

SEVERS, FRED (Mrs.)

INTERVIEW

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407

Effie S. Jackson
Interviewer
Oct. 4, 1937

7764

408

Interview with
Mrs. Fred Severs
Clinton, Oklahoma

On October 20th, 1904, the Hyechka Club was organized by a group of ten Tulsa women. This group was composed of Mrs. Fred S. Clinton, Mrs. W. N. Robinson, Mrs. C. E. S. Strouvelle, Mrs. W. B. Frederick, Mrs. C. E. Bush, Mrs. J. R. Cole, Mrs. C. J. Hindman, Mrs. Will Short, Mrs. A. J. Sivers and Miss Otte Toward. Only three of the original members are active members now; Mrs. Clinton, Mrs. Cole and Mrs. Hindman. There are today two hundred and twenty active members and one hundred associate members. Mrs. C. E. Strouvelle suggested a name for the club.

Acting upon the suggestion from Mrs. W. N. Robinson, a pioneer missionary among the Creek Indians the Club was named "Hyechka," which is the Creek word for music.

The Club's objective was two fold. First, to advance the interest and promote the culture of musical art in the growing city of Tulsa. The second objective was the mutual improvement of its members.

At the organization of the club, Mrs. Fred S. Clinton was elected President, then unanimously re-elected every

- 2 -

year until March 1927, when she was elected president for life. The Hyeckka Club of Tulsa has been signally honored by having the district including Louisiana, Arkansas and Oklahoma named the Hyeckka District.

The Hyeckka Club gives to charity each year, the proceeds from the annual Charity Concerts and a tenth of the Club's income during the year. It also assists young artists -- having a membership of one hundred in the Junior group. It offers its best talent to the suburban and country school districts by giving "sings", instilling a public love for music. It encourages civic work in the public schools by offering prizes in memory contests and by cooperating with the teachers in combining civic and art artistic work.

Out-standing artists in their respective fields, recognized Symphony Orchestras and ranking Operatic selections have been brought to Tulsa under the auspices of the Hyeckka Club. Among them are the following:

Soloists--Madame Schuman Heink, Me. Amelita Galli-urci, Madame Louise Lomer and Fritz Kreisler.

Symphony Orchestras--New York Symphony Orchestra with Walter Damrosch.

Victor Herbert Orchestra--with Victor Herbert.

Minneapolis Symphony Orchestra--with Emil Ober-
hogger.

Toscanini--with the La Scala Orchestra of Milan,
Italy.

Scotti's Grand Opera appeared during three seasons
offering two recognized operas each season.

Marriage--Creek

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