

Comwotei Club Auxiliary Slates Dance Nov. 26

The Comwotei Club Auxiliary has planned a formal dance Saturday, Nov. 26 at 9 p.m. It will be held at the HiwayHouse.

Jack Reid and his orchestra are providing music for the event.

It is open to the public.

Beauty Consultant At Steinfeld's

Miss Betty Davis, traveling beauty consultant for Germaine Montell, will be at Steinfeld's Department Store through tomorrow.

She is introducing a new Germaine Montell product, Bio Miracle Cream.

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HONORED TODAY

Clara Fish Roberts Recalls Eventful Life

By BETTY MILBURN
Citizen Woman's Editor

What do you suppose went through Clara Fish Roberts' mind today, as she sat on that platform and saw Tucson's newest school named in her honor?

Did she remember her girlhood in her parents' home, part of the old Presidio wall at the corner of Alameda and Main Streets, before the turn of the century?

It was one of the grandest houses of the day, but like all other houses in Tucson, it had dirt floors and the roof leaked.

"I remember when it rained how we scurried about for tubs and covers to keep the furniture—shipped from Europe around Cape Horn because it was cheaper to import it than bring it overland from the east coast—from being ruined."

Did she remember that September day in 1891 when, just out of grade school, she was the very first student to register at the brand new institution of higher learning, housed in Old Main?

"They certainly did put us over the road, trying to make university students out of us. It was harrowing, but interesting. There were no athletics, no extracurricular activities, and we had all we could do to keep up with our assignments.

"I majored in mining because that's all they offered. But I didn't get to study underground mining. For this phase of our work, they piled all the boys in a wagon and took them to Bisbee, where they slept in a bunkhouse. But they didn't know what to do with me, so they made me stay home.

"Our only recreation came at noon, when faculty and students played ball. Or sometimes we danced—someone had a guitar. That, however, didn't last long, because the authorities said we weren't properly chaperoned.

By 1896, she was ready for graduation. But because she was the only one, she was asked to wait until the following year, when two others finished, to receive her diploma.

"By then, we had a tennis court—if you can call it that. It was really just sort of a rocky pasture, and we played in Gibson Girl blouses and skirts that

touched the ground. If you fell down, you got an awful bump."

Did she remember the day in 1903 when she joined the faculty at Flagstaff as a Spanish instructor?

"I had taught in almost all the grades as a substitute, and third grade in Congress Street School, when a request came to UA for a Spanish teacher for Flagstaff Normal. So I went to Flagstaff to teach Spanish. Later, there was a need for a Latin teacher, so I took that on besides. And then psychology, ethics and logic."

Perhaps one of her most vivid recollections is of being elected to the Tucson School board in 1917, the reason Clara Fish Roberts School is being so named.

Other past honors must keep cropping up in her vivid panoramic memory. Just look at a few of her accomplishments! She has been UA alumni president; regent of the Daughters of the American Revolution; president of the American Assn. of University Women; PEO president and a precinct committeewoman for the Republican party.

Today, however, her main interests are her children and grandchildren. In fact, she recently spent six weeks in Washington, D. C. with her son Carlisle Roberts and his family.

"And saw my first great grandchild—a little girl born to Carlisle's son Fred C. Roberts III and his wife. Incidentally, they both went to UA."

Mrs. Roberts' daughter Virginia (Mrs. Elmer William Flaccus) came to Tucson from her home in Sherman, Tex., to attend the dedication. And Mrs. Roberts will spend Christmas with a second son Roswell R. Roberts and his family in Pasadena.

How does it feel to have a school named for you?

"I was very much surprised and very much pleased," said Mrs. Roberts. "Besides, we certainly need the additional school. I think the school board in Tucson is doing an awfully good job building schools as fast as it can. However, I hope schools will continue to stress academics—reading, writing and arithmetic—and let auto driving and folklore dancing wait. First, teach children to read."