

HISTORY OF PHILOMATHEON CLUB

The Philomatheon Club of Loveland originated in 1919 from a group of high school girls called the R.D.B. Club. Not wanting a club for purely social purposes, they organized a new group. With the aid of two members of the Loveland Woman's Club, Mrs. Belle Norcross (deceased) and Mrs. Emma VanSant, they drew up a constitution and became a member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, adopting the name of Philomatheon. The aims of this new group were "self improvement and civic service". Community Welfare Work, has always been one of our main activities. When first organized we helped beautify the city by planting a Silver Spruce tree for Mary Sherman and a flower bed on the depot green. Giving Christmas cheer to five families from the proceeds of a charity dance, was our first attempt at social service. Each year our responsibilities were increased until the Chamber of Commerce placed us in charge of all city welfare work. For three years, up to the time the "Depression" made it necessary for the government to supervise all relief work, we conscientiously clothed and fed the needy. However, our work has not ceased as last year at both Thanksgiving and Christmas time we distributed about a hundred baskets filled with clothing, food and toys.

Since 1929 we have rented the large basement of the new First National Bank building and have furnished a kitchenette and living room. Each year something has been added until now we can accomodate over a hundred people. Our efforts toward making our club rooms attractive have not been in vain as the rooms are now nearly self-supporting through sub-renting.

Our membership includes forty active members. But it is interesting to note that one hundred fifteen have been initiated into Philo. When the girls have to leave for college or to live elsewhere, they generally keep in touch with the club. The bi-monthly programs are varied, but the yearly schedule always includes an autumn breakfast, buffet supper, Christmas party, mother's party, open meeting and a spring formal banquet.

The club's latest achievement, at an expense of \$150., has been to turn a public eyesore, several lots overgrown with weeds, into a lovely park. Now instead of thorn and thistle, the passerby may enjoy cool shady walks, beautiful flower beds and an attractive lilly pool.

As the years have passed we feel that not only has each member profited, but that our efforts have been appreciated throughout the community.

"Count that day lost whose low descending sum
Views from thy hand no worthy action done."