

nings, more in former years than recently.

Cut flowers and potted plants occupied places in the mansion where they would have the best effect and present the most inviting appearance, and the guests, who comprised many prominent people of the city, upon being ushered into the drawing room, were received by Mrs. Jennings, the hostess, who got able assistance in her most pleasing task, from a receiving committee made up of Mrs. McVicker, Mrs. Todd of Springville, Mrs. Briggs and Mrs. Bannister of Ogden, Mrs. Elmer B. Jones, Mrs. E. B. Wells, Mrs. Hyde, Mrs. Kinney and Mrs. La Barthe of Salt Lake.

A sumptuous and delicious repast was partaken of by those gathered together and the time was enjoyably spent by the ladies engaging in pleasant chats on club matters, while the gentlemen whiled away a period of two hours in strolling through the parlors and all the while being charmed by delightful strains of music from Olson's orchestra.

The Women's Convention held two more sessions in the Unity hall May 22 commencing at 10 a. m. and 2 p. m. The morning session opened with a paper on the Higher Education Regarding Wifehood and Motherhood by Mrs. Adella Todd of the Springville Woman's club. A debate on the question, Shall Clubs Be Limited? was entered into by Mrs. E. B. Jones of the Reviewer's club taking the affirmative and Dr. Mattie Hughes Cannon of the Reaper's club handling the negative. Both ladies did credit to themselves, as well as to the Federation, in their discussion of the respective sides of the question, and they showed very strongly that the feminine sex has equal capabilities in the discussion of subjects, as those possessed by members of the opposite gender. At the close of the discussion by the two ladies appointed, a motion was put and carried that others be allowed to express themselves on the question, and several of those present availed themselves of the opportunity. The judge's decision on the matter was to have been given this afternoon. Following up the regular outline of procedure Mrs. C. E. Coulter of the Aglala club of Ogden responded with an able paper on What Some Eastern Clubs are Doing, after which came a paper on the Powers of a President in Women's Clubs by Mrs. L. B. Adams of the La Coterie club of Ogden. These proceedings ended the morning session.

President, Mrs. W. C. Jennings of Ladies' Literary club; vice president, Mrs. E. B. Graham, La Coterie; secretary, Mrs. N. B. Little, The Author; treasurer, Miss Josephine Kellogg, Nineteenth Century club. The new board of directors is Mrs. Clara Briggs, Mrs. D. C. Johnson, Mrs. J. M. Dart, Dr. R. B. Pratt, Dr. M. H. Cannon, Mrs. Wells, Mrs. E. J. Daggott. Mrs. Clarence Bradley was elected State correspondent for the Lotus, the club organ, instead of Mrs. W. C. Jennings.

The judges of the debate, Shall Clubs Be United, between Mrs. E. B. Jones and Dr. Mattie Hughes Cannon, announced their decision in favor of the affirmative which was championed by Mrs. Jones.

Mrs. Frank Jennings was remembered for her entertainment of the federation at her home on Wednesday evening by a resolution of thanks being passed and ordered sent to the lady. Mayor Glendinning's kindness in furnishing plants for the decoration of the convention hall was not forgotten.

Next year's convention of the federation will be held in this city, and while the women have had a highly interesting and most successful time during the convention just closed, it is safe to say that one year hence will find the membership of the federation greatly increased and the force of the organization for great good in the State of Utah more openly recognized.

### COUNTY VALUATIONS.

County Assessor Lynch has about completed his assessment work for the year 1896. The only precinct that has not been visited is Alta, where Mr. Lynch says there is still fifteen feet of snow. However, he will go up there within a few days and complete this portion of his work so as to close his books by June 1.

Asked by a News man as to what was the estimated valuation of the property of this county for the present year Mr. Lynch replied, "About \$46,000,000, which will be an advance of \$6,000,000 over that of last year. The increase is due principally to the taxation of mortgages."

"Then, of course," said the newspaper man, "the public revenue will be in excess of what it was last year?"

"Not at all, or at least very little."

"But how do you reconcile that statement with the one previously made—that while the valuation will be several millions more than last year, the revenue will be practically the same?"

"Well, I mean that this mortgage taxation will not furnish the results expected. Land mortgages are being given into the banks out of sight and placed and handled so as to be beyond the reach of taxation. Only the other day I went into a bank in the line of business. I was received very courteously and was politely and pleasantly told I was at perfect liberty to examine their mortgage records, which I did and found that more than \$300,000 had been transferred to a single London family, who being foreigners are exempt. The law is bad one. I don't mean that this class of property should not be taxed but I do mean that the law falls far short of what was intended and that it is unjust in its operations. As an illustration: We had the same kind of a law in force in 1890-91. During the first of those years less than \$5,000 of mortgage money was collected. It was not enough to pay the expenses incurred in collection. Only, as a rule, did the poor people—those holding small mortgages comply with the law. The rich evaded it and it will be so again."

The particular section under which the county assessors are guided in their mortgage assessment work is found in the revenue law passed by the State Legislature. It reads as follows:

To assist the assessor in the performance of his duties, the county recorder must annually transmit to the assessor, on or before the first Monday in March a complete abstract of all mortgages, deeds

of trust, contracts and other obligations by which any debt is secured remaining unsatisfied on the records of his office, not barred by the statute of limitations at 12 o'clock noon on the first Monday in March of said year. Such abstract must be written under appropriate headings, to embrace all information requisite for the assessor, in a book or books to be furnished by the board of county commissioners upon the requisition of the assessor. If any such list be found to contain any instrument relating to lands situated in more than one county, it is the duty of the assessor to transmit to the State board of equalization all information relating thereto.

### TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

OMAHA, May 16.—A special to the Bee from Humboldt, Neb., says: The train arriving here this evening brings reports of frightful results of the cyclone on the Pawnee reservation adjoining this county. They assert that forty persons were killed by the cyclone on the reservation. No particulars are obtainable, and all communication by wire is down. Those killed are supposed to be Indians, as there are few whites on the reservation.

A special to the Bee from Falls City, Neb., says: This city and surrounding country are in mourning tonight, with dead and injured in many families and debris of the devastating elements covering everything.

The farm houses of H. E. Lemmon, I. R. Rhodes, W. R. Kent, Sam Sallor, Jacob Lichty, Thomas Fakin and William Drugmiller were all blown down and most of the accidents and deaths occurred at these places. It is estimated the damage will be \$75,000 to the city and park. Damage in the rural districts is supposed to be much heavier.

WASHINGTON, May 18.—A profound sensation has been caused among medical men of Germany and France through the fatal effects attending the administration of the famous antidiphtheritic serum in the case of a child of an eminent Berlin physician. A servant in the physician's household showing signs of diphtheria, the doctor, to prevent his child from contracting the disease, administered an injection of the serum and the child died in a few minutes.

MADRID, May 18.—In the senate today Senor Giron, a liberal, protested against the slanders of Spain which were uttered in the United States Senate. He intended, he said, to denounce the intolerable conduct of pirates and brigands against Spain.

The duke of Tetuan, minister of foreign affairs, replied to Senor Giron that the government might join in the latter protest, but that they could not approve the remainder of Senor Giron's remarks. President Cleveland and the United States government had given proof of their respect for the principles of international law, he maintained.

WASHINGTON, May 18.—The foreign statistics gathered by the Agricultural department show the crop conditions throughout the year. The summary fell as:

Great Britain—The crop outlook everywhere is good and promises a harvest about two weeks earlier than usual. This would diminish the im-