

*History
of
the
Sedalia Business
and
Professional Women's Club
1923-1960*

Published May 1960

Dedication

This history has been made possible by the faith in, and loyalty and service to Federation objectives exhibited by all members during the past thirty-seven years, 1923-1960

Foreword

For thirty-seven years the Sedalia Business and Professional Women's Club has been active and we point with pride to the place our Club, by its achievements and purposes, has made for itself not only in Sedalia but throughout the State of Missouri as well as in the State and National Federations.

It is with pride that this edition of the History of the Sedalia Club from its beginning in 1923 to the present year of 1960 is released in commemoration of its thirty-seven years of progress. The Sedalia Club is indebted to Marjorie Garansson, President 1959-1960, for all research and the compilation of its history herein presented.

The Board of Directors 1959-1960

In Loving Memory of Donna Harrison for preserving our Club History in her scrapbook and records.

~ Linda Fisher 2014

Club Collect

**Keep us, O God, from pettiness, let us be large in thought, in word, in deed
Let us be done with fault-finding and leave off self seeking.
May we put away all pretense and meet each other face to face—without self-pity
and without prejudice.
May we never be hasty in judgment and always generous
Let us take time for all things; make us to grow calm, serene, gentle.
Teach us to put into action our better impulses, straightforward, and unafraid.
Grant that we may realize it is the little things that create difference,
That in the big things in life we are at one.
And may we strive to touch and to know the great, common human heart of us all,
And O Lord God, let us forget not to be kind!**

~Mary Stewart

Sedalia Business and Professional Women History 1923-1960

The beginning thirty-seven years ago was inauspicious, but the spirit of mutual service was resolute. On this foundation the Sedalia Business and Professional Women's Club, one of the most active civic groups in a city known as the "Queen City of the Prairies," is carrying on an expanded program of community service backed by a record of thirty-seven years of leadership and active participation in civic affairs and striving always to promote the high objectives of our State and National Federations.

Setting a high standard of accomplishment in the community, in the Missouri Federation and in the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, the Sedalia group has increased its membership year after year.

Since its organization thirty-seven years ago by thirty charter members the Sedalia Club has grown into a well organized group of 233 women engaged in a wide variety of occupations. The membership roll embraces women from all walks of life; stenographers, secretaries, bookkeepers, sales women, accountants, clerks, bankers, social workers, nurses, teachers, business owners, store managers, insurance agents, real estate agents, office managers, executives, a chiropractor, a certified public accountant and an attorney.

The Sedalia Business and Professional Women's Club was organized in the spring of 1923 through the efforts of that ardent Federationist, Fern Hawkins of Kansas City, then First Vice-President of the Missouri Federation. Business and Professional Women of Sedalia were invited to attend the first conference and organization dinner, March 14, 1923, which was held at the old Liberty Hotel. That you may visualize this pioneer group which gathered around that first conference table let us take down our time dimmed Federation Memory Book and turn those well-thumbed leaves. There at the head sat the god mother of our Club, the charming Miss Helen Summy (Mrs. George J. Woodard), second State President of the Missouri Federation, who was the principal speaker and presided at the dinner. There sat Mrs. Pearl Weeks who was elected temporary chairman; Miss Katherine Urban, Secretary; Miss Mary O'Bannon, Chairman for the Constitutional Committee and Miss Winifred Weatherman, Chairman of the Publicity Committee.

Defying superstition on the March 1923 meeting date thirty charter members signed the membership roll. Neither memory nor records give the names of those who may have been present, but on the enthusiasm of these thirty women the Sedalia Business and Professional Women's Club was formed on March 14, 1923.

The second meeting of the Sedalia Business and Professional Women's Club was held at the old Liberty Hotel, March 20, 1923. **Mrs. Pearl Weeks** was elected the first President; Mrs. Alice White, First Vice-President; Miss Bessie Briton, Second Vice-President; Miss Mattie Montgomery, Parliamentarian; Miss Margaret Downs, Historian; Mrs. Freida B. Nelson, Auditor; Dr. Nancy Meek Hain and Mrs. Mohana Collier, Directors. It was decided to meet the first Thursday of each month in a business session, the remaining three meetings to be social. Dues were set at \$5.00.

At the time of the organization the club had one honorary member, Mrs. Dixie Owen. Mrs. E. F. Yancey has since been elected to such membership.

Two delegates from the month old Sedalia Club attended the second state convention held at the Hotel Robidoux in St. Joseph, April 20 to 21, 1923. At the convention Mrs. Pearl Weeks was elected Third Vice-President of the Missouri Federation.

Our club was formerly introduced to the other civic organizations of the Community at a reception and dance held June 1, 1932. A large floral key, the "Key to the City" was presented to our President by Ira Melton acting for the mayor. At the conclusion of the program Mrs. E. F. Yancey spoke briefly on the purpose of the club. She predicted a great future for the club, stating that it would take its place among the business women of the city just as Kiwanis, Rotary and other clubs had among the men.

Frieda Nelson and Pearl Wilson Weeks attended the State Board meeting held in Kansas City. At this meeting Miss Winifred Weatherman was made Chairman of the State Program Committee.

This year, the club adopted the slogan "Every Member Bring a Member in the Next Two Months."

An ice cream social was given July 14, 1923 on the Court House lawn. The funds from this social were to be used for furnishing a club room.

Miss Lydia Montgomery represented the Sedalia Club as a delegate to the National Convention at Portland, Oregon, July 9 to 16, 1923.

From our early club records we learned that Freida Nelson represented our club on the joint committee comprised of representatives of seven Sedalia civic organizations—the purpose of the committee was to bring to Sedalia a series of high class entertainment.

This year, too, we were represented on the Mark Twain Memorial Association We sponsored the Rest Rooms in the Red Cross Rooms after the Court House Fire. We sold tickets to the Artist Series. We filled one hundred stockings for the Community Christmas Tree. We became an associate member of the National Travelers Aid Association, organized to sponsor contests—the boys for the best built bird houses and the girls for the best essays on birds. Pearl Weeks was voted the most outstanding member of the Club and her name submitted as such in the "Who's Who" contest being conducted by the State Federation.

The Sedalia Club was admitted as the ninth member club of the State Federation and the charter was presented to our group by the National Vice-President, Pearl Matlock of Kansas City at a meeting held in the Liberty Hotel, September 6, 1923. The presentation was made in the presence of fifty-six members, representatives of other civic organizations and a few guests.

1924 opened a busy year for the Sedalia Club. The Columbia Business and Professional Women's Club was organized March 13, 1924, with the help of Dr. Nancy Meek Hain of Sedalia with a charter membership of thirteen. The Warrensburg Business and Professional Women's Club was organized October 14, 1924, with the assistance of the Sedalia Club with a charter membership of twenty-five. Then on October 15, 1924, the Windsor Business and Professional Women's Club was organized by the Sedalia Club and the charter was presented February 11, 1926 by Dr. Nancy Meek Hain of Sedalia, then State President.

Membership jumped from thirty to sixty-five members during the first year and the Sedalia Club celebrated its membership achievement and first birthday combined with installation of officers at a banquet held in the old Liberty Hotel, March 21, 1924. Representatives of civic clubs and guests of members were invited. It was very fitting that on this occasion the principal address of the evening should be made by Miss Summy, State President, who the year before had presided at the organization dinner of the Sedalia Club. At this birthday celebration **Anna King** was installed as the second president of the club. 125 members, representatives of civic organizations and guests attended the banquet. The dining room was prettily decorated and in the center of the room on a special table stood a huge birthday cake on which was burning one candle. A feature of the evening was the cutting of the birthday cake which was served to the

guests by club officers.

In the spring fourteen delegates attended the State Convention held in Boonville, April 4 to 5, 1924 and there extended an invitation to the State Federation to hold the 1925 State Convention in Sedalia. There, too, **Dr. Nancy Meek Hain** of Sedalia was elected the third State President of the Missouri Federation. Not only did our club have a State President, but serving on the Board with her was Rosemary Burrowes, State Corresponding Secretary. It was an occasion to be remembered.

The State Bulletin for July 1924 was published by the Sedalia Club. The Bulletin was an eighteen page publication containing statewide as well as local news. This particular issue was a State Fair number and in addition contained news articles and cuts of Sedalia and the State Fair. 1600 copies were published. Rosemary Burrowes was the editor and it was published by the old Thomas Printing Company.

In 1924 the Sedalia Club sponsored the first girls week. Questionnaires were sent out to eighth grade girls seeking information as to whether or not they intended to continue their studies. All girls signifying intention of quitting school were visited and urged to continue their studies in high school. Part of the club educational fund was used as a loan fund to purchase books for girls who were unable to buy them.

In 1924 we furnished speakers and programs to Rotary, Democratic City Committee and other organizations. Alice White was elected by members to represent our club on the Advisory Board of the Sedalia Chamber of Commerce. We donated to the Girl Scout Camp and the Community Fund. We were represented on the Sedalia Philharmonic Association. We sponsored a May Day Fete at Convention Hall. We were in charge of the program at the noon meeting of the Merchants Institute. We endorsed the Boy Scout round up and assisted in the Boy Scout financial drive. We endorsed the move to secure more adequate water supply for the city.

Our club promoted Sedalia's first Round Table. We were represented in the Round Table meetings held monthly and attended by the President and Secretary of five civic clubs. Anne King was elected Vice-President of the Round Table.

This year, too, Mrs. Monahan Collier was elected our honorary member of the board. We endorsed and worked on the Community Chest. We supported the Merchants Carnival. We sponsored a stunt night in which a number of the civic clubs of the city participated. We conducted a stand at the Y.M.C.A. Mardi Gras. The proceeds were used toward purchasing blankets for the "Y". We conducted parliamentary law classes, revised our constitution, endorsed the Convention of the Parent Teacher's Council, and loaned money to help young girls through school. Two of our members, Dr. Nancy Meek Hain and Rosemary Burrowes, attended the National Convention at West Baden, Indiana. We closed the year with ninety-five members.

So ends the second chapter of our career. Many things were accomplished and much progress made.

March 1925 marked the second birthday of our club and the beginning of the very prosperous third year. The meeting was attended by 160 club members, representatives from other clubs, and guests. There was a birthday cake out of which stepped a charming girl singing the club history song. Small individual birthday cakes with two tiny candles were at every place. Following the delightful banquet **Mrs. Clara Hurley** was installed as the third President of our club.

May 15 and 16, 1925 the fourth State Convention was held in Sedalia where **Dr. Nancy Meek Hain** was again elected State President, and Rosemary Burrowes, Corresponding Secretary. The convention was opened with the Executive Board Meeting and Dinner at which our Club was hostess. More than 150 business and professional women attended the convention,

including ninety registered delegates, representing twenty-two clubs. Extensive preparations were made to entertain visitors by the local committees of the Sedalia Club. The Sedalia newspaper, civic organizations, and business chairmen did an excellent job. Convention automobile windshield stickers announcing the convention and bearing the slogan "C'm Along" were distributed. "C'm Along" was selected as the title for a convention song written by a Sedalia Poet. Sessions extended over a three day period, May 1, 16, 17th. The business meetings were held in the Court House. The visitors were welcomed to Sedalia by Mayor Judd L. Babcock and Mrs. Clara Hurley, President of the Sedalia Club. The beautiful Saturday night banquet held in the Terry Hotel Dining Room was attended by 175 members, who received favors of patent thermometers and paper weights. The room was attractively decorated in buck-brush and gaily colored balloons. Mrs. Olive Joy Wright of Cleveland, Ohio, First Vice-President of The National Federation was the guest of honor and principal speaker at the banquet. Many congratulatory letters were received from state officials on the success of the convention.

In 1925 we sponsored a competitive Vaudeville Show at the Smith Cotton High School in which many clubs and social organizations participated. We sponsored a gym class at the Y.M.C.A. This class was open to all women. We published a Cook Book, donated gifts and entertained the old folks at the County Home, delivered fifteen baskets of food to families on Christmas Eve, and purchased gifts for the Community Christmas Tree. We presented a program to the old folks of the County Home in the new Chapel which we helped to build. We sponsored Mary Hopkins, a member, as a delegate in the Jefferson Centennial Campaign, through which she won a tour to Europe. We presented a musical and literary program to the Central Business College. Dr. Hain attended the National Convention in Portland, Maine. Our Glee Club made public appearances. Our third club year closed with 115 members.

In 1926 **Mrs. D. W. Tobey** our able President guided us through the year. This year the State Federation met in Excelsior Springs for the fifth annual State Convention. There **Dr. Hain** was for the third time elected President. There, too, Winifred Weatherman was made state director. At the National Convention that same year in Des Moines, Iowa, Dr. Hain was elected Second Vice-President of the National Federation. The Trenton Club Charter was presented to eighty-five members August 30, 1926 by Dr. Nancy Meek Hain. This was the largest charter list in the state that year. At the fall state board meeting held in Kansas City in September 1926, Dr. Hain resigned as State President to go to Florida where she has since lived. Her last work in Missouri was the organization of a club in St. Louis which made twenty-three clubs in the Missouri Federation.

In 1926 we gave a banquet to the Girl Scouts. Awards of Merit were presented to Scouts who successfully passed tests. We presented a program at Rotary. Ten percent of our dues were set aside for the Educational Fund.

During our history, we have gone into the field of dramatics and each time found talent we had no idea existed. In 1926 the club produced two stunts "The Clownettes" and "The Dixie Band." The Clownettes was something on the order of a minstrel. They did not know how well their little stunts would grow and that they would put them on all over town. They appeared before the Missouri University Alumni, Parent's Meeting, Kiwanis, American Legion, Y.M.C.A. Drive, Eastern Star, Rotary and Central Business College. The Clownettes made history for themselves. They almost won first place at the 1928 State Convention. In 1931 the club produced the "Red Jackateers" who presented a stunt during Sedalia Civic Week and at the 1931 State Convention. They were directed by Dorothy Truitt and sponsored by Carrie Gilkey. Then in 1931 at the District Conference a "Romeo and Juliet" stunt was presented.

At the close of the fourth year of our club **Mrs. Frieda B. Nelson** a Charter Member was elected President. The following appeared October 25, 1927 in the Sedalia Democrat, "Having made a success of her business venture Mrs. Nelson is especially fitted to guide the destinies of the club, and her accomplishments thus far, have reaped much benefit to the organization. Possessing an affable manner, with a willingness to sacrifice both time and pleasure for the interest of the Club, she has won the esteem and good will of each and every member, and their cooperation in all projects, bespeaks of the confidence of their leader. The local club is being rapidly established upon a solid foundation and its prospects for the future are bright."

In 1927 the Marshall Business and Professional Women's Charter was presented August 12, 1927 at a joint meeting and picnic with the Sedalia Club at Liberty Park. In November 1927 the Sedalia Club organized the Higginsville Business and Professional Women's Club and Frieda Nelson presented the charter April 27, 1929 to nineteen members.

In 1927 the club held their first banquet in the new club rooms located in the IOOF Building. In an address by Mayor O. B. Poundstone to the club in its in its new Club rooms the Mayor said that no other club was ever more fitted to foster affairs of interest to the community than the Business and Professional Women's Club. The first ice cream social was sponsored in 1923 to raise funds to furnish the club rooms, then other ice cream socials were raise funds. The club rooms were shared jointly with the Girl Scouts. Later the club rooms were changed to the Franklin Short Building then in 1929 to the Grotto Temple.

In 1927 the bronze statue of Nike was won by the Sedalia Club for having organized the most clubs in the State. The award was made at the State Convention held at Chillicothe. This year, too, the club took up the big sister idea which movement was a national one on the part of Business and Professional Women's Clubs all over the country. Twenty club members took under their charge a little girl whom they sponsored, entertained at meetings, encouraged in studies and whom they just looked after as a little sister.

The same year the club helped worthy girls to remain in school by loaning money without interest and securing positions for some who otherwise would have to leave school, collected money for the flood relief, contributed toward paying expense of a two day salesmanship institute for merchants, invited neighboring clubs to the annual Fall Rally, organized the first literary club for members, filled stockings for children of the Melita Day Nursery, Christmas caroled, cheered the old folks at the County Home by giving a musical program, sponsored a health program for members, sent Christmas boxes to the Pettis County Girls in the Reformatory, entertained the civic club presidents and secretaries and were hostesses to the women at the Associated Industries Convention.

Then February 23, 1928 a party somewhat unique in that it was the first of its kind ever held in Sedalia and a delightful one from start to finish, was that given by members of the Club in the American Legion Hall to their employers and friends. The affair was planned as one of the closing activities of a successful year in order that the business and professional men of the city might become acquainted with the club members and know something of the organization's accomplishment.

With the end of our fifth birthday **Mrs. Susan Hurlbut Berry** became president in 1928. This year we honored our bosses and it was a merry crowd that attended this first annual party for their employers. This same year mothers broke bread with their daughters at the first mother and daughter banquet. We also endorsed the hospital bond issue.

In 1928 Frieda Nelson assisted the Marshall Club in organizing the Slater Club, known as the grandchild of Sedalia. The Clinton Business and Professional Women's Club of seventeen

charter members was organized in June 1928 by the Sedalia Club through the efforts of Frieda Nelson, member of the State Board and district organizer. Frieda also presented the charter to the Harrisonville Business and Professional Women's Club this same year. Out of this activity of assisting in the organization of clubs grew our annual "Fall Rally" to celebrate the "home-coming" of clubs which we had organized. The idea eventually grew into the statewide District Conference.

More honors came to our club in 1928 at the State Conference in Columbia when Frieda Nelson was elected to the State Board as Third Vice-President and chosen as Chairman of the Finance Committee, and Rosemary Burrowes was made Publicity Chairman. The Sedalia Club also placed second at the State Convention for having organized the most clubs in the state.

During the same year Susan Berry and Frieda Nelson were delegates to the National Convention in New Orleans; our club was represented at the 4th of July Program by the civic clubs at the Missouri State Fair and we entertained the State Board September 15, 1928.

In 1929 **Mrs. Carol Melton** was elected President with Cecile Tillbery, a charter member, completing the unexpired term. Among the activities in the spring of 1929 in the Sedalia Business and Professional Women's Club was the sponsoring of a benefit recital for Miss Katherine Urban, a charter member, who won several scholarships at the University of Missouri where she was a student. The Helen G. Steele Music Club also assisted in sponsoring the recital on May 8th in the Smith-Cotton Auditorium. The proceeds derived assured Miss Urban, who was a most promising singer, of another year at the University. The club also voted a sum to be used in furthering her musical education.

The State Convention met in 1929 in Springfield and there our own Frieda Nelson was advanced to Second Vice-President and chosen as Membership Chairman. Nellie Monegan was official pianist for the convention. At that convention, too, the Sedalia Club Scrap Book was judged the best, but the prize was not awarded the Sedalia Club because a Sedalia member was in charge of awarding prizes.

August 20, 1929 will stand out as one of the red letter days in our club history. Our own Frieda Nelson was responsible for the first B. & P. W. Day at the Missouri State Fair. This was the first time that any State Fair had so honored any Women's Organization. All over the State publicity had been given the program for the day. Announcements appeared in more than 300 newspapers. Hundreds of members of the Federation assembled at the Fairgrounds. Frieda was chairman of the two hour program held in the Independent Women and also awarded the Sedalia Club the prize for the best activities item for the month of August for the account of B. & P. W. Day at the Fair.

The same year our club sponsored a health program, parliamentary law class, physical education class, sold tuberculosis seals, supplied five needy families with Christmas baskets, the civic committee of the club was responsible for sowing of grass seed from Barrett Avenue to Limit Avenue on 16th street, secured new club rooms, organized an employment agency to help high school girls get work, gave a scholarship to a high school girl, bought a radio for the County Home, Dorothy Truitt was appointed chairman of the emblem committee for the fourth district, and was hostess to the State Board meeting held in Sedalia September 3, 1929. We organized a study course, and Mrs. Carolyn Cockefair gave a course of ten lectures on current literature. Mrs. Cockefair has since become a very famous person.

This year, too, our club celebrated National Business Women's Week, which movement was a national one on the part of B. & P. W. Clubs. Since this time Celebration of the Week has been a part of the program of our Club.

On February 23, 1930 the Sedalia Club was hostess to the District Conference. The Sedalia Club scored again—the Conference was a success. There were many complimentary statements. We are gaining a far reaching reputation for hospitality.

Cecile Tillbery who so capably led the club as its President was not only an efficient President, but she also had the love and support of the entire membership.

In April 1930 we launched our little ship upon another year's "Adventure in Friendship." At the helm was our new president, **Juanita Young**. During this year the club sponsored the Southwest Bell Telephone Company Male Chorus, secured twenty-eight new members, entertained the old folks at the County Home, redecorated our club rooms, treated the "Kiddies" of the Melita Day Nursery, sponsored a Society Automobile Show at the Missouri State Fair, planted trees on West 16th Street, sent two girls to Girl Scout Camp, donated to the Crippled Children's Society, sponsored the Tuberculosis Seal Sale, sponsored an essay thrift contest for high school students, contributed to needy families of Sedalia, published our first Year Book, organized an employment agency to help high school girls find work, and contributed scholarship money to a Smith-Cotton High School girl. Then, too, in 1930 was born and christened The Herald, or first official club publication.

At the Joplin Convention, May 1930, Sedalia took first honors on the 1929-30 scrap book prepared by Harriet Shaw and received \$5 in gold as a reward. Sedalia also ranked second in the efficiency standard contest. Frieda Nelson presided over several round table discussions and appeared in the Friday night Banquet Program at this convention. This same year Frieda was appointed International Relations Chairman of the State Federation. This year, too, the magazine of the Missouri Federation was declared third in the National contest with honorable mention of the article on International Relations which was written by Frieda.

April 1931 the Sedalia Club began the ninth year of its organization with **Anna Marie Morseman** as President. We were justly proud of the organization of a Club at Sweet Springs, April 30, 1931 which was the result of several trips coupled with the untiring efforts of Cecile Tillbery and other club members. That year the Sedalia Club was quite active during civic week and received high commendation from other civic organizations for the part our club played in the affairs of the week. The stunt given by The Red Jacketeers at the Civic Week Banquet was the outstanding event of our organization. This was entitled "Business Men Go To Heaven." The Red Jacketeers also presented their stunt at the State Convention held in Jefferson City that year.

Sedalia took first place for the 1930 Scrap Book at the State Convention prepared by Dorothy Truitt, Historian. Sedalia's book was scored much higher than any other book. This was the third consecutive time Sedalia carried off this honor. Sedalia was also given second place for the efficiency contest. We furnished many songs for the State Convention Song Book.

That same year Frieda Nelson represented our club and The Missouri Federation at the first International Convention held in Vienna, Austria. She was also selected by the State President to act as Recruiter for the State of Missouri for a Good Will Tour of Europe.

During this year our club had a representative on the Missouri State Fair Board of Commissions. We furnished books and clothing to high school girls. We educated our members by a series of book reviews, held bowling classes, won third place in the competitive table decorations contest at the annual flower festival, paid \$15 a month for Club Rooms, our Carolers visited the sick of our members and friends, distributed pop corn balls to charity organizations, contributed to the upkeep of the soup kitchen at Whittier School, helped in the campaign for the unemployment fund, appointed a Girl Scout Representative of the Club, and met with other civic organizations.

Cecile Tillbery succeeded Anna Marie Morseman as Club President March 4, 1932. Cecile was the first President to be re-elected to this office. During this year we assisted in the sale of baseball tickets to sponsor a handicapped Sedalia boy to the Perkin's Institute at Boston. The slogan of the Education Committee for the year was "at least a high school education for every girl of high school age." In September the State Board meeting and Fall Conference were held in Sedalia. Our Club again received very complimentary letters regarding our hospitality. More honors came to our club this year with the appointment of Juanita Young as State Membership Chairman.

This year, too, our club sponsored health classes and book reviews and gave cash prizes to high school students for the best poster during National Business Women's Week. We made popcorn balls for the Salvation Army, County Home and Melita Day Nursery, contributed to the Leonard Dowdy, Jr. Benefit Fund, distributed toys to the "kiddies" at the Melita Day Nursery, distributed gifts and entertained the old folks at the County Home.

Completing her splendid work as President Cecile Tillbery turned over to **Gertrude Berlin** the reins of the Sedalia Club in 1933. During this year the State Convention was held in St. Joseph. At this Convention the Sedalia Scrap Book designed and made by Juanita Young won first prize. There, too, Juanita Young was elected Recording Secretary of the Missouri Federation, which office she held for two years.

In 1933 the club assisted in the Chamber of Commerce Paint-Up and Clean-Up Campaign, distributed white gifts at Christmas time to three families, sent Christmas boxes to the girls in the Industrial Home, assisted with the Roosevelt Birthday Party for Crippled Children, and assisted in maintaining the Smith-Cotton High School Food Kitchen. At dinner meetings members paid twenty-five cents for meals.

In 1933 **Gertrude** was re-elected President. During this year the club voted to send a Girl Scout to summer camp.

In 1935 **Susan Berry** was again elected Club President, having served in 1928. This year the club cooperated with other civic organizations to make the President's Ball a success by competing in the skit for the evening. The club presented a garden scene and won second place. This year, too, the club held several series of book reviews at the public library and started an English Study Course. The District Conference was held in Sedalia, November 1935, and Juanita Young was appointed District President.

Susan was again elected in 1936, the only member to have served three terms as Club President. The 1936 club year started with fifteen new members. During this year the club sponsored an All Star Review to secure money to hold the State Convention in Sedalia in 1938.

Hazel Palmer, Sedalia's outstanding club member became President in 1937. During this year the club participated in the Good Will Community Party sponsored by the Missouri Pacific Shops Organization, purchased a BPWC road sign at the entrance to Sedalia on Highway 50, endorsed and worked for passage of the \$200,000 bond issue for the construction of a municipal office building, purchased uniforms for needy Girl Scouts, assisted the Chamber of Commerce and other civic organizations in staging the Christmas parade, distributed food to the Melita Day Nursery, sent gifts to the girls in the Industrial Home, planted trees on the school grounds on Arbor Day, bought clothes for a high school girl, placed a number of girls in employment, assisted with the Vocational Guidance Program at the high school, endorsed the three percent gasoline tax, assisted in the Cancer Drive, set up a Research Committee, and bought Girl Scout uniforms.

This year, too, the club promoted jury service for women in Missouri. We informed our

members by holding panel discussions, and our President talked to local and state organizations on jury service for women.

In 1937 the club elected Hazel as delegate to the National Convention in Atlantic City, held in July.

Hazel was re-elected President in May 1938. It was a banner year for the Sedalia Club. For the second time in thirteen years, Sedalia was hostess to the State Convention. This seventeenth annual State Convention met at the Bothwell Hotel. Susan Berry was convention Chairman. The convention was splendidly attended and was one of the most successful in the Federation's existence. Hazel Palmer, President of the Sedalia Club, was presiding officer at the breakfast. Over 300 attended the Saturday night banquet at Convention Hall. Miss Rosa Cunningham of Des Moines, Iowa, First Vice-President of the National Federation, was the National Representative and principal speaker. The Convention Hall presented a colorful appearance with the tables decorated with cut flowers and candies and the guests in lovely formals of all shades. Favors were miniature flower pots with growing plants. The business meetings of the convention were held in the Court House. At that convention Susan Berry was appointed State Public Affairs Chairman and Hazel Palmer was appointed State Legislative Chairman for two years, when jury service for women was finally endorsed by the State Federation.

Among the activities this year the club participated in a "Bowl of Rice" party to secure funds for Civilian Refugee Relief in China and furnished judges for the Christmas Parade floats. Hazel was one of 18 of the 104 women lawyers in "Who's Who Among Women Lawyers."

This year, too, the club gave a benefit bridge party at the Elks Club to buy milk for underprivileged children. Since this time this project has been a part of the Welfare program of our club.

At the State Convention in 1939 held in Moberly, Sedalia was one of seven clubs in the state that ranked 100 percent in fulfilling its program requirements for the 1938 year.

In 1939 **Ruth Riley** was installed into office as the local club's first teacher to become President. One of the projects during the year was the sponsorship of a scholarship for a deserving girl. A new committee, the Scholarship Loan Fund Committee, was set up this year. Ten percent of all dues were set aside to establish a revolving scholarship fund to be used in providing scholarships in colleges. During this year, too, the club furnished milk for indigent children and mailed a box of warm clothing to the Finnish Consulate in New York to be sent to Finland. Our by-laws were revised and printed. We were represented on the City National Defense Committee and were on the State Membership Honor Roll. The Bothwell Hotel was established as the regular meeting place with speakers and program.

July 1939 the National Convention called "The Heart of America Convention" was held at the Muehlebach Hotel, Kansas City, Missouri. The program theme of this convention was "One Hundred Years of Women's Progress in the U.S. 1839-1939." Ruth Riley was a club delegate to this convention and Hazel Palmer was an usher at the Sunday reception for the visiting delegates and members.

In 1940 **Ruth Riley** was again elected President of our club. During this year we contributed to the Melita Day Nursery, and the Mobile Feeding Unit for Britian. We increased our membership ten percent, securing twenty-one new members. We called on newcomers to our City. We made it possible for twenty high school students to visit a day at a time in the office or place of business of a member. Many of our members participated in the Chamber of Commerce Speaking Club.

This year, too, we first joined the Chamber of Commerce. We were represented at the Round

Table Meetings of the Chamber of Commerce. Since this time our Club has maintained this membership.

At the 1940 State Convention held in Joplin, Hazel Paler was elected Second Vice-President of the Missouri Federation. During this year Hazel recommended the adoption of a State Federation Legislative Procedure, having served as Chairman of a special committee to formulate such a procedure, which was adopted by State Convention vote and has been the legislative procedure ever since. The Regional Conference was held this fall in New Orleans with Ruth Riley and Hazel Palmer attending and Hazel presided at the Legislative Round Table.

Many Sedalia members attended the 1941 State Convention which was held at the Elms Hotel in Excelsior Springs. At this convention Hazel was re-elected Second Vice-President of the Missouri Federation.

In May 1941 Mrs. **Grace Young** was installed as Club President. During her administration the club set a goal for members of the club to purchase \$5000 in Defense Bonds. Members purchased over \$7500 in bonds. Grace made many talks in behalf of the sale of Defense Bonds and Stamps. During this year our club placed a road marker on East Highway 50, sponsored a scholarship student, contributed to the Christmas Stocking Fund and contributed to the Boys Work Council. This year, too, Margaret Hickey, a past President of the Missouri Federation and newly elected Vice-President of the National Federation, was our honored guest and speaker at the October meeting.

In 1942 **Eva Evans** followed Grace Young as Club President. Eva served our club as President for two years. In April of this year the Missouri Convention met in St. Joseph and there Hazel Palmer advanced to First Vice-President of the Missouri Federation. Then in June of 1942 Hazel and other State Board members were honored at a reception at the College Club in St. Louis. During the two year administration of Eva Evans the club sponsored the second USO Dance at the Convention Hall, assisted at many other USO Dances, contributed to the Christmas Stocking Fund, conducted booths for sale of stamps, gave a war bond to the highest ranking girl student in the commercial course at Smith-Cotton, entertained the 870th Women's Army Corps Unit of the Sedalia Army Air Field with a picnic supper at the Missouri State Fair Grounds, and recommended to the Mayor and City Council that some street in Sedalia be named in honor of Sedalia's war hero, George Whiteman.

This year, too, the club voted ten percent of all dues be used for the educational fund. Since this time this policy has been a part of the program of our club.

April 11, 1943, the following appeared in the Sedalia Democrat: "An important factor which has gone toward making the American Red Cross a powerful organization is the interest of other organizations, and the enthusiasm and vigor with which they do their share of Red Cross work. A bright and shining example is the B. & P. W. Club of Sedalia. The members of this club were instrumental in opening the Red Cross Week Rooms at night, in order that Sedalia women, unable to do their bit by day, could do so at night."

In 1943 the club gave a series of book reviews, published song books for the club, supported the airport bond issue, donated to the Belgian Relief Fund, and was for the third time hostess to the 4th District Conference. In April 1943 at the State Convention in Hannibal Hazel Palmer was elected for a second term of First Vice-President of the Missouri Federation.

At the close of the 1944 State Convention in Kansas City **Hazel Palmer** was elected to the office of State President. Not only did our club have a State President, but Hazel appointed two Sedalia members to serve on the Board with her, Eva Evans, as Corresponding Secretary and Ruth Riley, as State Bulletin Editor. The following two years of State Federation work under

Hazel's able leadership will always be a high light in our history. A practicing attorney, Hazel gave clear concise leadership through two years that were made increasingly difficult because of the war, and Hazel's prized achievement was in not losing a club in the State during this war crisis. During her administration a Missouri Candidate Information Committee was set up, following the pattern of the National Committee. Its purpose was to provide a channel through which information about candidates for state office might reach delegates before the convention meetings.

Bertha Rose Welch, elected President in May 1944, saw to it that this honor which had come to the Sedalia Club in electing a State President was properly recognized. On a Sunday afternoon in October, 1944 a reception was held at the Bothwell Hotel, with State Officers, members of other clubs, Sedalia business people and friends of Hazel in attendance to congratulate her. It was an occasion to be long remembered.

Eva Evans, Ruth Riley and Hazel Palmer attended the National Convention held at the Waldorf-Astoria in New York City in 1944, at which time Hazel was placed in nomination for National President, [along with] Margaret Hickey of St. Louis, who was elected and served a two-year term. Eva and Ruth were club delegates and Hazel a state delegate at this National Convention.

Bertha served the Sedalia Club as President for two years. During her term the club sponsored for the first time a Sedalia girl to Girl's State. Since this time this project has been a part of the educational program of our club. The purpose of Girl's State is to teach registering, voting, parliamentary procedure, campaigning, court procedure and politics. The club also contributed to the Cancer Control Fund this year.

During Bertha's 1945 club year the Sedalia Club first furnished ushers for the Sedalia Symphony Concerts and has continued to furnish ushers each year since that date. The club also helped to finance six girls through Central Business College.

In 1945 no State Convention could be held because of war travel restrictions. An April Board meeting was held instead in Springfield and all officers held over for another year. Hazel Palmer presided as State president and Olive Huston, the new Field Representative, was sent by The National Federation as a speaker and consultant. At this Board meeting the State Federation awarded honorable mention to the Sedalia Club in recognition of the net gain of ten or more members during the club year 1944-45.

The Victory Convention was held in 1946 in St. Louis at the Chase Hotel with Hazel Palmer, State President, presiding. Rose Leibbrand and Erma Rush participated on the convention program. At this convention Hazel was named to the Board of Directors of the Missouri Federation. She served three terms as State Director. At this convention our club again received the stabilization of membership award for the club year 1945-46.

Our club received another honor in 1946—an award in recognition of Distinguished War Service in cooperation with United States Organizations.

In April 1946 the club joined with other Sedalia Clubs to form a local Committee known as the Pettis County Employment Committee. The purpose of the committee was to formulate plans for the finding of suitable employment for veterans and war workers in Pettis County.

In May 1946, at the end of her two successful terms as Club President, Bertha Rose Welch turned the gavel over to **Vivian Warren**. During that year the club endorsed the swimming pool project and introduced the first "Busy Lizzie" (little notes on a lot of ladies).

This year we voted to take an active part in the Sedalia Civic Club Council composed of the five major civic clubs. At the organizational meeting our President, Vivian, was elected

Secretary.

At the State Convention in Kansas City in 1947 Hazel Palmer and Rose Leibbrand appeared on the program and Lois Fricke served as Chairman of the Nominating Committee. Sedalia again was on the Efficiency Honor Roll for the 1946-47 club year.

In 1947 Vivian was re-elected President. This year the club purchased BPWC signs to be erected at the entrance to Sedalia, contributed to the flood control work, endorsed the bond issue for the new sewage system, sponsored two students to Central Business College, made a contribution to the Freedom Train, formed a BPW Bowling League, conducted mass X-Rays for control of Tuberculosis, contributed to Melita Day Nursery and the Colored Nursery, distributed food to the needy and contributed to the Men's Choral Club. This year, too, the club made history with a buggy and team of mules driven by President Vivian in the parade Scudda Hoo, Scudda Hay Day. We were even in the newsreel at the Fox Theatre.

March 4, 1948 we drew the curtain on the first twenty-five years of our history. A proud group of Sedalia members celebrated this Silver Anniversary in a beautiful and wonderful way with a banquet at St. Patrick's School Hill. The room was beautifully decorated with white tapers, white carnations and the traditional silver colors. Music was furnished by the BPW Orchestra. A congratulatory message was given by Hazel Palmer who at the conclusion of her address presented the club a bronze gong which was a gift of the past presidents. The guest speaker of the evening was John A Thornberry, Director of The Boys Club in Kansas City. As retiring President, Vivian presented the Club a bronze emblem plaque for club meetings.

In 1948 **Lois Fricke** was installed as Club President. During Lois' year the club sponsored assembly forums for the senior high school girls. Through these conferences the girls were given an idea of various professional opportunities for women. A bowling league was organized or BPW Orchestra appeared before Civic Clubs, we served coffee and sandwiches at the Rosenthal fire and Shyrack Wright fire, we were represented on the military man power committee, sent packages overseas, donated to the blood bank of the Red Cross and formed a BPWC Sextette. We contributed to make the Fall Fun Festival sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce a success by sponsoring a crazy hat contest for cash awards and maintaining a Grapette Booth and hot-dog stand at the Street Carnival. We even made the Grapette "Newsette" magazine for the month.

In 1949 Mrs. **Erma Rush** followed Lois Fricke as the Club President. During her administration the club sponsored the county cancer drive, contributed toward the polio fund, contributed \$305 to bring the proposed Air Academy to Knob Noster, sent baskets to the Melita Day Nursery, sponsored a bowling league, contributed to the Sedalia Junior Optimist Club, donate money to send a boy to Mayo Clinic for treatment and assisted at the Missouri State Fair. Lucille White was appointed by the State President to serve as election committee chair at the State Convention. At the Public Affairs Banquet October 1949 Miss Sally Butler, National President, was the guest speaker, and left that night with Sedalia members to attend the Regional Conference in Hot Springs, Arkansas.

Hazel Barnett became Club President in 1950. During the year the club assisted on the TB X-Ray Unit, endorsed the school levy, worked on the cancer and heart campaign, assisted with the information and cancer booth at the State Fair, furnished ushers for the Symphony, held a forum on the professions and vocations for the senior high school girls, and donated to the Jefferson School lunch room. In September 1950 the club was again hostess to the State Board Meeting and the District IV Conference. This year, too, the club received a letter of commendation from the National Federation on the political alertness of its members and in recognition and appreciation of the club's successful efforts in having each member eligible to

vote in the general election held in November 1950.

Eva H. Evans, Rose Leibbrand and Hazel Palmer attended the National Convention held in San Francisco in July 1950. Eva and Rose were club delegates and Hazel a state delegate at this Convention.

Hazel's service to the Federation over the years led to her appointment at the close of this National Convention as National Public Affairs Chairman by Judge Sarah T. Hughes, the new National President. The Sedalia Club again claimed Hazel with pride, a member who measures up by all standards, local-state-national. Hazel was honored by the club at a reception at the Bothwell Hotel. Many B. & P.W. members from over the state were here to congratulate Hazel.

In 1951 another honor came to our club with the appointment of Rose Leibbrand as State Civil Defense Chairman.

Lucille White was installed as President of our club in 1951. Lucille served two years as President. During her administration two scholarship students were enrolled at Central Business College, the club contributed to the United Civic Center, and cooperated with the Chamber of Commerce by assisting with the sale of tickets and seats at the Rodeo. We repainted our BPWC road signs, secured 108 blood donors for the local blood bank, contributed to the Susan B. Anthony Fund and the Sarah T. Hughes World Friendship Fund. This year, too, we were on the State Honor Roll with 85% of our dues paid on time. We helped furnish clothing for a new baby, assisted other civic clubs in the Stadium Day Drive, endorsed the County Health unit, worked on the March of Dimes Campaign, conducted "Get Out the Vote" Campaign, assisted with the Chest X-Ray, entered a float in the Christmas Parade, furnished milk for needy children, entertained the State Board, entertained new members, sponsored the sale of symphony tickets and entertained Anne Carey of Southern Rhodesia, one of the International Delegates.

In 1951 the Sedalia Club took an active part in promoting BPW Day at the State Fair, and it was also so designated in 1951, 1952, 1953, and 1954. The Missouri Federation of B. & P. W. Clubs was honored with a special program at the Fair with the Sedalia Club acting as the hostess club for members from all over the state.

The Gravois Mills Club was organized and completely sponsored by the Sedalia Club, November 27, 1951, with Lucille White, Cleo Schumacher, Vivian Warren, Rose Leibbrand and Hazel Palmer performing the organizational work. The charter was presented by Floss Bucklew, State President, February 23, 1952. Hazel Palmer, National Public Affairs Chairman welcomed the new club into the National Federation and our President, Lucille White, conducted the installation ceremony. Twenty-four Sedalia members attended the charter presentation at a dinner meeting held in the Armory in Versailles.

At the State Convention held at the Statler Hotel, St. Louis in April 1952 Lucille White served as chairman of the nominating committee. At the banquet program the Sedalia Club was awarded a citation by the National Federation for sponsoring the Gravois Mills Club. Hazel Palmer did herself and the Sedalia Club proud as the speaker at the Sunday brunch.

One of the richest heritages of the Sedalia Business and Professional Women's Club is embodied in the Scholarship Fund. This Fund, now called the Memorial Scholarship Fund has its inception in the early years of the Club's existence, as the members felt the need for assisting worthy girls in furthering their education.

In April 1952 a method whereby this Fund could be increased and perpetuated was presented by Marian Knight, Chairman of the Scholarship Committee. The membership approved the plan enabling individuals to make contributions in memory of deceased members.

A beautiful, walnut plaque with bronze name plates, on which are engraved the names of the

beloved, deceased members of the Sedalia and Professional Women's Club was presented to the Club by Mrs. Cleo Schumacher. This plaque hangs in the lobby of the Sedalia Carnegie Library, where all who pass may pause to honor those who have "crossed the bar." Formal acknowledgement cards for all gifts received were presented to the Club by Mary Ellen Merrill.

The Memorial Record Book, listing the names of contributors for each person memorialized, is the gift of Mrs. Lucille White. The Memorial Scholarship Fund may grow to such an amount that no worthy girl of Sedalia will be denied educational advantages beyond the secondary school level because of financial problems.

In 1952 Hazel Palmer was unanimously endorsed by the Sedalia Club and the Missouri Federation for a National Office. She and Rose Leibbrand attended the Board Meeting of the International Federation held in New York City just prior to the National Convention in Boston in July 1952. Here more honors came to the Sedalia Club and the Missouri Federation with the election of Hazel as Second Vice-President of the National Federation. To this Convention went our Club President, Lucille White, Cleo Schumacher, Shirley Wagner, Ruth Riley, Rose Leibbrand, Helen Bond, Freda Mueller, Erma Fajen, Daisy Martin and Vivian Warren. Lucille and Vivian were club delegates to this convention. At this National Convention Rose Leibbrand served as Chairman of the Missouri Federation Hostess Committee, Lucille White as Treasurer, and Mary Ellen Merrill, as the souvenir collector. Yes it was a tired but jubilant group of Sedalia BPW Members who returned from Boston where they were successful in putting in one of their very own members in line for the National Presidency.

July 1952 at a meeting of the Sedalia Civic Club Council our President, Lucille White, was elected President and Cleo Schumacher, Secretary.

On a Sunday afternoon in September 1952 the Sedalia Club and the Missouri Federation honored our Second Vice-President of the National Federation at a reception held at the Bothwell Hotel. BPW Members and friend from all over the State of Missouri came to congratulate Hazel.

In October 1952 Helen G. Irvin, President of the National Federation was the guest speaker at the Public Affairs Banquet.

In April 1953 the Sedalia Club received another honor, our Club President, Lucille was appointed Director of District IV. Through this appointment, Lucille became a member of the State Board and in addition to her duties as District Director she assisted in planning for the National Convention to be held in St. Louis in 1954.

In 1953 the leadership of the Sedalia Club was handed on to the new President, **Cleo Schumacher**. Cleo served two years as Club President. During her administration Ruth Riley was appointed by the State President as a member of the committee to investigate and set up procedure for the publishing of the Missouri Business Woman. this year the new cabinet was completed to house scrapbooks, new serving sets were purchased, the club sponsored BPW Day at the Fair, assisted with the Chest X-Ray, furnished ushers for the Symphony, assisted with the March of Dimes Project, the blood mobile, the Red Cross Drive, the Crippled Children's Tag Day, the Community Concert Membership Drive, and the sale of tickets for "Pancake Day."

This year, too, the club held a vocational guidance forum at Smith-Cotton, enrolled a scholarship girl in nurses training in Kansas City and presented a \$100 scholarship award to an outstanding senior girl. The club contributed \$264 for "Bucks for Bricks," a fund for a National Federation Headquarters Building to be erected in Washington, D.C. We held an Autograph Tea honoring Hazel Lang and the publication of her book of poems and we placed third in the Sedalia Christmas Parade Floats.

This year, too, the club contributed toward the AAUW Foreign Exchange Student Fund.

Since this time this project has been a part of the program of our club.

At the State Convention held in Kansas City this year the club received a State citation for increasing membership sixteen over the previous year.

In February 1954 through the efforts of Lena Boothe a club was organized composed of the foreign born women of Sedalia. In the fall of 1954 Hazel Palmer represented the National Federation as a guest of the American Heritage Foundation in its officially sponsored tour to Europe to inspect the Radio Free Europe broadcasting facilities behind the Iron Curtain.

July 1954 the National Convention was held in St. Louis where thirty-five years ago the first National Convention was held. Here Hazel was elected unopposed to the office of First Vice-President of the National Federation. We were indeed proud of her. Cleo Schumacher and Lucille White were club delegates to this convention and Rose Leibbrand was in charge of the Missouri Hostess Center.

The Waynesville B. & P. W. Club was organized September 29, 1954 by the Sedalia Club with thirty-three charter members at a dinner meeting at Pippin Place in Waynesville. Alberta Meyer, State President, presented the charter November 10, 1954. Officers were installed that same night and Lucille White, District IV Director, was the installing officer.

In 1954 through the efforts of Shirley Wagner, the Club sponsored Wednesday noon devotionals. An article appeared in The National Business Woman on the devotional meetings.

In May 1955 at the State Convention held in Jefferson City the club received a sponsoring citation from the State Federation for the organization of the Waynesville Club. We also received a citation for gaining twenty-nine members during the year and the Legislation and Radio and TV Committees received merit awards. This year, too, we received an Achievement Citation from the National Federation for obtaining a twenty per cent increase in membership and we are on the State Membership Honor Roll.

As retiring President, Cleo Schumacher, presented to the club the beautiful walnut lectern now in use.

In 1955 **Anna Bagby** was installed as Club President. Anna served the Sedalia Club as President for two years. During her administration the club endorsed the Urban Highway Plan, assisted with cancer bandages at the Fair and assisted with the Chest X-Ray Project. Mrs. Bess Connor, a member, was named the outstanding "Woman of the Year." We won first place in the 1955 Christmas Parade and second place in the 1956 Christmas Parade. We donated to the American Field Service Project, the Crippled Children's Center, and the Muscular Dystrophy Association. We entertained the Air Men of The Sedalia Air Force Base who received special recognition in their squadron, endorsed keeping Fort Leonard Wood in Missouri, sponsored a scholarship girl and contributed \$100 to the National Research Foundation in honor of Hazel Palmer. In 1955, too, Hazel Palmer was named the Missouri Federation Woman of the Year. She attended the International Federation's Silver Jubilee celebration in Geneva and the International Board Meeting in Bern, Switzerland.

In 1956 we sponsored a girl to 4-H Club Week, donated to The Make It Yourself Wool Contest and gave the first tea for sophomore girls and their mothers. Since this time these projects have been a part of the program of our club.

This year, too, we organized a Special Projects Committee. Since this time this Committee has been one of the most active committees of our club.

During Anna's administration we also entertained the State Board, operated a booth to take donations for the Hungarian Relief Fund, presented a bond to the high ranking high school girl, served as hostess at the Chamber of Commerce Picnic, furnished ushers for the Chamber of

Commerce Banquet, endorsed the proposed bond issue for the addition to Bothwell Hospital, assisted a Japanese girl and her children whose husband was in the Air Force, and aided two families with Christmas baskets. Frieda Nelson was made a Life Member and Hazel Palmer an Honorary Member of the Board. This year too, the song "Girls Girls Girls" was written and dedicated especially to the Sedalia Business and Professional Women's Club by Jack Crawford.

At the State Convention held in St. Louis in 1956 and in Kansas City in 1957 the Sedalia Club received citations in Finance, Public Affairs, News Service and Membership.

Anna Bagby and Vivian Warren were club delegates to the National Convention held in Miami in 1956. At this convention the Sedalia Club received a great honor—**Hazel Palmer** was elected to the office of President of the National Federation. This was indeed the highlight of our history. Hazel's natural attributes of graciousness, poise, diplomacy and integrity won the respect of members throughout the National Federation. Through the two years she served as President she made a great distinction to her own club and to her own state. Hazel represented the U.S. Federation at the International Federation Congress held in Montreal, Canada.

The Missouri Federation honored our new National President with a reception at the Bothwell Hotel, Sunday afternoon, September 16, 1956. More than 500 persons attended the reception from over the entire state.

In 1956 The Sedalia Club received another honor when Rose Leibbrand was appointed Executive Director of the National Federation for two year.

Also in 1956 the club sponsored the first "Know Your America Week observance in Sedalia, through the efforts of Marjorie Garansson. Since this time this project has been part of the program of the Club. We were commended by The All American Conference to Combat Communism for the promotion of the Week in our community. In 1957 an article appeared in the National Business Woman on the activities of the Week in Sedalia.

In 1957 **Doris Stott** took over the Presidency of the Sedalia Club. During this year the Club planted a tree at Liberty park, sponsored an essay contest for high school girls, "Why I want a Business or Professional Career," and sponsored an essay contest during "Know Your America Week," contributed to the Gideon Organization, assisted in the Cancer Booth and TB Booth at the State Fair contributed to the "Keep Missouri Beautiful" program, secured the most new members in the Chamber of Commerce Membership Drive, repaired our BPW Highway Signs, contributed \$1000 to furnish a room to the Bothwell Hospital addition, sponsored a scholarship girl, assisted in the promotion of Civil Defense in this area and observed United Nations Day. We won second place in the Christmas Parade, entertained the State Board, gave a bond to the highest ranking senior girl, endorsed and worked for the Equal Rights Amendment, entertained the Air Men of the month, contributed to the Foreign Exchange Student Fund, furnished judges for the Sweet Springs Christmas Decoration Contest, contributed to the State Federation toward a gift for the National Federation Headquarters, assisted in the Easter Seal Drive, contributed \$104 to the State Federation for a portrait of Hazel Palmer to be hung in the National Headquarters Building in Washington D.C., contributed toward the campaign for a recreational project in Sedalia, served as hostess to the State Leadership Conference, assisted in the Sedalia Industrial Development program and many of our members volunteered for the Ground Observer Corps. This year, too, Hazel headed an officially sponsored Federation tour to Europe and represented the Federation at the International Board Meeting held in Mannheim, Germany.

At the State Convention held in Springfield in 1958 the Sedalia Club received merit awards in Career Advancement, Membership, Finance and International Relations, and honorable mention was give the Public Affairs Committee.

At the July meeting of the Sedalia Civic Club Council our President, Doris Stott, was elected First Vice-President and Shirley Wagner was elected Secretary.

September 22, 1957, our own Hazel Palmer cut the gold ribbon with gold scissors in the dedication ceremony of the Foundation and Federation's new National Headquarters Building in Washington, D.C.

At a special luncheon on June 11, 1958, a statue of Nike was presented to Hazel Palmer by the Club for the National Federation Headquarters. The statue is an exact replica, on smaller scale, of Nike which is in the Louvre Museum of Art in Paris. It is on a wooden base with the engraving telling that this beautiful statue is given in honor of Miss Hazel Palmer by the Sedalia Club. The statue is on display at the entrance of the National Federation Headquarters.

In 1958 **Shirley Wagner** was elected Club President. During her administration, the Club assisted on the Mobile Chest X-Ray Unit, "Get out the Vote" campaign, donated to the "Keep Missouri Beautiful" Booth at the State Fair, contributed to "Make It Yourself Wool" Contest, contributed toward "Litterbug Control," the Foreign Exchange Student Fund and Girl Scout Camp, furnished milk to an undernourished child, contributed \$1000 to furnish a room to the Bothwell Hospital Addition, sponsored two essay contests, gave a bond to the highest ranking senior girl, Christmas caroled, assisted a needy family at Christmas time, won second in the Christmas Parade in the women's division, participated in the BPW Foundation Traffic Signal Survey for which we won a citation, participated in the Chamber of Commerce Bazaar, and sponsored "Know Your America Week."

July 1958 at a meeting of the Sedalia Civic Club Council, our President Shirley Wagner, was elected President and Marjorie Garansson was elected Secretary.

Shirley Wagner and Marjorie Garansson were club delegates to the National Convention held in Seattle, Washington, in 1958. Katharyn Rosencrans, Rose Leibbrand and Lucille White also attended this convention.

At the State Convention held in St. Louis in April 1959, the club received awards in General Performance, Membership, Finance, Program Coordination, Career Advancement, Legislation, National Security, Health & Safety, International Relations and Public Affairs. We were on the State Membership Honor Roll with 85% of our dues paid on time and we increased our membership ten percent over the previous year.

In 1959 **Marjorie Garansson** was installed as Club President. Hazel Palmer, Past President of the National Federation, was Installing Officer. Hazel presented Marjorie with a president's miniature gavel guard to be passed on to each new president.

During this year we won first place in the Chamber of Commerce Membership Drive for which we received a beautiful walnut plaque, conducted an interest finder survey for members, donated \$500 to the Crippled Children's Center to furnish the Reception Room, donated \$100 to the Salvation Army for needy grade school girls, bought clothing and books for four high school girls, assisted in the Cerebral Palsy Booth at the State Fair, completely staffed the American Cancer Society Booth at the State Fair, furnished milk to an under-nourished child, held a car quiz, held a series of self improvement classes, organized a bridge class, sponsored "Know Your America Week," sponsored two essay contests, contributed to "Make it Yourself Wool Contest," sponsored for the first time a 4-H girl to the American Royal, assisted in the United Fund and Muscular Dystrophy Drives, made a scholarship loan to a student nurse, repaired, replaced and repainted our BPW signs at the highway entrance to the city, and made the State Membership Honor Roll with 85% of our dues paid on time.

This year through the efforts of Evelyn Maddi, the club sponsored one of the largest ice

cream socials ever held in Sedalia. We sold over 5,000 tickets. An article appeared in the National Business Woman on this project.

This year, too, we endorsed and worked for the Urban Highway Plan, we were represented on the Steering Committee of the Urban Highway Plan and the Steering Committee of the United Fund, purchased a light for our lectern, organized a Membership Activities Committee and a Centennial Committee, printed our Year Book, held attendance contests, purchased an Attendance Board, wrote our history for the Sedalia Centennial History Book, won first in collecting the most money at the Salvation Army Tree of Lights, gave a basket of food to a needy family at Christmas time, held a Radio Broadcast Breakfast, for the first time Sedalia BPW was printed on our checks, conducted a registered voter survey of our membership, conducted a survey on the Status of our members, contributed to all nine of the National Federation Funds, observed International Week, organized a Spanish Class, furnished ushers for the Chamber of Commerce Banquet, participated in the Chamber of Commerce Street Bazaar, Pat Eickhoff, a member, attended the International Federation's Triennial Congress in Paris, France. We revised our Bylaws, established a Club Room and Building Fund, donated to the Pettis County 4-H International Farm Youth Exchange Delegate, sponsored a girl to Girl Scout Camp, gave a scholarship to an outstanding senior girl, gave an award to an outstanding junior girl, contributed to the Foreign Exchange Student Fund, assisted with the Easter Lily sale, and contributed to the Cancer Crusade.

This year through the efforts of Madeline Burke, Chairman of the BPW Centennial Committee, we sponsored "Sisters of the Swish" for the Sedalia Centennial.

This year, too, through the efforts of Doris Stott, we organized a B & P W Glee Club. Our Glee Club made a number of public appearances. They were directed by Eugenia Hayworth. At the State Convention held in Kansas City in April 1960, our Glee Club sang at the Sunday morning breakfast.

At this convention, the club received citations for General Club Performance, Finance Program Coordination, Career Advancement, Legislation, National Security, Health & Safety, International Relations, Public Relations and Public Affairs.

At the close of this convention, our club received another honor with the appointment of our President, Marjorie, to the State Board as National Security Chairman.

Our history would not be complete without mention of our three present charger members, Frieda Nelson, Florence Middleton and Cecile Tillbery, who guided us as we began our club. For their help and inspiration through the years, we shall always be grateful.

Needless to say, the Sedalia Business and Professional Women's Club, through the continuous and varied activities, has contributed much to the Community. It has, in turn, merited the goodwill and support of the Community in its numerous projects.

All efforts of the members of the Sedalia Business and Professional Women's Club have been and will be dedicated to the promotion of federation objectives as we LIVE EFFECTIVELY to make better business women for a better business world.

And now, in 1960, the pages of this history will be closed for a season. The record is good. It is ours. Let us be proud.

Marjorie Garansson
Club President 1959-1960