

CLUBS MOURN PASSING OF BELOVED LEADER WILL CARRY OUT MRS. HOPPIN'S POLICY

Mrs. Edward Dexter Knight Who Succeeds to Presidency of Federation Pays High Tribute to Late Chief—Is Well Qualified for Office.

By ANNIE WILDE.

THE passing of Mrs. Emily Hoppin, president of the California Federation of Women's Clubs, means the closing of a life at the time of its utmost public achievement. Mrs. Hoppin had served as a wife, a mother and a citizen, and when her stewardship in all three capacities was fulfilled and her children had called her blessed and her State had honored her, destiny permitted her to take the rest she had never suffered herself to know in life.

Coming to California from Niles, Mich., in 1870, Mrs. Hoppin devoted the first years of her residence here to assisting her husband, Charles R. Hoppin, in the development of their 600-acre ranch in Yolo county, and to the rearing of their four children, Charles, Harriet, Edith and Dorothy.

But her motherhood extended beyond her own fireside, and Mrs. Hoppin always concerned herself with the welfare of her neighbor, and strove to make the community in which she lived lovable for all, as has been demonstrated by her record as a club woman. Her ability was recognized almost as soon as she woman's club came into existence, and to her the women in the remote country district where she lived, looked for a leader to a broader life and wider vision. And although Mrs. Hoppin was recognized to be abundantly qualified to lead, her guidance was said to be the embodiment of all that was gentle, kind and considerate of the feelings of others.

From a recognition of her talents by those of her own community, Mrs. Hoppin advanced in her club activities until her ability was considered as one of the greatest assets of woman's interests throughout the State.

Mrs. Hoppin was treasurer and vice-president-at-large in the Federation, and served as parliamentarian at many conventions, before her election to the office of president at the annual assemblage in this city last May. And her election was accomplished in spite of the beauty, popularity and charm of her opponent, Mrs. A. C. Jones, the Federation giving the honor to the older woman in recognition of her executive ability, her brilliance of mind, her judgment and her gentleness.

Because of her intimate understanding of their needs, Mrs. Hoppin announced as her policy for her term of office a specializing on country life and the endowment fund, the isolation of country life to be overcome to a considerable extent by the endowment fund that would enable chairmen of departments to visit the remote clubs. And this policy, it has been further announced, will be carried on according to Mrs. Hoppin's plans, which were outlined by her at the first meeting of the new board called by her on Saturday, July 30th, at the Palace Hotel.

Mrs. Hoppin's funeral took place yesterday morning at her ranch in Yolo county, and was attended by a number of prominent clubwomen from every part of the State. And those whose only fear for her was that her strength would not be equal to the work that was intrusted, to her feel that her death was the loss of a woman that she had done well and to the loss of

power should ever mar her wise and gentle rule over the clubwomen of California.

Mrs. Edward Dexter Knight, who was elected the vice-president of the State Federation last May, will succeed Mrs. Hoppin as State president, and has had so wide an experience in club service that it is felt throughout the State she is eminently fitted for the high office to which she has been called. Mrs. Knight was president of the Corona Club for two terms, after her election in 1910, and last season was again elected, that she might be the club's representative during exposition year. Mrs. Knight has served as vice-president and as press chairman of the San Francisco district, and as recording secretary, treasurer and vice-president of the State Federation.

Mrs. Knight is not a Californian, having been born and educated in Virginia City, Nev., but after her marriage to Edward Dexter Knight, District Attorney, she came to this city and has resided here for a number of years.

Mrs. Knight has announced that she will carry out Mrs. Hoppin's policy in every particular, making a federation specialty of country life and the endowment fund, and the interests of the club women of California are felt to be entirely safe under her jurisdiction.

Mrs. Knight has sent the following appreciation to the club women of California:

To the Federated Club Women of California—My Dear Coworkers: In preparing this brief and hasty message, these words of her for whom we mourn today keep ringing in my ears: "Let us lose no opportunity this year. We must forge ahead. Let us be charitable, kind and considerate, even when we jest."

Our little world has been shaken by a great tragedy. A leader, wondrous wise and exceedingly kind, has been called from our midst, and we are left wondering and groping. Federation has suffered a great loss, but we must not be discouraged nor disheartened. We must go on with our good work even as she would have us do.

A letter from Miss Dorothy Hoppin, just received, says: "Mother was perfectly conscious to the end and did not suffer. The day before she passed away she expressed a desire to send a message to 'The Clubwoman,' but her nurse would not allow her to do so."

At an executive board meeting held on Saturday, July 31st, at the Palace Hotel, San Francisco, Mrs. Hoppin presided in her inimitable way and the other members of the board marveled at the completeness of her preparation for the year's work. Her policies were fully and finely outlined, her plans carefully and definitely laid. Her vision was clear and broad, her spirit sweet and generous, her energy untiring, her mentality unusually strong, her ideals of the highest. What better monument can we erect to her memory than to emulate her virtues and to "forge ahead" with her outlined plans as our guiding star?

In the brief time that has elapsed since her death, numerous messages of condolence have been received from club women throughout the State. Many will attend the funeral services at her home in Yolo on Saturday morning, August 7th, at 9 o'clock.

The executive board will meet in a short time and will undoubtedly indorse Mrs. Hoppin's policy and reorganize for the work of the coming year.

In this, our hour of sorrow, dear fellow club women, let us renew our pledges of loyalty and good fellowship. Let us unite our strength and continue to strive for the better life, remembering to be "charitable, kind and considerate even when we jest."

With love and sympathy,
(MRS. E. D.) HELEN M. KNIGHT,
Vice-President C. W. W. C.



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Mrs. Edward Dexter Knight, successor to the late Mrs. Emily Hoppin, as president of California Federation of Women's Clubs.