

3-2-1917

Newspaper Clipping from The Spokesman-Review, March 2, 1917

Unidentified

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.whitworth.edu/fathers-day-newspapersPre1924>

ANGRY WOMEN RAP TRAINING SCHOOL

Federated Clubs Hear of Alleged Cruelty Perpetrated at Chehalis in Turpin Case.

URGE WOMAN ON BOARD

Twentieth Century Club Enjoys "Neutral" Luncheon With Mrs. G. H. Lucas.

The state training school for boys at Chehalis became the target of much criticism following a recital of the case of Charlie Turpin, known as "the boy criminal," given by Mrs. C. W. Stevens yesterday afternoon at the meeting of the city federation of women's organizations. She said the boy lies seriously ill at the Sacred Heart hospital, as a result of abusive treatment received at the state training school at Chehalis. Mrs. Stevens said the federation should work with renewed vim for a woman on the state board of control, and that the women should insist that conditions at the training school be investigated. She thought a good slogan for the federation to adopt in its efforts to arouse sentiment for a woman on the state board of control would be, "Don't send your boy to war to be maimed, send him to Chehalis."

Mrs. S. E. Flannigan said she had visited the state training school and that the prisoners at Walla Walla had a palace to live in compared with the Chehalis institution, which she styled a regular barn, and thought it high time the women of the state demand that a woman be made a member of the state board of control.

Mrs. Stevens Alleges Cruelty.

Mrs. Stevens said: "The Turpin boy comes of a good family and could be trusted to work behind a counter in a grocery at Chehalis. He was regular and prompt, but one morning, not feeling well, he stayed in bed, and the superintendent came in to see why he was not on duty, pulled him from the bed, shook him and threw him against the wall."

"The boy's knee was injured in the fall but he limped about his work all that day and the next. By the third day the knee was swollen so badly he was unable to stay in his room. A doctor was called and he drew puss from the knee and took out a sliver of bone. The knee cap was removed later.

"Before the second operation, when the doctor found it necessary to remove the knee cap, the surgeon inquired if the boy had parents and advised that they be sent for because he feared the boy would not live through the operation.

"Up to this time a letter the boy had written home had not been sent, and the woman probation officer from Spokane meanwhile had been to Chehalis, taking a boy over there, and she called in to see the Turpin boy. He asked her to tell his mother about his accident, but she came back to Spokane and neglected to let the family here know. When the family did hear of it the father went over and the "lost" letter was handed to him.

"The boy was brought home to Sacred Heart and his leg was amputated at the knee the other day. Now I think it's time you women got busy and have that place over there investigated, if such things as this are going to be allowed to go on."

The Turpins intended to start suit against the institution, Mrs. Stevens said.

Mrs. Gilchrist, who has been prominent in club activities in Oregon, added her sentiments.

Mrs. George W. Manning interrupted at this juncture and repeated her query made earlier in the afternoon: "What has become of the American flag which used to hang over the Fathers' Day association pennant?" It would seem some one had stolen "Old Glory" from the federation. The custodian was instructed to hunt it up and see that it is returned to its place.

Federation Is Free of Debt.

Money rolled into an improvised collection basket at the meeting and as a result of the sudden prosperity wave the federation stands today clear of all debt. Dr. Harriett Lacy, who retires in April as president, is the first executive head for some time to leave the organization clear of debt. The federation ran along with expenses cut to the bone during the year, to leave the ways and means committee free to pay off its furniture debt, which has dragged along for two years, since the club rooms in the Palace were opened.

Mrs. Robert Hopkins, chairman of the ways and means committee, in giving the annual report for her department, announced that a balance of \$22.90 remained to be paid.

"Let's start out the new year right," Mrs. S. E. Flannigan proposed. "Let's raise this money right here and now. Here's my dollar." "Here's another dollar," came from all sides. The cash collection brought in \$18.10, not enough for the deficit. Mrs. A. P. Fassett pledged \$1 for the Woman's club and said she'd see that it was paid if she had to pay it herself. Mrs. L. C. Kramer for the Good Government league and Mrs. J. M. Simpson for the Sorosis followed suit and still it wasn't enough, so the collectors made the rounds again, this time coming out 75 cents ahead.

Would Raise Membership Dues.

Dr. Lacy announced that the executive board recommended that the membership fee for clubs be raised from \$2 to \$3 and the matter was referred back to the clubs. Dr. Lacy pointed out that the federation had been seriously handicapped in its activities by lack of funds. The treasurer's report, given by Mrs. H. E. Curtin, showed a balance of \$11.98 in the treasury.

Mrs. S. E. Flannigan, chairman of the legislative committee, gave her annual report, announcing that her committee had met twice a month until January, when the committee had met weekly to go over the legislative bills which the state legislature at Olympia has considered. Her committee, she said, had indorsed the senate bill providing for an industrial home for women, but withholding their indorsement of the amendment which provides for an advisory board of four women. "That would give women the honor of doing all the work, and the men the salary," Mrs. Flannigan advised. Her committee also indorsed the bill providing for a woman on the state board of control.

Seek Aid for Juveniles.

Mrs. E. G. Trumbo reported several activities of the philanthropic committee. It has obtained a promise from the county commissioners that they will make some provision for a new juvenile detention home in next year's budget and the school board will see what improvements can be made at the parental school. Mrs. Trumbo said figures there showed that it cost \$400 to keep one boy for a year out there, but that 60 boys could be cared for at the same cost as 20. She recommended that the federation look into the matter of having the small boys sent out to the parental instead of over to the state training school at Chehalis.

Mrs. A. E. House announced the April and March open meetings of the literature committee. Mrs. W. C. Ripley will discuss evolutionary writers at the March meeting next Tuesday and Mrs. Sara F. Archer will speak on "Poetry's Place in Literature" at the April meeting.

Social Center Meetings Succeed.

Mrs. J. M. Simpson told of the successful social center meetings; Mrs. C. E. Slane of the educational committee recommended that all classes be offered at the same rate; Miss Frances Burchett reported the arts and crafts work.

Another spirited discussion arose over the appeal made by Mrs. A. C. Garry that the federation protest the proposed reorganization which congress will make in the railway mail service, reducing the salaries of railway mail clerks. The federation granted the request.

Other reports given were by Mrs. Charles T. Goodsell of the music committee and Mrs. A. E. House, the school affairs. Presidents heard from Mrs. A. R. Immisch of the Amicitia club, and Mrs. A. P. Hughes of the Daughters of the G. A. R.

"Two Little Rebels," a patriotic sketch staged by the elocution department of the Spokane Woman's club two weeks ago, was presented at the federation meeting yesterday, through the courtesy of Mrs. W. W. Taylor, chairman of the department.