

Mrs Frank Beasley

WHITE RIBBON BULLETIN

Official Organ of W. C. T. U. of North Dakota
"NOT WILLING THAT ANY SHOULD PERISH"

Volume XLVIII

MAY-JUNE, 1947

Number 3

State Convention in Grand Forks, September 9-10-11

Be sure to Send Names of Delegates to Mrs. O. J. Swanson, 310 Second Avenue South, Grand Forks, North Dakota

June

"I knew that you were coming June,
I knew that you were coming,
For every warbler in the wood, a
song of joy was humming.
I know that you are here June, I
know that you are here—
The fairy month, the merry month,
the laughter of the year!"
—Minnesota White Ribbon.

The President's Letter

I am experiencing the rare privilege of meeting co-workers all over the state at this time as I go from place to place attending district conventions. It is a pleasure indeed, and something I look forward to each year. Three conventions have been held but before this week is over I will have visited two more. Good work has been accomplished in all districts but we must not rest on our laurels if we want to attain our goals. Let the good work go on even though district conventions are over. I have been very pleased with the increased attendance this year. In almost every district every union was represented. I earnestly urge that all unions endeavor to hold last year's membership or better still strive for net gains. Our state convention will be held almost a month earlier than last year, therefore we must close our books earlier and so it will be necessary to work hard the next three months. All obligations should be met at the earliest opportunity, so that we may attain as fine a record as we had last year.

By this time every local and district president will have the letter explaining the offer made by our first Honorary President, Mrs. Elizabeth Preston Anderson. We have eleven organized districts and if each one would gain two new organizations this year, we would exceed the goal of 20 new organizations. Then there are two unorganized districts that have two unions each but do not have district officers. Let us show our appreciation to Mrs. Anderson for her generous offer by putting forth some real effort to get these new organizations. She will be anxiously waiting to hear who won the first five dollars. Dues must be sent to the state treasurer before claim can be made. When local treasurer sends in the dues she should make a claim and it will be forwarded to Mrs. Anderson.

It was my pleasure to meet our State Secretary of Loyal Temperance Legion, Mrs. J. W. Frisbie, at the Fargo district convention at Hunter and she informed me that North Dakota needs only 80 new Legionnaires to meet the National quota for our state. Can we fail her now? It is OUR QUOTA and she is doing all she can to attain it but must have our co-operation. Of course, that means that all dues for last year's LTL's must be secured. Last year my own home town had an LTL and this year it is not functioning; that means the loss of 14 members. Can you see the importance of keeping our legions active from year to year. Some one must make up this loss and that number may keep us from attaining our quota. Discouraging as such losses are to the leaders, imagine the great loss to the children. The wets are seeking to reach our youth by glamorizing drinking in liquor advertisements, in motion pictures and by every possible way while we are passing up opportunities to train the children for total abstinence. The truth about alcohol, what it is and what it does, will help a child to grow into a total abstainer. The cry is for leaders—are there no women in the local unions who can find time to train children—the most worthwhile work that we have. Would it not be worth the time if you knew you had helped to lead a child into paths of righteousness and sobriety; helped some one to meet this foe boldly and without fear. Think it over—district presidents talk it over with local presidents and do something about it immediately.

Word has come from Miss Helen Allan, National organizer, who is working in our state at the present time that a new union has been organized at Tower City in the James-Valley District. We are happy to welcome this new union into our great band of unions and to bring our best wishes for a successful

union. The new president is Mrs. O. L. Otterness and to her we extend our congratulations and pray God's richest blessing upon this new organization. We are ready at all times to lend a helping hand. Let us add this new union to our prayer list and pray for guidance for its leaders. We are hoping that there will be many more organizations before Miss Allan completes her work in our state. She will leave James Valley district this week end, to go to New Rockford District. Not all districts that wanted Miss Allen could have her, because her time in our state is very limited and we want her to have enough time in each town she visits to organize, but we do hope that through the efforts of district officers new organizations will be formed in every district.

Before this reaches you the World's WCTU Convention scheduled for June 5-10 at Asbury Park, N. J., will be history. I am looking forward to attending with great anticipation, but wish that every White-Ribboner in the state could have that great privilege. It is 10 years since the last world's WCTU convention was held and that too, convened in United States. Many of you have vivid memories of that great meeting, it was not my privilege to go. I am happy to announce that our State Vice president, Mrs. H. E. Mielke, and Mrs. T. Jonas of Fargo are planning to attend. It will be a great joy to have them there and I know we are going to gain much from this great meeting. You have had a share in it with your Hospitality Teas and our state has sent in over \$300 for this purpose.

Then may I remind you again that our state convention will meet in Grand Forks, Sept. 9-10-11 and we hope that many will avail themselves of the opportunity to attend. Our serious housing problem makes it imperative that you make your reservation early. We want to take care of all delegates but if you do not make a reservation, we can not promise a room. Our convention guest will be Miss Lily Grace Matheson, National Corresponding Secretary. It is her first visit to our State and we know you are going to enjoy her. She is a splendid leader and speaker and will enthuse and inspire us, so come and meet her.

Thank you all that have so royally entertained your state president these last weeks. Your hospitality has been most thoroughly enjoyed and appreciated. There are no women like our dear White Ribboners and you have a very special place in my heart.

Friendship is a mighty factor in this hard world,
Since by friendship comes self-forgetfulness
And no man does great work unless he forgets self.

—Jeffrey Farnel

Yours in service,
Bessie M. Darling.

Personal Mention

Mrs. J. W. Scott Sr. has returned to Gilby after her sojourn in a Grand Forks hospital, and gets about very well with crutches. She even attended the district convention when it met in Gilby, and read her report as district treasurer. Good for her! It takes more than a broken hip to keep our women down.

Mrs. J. A. Burgum of Hunter, who had the same sort of accident as Mrs. Scott, about a year ago, attended the Fargo district convention when it met in Hunter, and welcomed the visitors in delightful fashion. Mrs. Burgum uses two canes very successfully.

Mrs. George S. Muir of Gilby is able to write her own neat hand again, after getting her broken arm healed and limbered up. The same can be said of Miss Christine Gjevve, of Fairdale. Mrs. George Sholy of Nekoma is the most recent of our women to break her arm. Let us try to call a halt on this breaking of bones; we are doing too much of that!

Mrs. Bessie M. Darling had a short visit with Mrs. Fred M. Wanner of Jamestown during her travels to visit the district conventions, and reports that our second honorary president is very well, which is good news.

Mrs. Maude Scott of Monango, who was very ill last winter is reported to be much better. Keep right on that way!

Notes From the Unions

(Owing to an oversight, the following story of activities of the Edinburg union failed to appear in the last issue of our paper. It had been buried beneath a lot of papers. Apologies to Mrs. P. O. Laurhammer, who reported it January 18.)

When the December meeting of the Edinburg union was held, it was reported that dues for all members, and the budget had been sent in. Plans were made for a Hospitality Tea, which was held at the home of the president, Mrs. Bessie M. Ordahl, January 17. Mr. Movius of Park River was the guest speaker; he also addressed the high school. There was a good attendance, and the serving committee, which was composed of Mrs. John Evenson and Mrs. Glen Laithwaite, deserve much credit. A beautifully appointed tea table, lighted with tapers and furnished with sterling silver, was presided over by Mrs. Ordahl, who poured. It was a very enjoyable event; the offering netted \$22.00. This union reported two new members. In January the Edinburg L. T. L. had a sleigh ride party and lunch.

The Gilby union held a Hospitality Tea at the home of Mrs. J. W. Scott, Sr., Feb. 26. Several ladies dressed in the costumes of different countries and presided at refreshment tables, the Chinese lady pouring tea and the Norwegian and Dutch ladies pouring coffee. Our hostess wore a costume of the Gay Nineties. Mrs. Klootwyk, who represented Norway, sang two numbers in Norwegian and two in English, for the program. Cards of invitation had been sent out, and a large crowd attended, both men and women, who learned something of what the WCTU work means. The offering, which amounted to \$20.00, was sent to help entertain the World's Convention.

The April meeting of the Fairdale WCTU was held in the Lutheran church there, with the public invited. A large crowd was in attendance. The program, mimeographed copies of which were provided for all, included a welcome from Mrs. George Latulippe, devotions by Rev. Bilstad, a saxophone solo by Mrs. Howard Johnson; a reading by Mrs. Wollan; a solo by Rev. Bilstad; a trombone solo by Arthur Haug; and a playlet, 'Horse Sense' given by the Intermediate Grade pupils of the public school. Mrs. Bessie M. Ordahl of Edinburg, district president, was present and spoke, emphasizing the L. T. L. Mrs. Overgaard of Edinburg gave a reading, and Mrs. Beasley of the Nekoma union gave a short talk. The posters that had been made by the grade school pupils were displayed in the church basement, and the prize given by the union for the best ones were presented by Mrs. Bilstad. The posters were examined with interest, by all present, as they went to the basement for the fine lunch served by the union. Part of the proceeds of this were sent for the Willard Memorial Fund. In May the union met at the home of Rev. Bilstad, with Mrs. Latulippe as assisting hostess. The program included devotions by Mrs. Jeglum, a reading by Mrs. Andy Hultstrand and a solo by Mrs. Jeglum. Three visitors were present, and a new member was received.

The unions of LaMoire county joined in promoting essay and poster contests in the grade schools of that county. The committee in charge of this work, and who also served as judges, were Mrs. H. R. S. Diesem and Mrs. L. H. Stewart of LaMoire, Mrs. J. A. Youngman of Dickey and Mrs. Anna Sox of Edgeley. Posters were submitted from the schools at Verona, Edgeley, Dickey and LaMoire; essays from Verona and LaMoire. The committee reported that there were many very fine posters, and it was difficult to select the winners.

The Fargo Julia D. Nelson Union held a Temperance and Missions Meeting at the home of Mrs. Ben Geizler in April. Mrs. Fossum, State Director of this department, presented her work in a very interesting manner. Mrs. P. C. Sorenson of Calvary Baptist Church sang "If I Gain the World and Lose the Savior." The offering of the meeting was used to make the union a Light Line Union. The May meeting was a Guest meeting and was held in the First Baptist Church. Rev. Cummins gave a very fine address on Mothers and Miss Cummins sang "The Lord Is My Shepherd" which was much enjoyed. Mrs. F. A. Landbloom gave a very interesting report of the District Convention at Hunter. Three Charter members were present at this meeting, Mrs. Anna Forsberg, Mrs. O. S. Hadeland and Mrs. Ed. Stalhiem.

The offering from Larimore for the World's Convention fund sent in by Mrs. Martin Johnson, included a special donation of \$4.00 which was given by Mrs. O. N. Knudson of that city.

Moderation Seldom Stays Moderate

Liquor publicity at present is strong for moderation. Granted that moderate drinking is less offensive than excessive drinking, it nevertheless is neither safe nor innocent. Even moderate drinking lowers moral and reduces efficiency. To continue to be a moderate drinker requires a constant checking and is a distraction of mind. There is frequently the temptation to take a little

too much and many moderate drinkers will admit that they have been drunk at least once. No person ever sets out deliberately to become an alcoholic but moderate drinking is the beginning. All problem drinkers come from the ranks of those who began as moderate drinkers. It is easier to start than to stop.

The moderate drinker has to run many risks and withstand many pressures. Socially he is known to take a drink and the cocktail before dinner is followed by a drink at a later party and a night cap before returning. In time a morning drink is found necessary to get organized for the new day.

Meanwhile lavish advertising is creating a drink psychology. 'Men of distinction' lead to social approval of serving liquor. The profit motive leads the sellers to push their wares. Governments are financially interested in sales promotion. The liquor creates thirst and good fellowship calls for another round. For many people alcohol is a habit-forming drug. It has an affinity for the brain and weakens the will that must be trusted to control it.

With about forty thousand arrests for drunkenness annually in Canada and with two million arrests for drunkenness annually in the United States, the policy of moderation is hardly a conspicuous success. And when Ontario reached a yearly expenditure for alcohol of well over a hundred million dollars a year, the Moderation League folded up. The name had become a misnomer.

Total abstinence guarantees sobriety; moderate drinking may lead to addiction. There is still good sense in the warning of the Book, "Touch not, taste not, handle not."

—Temperance Advocate.

Preview of World's Convention

International work of women for temperance and for world friendship and peace, will be highlighted at the seventeenth convention of the World's Woman's Christian Temperance Union to be held June 5 to 10, next, in Convention Hall, Asbury Park, New Jersey.

This was announced today by Mrs. Ella A. Boole of Brooklyn, N. Y., president, in a letter to Mrs. D. Leigh Colvin, president of the National W. C. T. U., which will be host to the international assembly.

Mrs. Boole said delegates have up-to-now registered to attend, from 24 counties in addition to the United States and Canada. The World's W. C. T. U., founded in 1883 by Frances E. Willard, is comprised of organizations in about 50 countries and held its last convention in 1937 in Washington, D. C.

Simultaneously, Mrs. Colvin announced that the National Woman's Christian Temperance Union will hold its own seventy-third annual convention also in Asbury Park June 11 and 12, immediately following the World's with executive committee meetings June 13.

Countries from which delegates to the World's W. C. T. U., have already registered, Mrs. Boole reported, include: Austria, Bermuda, Brazil, China, Colombia, Cuba, Egypt, England, Finland, Germany, Guatemala, India, Ireland (Ulster), Jamaica, Japan, Korea, Malaya, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Palestine, Scotland, Sweden, South Africa, as well as each of the Canadian provinces and the various states.

"Additional registrations are expected," she added, "subject to transportation facilities. Delegates from New Zealand will travel entirely by air. Those from South Africa and India are already on their way, via England."

A highlight of the convention will be World Night, Monday evening, June 9, with speakers including:

Gen. Frank A. Stoner, USA, chief communication consultant of the United Nations secretariat; Miss Elsie Bowerman, secretary of the first session of the Commission on the Status of Women of the United Nations, and Mrs. H. Cecil Heath, honorary secretary of the World's W. C. T. U. Both of the latter are from England.

An international prayer service will open the convention Thursday afternoon, June 5, and that evening delegates will be officially welcomed by Mrs. Colvin with the Hon. Joseph R. Bryson, representative in Congress from South Carolina, and the Mayor of Asbury Park also scheduled to speak.

General sessions will start Friday morning, June 6, and continue through Tuesday evening, June 10, with Mrs. Boole presiding.

Homer Rodeheaver, who was song master for the late Billy Sunday, is scheduled to speak and sing Sunday afternoon; June 8, and Dr. Daniel A. Poling, president of the World Christian Endeavor Union, will deliver a convention sermon Sunday night.

The Lord thy God, He it is that doth go with thee; He will not fall thee nor forsake thee.—Deut. 31:6.

In Memoriam

"They are not dead who leave behind
Rich legacies of heart and mind."

—Author Unknown.

Former governor of North Dakota, and former United States Senator, Lynn J. Frazier of Hoople, passed away January 12, in a Maryland hospital. He had suffered from a heart ailment for several months. He will be remembered as one who worked for the interests of the farmer. He was a Life member of the North Dakota WCTU.

Mrs. Martha Stewart, a member of Minot Union for several years, passed to her reward March 1, at the age of 92 years. Mrs. Stewart, who was born Martha Merwin, in Nelson, Ohio, had lived at Norwich, N. D. and was secretary of the union there in 1910. She had lived a useful Christian life.

Mrs. T. T. Brusegaard, member of the Gilby union for many years, was called home in March. Though she had lived in Grand Forks for the past few years, she retained her membership at Gilby. Many of our women will remember her and her daughter Gladys, now Mrs. A. Bye of Grand Forks, who was a winner of medals in Speech Contests a few years ago. Only a few weeks after the passing of Mrs. Brusegaard, her husband, T. T. Brusegaard joined her on the other shore, having been ill for some time.

Mr. J. P. Reiton, husband of a faithful member of long standing, of the Grand Forks union, passed from this life in February, aged 82 years. Mr. Reiton was also a former resident of Gilby, having erected that town's first business building in 1887, though he had been a Grand Forks business man since 1910. He served as city treasurer for six years, and was a trustee of the Presbyterian church in Grand Forks for several years.

Mrs. George E. Towle, who was the very capable president of the Park River union before going to Minneapolis over 30 years ago, passed on February 21. She continued her interest in the work in Minnesota, serving as president of the Hennepin county district for some years. She was 74 years of age.

Mrs. Geo. Hargrave, a member of the Julia D. Nelson Union of Fargo since 1915 passed away March 15 at Fargo.

Mrs. J. E. Flamer, pioneer of Dakota and Charter member of the Julia D. Nelson Union, passed away May 7 at the age of 86.

Axel Carlson, husband of Mrs. Axel Carlson, a long time member of the Julia D. Nelson Union, passed away May 6.

Mrs. John Crummy, a member of the Calvin union, was called home last winter.

Mrs. Maude Sibley Mateer, who was a resident of Rock Lake till recent months, passed away at the home of her son in Gold Beach, Oregon, March 31. She lived in Cando before her marriage, and served as secretary of the meeting at which the First District WCTU was organized May 31, 1895. Fifty years later, she read the minutes of that organization meeting, when the anniversary was celebrated. She was a member of Rock Lake union for 40 years, and was noted for her Flower Mission work. Her husband, George Mateer, preceded her in death, and after his passing in December 1945, she disposed of their property in Rock Lake, and spent the remaining months of her life with her children, all of whom live in other states.

To all who mourn the loss of these friends, we extend our sympathy.

Crusaders March Again

PASADENA, CALIF. — Twenty modern "Crusaders" took to the streets on Wednesday of last week for round two in the WCTU's battle to let the "Lord's light" into Pasadena's bar-rooms. On Friday of the week before they had marched into three Pasadena cocktail lounges and read Bible passages on the evils of liquor to bar patrons.

The embattled women, led by Mrs. Bessie Lee Cowle, 87-year-old "world missionary" for the WCTU, called at downtown Colorado street bars, read passages from the Bible, and offered prayers for the guzzlers and barkeeps.

Mrs. Cowie, who has written 16 temperance books, blames the Demon Rum for the majority of divorces, traffic deaths, and wayward girls.

"Hospitals and divorce courts are jammed with the wreckage of drink," she declared. "And don't overlook the fact that this situation costs the taxpayers hundreds of thousands of dollars."

Mrs. Cowie said her main concern, however, is the effects of liquor on women.

"We don't want to see our girls destroyed," she said, her eyes welling up with tears. "Again and again girls have told me that their fall began with a glass of wine at a social gathering."

Mrs. Cowie's crusaders were armed with Bibles and carried placards reading: "Wine is a Mocker," "Which—Bible or Bottle?" "Sign the Pledge," "Liquor Takes Lives," "Money in the

From the Corresponding Secretary

Dear Comrades: Greetings. It is heartening to hear such good reports from District Conventions, new interest is manifest in the work. Let us continue to work and pray for God's blessing. You know the other side cannot do this.

Miss Lily Grace Matheson, National Corresponding-Secretary, has sent the following outline on organization work. It is especially timely. First, because Miss Allen has been working in our state and secondly, as Mrs. Elizabeth Preston Anderson has made such a wonderful offer of help to our districts. Mrs. Darling has explained more fully in one of her recent letters. Did you not consider it carefully?

ORGANIZATION METHODS

I. NEW ORGANIZATION.

A—Contacts should be with

1. Pastors.
2. Key women of Churches and other organizations.

B—Organization Meeting.

1. Find attractive meeting place.
2. Give publicity.
3. Present talk on purpose of the WCTU and stress the need of organization.
4. Presentation of membership.
 - (a) Pledges.
 - (b) Dues.
5. Election of officers.
 - (a) Select officers prayerfully from as many churches as possible.
 - (b) Have installation of officers.
6. Follow-up Conference — using organization packet material.
 - (a) Explain duties of officers and functions of departments.
 - (b) Appointment of directors of departments to be carried out when possible.
 - (c) Suitable projects to be promoted.
 - (d) Set definite time and place for next meeting.
 - (1) Arrange publicity.
 - (2) Oppoint program leader and hostess.
7. Encourage new organizations by frequent correspondence and visitations when possible.

II. RE-ORGANIZATION MEETING.

A—Contacts to be made.

1. Same as for new organization.
2. Former members.

B—Re-organization meeting.

1. Arrange as for new organization.
2. Strive to create new interest.
3. Seek new officers.
4. Present activities to overcome previous obstacles.

III. ORGANIZER'S EQUIPMENT.

1. Secure list of Pastors and key women.
2. Organization packet (WCTU, YTC, LTL).
3. Sufficient membership pledge cards and pencils.
4. Literature.
 - (a) Helps for the Local Union.
 - (b) National Hand books (WCTU).
 - (c) Program Guides.
 - (d) Membership leaflets.
5. State WCTU year book.
 6. State papers.

If I can aid you in any way, material, etc., please write me. Miss Matheson is to be our guest helper and speaker at the state convention in Grand Forks. When? September 9, 10 and 11, 1947.

Are you making plans now to attend? Expecting to see you then.

Yours cordially in the work,
Mrs. F. T. Brooks, Corresponding Secretary.

A New Union

Miss Helen Allen, National Organizer who has been working in the state, reports a new union organized at Tower City. The officers are: Mrs. O. T. Otterness, president; Mrs. Orra Garrett, vice president; Miss Ella Crawford, secretary; all of Tower City.

Bank or Beer," "Liquor Makes Losers," "Alcohol Is Venom," and "Save Our Girls."

The women met at 3 p.m. at the First Methodist Church for prayer before sallying forth on Colorado Street.

—National Voice.

WHITE RIBBON BULLETIN

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Directory

OFFICERS FOR 1946-1947

President—Mrs. Bessie M. Darling, 231 Conklin Ave., Grand Forks.
Vice President—Mrs. H. E. Mielke, 1375 Tenth Ave. N., Fargo.
Corresponding Secretary—Mrs. F. T. Brooks, 217½ Seventh Ave. NE, Minot.

Recording Secretary—Mrs. Frank Beasley, Fairdale.

Treasurer—Mrs. Howard Kemis, 725 Oak St., Fargo.

Honorary Presidents—Mrs. Elizabeth Preston Anderson, 439 Belvedere St., La Jolla, Calif. Mrs. Fred H. Wanner, 617 4th Ave. S. E., Jamestown, N. D.

DISTRICT PRESIDENTS

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ELLENDALE - - - - - Mrs. Carl Maack, Ellendale
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GRAND FORKS - - - - - Mrs. George S. Muir, Gilby
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MINOT - - - - - Mrs. F. T. Brooks, Minot
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NORTHEAST - - - - - Mrs. Bessie M. Ordahl, Edinburg
NORTHWEST - - - - - Mrs. Lottie Nelson, Powers Lake
RANSOM-LAMOURE - - - - - Mrs. Paul Hanson, Englevale

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

Flower Mission and Relief—Miss Grace Higgins, 814 10th Ave. N., Fargo.

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

Legislation—State President.

Medical Temperance and Health—To be selected.

Organization—Corresponding Secretary.

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

Religious Education—Mrs. Duncan Matheson, Langdon.

Scientific Temperance Instruction—Mrs. Maud Scott, Monango.

Social Morality—Mrs. Philip Stolberg, Flasher.

Soldiers and Sailors—Mrs. J. H. Mackley, 908 2nd St. NE, Minot.

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

Spiritual Life—Mrs. Andrew Hay, Crosby.

Temperance and Missions—Mrs. Iver Fossum, Box 1366, Fargo.

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

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

Willard Secretary—Mrs. Fred M. Wanner, 617 4th Ave. SE, Jamestown.

State Historians—Mrs. Elizabeth Preston Anderson, 439 Belvedere St., La Jolla, Calif. Mrs. Barbara H. Wylie, 3701 Bryant Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn.

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

A Word to the Wise

In this issue we have good reports of most of the district conventions, and all will have been held in the month of May, I believe. That is a good time, in some ways, but farmers are always busy then. It was good to hear of increased attendance.

A paid advertiser in the Grand Forks Herald used space not one printed right beneath the other, in the same issue. The first was Henry Ford and the second George Sitts the murder, who was electrocuted for his crimes. He mentioned the fact that both men had apparently equal chances, when they started life, and chose different paths. After a fine tribute to Mr. Ford, he spoke strongly of the bad influence of the other. He decried the publicity given in big headlines to criminals, saying "I wonder how big Capone, Dillinger and the rest of the rats who have infested this country in the last quarter or half century would have gotten if newspapers had printed all their names in lower case type and the accounts of their activities in one column two inch space, buried like an ad for a spavin cure, somewhere in the depths of the paper."

In another column we have the sad story of the death of Vincent Alden Berg of Grand Forks, the victim of a drunken driver. Also, over and over, in the accounts of serious fires, we learn that investigators decided a cigarette was the cause. A man from Maddock, N. D. lost his life in a bunkhouse fire this spring, probably started from his cigarette. Not long ago I talked with a woman who is employed in one of the cities of North Dakota, and who lives in a hotel. She said that she had wakened several times, just recently, smelling smoke, and upon calling the management, they had found clothing or furniture on fire long ago to comment upon the fact that the newspaper had announced the deaths on the same day of two very different men, in some of the rooms. It appears that hotel management needs to be constantly on the alert, because the drinking habits of many help to make them more careless about fires. The cigarette is menace enough, to the health and general well-being of the user, entirely aside from the harm that it may do to others. We should not let it pass, without notice. Not long ago a little boy, still under school age, refused a cookie offered him by a man in our employ, and asked for a cigarette!

It has been a pleasure to be able to attend two of the district conventions this spring, and to meet again our splendid women. One thing distresses me—the lengthening lists of names at the Memorial services. Who will carry the banner of temperance in their places? Will you try to enlist young women in the work, and above all, will you really try to get temperance instruction through the LTL, to the children? There is no better work that any union can do. Let us make leadership for our possible Legions a subject of daily prayer.

North Dakota has come out of the winter's cold, and the green of grass and fields catches the eye with its beauty. We have had floods and dust storms, at the same time but in different places, both of which have brought added labor to many. As we clean our houses after the winter, removing the great accumulation of sun-obscuring dirt on the windows, have we also cleaned our hearts of the things that obstruct our vision of God's truth? May the Spirit guide us all, in the paths of righteousness.

Your friend,

Elizabeth C. Beasley.

Now, They Burn Us Up

For months and years, men of distinction, by which we mean men who are mildly jingled by glowing liquid grain, mild and mellow, essential to gracious living, have been running over us on the highways, wrecking our cars, breaking our bones and filling the gutters with gore.

Now, they are burning us up.

Headline in the Washington Evening Star (12-10-46), "Atlanta Fire Officials Blame Start of Blaze on Drunken Smoker." A fool, a bottle of whisky and a cigarette equals 120 dead people. But he may not have been a fool. He may have been a perfectly decent chap plus a half pint of liquor in his blood stream. This does not alter the fact that the dead people are very dead.

The dead in the Atlanta hotel fire included nearly a score of splendid young people who had been chosen for excellence in scholarship and character to represent their communities in a Y. M. C. A. meeting. Ten years from now, if they had lived, Georgia and the nation would have benefitted by their leadership. They are dead. We have lost them.

The Cocoon Grove fire—hundreds dead—Atlanta, Dubuque, Chicago, Detroit, Boston—almost without exception, these fires seem to have originated in cocktail rooms, nightclubs or in hotel bedrooms, where, in the words of Atlanta Fire Marshal Harry Phillips, "liquor bottles were strewn around."—Clip Sheet.

Cigarette-smoking boys are like wormy apples; they drop long before the harvest time.—Dr. David Starr Jordan, World renowned education.

Treasurer's Report

MARCH 18 TO MAY 18, 1947

DUES: Sawyer 4, Hunter 5, Northwood 2, Larimore 7, Grand Forks 2, Ellendale 8, Mott 2, Bismarck 1, Minot 2, Oakes (Glover Union) 3, Tioga 2, Grafton 2, Bottineau 1, Valley City 38, Jamestown 2, Oakes 4, Wildrose 8.

WILLARD: Mrs. Augusta Slocum, Inverness, Montana; Mrs. G. L. Meier, Mrs. Wm. Remnick, Mrs. Henry Pressler, Mrs. Archie Thornton, Mrs. G. Zeck, Mrs. Fred Wagner, Mrs. Martha Haas, Mrs. Andrew Halbeck, Mrs. C. J. Calkins, Mrs. Tom Jaynes, Mrs. Fred Shipley, all of Steele.

L. T. L. Northwood 61, Edinburg 25, Fargo 20, Parshall 32, Oakes 9, Flasher 12.

BUDGET: Grafton \$10.0, Grand Forks \$5.00, Ellendale \$8.00, Alamo \$7.00, Stanley \$2.50, Bismarck \$1.00, Fairdale \$12.00, Oakes (Glover Union) \$20.00, Valley City \$30.00.

NARCOTIC EDUCATION: Prosper \$14.00, Grand Forks \$5.00, Larimore \$12.60, Minot \$10.00, Oakes (Glover Union) \$10.80, Grafton \$5.00, Gilby \$8.00, Valley City \$2.00, Hunter \$5.00, Williston \$5.00, Ransom-LaMoure District \$10.00.

WORLD CONVENTION FUND: Rock Lake \$8.00, Larimore \$6.75, Nekoma \$6.70, Ellendale \$13.25, Stanley \$5.00, Bismarck \$25.00, Bottineau \$12.00, Northwood \$10.00, Langdon \$20.00, Jamestown \$12.35, Crosby \$7.00.

WILLARD MEMORIAL: Sawyer \$2.00, Rocklake \$2.00, Edinburg \$2.00; Alamo \$2.00, Bismarck \$2.00, Fairdale \$12.00, Valley City \$2.00.

LILLIAN STEVENS FUND: Grafton \$3.00, Ellendale \$2.00, Valley City \$2.00.

HONORARY CHILD MEMBERS: Rodney Melroy Zook by Mrs. Charles Zook, Minot; Frederick Burgum by Mrs. J. A. Burgum, Hunter.

LIFE MEMBERSHIPS: Mrs. Olivia Tosdahl, Stanley; Mrs. Paul Hanson, Englevale.

UNION SIGNAL SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$21.50 including 4 foreign subscriptions.

STATE REPORTS: \$9.90.

DISTRICT PLEDGES: Fargo \$20.00, Ellendale \$10.00, Ransom LaMoure \$10.00, Stanley \$2.50.

LITERATURE: \$5.40.

LIGHT LINE UNIONS: Grand Forks District, Bismarck, Larimore and Fargo (Julia D. Nelson Union).

ANNA GORDON FUND: \$2.22.

Our total to World Convention Fund is \$320.99.

Our quota for Narcotic Education is \$886.20. We have received \$462.70.

Have you sent yours in to your State Treasurer? This is very important.

Mrs. Howard Kemis, Treasurer.

Guilty!

On January 2, 1945, the United States Government conscripted an 18-year-old boy from a humble Mormon home in Idaho, and after a brief period of basic training sent him overseas and, in time, to serve with the army of occupation in Japan.

According to the testimony of neighbors and friends, as cited by Senator Taylor of Idaho, the boy at the time of his induction into the army was "a fine young man of good character." But he was "just a kid."

Under the conditions of army life he became desperately lonely. Surrounded as he was by much liquor, he began drinking. This represented a tragic breakdown in his fundamental home training, as is well known to those who are familiar with Mormon teaching on the subject of the use of intoxicants, but unrelieved loneliness and the pressure of the crowd are terrible hazards in the life of any man, to say nothing of an 18-year-old.

Then one day he was haled before a military court charged with raping a Japanese woman and injuring a Japanese boy fatally with a motorcycle—all this while drunk. The sentence was death.

Let there be no confusion in the matter. The crimes with which the youth was charged are terrible beyond words. To have committed them was to have betrayed the good name of the United States in the most abominable fashion. Someone, we believe, was guilty.

Who?

—Christian Advocate.

"The true way to spell privilege is to call it responsibility."

"The driver feels safer when the roads are dry and the roads are safer when the driver is dry."—Anon.

Juvenile Delinquency, someone has said, is when children begin to act like their parents.—The United Evangelical.

NOONTIDE HOUR OF PRAYER

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

Prayer

I know not by what methods rare,
But this I know, God answers prayer.
I know not when he sends the word
That tells us fervent prayer is heard.
I know it cometh soon or late,
Therefore, we need to pray and wait
I know not if the blessings sought,
I leave my prayer with him alone
Whose will is wiser than mine own.

An Enemy to All That's Good

Today indulgences which center around tobacco and liquor and night life have become the basis of great parasitic industries which invade home life through the radio, prey on young people in schools and colleges, and are a veritable millstone around the neck of democracy. Democracy requires strength of character, and these indulgences weaken character. Democracy demands thrift, a high sense of values and much self-discipline and sacrifice. The parasitic industries encourage extravagance and indulgence and whittle away the small savings of the masses, which should become the basis of home ownership and family security.—J. Elmer Morgan, Editor Journal National Education Association.

A Prayer Pinnacle

The need of the hour is more prayer individually and collectively. It was Dr. John R. Mott, who said, "The advance of the Christian church would be made through small prayer groups." This the Pinnacle of Prayer attempts.

What is a Prayer Pinnacle? One person is enough to start one, he finds another like-minded person and they form the pinnacle, with suggestions as follows:

Agree to be unbreakably given to each other and unreservedly to God.

Agree to have a stated time for prayer.

Agree to pray for others.

Twelve persons is a complete prayer pinnacle.

When a pinnacle has a membership of 12, start to form other pinnacles; each member becoming the nucleus of another.

Meet together once a month if possible before the monthly Union meeting.

Attend the regular church services and prayer meeting.

Pray for Peace; for a just and durable peace! for a dry and sober Nation and for all Christian causes.

Keep our minds alert and souls strong through reading the Bible, other devotional literature and the best in current topics.

Agree to make our prayers live through putting into action that for which we pray.

Abraham Lincoln once said "Son, before we can ask God to be on our side we must first rededicate ourselves to God."

"Where two or three are gathered together in My Name, and ask anything according to My Will, it shall be done unto them."

—Florida Good News.

WHISKY NO LONGER A LEGAL MEDICINE

It hasn't been greatly advertised, but John Barleycorn has lost his job as a doctor. Officially, that is. Whisky is no longer listed in the United States Pharmacopoeia.

This means that the standard book of authority on drugs and medicines, which is the guide and counselor of the man behind the prescription counter, will hereafter omit mention of spiritus frumenti as a remedy. The announcement comes from those who are working on the twelfth revision.

Reputable physicians long ago ceased the general use of whisky as a medicine. Its omission from U. S. P. means that, if the United States ever had prohibition again, whisky would no longer be available on prescription. Which is nothing to worry about.—The Christian Science Monitor.

THE COACH PICKED BOB

based on popular strip film

"HE RAN A RACE"

Cover pages bright red—16 pages of 50 pictures

Price 15 cents

Just off the press. Order now from

NATIONAL WCTU PUBLISHING HOUSE
EVANSTON, ILLINOIS

A Sad Father Speaks

In a beautifully printed folder issued in memory of his son, Vincent Alden Berg, Mr. Edgar A. Berg, who heads the Forx Motor Sales Company, of Grand Forks, makes a touching plea. An attractive picture of the boy, who died as the result of a car accident last February, is on the cover, and the folder is dedicated "To the memory of all those killed by drunken drivers." Our deep sympathy goes to Mr. and Mrs. Berg and their daughter. We quote from the folder:

VINCENT ALDEN BERG was killed at the tender age of 16 years, 10 months and 16 days. He was a good son—he had never tasted alcoholic beverages—he had never smoked. Scholastically, Vincent Alden Berg was at least an average student. He was a hard worker—he did any job assigned to him, and did it well. He was a good pilot and a flying enthusiast.

He took a great interest in his father's work, and was preparing to follow in his footsteps.

He loved his community . . . and his state . . . and his nation. He was typical of thousands of good Christian American boys—the kind of boys that America needs in large numbers today.

Now, Vincent Alden Berg is dead—murdered by an uncontrolled menace. He enjoyed life . . . his future was bright . . . he wanted to live . . . he had many honorable plans . . . but, now he is dead. Did he die in vain?

TO ALL PARENTS

My son—Vincent Alden Berg—was killed because he and two other boys accepted a two-block ride with another young man who had been drinking. The driver did not keep his promise.

Instead of going two blocks, he sped through the city and out into the country. The boys begged the driver to slow down or stop . . . but their pleas were in vain. The inflamed brain of the driver urged him to drive faster . . . faster . . . faster, until finally . . . control was lost. Today, two clean young men are slowly healing in hospitals . . . and Vincent Alden Berg is dead.

This tragedy was caused because the uncle of the driver—both of whom had been drinking—permitted his young nephew to borrow his car . . . when both the uncle and the father knew that the young driver had been drinking.

Fathers and mothers of boys and girls . . . I beg you to set examples for your children . . . by not driving when under the influence of liquor. Warn your children not to drink.

TO DRINKING ADULT DRIVERS

You are 21 years—or 50 years or more. Do not soil your garments with the blood of our youth by driving when under the influence of liquor. You are more to blame than anyone else . . . you are the adult public . . . you set the example for the young.

TO ALL CITIZENS

Urge your city government to take immediate steps to control the liquor menace. Then, be strong enough to practice what you preach. The time is here when the strong must be willing to sacrifice for the weak . . . stop the drunk from driving.

TO THE SALOON KEEPER AND LIQUOR DEALER

Beware—do not let greed for money overtake you. Laws now provide that you should not sell intoxicants to minors. This law is being violated every day—because of your greed and love for money. Whenever the citizenry endeavor to improve on your traffic you set up a howl of indignation—better start doing business differently, or you alone will face the consequences.

—Edgar A. Berg.

A Prayer for Courage

God, make me brave for life—
O braver than this!
Let me straighten after pain
As a tree straightens after the rain
Shining and lovely again.
God, make me brave for life—
Much braver than this!
As the blown grass lifts, let me rise
From sorrow with quiet eyes,
Knowing Thy way is wise.
God, make me brave—life brings
Such blinding things.
Help me to keep my sight,
Help me to see aright,
That out of dark—comes Light.

—Florida Good News.

CHILD NEGLECT UNPARDONABLE

The unpardonable sin of a local Woman's Christian Temperance Union is to neglect the children. Too many unions are content to carry on other departments of our important work, while they seem wholly oblivious of their greatest opportunity, the child. Children are to be found everywhere; they are eager, enthusiastic, love to have their own organizations; and the impressions they receive are lasting. However, children do not wait for us to find a more convenient season. Many interests are bidding for their attention, and tomorrow they are gone.

District Conventions

ELLENDALE

The convention of Ellendale District WCTU was held in the Glover Methodist church May 1, with Mrs. Carl Maack, the district president, presiding. The meeting opened with devotions led by Mrs. A. Stevens of Glover. Reports of the secretary and treasurer were read and accepted, as were the reports of the unions—Glover, Oakes, Monango and Ellendale. Every union in the district was well represented.

Mrs. Carl Maack was re-elected district president; other officers are: Mrs. I. A. Juelke, Oakes, vice president; Mrs. L. Buland, Oakes, corresponding and recording secretary; and Mrs. E. E. Clarke, Ellendale, treasurer. Mrs. Bessie M. Darling, state president, addressed the convention, using as her theme "Let Your Neighbor Know," which was a challenge to everyone present. A very fine lunch was served at noon by the Glover union.

After registration, the afternoon session opened at 1:30. Mrs. Tromburg of Oakes led devotions. Another timely address was given by Mrs. Darling; and the Rev. George Rothery, pastor of the Baptist church of Ellendale, gave a very interesting talk on temperance, based on the scripture. A solo and trio given by Glover girls were very much enjoyed by all. Two little children were dedicated as White Ribbon Recruits by Mrs. Darling. Oakes L. T. L. had a fine exhibit of their work on display. A helpful part of the meeting was a period of questions asked by the delegates and answered very satisfactorily by Mrs. Darling. The convention closed with prayer by Rev. H. H. Tromburg, pastor of the Nazarene church of Oakes.

Mrs. L. Buland, Secretary.

FARGO

The 56th Annual Convention of the Fargo District was entertained by the Hunter union in the Presbyterian Church of Hunter. Mrs. W. M. Franklin, District President, presided and Mrs. Darling was guest of honor. Delegates from all the unions except Prosper were present.

Morning devotions were led by Rev. W. W. Gunter of the hostess church. After the Flag Salute led by Mrs. Bayley of Page, we were welcomed by Mrs. J. A. Burgum of Hunter with Mrs. Darling responding. This session was given over to reports of District Officers and local unions, appointments of committees and election of officers. Mrs. W. M. Franklin was re-elected president, Mrs. F. A. Landbloom, treasurer; Mrs. Howard Kemis, recording secretary. The new officers are Mrs. J. A. Burgum, vice president, and Mrs. A. Matson, corresponding secretary.

The Memorial Hour was conducted by Mrs. Mae Brudevold of Fargo. Tributes were paid to nine members and honorary members who have passed away during the year. Mrs. Darling led in the closing prayer.

The afternoon session opened with devotions by Rev. Marvin Jhonson of the Methodist church. An interesting part of this session was the dedication of nine White Ribbon Recruits.

Much good music was enjoyed during the day. This included solos by Marilyn Garrett, Mrs. Emory Johnson, Audrey Kennedy, and Merlin Anderson; a piano duet by Janet Peltier and Roberta Farnham, and a sextette by the Presbyterian ladies. Mrs. Van Orsdale gave a reading entitled, "It Is Just for Revenue."

The evening meeting was well attended. A skit was presented by 5th and 6th grade school children depicting the repulsiveness of alcohol to animals. The high light of the convention was a splendid address by Mrs. Darling.

A most enjoyable part of the convention was the Courtesy luncheon at noon served by the Hunter Union and the dinner served by the Catholic ladies.

JAMES VALLEY

The James-Valley District convention of the WCTU was held in Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Valley City on May 6th. Miss Helen Allen, National Field worker, was the guest speaker and conducted a workshop in the morning for all officers and workers in the district. Miss Allen is now working in and around Valley City and organized a new union at Tower City on Monday.

The Jamestown union was outstanding in its work in Public Forums which attracted people from far and near. The Forums presented some very fine and well known speakers and created much interest. The Valley City union had a booth at the winter show held there in March and obtained 1800 signatures to a petition to make liquor advertising over the radio unlawful. It was voted to give \$25 to the Narcotic Education fund and also \$5.00 to the work of Visual Education in which Mrs. Lavinia Big-nall is doing such a fine work in her showing of films in the schools, Dry Canteen, and other places. This donation is to be made in the memory of Mrs. George Newberry, one of the old members of the Jamestown union.

Officers elected for the ensuing year are Mrs. Alex Burr, Jamestown, president; Mrs. Ernest Fritch, Valley City, vice president; Mrs. Elizabeth Worley, Valley City, secretary; Mrs. John Schmidt, Jamestown, treasurer.

MINOT

Minot District WCTU met in the fire-place room of the Presbyterian Church in Minot on May 13. Mrs. Bessie M. Darling was guest speaker. The officers re-elected are Mrs. F. T. Brooks, president; Mrs. E. O. Lerberg, vice president; Mrs. George Barnes, corresponding secretary; Mrs. N. R. Hienzen, recording secretary and Mrs. A. S. Dwelle, treasurer.

Five unions are now in our district and were all represented. The attendance was the largest in several years. Mrs. Axel Olson of Parshall and Mrs. J. H. Mackley were unable to attend, and were missed from their usual places. Outstanding accomplishment was a Gold Medal Speech Contest—the children coming from Plaza. Carol Ann Westgard was the winner, she expects to be in Grand Forks. The rainbow quiz was interesting because each union made such a fine showing. Parshall and Minot by sending Young Crusaders to so many schools, let their young neighbors know. Mrs. Truax had a fine visual demonstration. There were two White-Ribbon recruits and two names for the memorial hour. Mr. Hans Sjol, Parshall and Mrs. Martha Stewart of Minot.

Each Minot lady was hostess to a visitor for the luncheon at Ellison's Tea Room. Each union reported new members.

NORTHEAST

The 58th annual convention of the Northeast District WCTU was held in the beautiful Evangelical church of Cavalier Thursday, May 22, with the district president, Mrs. Bessie M. Ordahl of Edinburg, presiding. There was a good attendance, including a number of men, most of whom brought delegates.

Mrs. Bruce Watson of Cavalier, recording secretary, read the Crusade Psalm and offered prayer. Mrs. Cecil Bone of Langdon led in the salute to the flag, after which the roll of the unions was called and the guest speaker, the state president, was introduced. The rest of the forenoon session was taken up with reports of officers and unions, and appointment of committees. Of special interest was the reading of the report of the Edinburg L. T. L. by the president, Vaughndee Peterson. After singing "Come Ye Disconsolate," a memorial service was conducted by Mrs. Frank Beasley, in which were mentioned the life and work of Mrs. S. A. Helland of the Nekoma union, Mrs. Ethel Kieley, who was president of the Grafton union at the time of her passing; and Mrs. Marian Towle, once president of the Park River union and later active in the work in Minnesota where our state president, Mrs. Darling was associated with her. Other names mentioned included former Senator Lynn J. Frazier, who was a Life Member of the N. D. WCTU; Mrs. F. C. Rector, husband of the former treasurer of the Langdon union; Mrs. Lena Butterwick and Mr. F. W. Treleaven, sister and husband of the president of the Hannah union.

A very fine dinner was served in the church dining room, by members of the Cavalier union. The afternoon session opened with devotions led by Rev. Steffeson, pastor of the Baptist church, who read the story of Hezekiah, using it as an illustration of today's needs. A group of high school girls sang two numbers that were much enjoyed. The Rainbow Questionnaire gave the representatives of each union an effective bunch of ribbons to war, but Edinburg had the most. The special feature of the afternoon was the address by the state president, Mrs. Bessie M. Darling, "Let Your Neighbor Know." She also conducted the election of officers, during which all were re-elected. Rev. Duncan Matheson of Langdon offered the closing prayer. Doughnuts and coffee were served at the close of the meeting.

NORTHWEST

The thirty-fourth annual convention of the Northwest District WCTU met Wednesday, May 14, 1947 at the Bethel Baptist church, Powers Lake, N. D. The convention was called to order by Lottie Nelson, district president. Our guest speaker was Mrs. Bessie M. Darling, state president, who delivered an impressive address.

All sessions opened with organ prelude and devotions. Rev. C. Young, pastor of the Baptist church, gave the devotions for the morning session and also extended a welcome. Welcome address was given by Mrs. D. Bunes and response by Mrs. A. L. Anderson, Stanley. Crusade Psalm was led by Mrs. Enget. Officers elected for the ensuing year were: President, Mrs. Lottie Nelson, Powers Lake; first vice president, Mrs. Don Fish, Williston; second vice president, Mrs. P. J. Foss, Appam; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Delmar Dahl, Powers Lake; recording secretary, Mrs. Nels Skabo, Crosby; treasurer Mrs. L. C. Hart, Williston.

Unions reporting were: Alamo, Crosby, Powers Lake, Stanley, Tioga, and Williston. Many fine reports were given. Powers Lake was again outstanding in its membership. Williston and Stanley tied for top honors with all points completed for a Rainbow Unit. Crosby was awarded a ribbon for a banner union. Williston also continues its successful work with your programs. Crosby and Powers Lake had poster contests. Powers Lake had one junior and one senior silver medal contest and one bronze medal contest. At the evening session LaVon Nelson, Donald Hove and Richard Holman gave their speech contest selections.

Devotions for the afternoon session were led by Mrs. Andrew Hay of Crosby and in the evening by Rev. Nelson of the Lutheran church.

A sumptuous noon luncheon was served by the Lutheran Ladies Aid at the Lutheran church.

Williston Union handled very ably the topic, "Protective Legislation", and Alamo union the topic, "A Good Neighbor Policy for the World". Mrs. Sophus Peterson of McGregor gave a splendid talk on "A Good Time With a Purpose".

White Ribbon recruits were John Riley, Dean Allen Hove and Diane Clarice Hove.

Musical selections rendered were solos by Mrs. G. L. Riffe, Mrs. Earl Nelson and Mrs. Luverne Nelson. Also numbers from the girls trio from the Gospel Tabernacle and the girls trio from the high school of Powers Lake were greatly enjoyed by the audience. Florence Enget and LaVon Nelson played a beautiful organ and piano selection. A duet from the Baptist church sang "Beyond the Sunset" for the Memorial Service which was in memory of the following: Mrs. Tom Smith, Alamo; Mrs. D. H. Hove and Mrs. George Hegstad, Powers Lake; Mr. H. M. Tosdahl, Stanley; Mrs. Blanche Lampman, Mrs. Nellie Fletcher, Mr. C. P. Amsbaugh, Williston, and Mrs. Clifford Hennigar, daughter-in-law of Mrs. L. C. Hennigar of Williston.

One of the highlights of the convention was the banquet with Huldah Johnson as toastmistress. This dinner was served in the Baptist church. At the banquet, as well as every where else, were indications of excellent preparations for the convention—decorations, mottos, flowers, programs. More power to Powers Lake.

Mrs. Nels Skabo, Recording Secretary.

RANSOME-LAMOURE

The annual convention of the Ransome-LaMoure district WCTU was held at the Zoar Lutheran church in LaMoure Friday, May 2. The meeting opened at 10:30 in the morning with the district president, Mrs. Paul Hanson of Englevale presiding. The morning session was taken up with routine business, followed by a noon luncheon served by the LaMoure union.

An executive committee meeting was held at 1:30 P. M. followed by the election of district officers. These are: president, L. H. Stewart, LaMoure; vice president, Mrs. Earl Scea, Dickey; secretary and treasurer, Mrs. Anna Sox, Edgeley. The convention address was given by the state president, Mrs. Bessie M. Darling of Grand Forks.

Posters made for the contest conducted in LaMoure county schools were displayed, and winners announced; Vonnie Peterson of LaMoure read her prize essay on "Temperance—What It Means to Me." It is hoped that more children will enter these contests next year. Musical numbers on the afternoon program were a vocal solo by Mrs. A. G. Hewitt accompanied by Joyce Johnson, and a duet by Joyce Johnson and Darlene Ness accompanied by Donna Roberts. About 25 visiting members attended, from Dickey, Edgeley and Fariview. Lunch was served at the close of the meeting.

"WHAT THIS COUNTRY AMOUNTS TO DEPENDS ON
WHAT HAPPENS TO ITS HOMES"

In these challenging words "Life Insurance Companies in America," through the "Institute of Life Insurance, 60 East 42nd Street, New York City," heralded a sales appeal in what was called, "Family Message No. 1." (Chicago Tribune, September 10, 1946, page 8).

In view of the latest evidence that the brewers are adding to their obnoxious and disgusting radio advertising, a direct sales invasion of the American home, the statements in this thought-provoking insurance advertisement are well worth considering.

Under the above heading, the insurance ad declares that "Family happiness has to be planned" and continues:

"We came from homes, we live in homes, we plan to have homes—nowhere are our deepest personal interests more involved than in the problem of the family.

"And when we step outside our individual concerns and consider the nation, it grows daily more obvious that the real battleground for the moral life of America is the family.

"After all, what this country will amount to—depends on what happens to its homes."

"Families that stick together . . . work together . . . stand together against the disruptive influence of our time . . . Today, more than ever before, America needs such families!

"In the wake of a great war, our country needs the strength of family solidarity . . . of family happiness."

For thoughtful students of our society, there is scarcely need to add as a commentary the fact that American home, "the real battleground for the moral life of America," now under siege by the liquor interests, today as never before faces the greatest crisis and peril of its history.—The Outlook.

Methodists Meet to Plan Temperance Advance

On January 29-30, 1947, for the first time in the history of the Methodist Church, representatives appointed by the Bishops of the various areas met to consider an Advance Movement against alcoholic liquors.

Prominent church editors and religious educators were also in attendance. For the first time, also, every General Board of Methodism is cooperating in an organized Temperance Movement.

The delegates to Chicago, representing every state, go back to their Annual Conferences to report on plans of action and to carry the organization of the effort down through the District Conferences to the tens of thousands of churches with a membership of eight million communicants.

Bishop Wilbur E. Hammaker, president of the Board of Temperance, told the delegates that failure to see what must be done and failure to do it is impossible to men and women of conscience in these days when tragedy stabs us to awareness.

"The battle," he says, "must be joined. The good people of this land, the church forces of America, can no longer hold back. An irrepressible conflict is at hand. Beware of the first glass!"

"The Methodist Church," he continues, "in its General Conferences, has for decades, insisted on total abstinence for the individual and on the sinfulness of legalizing intoxicating liquor.

"Let us with clear eyes look about us. Look beyond the glittering compelling ads. They cry aloud that all the successful, all the cultured, all the socially elite, are what they are, at least in part, because of the liquor they drink. No pictured man or woman a drinker is ever dishevelled, or silly in appearance! No boisterous gayety in evidence! Poised, masterful men; beautifully gowned, well-behaved women. No bars—no brass rail! No unseemly coarseness in the relations of men and women in high-priced lounges or low-priced taverns. No such pictures! No fights; no brawls; no murders! The men who create the ads seem to know nothing of such awkward situations.

"Sydney J. Harris, in his Chicago Daily News column, wrote a few months ago:

"I used to think of whiskey-making as a simple affair. But the inspired boys who write the whiskey ads know better: Every whiskey on the market is made by a separate, special and secret blend guaranteed to afford the most exquisite delight to the man of distinction. I have learned much from reading whiskey ads.

"For instance nobody can get really stinking drunk drinking the stuff. No, it merely heightens your enjoyment of life, or strengthens the bond of good fellowship. Some distillers insinuate that their whiskey is practically all the nourishment you need, and any day I am expecting their researchers to discover some new vitamin in whiskey that will make it essential for infants. And isn't it funny that the man with the whiskey glass has the stamp of success upon him? Nobody ever gets 'potted' or beats up bartenders or fellow-drinkers or falls down elevator shafts or makes passes at other men's wives, or runs over kids in the street."

"I might add to the observations of Mr. Harris," says the Bishop, "that the copy writers never even give a philosophy of why people drink. They never even attempt to set forth the psychological frustrations and complexes involved in the consumption of alcoholic beverages. It is too sunshiny to be overcast by any such clouds. No shadows—no cloudiness, nothing but sunshine and joy!

"How long will America stand for such deception? How long will fathers and mothers acquiesce in the digging of such pits in the pathway of the unwary? How long will this country tolerate the unwarranted and untruthful claims of liquor advertisements? Why not rise up as a people and destroy this evil? Who wants these 'ads'? The abstainer? The social drinker? The drunkard? Nobody wants them except the few who profit financially.

"No one who was present at that meeting entertains any thought of turning back. 'The time is now'; they said, "we have had enough and more than enough."

It will be a hard undertaking, a long undertaking, but the Methodists are not only going to battle, they are going to war, and they confidently believe that the movements which are arising in other churches will bring all Christian people who have seeing eyes, into one grand Army of determination to see this thing through.—Clipsheet.

... For what avail the plough or sail, or land, or life, if Freedom fail.—Ralph Waldo Emerson.

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