Head Of Women's Clubs Urges Uniform Divorce Laws As Protective Act: ...

EMILY EMERSON LANTZ

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Head Of Women's Clubs Urges Uniform Divorce Laws As Protective Act

Mrs. Thomas Gerald Winter, President Of General Fed eration, Deplores Tendency Of Times To "Get Rid Of Personal Responsibility" And Advocates Cultivation Of Affection-Understanding Of Social Questions Is Necessary, She Asserts.

By EMILY EMERSON LANIE.

when Mrs. Thomas Gerald Wineration of Women's Clubs, in- home a brooding place for good citizening an atmosphere so warm and home. People cannot be dirty in Turkey genial as to make delegates for without Baltimore having grippe, and get the unforgivable caprice of the weather.

Mrs. Winter brings to her office as chief executive of what may be called the woman's parliament of the United States romanbood of America.

resist American women in the construc-

She described the federation as a great

More Laws No Solvent.

She urged strongly that members of the federation recognize their poten-iality which lies in the fact that their mits is greater than their differences. The said that having lived long in the West, where women have for several yours been necustomed to vote, she has perhaps acquired a certain temperance of view in regard to woman's new citimuship and she discouraged feminine iselief in enacting laws as the solving of all difficult problems. Laws, she said, are shifting things, inefficient, unless supported by law-abiding spirit, which she said we need infinitely more in America at the present time than new

She believes that women create public ominion, and ursed strongly that they firect their energies toward the enactment of one new law which would be the establishment of uniform divorce laws in America for the better protection of "the most sacred of buman institutions."

Was justified at the annual youth than laws. And she said the meeting of the Maryland creation of law-abiding spirit depends of upon great leaders but upon every when Mrs. Thomas Gerald Winter, president of the General Fed- and industrial questions and every man and woman making their individual

women should now see the home nationally, rather than individually. America, Mrs. Winter brings to her office as she said, is the incarnation of the prina and Talbot. There will be one or two chief executive of what may be called the whoman's parliament of the United States a breadth of vision, a sweet reasonable case of spirit, an understanding of conditions and a sympathy that proved indicated to those who met her and listened to her speak upon the perplexing problems that today confront the group points of America, the small that hadvaldady. America, the distinct that hadvaldady. America, there is she said, is the incarnation of the prinary appointments to all the county boards and two to the School Improvement that prinary the proposition of the work of the School Improvement to much tendency to specialized edu- is "peculiarly dependent upon the attition along one line and leave complete tude toward it of the county superingular problems that today confront the said, to put over great issues. There is Associations. This work, it was said, is the incarnation of the prinary to said that hadvaldady and two to the School Improvement and trickies. She urged all to lend a of the work of the School Improvement too much tendency to specialized edu- is "peculiarly dependent upon the attitude is a pretty to problems that there will be one or two appointments to all the county boards and two to the State board next year."

The committee speaks in high proved in the county boards and two to the State board next year."

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The committee speaks in high proved in the county boards and two to the State boards and t she said, is the incarnation of the pringroup points of view. and education in Mrs. Winter is the daughter of a spots, and she believes that women will clergyman, a graduate of Wellesley Colest. a woman of wide experience in themselves first-hand with conditions of many fields of activity now occupied by life about them, and this once done. life about them, and this once done. comen and seems qualified to guide and they will begin to build up a political power. As one step toward good eitizenship, she urged that all sections of the country unite in observing the Fourth of July as citizens' day, on which oc-She described the federation as a great of July as citizens' day, on which occurrence citizens of America that includes easion cach year all, whether native the more doing splendid work in health the content of the c inspiring words regarding the privilege conferred and the duties assumed as will impress upon them the value and importance of their newly acquired honors.

Educational Report. Of widespread interest was the report its work it found an optional school at- leadership. tendance law in existence, but from the provisions of even this six counties were specifically exempt and only nine were making any effort to enforce it. In 1915 nearly 55,000 children on the school rolls had disappeared from the school-rooms, while thousands had never en-

rolled at all. In response to growing public dissatis action with these conditions Governor last four years also the superintendents Goldsborough secured an appropriation of Harford, Wiemico, Cocil, Montgomer, Marting and Mar of \$5.000 and the appointment of a the most seared of imman institutions. Of Solves and the appointment of a ery and Frederica countries developed the times commission to arrange for a survey of with the Johns Hopkins University for the elementary schools of the State, professional courses to be taken by teachand urged the cultivation of human uf- even before Governor Harrington as-

sumed the reins of office a delegation of the federation committee urged upon him the need of a mandatory and Statewide compulsory school attendance law, and when the State survey was com-pleted by experts from the General Education Bourd it was found that the State was securing but poor returns for the money expended for public education, the causes of this being poorly trained teachers and the grip of the politicians upon the system.

Upon the survey report was based the comprehensive school bill which the General Assembly of 1916 passed and which continues to stand stanchly upon the statutes despite all attacks upon it, its bulwark of strength being the support of public sentiment. At present atten-tion is concentrated upon enforcement of the law, with constantly brightening outlook, but there are still, according to the report, obviously weak spots, which Mrs. Buchner pointed out, among them, some "five or six county superintendents who do not measure up to the professional requirements of the law." In the matter of salaries, much progress has been made and even greater has been planned. Maryland can now calmly challenge comparison with other fused into the spirit of the meeting an atmosphere so warm and

There is no such thing as the isolated state and County Boards of Education, the speaker said: "Last year there was the speaker said: "Last year the speaker said one woman serving in that capacity; there are now five-one each in Harford, Montgomery, Dorchester, Caroline

reliable index of their general effective

Anne Arundel county is believed to have the honor of providing the first teacherage in Maryalud, located at West Annapolis. Its furnishings were provided by the School Improvement Association, and it is successfully managed by the association and the trustees. A number of counties report public health

According to Mrs. Buchner, Talbot county is doing fine work along lines of public welfare, recreation and the promotion of children's reading.

In point of organization for thorough and co-ordinate work. Montgomery and made by Mrs. Edward F. Buchner. Prince George's counties lead the State chairman of the education committee Both have county-vide education comof the Maryland Federation, which committees and one, if not both, has an education mittee has been working for six years cation chairman. In Prince George's upon educational lines and now retires county there is a colored woman's feafrom office. When the committee began eration under intelligent and educated

"In a number of counties." said the eport, "teachers enjoy opportunities to do professional studying without interrupting their professional duties. Hood College, Western Maryland College and George Washington University are doing Maryland this service. Attendance upon summer schools is also widely and usually financially encouraged. During the ment of Education.

meeting," concludes the report, "it will have an opportunity to aid the State Department and the Governor in carrying out the legislative program which they are planning. There will probably be a report of the survey of the colleges of the State which is now being carried on college problem is part of the plan. Let

the State government along modern busi- tool we have in our vote!" nesslike lines is one of high patriotism and it is one in which he cannot rely upon the politicians for support. This

schools which have just been adjudged under the direction of Mr. Flexner and us all help individually and through our standard schools by the State Depart- on that report will rest a regrouping of organizations, when the times comes, but the institutions and the elimination of not until we have made ourselves thor-"Before the federation's next annual much futile and wasteful overlapping, oughly familiar with the entire situa-Governor Ritchie's hope to reorganize tion. Let us never forget what a mighty

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