

WORK OF THE CHAPTERS

Norwalk Chapter (Norwalk, Connecticut).—During the past year the educational work of the chapter has been continued in its two branches—that relating to the foreign citizens and that concerning the mental welfare of the chapter's southern protégé who is being given a course of instruction at Maryville college. The Springwood library has been maintained, many books added, and a steady increase in attendance has been observed. Mrs. Donley, chairman of the committee in charge has received the appointment as secretary of the state committee on patriotic education of children and foreigners—an acknowledgment of the work of the Norwalk Chapter, also, of the ability of the efficient chairman. In October by invitation of the committee, the chapter at the close of a brief business session visited the reading room in a body.

Reports from the chapter's "adopted daughter" are gratifying, showing application to study and steady advancement on the road of learning by the young girl from whom many letters have been received each one breathing deepest appreciation and gratitude for what is being done in her behalf.

In addition to raising the money necessary for the carrying on of the work just mentioned the chapter has shared in other worthy projects. A sum has been sent to the fund for the monument to nurses at the national cemetery at Arlington and a contribution has been forwarded to be used for Continental Hall purposes.

Some of the chapter's talented members have contributed towards making the meetings memorable as being of unusual interest. In September the season was auspiciously begun by the reading of an original paper written by Mrs. Blanchard, entitled "A Country School." This sketch, replete with wit and humor, a reminiscence of the writer's own schooldays, touched the chord of remembrance in the minds of some of its hearers and delightfully characterized for all the school of the period pictured.

At the "open meeting" in November our friends shared with us the privilege of listening to Mrs. E. J. Hill's vivid account of her trip to Japan and the Philippines as a member of Secretary Taft's party. The conviction was felt that the next best thing to taking the trip in the body was to be transported thither in spirit by our honorary regent, the magic of whose description did much toward annihilating space, and whose gifts in the depicting of experiences were never more charmingly displayed.

In February, Miss Katherine Sturges, another member of ability presented a resumé of the chapter's doings from its inception to the present time in a bright paper entitled "Looking Backward Through Six Administrations." This freshened the memory and showed in the aggregate of fourteen years a worthy whole dignified by much work and many achievements—a period also of much social activity.

The visit of Mrs. Hugh Griffin, of London, England, our guest of honor in January, is remembered with pleasure. Mrs. Griffin was first regent of the Daughters of the American Revolution in London and was organizer of the Society of American Women in London. Her recital of patriotic and philanthropic work in England in connection with these organizations was listened to with interest. In April, Mr. Wm. H. Burr, of Southport, was the chapter's guest. From Mr. Burr was heard a very fine historical paper on Tryon's Raid peculiarly interesting to the Norwalk Chapter as being located in the county wherein the events related took place in Revolutionary days, the ancestors of many of the hearers having participated.

Mrs. Merwin brought from the state meeting at Groton a comprehensive account of its proceedings. At this gathering the Norwalk members in attendance had cause for just pride in the frequency and praise with which the various good works of the Norwalk Chapter received mention from different speakers.

For the raising of the necessary funds with which to carry on our philanthropic work two entertainments have been given. In October an afternoon whist took place at the home

of Mrs. Stearns, one of our Westport members, and proved successful. The chapter and its friends attended in goodly numbers.

On February 22nd, in response to the wish of Mrs. Donald McLean, president general, the chapter gave an entertainment for the purpose of raising money to be devoted to Continental Hall. Mrs. B. M. Andrews, of South Norwalk, kindly offered her house for this, which consisted of an evening of plantation songs and stories by Miss Florence Francis, of the Stamford Chapter. Many of the guests attended in colonial array, lending picturesqueness and a touch of the days of auld lang syne so appropriate to such an occasion. Mrs. Swartz, our regent, welcomed the guests in an address of a few fitting words after which the entertainment immediately began. At its close refreshments were served by maids in colonial garb. A snug sum of money was netted which has been duly sent to Washington for Continental Hall purposes.

The chapter has been represented at the Continental Congress by the regent, Mrs. Swartz, and the customary number of delegates. In January an invitation was received for a tea given by the Mary Silliman Chapter, of Bridgeport, in honor of Mrs. Donald McLean. Those who attended brought back glowing accounts of the affair.

It is seen that the chapter has not grown weary in well doing. To paraphrase it has "been good in thought and has not failed in action," having systematically continued the carrying out of its plans, proving by the character of its endeavors its rightful ownership in the appreciatively valued title of Daughters of the American Revolution. Surely, these noble aims must penetrate the life of each member, heightening and uplifting in so doing.—JULIA BIGELOW FELLOW, *Recording Secretary*.

Rochelle Chapter (Rochelle, Illinois).—Our chapter of fifty members, as it enters upon its seventh year, feels that it has been doing its little part in the work of the whole and desires that its helpfulness may increase with its years. During the past year, aside from the regular literary and social meetings.