

# \$20,000 YEAR TO BE ASKED IN FIGHT ON ILLITERACY

Mrs. Cora Wilson Stewart  
Makes Ringing Speech Be-  
fore Legislature Showing  
How Education Has Im-  
proved Earning Power of  
Former Unfortunates and  
What It Will Mean When  
Everybody Has Schooling.

## HOUSE AND SENATE WILL ADJOURN SATURDAY UNTIL WEDNESDAY

(By Griffin Cochran.)

FRANKFORT, KY., Feb. 17.—A special order of business was made in the House and Senate today at noon for a joint session to hear an address by Mrs. Cora Wilson Stewart on the problem of illiteracy. Mrs. Stewart made a very earnest and forceful speech in which she said that the illiterates of the State numbered 208,000 in 1910, but that within the last two years through the illiteracy commission probably 40,000 had been taught to read and write.

She presented arguments to show that the further work of the commission, which has heretofore been supported by voluntary subscriptions, should be carried on with the support of the State. She said that State support of the illiteracy work was politically wise, economically safe and manifestly just.

She pointed out that for every person who has been taught to read and write there has been an average increase of \$62 in his earning power and that if only one-fourth of the illiterates could be taught it would mean an economic gain of over a million dollars a year, to say nothing of the saving in the immense expense incurred in maintaining the results of illiteracy, such as paupers and criminals.

Will Ask \$20,000  
For Four Years.

She said that the commission would ask for \$20,000 per year for four years, which was only about ten cents per year for each illiterate. She said the General Assembly no longer regards illiterates as the stepchildren of the State.

The galleries were crowded and seats on the floor of the House were occupied by many prominent women interested in illiteracy work. She was heartily applauded as she completed her address.

Immediately after the speech, the House resumed its session and Mr. Hutchcraft moved that the illiteracy bill be taken from the orders of the day and placed upon its passage. Mr. Pumphrey and several other members, however, made a motion to adjourn, which was carried.