

Tuesday Evening Club

(By Mrs. Frank E. Park)

From the beginning Women's Clubs have realized that the source of wisdom is in good books, and to them goes much of the credit for the large number of libraries founded in this nation.

Because a small group of public spirited women in Salida recognized this value and felt the need of a library in this town, the Tuesday Evening Club was organized 44 years ago and through its efforts the Salida Public Library came into existence.

The history of this club is the history of all pioneering with many hardships and much hard work, but as a result of this labor Salida today has a library of which any town might well be proud, an institution which stands side by side with the churches and schools in its service to the community.

The young library received valuable assistance in 1904 when the Juliana Reference Room was established by William P. Harbottle in memory of his mother. The first books were donated from his personal library and it is maintained by the income from his home which he bequeathed to the Library Association of the Tuesday Evening Club for this purpose. Under the terms of his will this is strictly a reference room. No fiction is permitted on the shelves and the books are not placed in circulation. The room now contains 1600 volumes. In 1937 a plaque was inscribed in honor of Mr. Harbottle and together with pictures of himself and his mother was hung in the Reference Room.

Through rent from the Assembly

Hall, income from the Harbottle property and donations from the two departments of the club, approximately \$250 a year is given to the library to purchase books and magazines.

Scholarship Fund

While the library has always been the main objective of the club it has not been unmindful of other needs of the community. It has always contributed to the Scholarship Fund of the Colorado Federation of Women's Clubs, but in 1926 decided to establish a fund of its own. This was started with \$180 which was increased by a gift of \$455 from the Rose Ridgeway Estate at her death in 1927. It has continued to grow through donations from the D. A. R. the departments of the club and from gifts from girls who have been aided by it until it now amounts to \$797.67. At this time \$784 of this amount is loaned to worthy girls to enable them to continue their education after completing high school. Since the creation of this fund 13 Salida girls have been assisted. No interest is charged on loans. This fund is known as the Rose Ridgeway Scholarship fund.