

# WHITE RIBBON BULLETIN

Official Organ of W. C. T. U. of North Dakota

"NOT WILLING THAT ANY SHOULD PERISH"

Volume XLVIII.

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER, 1946

No. 5

## JUST CHILDREN

Just children on their way to school again?

These are the world's rebuilders, these must bring Order to chaos, comforting to pain,

And light in blasted fields new fires of spring.

They have so much to learn, so much to do.

—Theodosia Garrison.

## The President's Annual Address

It is a privilege to celebrate the 57th anniversary of our organization in the Capitol city of our state. Four times before we have accepted the warm hospitality of our friends and co-workers in this beautiful and historic city. The first convention held here was in the closing hours of the first world war, September, 1918. The last convention was held here in 1938 with our second honorary president, Mrs. Fred M. Wanner, presiding. That was the fifth year of our five-year, five-point program which culminated in the raising of a \$5,000 Centenary Fund.

Because this is the seat of our state government each delegate and visitor has reason to feel a personal, affectionate, and prideful interest in this Capitol City. Those of our delegates who have not had the pleasure of visiting the Capitol on the hill should do so before they return to their homes. We look back with pride to some of the hard fought battles that have been won there.

We can look with justifiable pride to the birth of our state, for it was the first state to come into the union free from the curse of the liquor traffic and it kept that freedom until prohibition was written into the constitution of the United States.

It was in the Capitol on the hill that the Woman's Christian Temperance Union and other organizations fought so valiantly for woman's suffrage and finally won.

We have had some noble men in our legislative halls—men who stood for laws that preserved the sobriety, morality and health of the people. It is tragical and a cause for shame, that the state of North Dakota, which pioneered in the fight for prohibition and in the struggle for better moral laws, have repealed the anti-cigarette law and licensed the sale of cigarettes for revenue, legalized Sunday movies and repealed the law against smoking in public dining-rooms. Then after repeal came to our nation, North Dakota legalized the sale of 3.2 beer and later the sale of hard liquors. Eight times in four years we were called upon to go to the polls to defend our dry laws. Finally in the midst of an economic depression the revenue argument won out and beer was legalized and later hard liquors. The Woman's Christian Temperance Union takes the position now as it did then, that no government has a right to accept revenue from that which injures its people. Our Bible says: "Woe unto them which justify the wicked for reward, and take away the righteousness of the righteous from him!"

These eight years since we met here have been history making years. The war clouds were gathering over Europe at that time and soon broke into one of the world's most terrible conflicts. Then came Pearl Harbor when 2,000 American men gave their lives and our fleet and air power were crippled. The American people rallied to the defense of their country in a most wonderful way. Victory was the signal that was flashed over our country even when defeat seemed very near. With a grim determination and a steadfast faith we went forth to win that victory. Into our factories went men and women who had never attempted such work before. Boys, girls, men and women went to work—many taking the place of those called into military service. Because of man-power shortage and poor farm equipment, farmers and their wives worked long hours to provide the necessary food for the army and civilian life. Besides the food, clothing, and armament supplied our fighting men the intelligence department supplied them with information about the enemies—their plans, their armament, their ships and movement of troops.

Through science efforts were made to discover something new in armament and the climax came when the atomic bomb was perfected and used.

Our government and fighting men worked hand in hand with our allies and with unity and cooperation much was accomplished. But most important of all was the bravery and heroism of our fighting men. Great was the suffering and sacrifices made that we might be protected. Victory to many will mean a maimed and broken body—to others months possibly years in

a hospital—in many homes a vacant chair. What a tremendous price to pay for victory. Thus victory came but what about our new world? Will we work as earnestly and unitedly to win our peace? We are still in the emergency and very little progress has been made towards a world-wide enduring peace. Already, we seem to have forgotten those terrible days of disaster. Greed and selfishness are as rampant in our land as before the war. All races and creeds fought in our armies and yet class distinctions are being raised and cruel words used. Labor and capital are clashing. We find suspicion and unrest all over the world. What chance have we for world peace? Dr. Clinton Howard, Superintendent of the International Federation, has a very suitable solution to that all important problem in his article in the Progress under the caption "Christ for the Crisis" and I quote: "If the nations can co-operate to make war, they can co-operate to end war; if they can unite their armies, navies and air forces, their money, munitions, and men to win wars, they can unite their interests and goodwill to end wars; if they can associate for war, they can federate their moral and religious forces and fill a ship with fellowship for peace. If the world would have peace it must obey the command of the Prince of Peace. Internationalize the Golden Rule; Whatsoever ye would that other nations should do unto ye, do ye even so unto them, would disarm the nations and abolish war around the world. Only the Golden Rule of Christ will bring the golden age of man."

Arthur Brisbane, world columnist, expressed a similar opinion when he said, "We may sweep the world clean of militarism, we may scrub the world white of autocracy; we may carpet it with democracy and drape it with the flag of republicanism. We may hang on the walls the thrilling pictures of freedom—here the signing of America's independence, there the thrilling portrait of Joan of Arc, yonder the Magna Charta and on this side the inspiring picture of Garibaldi. We may spend energy and effort to make the world a paradise itself, where the lion of capitalism can lie down with the proletarian lamb. But if we turn into that splendid room mankind with the same old heart, deceitful and desperately wicked, we may expect to clean house again not many days hence. What we need is a peace conference with the Prince of Peace."

This is just one of the many post-war problems that we must settle in our nation and in the world, of today. America, a Christian nation, with unlimited resources at hand has a wonderful opportunity to lead this battered, hungry and sin-sick world to a sane, sound, and righteous peace. As patriotic American citizens we will all have to help in solving the tremendous problems that confront us. The most powerful foe of the physical, moral and spiritual progress of our nation today, is the organized liquor traffic—deeply entrenched in our government, protected by law and equipped with wealth. It retards the physical, moral and spiritual growth of the individual, destroys home life and debauches community life.

The facts about the liquor traffic in our nation today, are startling and alarming and should be brought out in the open that the people may know. There are 360,000 saloons, liquor stores, taverns, roadhouses and other licensed places where alcoholic beverages are sold. There are about one hundred million people in our nation over 15 years of age and of these 50,000,000 drink. Three million of these are excessive drinkers, seven hundred fifty thousand of these are chronic alcoholics. These figures were given out by Dr. E. N. Jellineck, director of Yale University Summer School of Alcohol Studies. With liquor places so numerous and conveniently located the American people spent \$7,790,000,000 for alcoholic beverages in 1945, according to the Dept. of Commerce release of March 21, 1946. In 1934 the total expenditures for alcoholic beverages for the same period of time was \$2,003,000,000. In per capita terms the expenditures for liquor increased from \$15.80 in 1934 to \$55.79 in 1945. In 1934 some 1,330,700,000 gallons of alcoholic beverages were consumed in the United States as compared with 2,827,709,558 gallons in 1945.

This huge liquor bill for 1945 is approximately as much as our entire nation paid for all cultural, religious and charitable work combined in a similar time. But that is not all, \$7,790,000,000 spent annually for beverage alcohol means that much diverted from legitimate business in the same period of time. During the past months our leaders in Washington have been greatly concerned and rightly so, with the number of people in the war torn countries that are facing starvation. But during our war years these same leaders felt no concern over the tons of food stuff that were used in the manufacture of beverage alcohol. His-

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## PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL ADDRESS

(Continued from page 1)

tory teaches us that after every war there is a food problem and usually it is planned for with a conservation program. During World War Two the production and sale of legitimate goods was curtailed but no limitation was put on non-essentials. In America last year we wasted 3,339,854 tons of food products, grains, sugar, syrups and fruits in making alcoholic beverages sold during that year alone. Between Pearl Harbor and January 1946 the waste totalled 337,000,000 bushels of grain, according to the American Business Men's Research Foundation. Incidentally, the misuse of these grains diverted from the retail market for necessities and harmless luxuries, \$26,200,000,000 during that period of time. When it became necessary to ask the people to eat grey bread and cut down on number of loaves bakers could make in interest of conservation, President Truman did finally put some limitation on the liquor industries. Shortly after that was done the brewers began using high-pressure methods on Secretary of Agriculture, Clinton G. Anderson, asking him to rescind the President's orders because they claimed no wheat shortage. Millers were restricted in the amount of wheat they could have on hand but that did not apply to brewers or distillers. We might not have experienced the shortage in meats and fats had the grain diverted to the brewer and distiller, been used for feed for livestock. Starving chickens were reported in many parts of our nation, but we did not hear of a brewery closing down or a tavern locking its doors. It is the same way in England where they are rationing bread. The drink bill there has jumped from two billion to five billion during the war years. They are still exporting Scotch whisky to thirsty Americans. How are we going to defeat this powerful enemy? True, conditions are bad, but we must face facts with a steadfast faith and a grim determination to be victorious in this fight for righteousness. We must send out the victory signal—think, talk, work and pray for victory—with such a spirit we can not fail. We have many reasons for encouragement as note the dry victories attained in many parts of our nation; a town here and a county there, larger cities zoning out the liquor traffic. Let us put a note of optimism in all our publicity and carry it in our hearts remembering "The race is not always to the swift, neither the battle to the strong."

Every White-Ribboner should know the truth about the liquor traffic, what alcohol is and what it does so that she can refute wet propaganda. Believe in victory and march forward with a grim determination to win.

The statistics that I have given you can be obtained easily, but do you know what this enemy is doing in your own state and community? We are dealing with a very subtle enemy that is not law abiding nor truthful, but who is greedy for wealth. Are there minors in your community that are securing alcoholic beverages? Do your liquor places observe the closing hour law? Do you know that men engaged in this traffic are seeking a place in the church life of the community and leadership in civic affairs especially in work pertaining to recreation for young people?

Since club cars were made a part of passenger trains, travel has become uncomfortable and dangerous and new plans are being made to put cocktail bars on passenger airliners.

Their nation wide advertising program has cost them millions of dollars each year but as a result we have drinking mothers as well as drinking fathers. When high ranking army officers decided that beer was non-alcoholic and permitted the sale of beer in army camps at home and abroad, the liquor traffic was assured addicts because of habits formed by men and women while in training. This is verified in the following article from Buffalo, N. Y., which appeared in the Brewer's Bulletin, June 13, 1946, and I quote "Beer has come into its own and more people have an appetite for beer today since the war because our recruits were furnished with plenty of beer."

The liquor-damning motion picture, "Lost Week-end," portrays the real truth about alcohol and what may happen to any one addicted to its use. In spite of the efforts made by liquor industry to prevent the making and showing of this picture, it has appeared in almost every city in our land. It is the story of the human degeneration of a cultured man, and we can see it enacted over and over again in our own communities by men and women who have become addicted to the use of beverage alcohol. When the making and showing of this picture could not be stopped the liquor interests in a full page advertisement praised the picture, saying that "some men should not drink" and yet they spend millions each year urging people to drink.

Charles Jackson, the author of the "Lost Week-end" had this to say about his book, "I wrote the Lost Week-end because I had seen so many people drink themselves out of a job. In Shakespeare the drunkard is usually a clown. The first reaction of many moderns is to laugh at drunkenness. I tried in my book to take the joke out of alcoholism for I do not think it is funny to those who suffer from its evils."

Science tells us alcohol is a narcotic drug, having no vita-

mins, minerals, fats or proteins. It has no nutritive value for all practical purposes. As a narcotic drug it has habit forming qualities and one drink leads to another. It does not promote health nor retard the onset of disease. It has been said that alcohol is one of the few causes of illness and death which continues to rise in populous parts of the United States.

Statistics show that mental diseases caused by liquor have more than trebled from 1922 to 1942.

Alcoholism is becoming one of our nation's greatest health scourges. Too many of our citizens are indifferent to this great problem and are unwilling to do anything to discourage the use of alcoholic beverages. Many urge that the victims of alcoholism be treated in the same way as victims of other diseases of the body and mind, and that clinics be established to aid in the cures. Emphasis is put on cures, which differs materially from other diseases, where emphasis is put on prevention. True, alcoholism is a disease, but it is a self-inflicted disease, therefore preventable. A total abstainer from the use of alcoholic beverages never suffers from this disease. Whenever either restriction or extermination of the traffic is suggested the cry goes up that the government needs the revenue. They fail to count the cost to the state for the care of the alcoholic insane; the cost for alcoholic crime and the cost of caring for the dependents of the alcoholics. These three results from drinking, far exceed in cost to our government the revenue received for the manufacture and sale of beverage alcohol.

Alcohol can also be termed a killer. The National Safety Council has released figures that show that a drinking driver or a pedestrian who has been drinking was involved in one out of every four fatal highway accidents last year. Since the release of gas rationing there has been an increase in traffic accidents. Today, the Safety Council is using the radio to warn drivers to use extreme care concerning speeding, reckless driving, and drinking.

Beverage alcohol is responsible for many deaths other than that caused by traffic accidents. We have available statistics for 1942 showing that there were 67,580 fatalities in other kinds of accidents. We know that alcohol did not cause all, but it is safe to say that it is responsible for twenty per cent of all such accidents in the home, factory and on the farm. Then there are the murders, sex-crimes and assaults that fill our daily papers. In too many instances, the men and women became involved in these crimes because their brains were befuddled with alcohol.

Another serious charge that can be placed against the liquor traffic is that it destroys home life. The home is the corner stone of any nation, and if we are to have a new world order we must have homes based on love, truth and faith. Now that women have become drinkers also, our homes are in mortal danger. A good mother sets before her children a high ennobling standard of life—that of unselfishness, purity and living for others. She will forewarn them to meet the evils of the world and train them for God. It is in the home that children get their first and most important training in life's problems and it is the mother who, to a large extent, does the teaching and guiding. It is in the home that the children get their first impressions of what is right and what is wrong, by precept and example.

Today our divorces have reached the appalling figure of one for every three marriages. It is not strange then that children are the greatest sufferers from the alcoholic habits of their fathers and mothers—economically—physically, morally and spiritually.

Knowing our enemy and what it can do, we must work. We must go out and bring in new workers. We need the young women with their youth and vitality and they will be a great example and inspiration to those of their own generation who may have become ensnared by the enemy. We need the middle-aged with their training and experience and we need the ones who think their working days are over. There is work for every one, but first of all we must have our hearts in the work, and never give in to discouragement. Unitedly we can form a powerful army that will surely bring victory.

Training for total abstinence must begin in early childhood. Let us therefore enlist our children in the Loyal Temperance Legion whose purpose is to guide the children in spiritual growth, good citizenship, sobriety and character building. Then let us go a step further and enlist the older children—the teenagers—in the Youth's Temperance Council. We have learned during these war years that a nation can not live unto itself alone and that is also true of a home. Youth are bound to be active so it is part of the job of Organized Mother-love to help guide that activity into the proper channels. The Youth's Temperance Council gives actual training and practice in Christian Citizenship. We are primarily home-makers but know that our responsibility can not end there, because to make our home what it should be we must enlarge our vision and our activity to include our community. We are pledged to fight that enemy that seeks to steal the wealth, destroy the health and retard the moral and spiritual growth of our citizens. Convinced that there is a great need for this work, we will go forward and in such a spirit we can not fail.

We know the scientific truths about alcohol and we must put these facts before all the people in a program of education. Through Scientific Temperance Education, Religious Education, Speech Contests and Christian Citizenship let us prepare our youth for that day when they must accept or reject the use of beverage alcohol. Every member who has a desire to be informed should read and study the history of our organization and that she may know the enemy and its power, read "The Amazing Story of Repeal" and "The Wrecking of the Eighteenth Amendment".

This too is a war in which we have an opportunity to cooperate with our allies. Together we must strive to arouse the Christian people from their apathy. We are grateful for the great church temperance boards and for the help given us by the pastors of the various churches in our own communities. The Church of the living God should be active, even militant, in its denunciation of the liquor traffic because the liquor traffic is seeking to degrade and destroy the work of the church.

Another ally, the American Business Men's Research Foundation has furnished facts, figures and cartoon mats to anyone who will use them. These have been used very successfully in counteracting wet advertisements.

That great band, Alcoholics Anonymous—is reaching out to reclaim chronic alcoholics or anyone addicted to the use of beverage alcohol who desires help. Ours is a program of prevention but we rejoice in the restoration of an alcoholic to respectability and health.

We are especially appreciative of the United Temperance Movement of North Dakota which with its kindred aim and purpose has labored with us in legislative and educational work. Through the leadership of this organization we will again be given an opportunity to vote on an initiated measure to make unlawful the sale of all alcoholic beverages in all public eating places, confectioneries, candy stores, etc. This measure will appear on the ballot at the general election in November. This will be the third time that this measure will come before the voters of our state. In both of the previous elections we lost by a very small margin. There will be hard fighting ahead and we must prepare for it. For the honor of our state and its glorious prohibition history let us enter into this campaign with a firm resolution to win. This is not a prohibitive measure, but it is a step forward in protecting our youth. Little by little we must win back what we have lost and make North Dakota the fine example that is her birthright.

Then let us go forward in this fight for sobriety. It takes heroism and sacrifice to carry on, but the cause is a just one. Social drinking has become so common that it takes real courage for a young person to refuse to drink with the crowd. When a young, vivacious high school girl who mixes easily and well and who enjoys a social life, is left out of high school parties because she will not drink, we wonder how long she can resist. When the social set of our churches indulges in cocktail parties and when a member of a church enters into the liquor business—is it not the time for militant action? We can not be timid or afraid, this job is for the brave and the strong.

So we must fight with out weapons, by word, deed, and prayer. Our organization was founded in prayer and prayer has been its greatest weapon through the years. It is a source of strength that helps tremendously to win a victory. We have this promise, "They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint". Nothing is more needful in these confused days than a consciousness of an all sufficient serength other than our own.

Prayer alone is not enough, we must also have faith—an undying faith. We must dwell upon positive, not negative ideas. Doubt destroys—faith builds up. When we can not see the way, we can have faith in God and what seems an insurmountable difficulty can become a triumphant victory. Lastly, we must have vision—a spiritual vision is essential if we are to see the needs of the world. This vision is indispensable if we are to see the world as it ought to be and as it can become under the leadership of God's spirit and through consecrated lives.

In prayer with faith and vision, we rededicate ourselves to a new year of service for God and Home and Every Land. As members of North Dakota Woman's Christian Temperance Union we call upon all Christian women in our state to join with us in this fight for Righteousness, Sobriety and Peace.

Another year is dawning,  
Dear Master let it be,  
In working or in waiting,  
Another year with Thee.

Another year of service,  
Of witness for Thy love;  
Another year of training  
For holier work above.

## THE PRESIDENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS

Cor. 1-15-58

"Therefore my beloved brethran, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord."

With these words of encouragement let us "press towards the mark."

We recommend:

A—A deepening of the spiritual life of each member with daily devotional service, bible reading and prayer.

B—Observance of the noon-tide prayer hour, special prayer meetings, World's Day of Prayer. Emphasize the work of the Spiritual Life and Religious Education Departments.

C—That we continue to urge daily bible reading in public schools.

**Total Abstinence:**

That we stress everywhere the principles on which The Woman's Christian Temperance Union was founded; Total abstinence for the individual and prohibition for the state and nation.

**Sixtieth Anniversary:**

Cooperation as far as possible with plans for the observance of the sixtieth anniversary of our state organization in membership, new organization and Narcotic Education Fund.

**Rainbow Questionnaire:**

We urge that every District President use a Rainbow Questionnaire as a yard-stick for local union activities. A district award to be given to union having the most ribbons.

**November Roll Call:**

Emphasize the annual collection of dues in November. This membership Roll-Call has been adopted by the National WCTU as a standard for early payment of dues. The local treasurer and an assisting committee should make arrangements for the meeting and collection of dues.

B—Strive to be a hold-fast union by getting dues of all living resident members of last year to state treasurer on or before March first. Name of union will appear in White Ribbon Bulletin.

C—Let every union strive to be a fruitful union by making a net gain in dues—paid members based on 1946. Special recognition will be given a union that is fruitful at 1947 State Convention. Names of such unions will be printed in Bulletin.

**Narcotic Education:**

A—We urge that local unions cooperate with public school authorities in strengthening the Narcotic Education program. Give assistance whenever possible by providing literature, books, periodicals on alcohol and other narcotics.

B—Publicize the slide films and their value in class work to all schools equipped with a slide film projector (35mm.). Stress the use of WCTU motion pictures in public schools, Sunday schools, Sunday Schools and Vacation Bible Schools.

C—Co-operate with City and County school superintendents in putting on poster and essay contests.

**Legislation:**

Efforts should be made to secure a local or county option bill for our state.

Cooperate with other dry organizations in fall campaign for initiated measure but no money should be given to other organizations to finance this work.

**Liquor Sales in Navy:**

A—That we strenuously oppose the recent restoration of liquor sales in the United States Navy in extra territorial bases.

B—That we continue to oppose the sale of beer in any post, canteen, or on any territory under the United States military supervision either at home or abroad.

**Hospitality Fund:**

That since the National WCTU is to entertain the World's WCTU convention at Asbury Park, New Jersey, in June, 1947, each local union is asked to assist in raising the funds necessary to the holding of such a convention by having Hospitality Teas where the story of the World's WCTU convention may be told, expected guests from other countries named, and an offering taken. These offerings to be sent to state treasurer who will forward same to National Treasurer. Teas to be held early in the year.

**Department Work:**

That each local director invite and train some woman to work with her in promoting the work of her department.

**Union Signal and Young Crusader:**

Strive to put Signal and Young Crusader into every WCTU home. That we use it more extensively in preparing local union programs.

# WHITE RIBBON BULLETIN

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## Directory

### OFFICERS FOR 1945-1946

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 Corresponding Secretary—Mrs. Alberta W. Lundhagen, 1421 7th St. S., Fargo.

Treasurer—Mrs. Iver Fossum, Box 1366, Fargo.

Recording Secretary—Mrs. Frank Beasley, Fairdale.

Honorary President—Mrs. Elizabeth Preston Anderson, % State Headquarters.

### DISTRICT PRESIDENTS

BISMARCK - Mrs. Philip Stolberg, Flasher  
 ELLENDALE - Mrs. Carl Maack, Ellendale  
 FARGO (Acting) - Mrs. Jessie A. Potter, Fargo  
 GRAND FORKS - Mrs. George S. Muir, Gilby  
 HETTINGER - Mrs. J. O. Wigen, Hettinger  
 JAMES VALLEY - Mrs. Alex C. Burr, Jamestown  
 MINOT - Mrs. F. T. Brooks, Minot  
 NEW ROCKFORD - Mrs. H. F. Taplin, New Rockford  
 NORTH CENTRAL - Mrs. C. A. Jahnke, Rock Lake  
 NORTHEAST - Mrs. Bessie M. Ordahl, Edinburg  
 NORTHWEST - Mrs. Nels Skabo, Crosby  
 RANSOM-LaMOURE - Mrs. Paul Hanson, Englevale

### BRANCH SECRETARY

LOYAL TEMPERANCE LEGION - Mrs. J. W. Frisbie, Casselton

### DEPARTMENT DIRECTORS

Child Welfare and Health—Mrs. Jessie A. Potter, 1015 9th Ave. N., Fargo.

Christian Citizenship—Mrs. George Campbell, 205 5th St. NW. Minot.

Flower Mission and Relief—Mrs. C. E. Erickson, Crosby.

Institutes—State Vice President.

Legislation—Mrs. Kate S. Wilder, 409½ 4th St. S., Grand Forks.

Medical Temperance—(to be selected)

Publicity—Mrs. Nellie M. Cross, Park River.

Radio—Mrs. C. F. Truax, 308 3rd St. SE., Minot.

Religious Education—Mrs. R. J. Stinson, 1006 First Ave. S., Fargo.

Scientific Temperance Instruction—Mrs. Fred M. Wanner, 617 4th Ave. SE., Jamestown.

Social Morality—Mrs. Philip Stolberg, Flasher.

Soldiers and Sailors—Mrs. G. A. Shelby, 222 2nd Ave., Valley City.

Speech Contests—Mrs. H. O. Hermanson, 901 Cherry, Grand Forks.

Spiritual Life—Mrs. Andrew Hay, Crosby.

Union Signal Promoter—Mrs. O. J. Swanson, 310 Second Ave. S., Grand Forks.

Visual Education—Mrs. Lavinia Bignall, 516 8th Ave. N., Valley City.

State Historians—Mrs. Elizabeth Preston Anderson, Fargo, and Mrs. Barbara H. Wylie, Bowesmont.

Trustees—Five General Officers, Mrs. S. O. Nelson, Northwood; Mrs. P. O. Sathre, Bismarck.

dents, a state director, and a lot of capable workers in district and local unions. Because the Westminster Presbyterian church is large with a very high ceiling, I was compelled to sit on a front seat instead of with the delegation, in order to hear anything, and that is the reason that I did not meet all those from North Dakota.

I think most of the women who knew her at all well, went to see our former state corresponding secretary, Mrs. Barbara H. Wylie, who lives in Minneapolis. We found her in a pleasant room at the Walker Methodist Home, surrounded by the friends that she has made since she went there; all of them were eager to do something for her. Many of them are interested in the temperance work, and some of them attended the convention. It was a pleasure to see Mrs. J. N. Wallestad there one day. This former N. D. director of speech contests now lives in St. Paul.

The pastor of the hostess church, Dr. Lowe, came one afternoon to bid us welcome, and to wish us well. In his honor, the National president asked all Presbyterians in the convention to stand; there were quite a number. Then he asked about other denominations represented, and one by one they were asked to stand; all the churches they named had at least a few representatives. When they asked the Methodists to stand, however, it seemed that few were left sitting down. It gave one a happy feeling to know that the women of all denominations are united in this work.

The processional at the first evening meeting was something to remember. Preceded by trumpeters, and color bearers, the officers of the National WCTU, guests, state presidents, branch secretaries and state YTC presidents marched down the aisle and to their seats. The state presidents carried their state flags, which were placed in prepared holders in the galleries. Presidents of states that had made a net gain in membership were seated on the platform and gave two minute speeches; we North Dakota women were proud to have Mrs. Darling among them, and confidentially, I liked her speech the best of all.

Again on Youth's Night there was a colorful procession as young people marched with the Y. T. C. banners of at least 10 states, and the Minnesota members followed, each girl carrying a 'torch' of rainbow hues. They stood on the stairs to the balcony, as well as on the platform, and their leader presented to Mrs. Colvin, a 'pot of gold' to represent the service of the young people to the temperance cause. That evening's session was outstanding, to me, for it included the wonderful singing of the young people from the Minnehaha Academy—there must have been at least 60 of them, and their leader said that all of them were Christians—the grand diamond speech contest, in which four girls and two boys gave excellent readings; and the address by Mr. Gil Dodds, noted track athlete who is also a student for the ministry. The children of the L. T. L., who were to have had a part in the procession, could not appear because of the polio epidemic, and all gatherings of children were forbidden.

Sunday, too, was memorable. I hope many of you heard Dr. Mecklenburg's sermon from Wesley Methodist church in the morning, as it was on the radio. In the afternoon Homer Rodeheaver, the famous song leader, led the singing and spoke on "The Signs That Are Turned Around." Again we had fine singing from the Roosevelt High School choir; and that evening Bishop Cushman of the Methodist church spoke on "The Basis of a Lasting Peace."

World's night there was a processional of women in costumes of all the countries in which the WCTU is organized. All through the convention there were fine addresses, from which excerpts will appear in the Union Signal. At the convention dinner the last night, the chief speaker was the Honorable Joseph R. Bryson, congressman from North Carolina, whose witty remarks interspersing the sound sense of his address made it doubly interesting.

The sudden and completely unexpected death of Mr. H. E. Mielke, husband of our state vice president, who was at the convention, cast a shadow over our delegation. It was difficult to concentrate upon conferences and addresses, when our hearts were with our sorrowing comrade. Never the less, that national convention will stand out in our memories, as one that brought us nearer to God, with a sense of the vastness of our work, and the closeness of the White Ribbon tie.

Elizabeth C. Beasley.

## A Word to the Wise

I have been to the National Convention! In 1923 I attended my first one, and was able to go to Chicago the following year to the Jubilee convention, but not since, till this time. It was a great satisfaction to Mrs. Darling, our state president, that so many were able to go to Minneapolis. Some could only be there a part of the time, but some stayed till the end; in all there were 17 or 18 North Dakota women there. All the general officers except Mrs. Fossum were there, as well as two district presi-

### GOD OMNIPOTENT

Where is the God of Elijah?  
 He is thy God, be not dismayed;  
 But oh, where is God's Elijah,  
 Who can pray as Elijah prayed?

## Treasurer's Report

NORTH DAKOTA W. C. T. U.

July 20 — September 10, 1946

**DUES:** Stady-Zahl, 2, Julia D. Nelson, Fargo 66, Edgeley 6, Bismarck, 3, Grand Forks 6, McKenzie 12, Fairdale 1, Minot 11, Jamestown 18, Page 9, Frances Willard, Grand Forks 8, Grafton 12, Sawyer 1, Rock Lake 1, Ellendale 3.

**L. T. L.:** Hatton, 75, Prosper 22, Williston 35, Sawyer 2.

**WILLARD:** Ida Mary Torr, Bantry; Mrs. Alice Brock, Bantry; Mrs. C. Klusman, New Salem; Mrs. Grace Graham, Oberon; Mrs. O. J. Klusman, New Salem; Mrs. J. C. Carlson, Langdon.

**LIFE MEMBER:** Phillip Stolberg, Flasher.

**CHILD LIFE:** Eileen Sylvia Peterson, Fargo.

**BUDGET:** McKenzie \$13.00, Minot \$33.00, Frances Willard, Grand Forks \$8.00, Sawyer \$8.00, Valley City \$25.00, Glover \$7.00, Rugby \$22.00, Ellendale \$10.00.

**LITERATURE:** \$13.81.

**NARCOTIC EDUCATION:** Northwood \$35.00, Julia F. Nelson, Fargo \$41.25, Bismarck \$3.00, Ida Mary Torr \$10.00, Minot \$13.75, Grand Forks \$2.00, Parshall \$43.00, Jamestown \$12.00, Oberon \$10.50, Ellendale \$4.00, Edgeley \$28.00, Page \$2.98, Bottineau \$26.20, Frances Willard, Grand Forks \$1.50, Ransom-LaMoure Dist. \$15.00, Sawyer \$1.00, Lisbon \$3.00, Grover \$8.00, Hatton \$16.80, Fargo \$32.70, Nekoma \$5.00.

**KATE S. WILDER MEMORIAL MEMBERSHIP:** \$13.00.

**Y. T. C. MEMBERSHIP:** Flasher 1.

**LIGHT LINE UNIONS:** Jamestown \$5.00, Parshall \$5.00.

A number of contributions were made to the Narcotic Education fund as a memorial to Kate S. Wilder, among them were: Julia D. Nelson Union, Fargo, \$3.00; Ransom-LaMoure Dist. \$15.00. Other contributions to the Narcotic Education fund were designated exclusively for Radio work.

An error appeared in the last issue of the White Ribbon Bulletin when Northeast District was reported to have paid \$40.00 on their pledge for 1945 and 1946, this should have read \$50.00. Our apologies to Northeast District.

Again a year has past and the treasurer's books are closed on the year's work. Your treasurer has greatly appreciated the kindly consideration and the cooperation of the local treasurers. A hearty thank you to every one.

MRS. IVER FOSSUM.

## Grand Forks District Convention

The 36th annual convention of Grand Forks district was held in the Ebenezer Lutheran church in Northwood this year, with Mrs. Bessie M. Darling as guest speaker. This district has six unions with an enrollment of about 220. Each union was well represented, and over 40 delegates were present. Splendid reports were given by district officers and local presidents, showing much good work done in many departments. This district has four LTL's, with a total of 148 members; departments reporting were Child Welfare, Soldiers and Sailors, Speech Contests, Flower Mission and Relief, and Spiritual Life. Reports included essay, poster and speech contests.

A beautiful memorial service was led by Miss Margaret Hyslop of Grand Forks, during which special tribute was paid to Mrs. Kate S. Wilder, whose death last April was a great loss to this district as well as the state. She was greatly missed at this convention, as she has added so much to our meetings by her presence the past few years. Later in the convention a gift of \$5.00 was sent from the district to the state, in her memory.

We were happy to have the state president, Mrs. Darling, with us through the day to help and guide us. In the afternoon she spoke to us on the progress of the Narcotic Education Fund, and her evening address was the high light of the convention. Musical selections greatly enjoyed by the delegates were two vocal solos, a saxophone solo, vocal sextette, vocal trio and two vocal duets. Election of officers resulted in the re-election of Mrs. George S. Muir, Gilby, as president; Mrs. C. E. Soderholm, Larimore, as corresponding secretary, and Mrs. J. W. Scott, as treasurer. Mrs. O. J. Oswald was named as vice president, and Mrs. M. B. Berthueson as recording secretary.

Liquor sellers seldom go bankrupt; that privilege belongs to their customers.

## NOONTIDE HOUR OF PRAYER

It is always noontime somewhere and across  
The awakening continents from shore to shore,  
Somewhere our prayers are rising evermore.

## Faith's Message

My faith—what is it? Is it that which sends me forth each morning to my daily tasks feeling sure that if I do my little part the best I can, some day righteousness will prevail.

As Abraham was summoned to leave home without knowing where he was to go, so are we today called to perform our work in a world that is badly mixed up—everything that we have held sacred seems, sometimes, to be hopelessly lost. Revenge, lust, barbarism, grief—all these at first glance appear to rule the world. But not so! My faith tells me that God is concerned. His ways are the ways of peace. His love still "overcometh the world." With the atomic bomb men try to settle matters by the means of complete destruction. God settles things that go wrong by a slower but surer method of "Him who came that we might have life and have it more abundantly."

When faith points the way and we follow, griefs that tear the heart are more easily borne, disappointments are not so soul-breaking, the utter hopelessness of the present world situation begins to vanish, and we move ahead confidently.

S. A. Cohagen in Union Signal.

## In Memoriam

"Oh, aching heart with sorrow torn,  
Thy Lord is near and knows;  
He knows it all—the feet wayworn,  
The weary cares and woes;  
The load of grief in anguish borne—  
Thy Lord is near—He knows!"

—Emma G. Dietrick.

Mrs. F. C. Rector, treasurer of the Langdon union, is bereaved in the sudden passing of her husband August 5, from a heart attack, at the age of 67. He was proprietor of a hotel, and greatly interested in church and community affairs.

Mrs. H. E. Mielke of Fargo, state vice president, has been doubly bereaved in the past five weeks. On August 14, her mother, Mrs. Anton Peik, who had been with Mrs. Mielke in Fargo for a time, passed away following an operation. Services were held in Minneapolis, where she was buried beside her husband, who was a minister in the German Methodist church. Assisting in the service were the Rev. Robert H. E. Mielke and the Rev. Joseph Grostephan, grandsons of the deceased; and the Rev. J. A. Rinkel, a long time friend, who paid a fitting tribute to a very beautiful character.

On September 23, Mr. Mielke, who had driven to Minneapolis and had attended some meetings of the convention, apparently perfectly well, was stricken with a heart attack on the street only a few minutes after Mrs. Mielke had left his side to enter the church for the morning meeting. Death was immediate. Helmuth E. Mielke was born in Germany July 31, 1885 and came to America with his parents who settled near Aberdeen, S. D. With a good education, he taught school for a time, and practiced law for 33 years at Ryder, Minneapolis and Fargo. He was married to Frieda Peik in 1915, at Minneapolis, and she survives him with their three children; Ruth, who is the wife of the Rev. J. H. Grostephan, Park Rapids, Minn.; a son, the Rev. Robert H. E. Mielke, of Brooklyn, N. Y., and Jean, who is the wife of John Harris, Counselor at the Junior College, Rochester, Minn. Three brothers also survive him. While they lived at Ryder, Mr. Mielke was superintendent of the Sunday School for nineteen years. He was a member of the Gideons and the Christian Business Men's Organization; he was actively interested in the Youth for Christ movement, the Red Rock Camp Meetings and every effort for evangelism. He was a life member of the N. D. WCTU and a supporter of the work. His devotional and prayer life was a blessing to his family. Services were held at the Park Avenue Methodist church in Minneapolis Thursday, Sept. 26, and interment was in Lakewood cemetery.

The deep sympathy of our women goes out to these bereaved comrades.

Worry is interest paid on trouble before it is due.—Dean Inge.

## Notes From the Unions

Northwood Union held a picnic in July, at the farm home of Mrs. Olaf Olson. This is a beautiful place, and a delightful time was enjoyed by those present. This union also sponsored a picnic in the park for their L. T. L.; there are 52 members of the Northwood legion.

The Larimore union held its second annual institute at the Turtle River State Park lodge August 21, with good attendance. The local president, Mrs. Charles Ouradnik, was the presiding officer, and Mrs. Bessie M. Darling, the state president, was guest speaker. Mrs. Sheridan Arnold led the devotional service, using as her theme "Discerning God's Presence." Mrs. Darling explained the department work of the WCTU, and in her address especially emphasized STI, Soldiers and Sailors, Spiritual Life, and Christian Citizenship. A delicious picnic supper was served, with Mrs. C. E. Aaker and Mrs. Fred Gebhardt as hostesses. In the evening, Mrs. Allan Taylor discussed the work of the department of Flower Mission and Relief. The regular meeting of the union was held August 7, at the home of Mrs. Urness, with Mrs. Callaway assisting hostess.

The Frances Willard union of Grand Forks met August 30 at the YMCA for their annual election. The officers who will lead the work of this active union this year are Mrs. M. B. Bertheuson, president; Mrs. A. V. Sheppard, V. P.; Mrs. Otto Knapp, Sec., Mrs. Louise Christiansen, treasurer; Mrs. R. Lunseth, Cor. Sec., Mrs. H. O. Hermanson and Mrs. Einar Nelson were hostesses for this meeting, and after a fine lunch a social hour was enjoyed by all.

The Fairdale union held its regular meeting at the home of Mrs. A. C. Hanson August 20. An interesting reading was given by Mrs. Joel Flom, and two duets by Bella and Ardell Hooley, with guitar accompaniment, were enjoyed by all. Mrs. Frank Beasley, state recording secretary, was present by special invitation, and gave a talk. A delightful lunch was served by the hostess. The president, Mrs. Orvin J. Bilstad, who had only recently returned from the hospital with her first-born, arranged for a meeting of the officers to submit plans of work for the coming year.

Members of the Edinburg WCTU were special guests, and presented the program at the Trinity Lutheran Ladies' Aid meeting in the church rooms August 29. Mrs. N. Ordahl, president of the union, was in charge of the program. Rev. R. Overgaard led devotions, and Mrs. Overgaard led the group singing and gave a solo. Mrs. Ordahl spoke on the cost of education, compared to the far greater sum spent on liquor in this country. A playlet was given by Mrs. Edwin Gryde, Miss Jean Myrdal and Miss Ruth Steenerson. Others who took part in the program were Mrs. Glenn Laitwaite, Mrs. Tom Halvorson, Anna Johnson and Mrs. P. O. Laurhammer. Attention was called to measures to be voted upon at the fall election. Edinburg is a Hold Fast union, and has gained five members this year. It continues to sponsor an LTL, with the busy president, Mrs. Ordahl, as leader. At the recent election, she was again named president, Mrs. Glenn Laitwaite is vice president and Mrs. P. O. Laurhammer is secretary-treasurer. At the July meeting of this union, held at the home of Mrs. Amund Nygaard, the baby daughter of the hostess was dedicated as a White Ribbon Recruit by Mrs. Ordahl. There was an excellent attendance of both members and visitors, and very good offerings to help with the work, were received.

The Bismarck union is very busy preparing to entertain the state convention, to be held there Oct. 1-3. Before this is in print, we hope to have become better acquainted with them all.

The Nekoma union met with Mrs. S. A. Helland at her home in the country for the August meeting. Several visitors were present. The annual report was gone over, and it was voted to pay the expenses of the president in part at last, if she could go to the state convention. It was also voted to purchase new songbooks for use in the meetings. A fine lunch was served by the hostess. A program of readings and talks was given.

The Park River union met Sept. 12 at the home of Mrs. Loughead. It was agreed that each member would earn or save her share of their quota for the Narcotic Education Fund. The program included talks by several members. Mrs. Nellie M. Cross spoke on "Spiritual Training"; Mrs. John Shaw in "The Sense of Security," Mrs. M. O. Adams on "Personality," and Mrs. O. J. Pederson on "Influence." Mrs. Adams is the newly elected president of the union; Mrs. O. J. Pederson is vice president; Mrs. Shaw is treasurer and Mrs. Catherwood is secretary.

## Personal Mention

Mr. and Mrs. H. O. Hermanson of Grand Forks have recently returned from a trip to Spokane, Wash., where they visited their son Stanton, and their daughters. Ruth, who is Mrs. M. Summers, and Miss Ada Mae, live there. They also visited relatives in Seattle, Portland and Astoria. Mrs. Hermanson has been president of the Frances Willard union in Grand Forks for the past year.

Mrs. Fred M. Wanner of Jamestown greatly enjoyed a visit from her daughter, Mrs. Ray Sweetman of New York, during July and part of August. The former had both her body and her confidence badly jarred in a fall the first of August, but no bones were broken and she is courageously walking again with her crutches. She confesses that she misses the meetings of the local union very much, as she has not been able to attend one since her accident last November, but says they are doing good work. She was looking forward to a visit with her granddaughter, Margaret Wanner Vogel, and her husband, Wm. Vogel, who live at Ann Arbor, Mich., in a "GI" apartment while the latter is attending the university there. Mr. Vogel was an officer in the medical corps during the war.

Tribute was paid to Mrs. R. A. Sprague, long time member of the Grand Forks union, in the Grand Forks Herald for August 11. The article, of more than column length, reviewed the work done there years ago, that gave that city the name of "Spotless Town" over the nation. The efforts then put forth to clean up the city and to keep food offered for sale free from contamination, were the forerunner of present laws. Mrs. Sprague was the first food inspector in this state, and perhaps in the nation. A very good picture of her accompanied the article. It was once ye editor's privilege to be a guest in Mrs. Sprague's home during a state convention in Grand Forks. She was state director of Child Welfare and Health for some years.

Mrs. Annie F. Catherwood returned Sept. 12 from a six weeks visit at the home of her sister, Mrs. Jessie Park in Glasgow, Mont. Mrs. Ena Craig, another sister, who had spent the past year with Mrs. Catherwood, has gone to California to stay for several months.

The infant son of Rev. and Mrs. O. J. Bilstad of Fairdale was christened at services there Sept. 1. Rev. S. H. Njaa of Northwood baptized his grandson and namesake, "Stephen William," while Mrs. Njaa and their daughter, Miss Arna Njaa of Minneapolis, with Mr. and Mrs. William Bilstad of Fargo, the other grandparents, were sponsors.

EVANSTON, ILL., Sept. 13—The National Woman's Christian Temperance Union plans to increase rather than abandon its fight for return of prohibition, Mrs. D. Leigh Colvin, president, declared here today.

Mrs. Colvin said she had investigated a report, circulated by a press association, quoting a state and national WCTU official as saying, "The WCTU does not seek the return of prohibition" and "prohibition is not the answer," and found it to be wholly without foundation.

"The current platform of the National Woman's Christian Temperance Union, adopted by its executive committee, for the current year," Mrs. Colvin added, "contains the following:

### "NATIONAL:

"We stand for the complete prohibition of traffic in alcoholic beverages;

### "STATE:

"We stand for prohibition in every state and territory."

"Thy will be done on earth!

God give me grace to see

That it Thy will is done

It must be done by me."

—From 101 Prayers for Peace.

They talk of the man behind the gun  
And the deadly work that he has done;  
But much more deadly work by far  
Is done by the man behind the bar.

—Exchange.

# Highlights of the 72nd Annual Convention of the National Woman's Christian Temperance Union

Sept. 20 to 24, 1946

The following gives, in brief, some of the highlights of the Convention of the National Woman's Christian Temperance Union, held in Minneapolis, Minnesota, at the Westminster Presbyterian Church:

Friday, September 20

Mrs. D. Leigh Colvin, the national president, made the president's annual speech at the opening sessions and unmasked organized liquor forces as subtle, dangerous and deceitful foes who are masquerading under a robe of respectability.

The president's recommendations for the coming year were given the convention at the same session and were far-reaching in scope. The traditional principle of the WCTU in being opposed to everything that is wet and in support of all dry forces working to outlaw liquor, from the smallest precinct to the nation, was reiterated.

Liquor sales at navy bases outside the United States, recently authorized by a special order, was strenuously protested as was the continuing practice of the army in permitting the sale of beer at all army bases.

A broad campaign against liquor advertising was outlined. It will center in promotion and support of an all-inclusive bill to outlaw all forms of liquor advertising including by radio, or in newspapers and magazines, billboards or any other medium, Mrs. Colvin said. Members of Congress who introduce anti-liquor advertising bills will be asked to insist on open hearings.

A recommendation that plans be made for acquiring a radio station, owned and controlled by the WCTU, was received with enthusiasm. It was proposed that a committee be appointed to investigate and report the possibilities and present a financial plan to carry out such a program at the 1947 national convention.

The raising and expending of \$10,000 in an advertising campaign in religious newspapers of the country during the coming year also was recommended.

Miss Lily Grace Matheson, corresponding secretary, reported that a renaissance in family life in the United States embracing law enforcement, school improvement, church attendance, recreation and abolition of liquor, as well as other social and welfare activities, will be stressed in the WCTU program this coming year. This involves a strong effort to enroll families under the WCTU banner.

In submitting the treasurer's report, Mrs. Margaret C. Munns surprised her friends by announcing that after almost 31 years of service she was retiring. Under her guidance the WCTU financial department survived the depression and the organization maintained its record of more than 60 years of financial solvency. Mrs. Munns is still treasurer of the World WCTU.

Mrs. Munns said the true gauge in any organization is usually the membership and that the WCTU had 11,459 more members on September 1 than as of the same date a year ago. A membership gain has been recorded for six consecutive years for a total six-year gain of 42,480.

Mrs. F. G. Grevelt, president of the Alberta, Canada, WCTU told of a proposal to nationalize the liquor industry in Canada which means that the government would take over all phases of the liquor business. She opposed it on that ground that it isn't how liquor is sold or made that is bad—the bad thing is liquor itself and that government control is only another method of selling something that should be prohibited.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

Mrs. Violet Hill Whyte of Baltimore, Md., told of her experiences as a police officer with beverage alcohol problems. Mrs. Whyte, director of WCTU work among negroes, has been a police officer in a congested section of Baltimore for eight years and her conclusion was that alcohol is the direct or indirect cause of more crime than any other factor.

Gil Dodds, holder of the United States record for the indoor mile, was the highlight of Youth Night. He told the sessions that the true victory is over oneself and decision to follow the guidance of Christ. He cited his own record as one of the outstanding distance runners of all time as added proof that clean living pays. He also told of other champions who have demonstrated the value of clean living and temperance in all things.

Miss Dorothy Peterson of Duluth, Minn., won the oratorical contest in a field of six and was awarded the grand diamond

medal to add to the four other medals she won in winning her way to the finals. Other finalists were: Miss Mary Ellen Mow, North Manchester, Ind.; Miss Ruby Harrison, Oklahoma City, Okla.; Miss Ruth LaMountain, Royal Oak, Mich.; Mr. David Williams, Cleveland, O.; and Mr. Ben M. Sparks, Chattanooga, Tenn.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

Dr. George Mecklenburg of Wesley Methodist church delivered an inspiring convention sermon in which he related the sad fact that upon returning from a tour of Europe he came home to find that the United States is the most drunken nation in the world. He said that economic war for trade was inevitable and that a drunken America could not compete economically with a sober Russia. He urged a new crusade to outlaw liquor and said that liquor interests were not afraid of moderation, that some actually welcomed it because it tends to eliminate the moral element.

Homer Rodeheaver, songmaster for the late Billy Sunday for 20 years, addressed the afternoon sessions and also sang old favorites requested by the audience, such as "The Brewers Big Horses Can't Run Over Me," "The Old Rugged Cross," and "In the Garden."

Sunday night Dr. Ralph S. Cushman, bishop of the Methodist church, St. Paul area, expressed confidence that a revival of practical Christianity would overcome threats to peace. This revival, he said, must cover all awlks of life—the individual, his business, and political affiliations.

Mrs. Colvin took over the collection duties Sunday night and her inspiring and irresistible appeal resulted in contributions that night and the following day totaling \$4,335.00 for the National Woman's Christian Temperance Union.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

Miss Violet Black of Dallas, Wis., state treasurer of the Wisconsin WCTU, was elected national treasurer succeeding Mrs. Munns who had previously announced her decision to retire. All other national officers were re-elected. New department directors appointed were: Mrs. Ethel Bliss Baker of Minneapolis, director of child welfare; Mrs. Marie Bentsen of McAllen, Texas, director of institutes; Mrs. Margaret C. Munns of Evanston, Ill., director of parliamentary usage; Mrs. Adella M. Langill of Evanston, Ill., director of religious education; and Mrs. Clara Macoubrey of St. Paul, Minn., director of spiritual life.

Dr. George Mecklenburg, District Judge William A. Anderson, and Dean M. Schweickhard, commissioner of education of St. Paul, participated in a symposium on "solving the Liquor Problem." Dr. Mecklenburg and Judge Anderson joined in urging the WCTU to use political action in its fight to abolish the liquor traffic in the United States. They agreed that all elective officials have something to do with the liquor problem and that those opposed to the WCTU program should be opposed in turn, at the polls.

Texas was acclaimed honor state for 1946 by scoring a net membership gain of 671. Florida was second with 306. Texas also won the trophy for the largest gain in Loyal Temperance Legion members.

Dr. Ella A. Boole, president of the World WCTU announced that the world convention would be held June 5-10, 1947 at Asbury Park, N. J. It will be the first world convention since before the war and delegates from approximately 40 nations are expected, Mrs. Boole said.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

The story of how a group of Chicago business and professional men wearied by a continual round of cocktail parties, turned to tea, was told by Rousseau Van Voorhies, one of the founders of the Johnsonian tea-era of the Union League Club, Chicago. They found a higher level of fellowship is attained through intelligence, understanding and culture—dependent upon higher activities of the brain which will not be dulled as when alcohol is used. The group has about 40 members in addition to many followers here and abroad.

The following resolutions and statements were presented to the sessions and approved:

The WCTU has always emphasized the scientific approach to the alcohol problem. Recognizing that alcoholism is a disease

(Concluded on page 8)

**HIGHLIGHTS OF NATIONAL CONVENTION**

(Continued from page 7)

affecting the drinker, his family, his friends and community, and since prevention is a modern method of attacking other diseases, prevention should be the primary process applied to alcoholism. Therefore, the WCTU cannot endorse any activity or teaching which results in the acceptance of the use of beverage alcohol in any form or quantity.

That we re-affirm our belief that the total abolition of the alcoholic beverage traffic is the only adequate solution of the alcohol problem, and to that end we advocate the re-enactment of national constitutional prohibition.

That we urge Congress and the state legislatures to make the expense of rehabilitation of alcoholics a special charge upon the profits of the manufacturers of such beverages.

That we advocate international control of the principle of atomic fission; that we renew our statement "We oppose peacetime conscription of men, women or youth;" we urge a commission on disarmament be added to those already active in the United Nations; we offer cooperation to temperance forces and to peace societies in other countries.

That we reaffirm our belief in the brotherhood of man and that we accept the implications of that belief in regard to race relations and international policies.

\* \* \*

The convention closed with the annual banquet in which Congressman Jos. Bryson of South Carolina was the principal speaker. His subject was "Booze or Bread" and he said starvation threatened entire populations while other nations, including the United States, are using vast quantities of grain for liquor and beer.

## WCTU Declares Position on New Approach

Inasmuch as we have been requested by our own members to express the views of our organization concerning the so-called "new approach" to the alcohol problem and the many schools for the study of alcohol problems which have been and are being established at various places in our country we declare:

That the National Woman's Christian Temperance Union has always emphasized the scientific approach to the alcohol problem. It has evolved and promoted educational processes for acquainting the public with the scientific as well as the ethical and moral aspects of the problem. It has recognized that alcoholism is a disease affecting the drinker, his family, his friends and his community. It believes that, since prevention is the modern method of attacking other diseases, prevention should be the primary process applied to alcoholism. And, since so much is being said about the rehabilitation of alcoholics, we should stress the fact that total abstinence is the essential, ultimate factor in all methods of rehabilitation.

While we do not at all wish to interfere with full and complete study of all phases of the alcohol problem, we believe it is our responsibility to warn our members and the public that some organizations and schools are tending to be conciliatory toward moderation rather than supporting prohibition and total abstinence.

We, the National Woman's Christian Temperance Union, cannot endorse any activity or teaching which results in the acceptance of the use of beverage alcohol in any form or quantity.

"This learned I, from the shadow of a tree  
That to and fro did sway upon the wall,  
Our shadow selves, our influence, may fall  
Where we may never be".

**HIGHEST PATRIOTISM**

With the American people fast becoming the most drunken people on earth and with the nation facing the greatest test of its existence, fighting the alcohol traffic in any way becomes an expression of the highest patriotism.—Christian Advocate.

Let God have your life; he can do more with it than you can.

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