the Grecian Acropolis, it will be of immense dimensions and an ornament to the city.

The cost of these ideas are startling, but they are at the same time feasible. His well-known characteristic of carrying out what he once undertakes is in their favor. All things considered, it is more than a bare possibility that San Francisco will ere long lead the cities of America architecturally and send the name of the builder of the great house in the Comstock ringing down the ages.

ONE OF THE STATELY PALACES SITUATED ON A BY-STREET IN VENICE, WHICH MR. SUTRO MAY PURCHASE.

[From a photograph.]



THE ACROPOLIS AT ATHENS WHICH MR. SUTRO MAY ERE LONG REPRODUCE ON THE HEIGHTS ABOVE THE CLIFF HOUSE.

A CHANGE IN CONTROL.

Board of Health Patronage Now in the Hands of Democrats.

Considerable anxiety prevails among the employees of the Board of Health, all because the control of the patronage has passed into the hands of the San Francisco members, Mayor Elkrt and Drs. Long and Bucknall.

Dr. Long, who is the only member of the board from Governor Markham, was seen last night by reporters in the patronage question.

"Nothing at those beautiful structures the thought occurred to me, why not buy one of them as a model and take it back to San Francisco?

Continuing with a touch of capriciousness in his voice as he thought over his large plan, Mr. Sutro added: "It would be one of the easiest things in the world to accomplish. Now, since the existence of a Non-Partisan Board of Health, all Democrats, has been created by the Governor, I have no further interest in the matter. I am not a member of the Democratic party, and have no desire to be considered as one. I am a Republican, and have always been such. I have no further interest in the matter, and will not be considered as one of the Democratic party."

Dr. Bucknall and I were not consulted in the matter of appointments. Mr. Sanderson, who was also Mayor, and Drs. Regensburger and Stout constituted a majority and made places for all of their friends. Dr. Long, I think, is the only Republican in the board of health and have absolute control of its patronage. However, we do not propose to be dictated to by the Democrats, and if the matter fell to a stringent party we will make some changes. Many of the incumbents are worth keeping and I am sure that they are worth keeping and I am sure that they are worth keeping and I am sure that they