

**Plummer, Mary R. Excerpts from “Annual Report of the Recording Secretary, 1897-1898.”
Chicago History Museum. Chicago Woman’s Club Records. Box 20, Folder 3.**

“...the Women’s Clubs of Cook County invited the Federation to hold its next Annual Meeting in Chicago; which invitation being accepted we promptly appointed our several in Entertainment and Arrangement Mrs. Huddleton, feeling sure our reputation for hospitality would be safe in her hands. She reports our share of the financial burdens to be two hundred dollars and that she expects members to open their homes to the evening guests.

“...A committee composed of delegates from Federated Clubs of Cook County was at the request of our President called for the purpose of considering what might be done toward entire enforcement of Compulsory Education Law. The delegate from this Club to this Committee was Mrs. Flower and upon her resignation Mrs. H.A. Plummer took her place. As the result of this committee work, interviews with the Board of Education, the Compulsory Education Committee of same, the lawyer of ditto and superintendent of compulsory education department have been held and at all of which the burden of the song was: If this present law be good, enforce it; if bad, prove it, that we may have a basis upon which to ask another and better at the hands of the legislature.

We have met with the usual delays incident upon the movements of such large bodies, but our hearts are cheered with the hope that our descendants may yet behold the results of a test case was pending in Justice Sabath’s court. Hasten the day!

“...The Board authorized the calling together of the officers and Boards of Cook County Clubs to consider the feasibility of forming a County Federation or City Federation. The conference was held April 22nd and was well attended and adjourned subject to call of organization committee. The Club has authorized the President to appoint the delegates.

The grown daughters of the club with more or less outside incomes but dependent on the mother club for those things only a mother can give. Advice, comfort, inspiration, and though rarely needed, reproof, gather under our rooftree today. As in other families the little ones need our cuddling and support but we are proud of the elder sisters and rejoice in their strength.

The Protective Agency has sued for justice in twelve hundred cases which but for a helping hand would have sued in vain. This has cost the Society \$3,340.00

“...The Political Equity League the advanced daughter of the club reports that inasmuch as it was organized to call the unconverted and not confirmed suffragists its efforts have resulted not

so much in rapid as in substantial growth. The average attendance in public meetings has been two hundred.

The League has circulated much literature calculated to awake “conviction” and next year promises a course of lectures in Common Law showing its development from the necessities of the people.”