

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE TWENTIETH  
ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION  
OF TRUSTEES, SUPERINTENDENTS AND  
MATRONS OF COUNTY ASYLUMS FOR  
CHRONIC INSANE OF WISCONSIN, JUNE  
8, 9 AND 10, 1921**

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PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

TWENTIETH ANNUAL MEETING

OF THE

Association of Trustees, Superintendents and Matrons of County Asylums for Chronic Insane of Wisconsin

Library Hall, Fond du Lac, Wisconsin,  
June 8, 9 and 10, 1921

Public printing authorized by Section 35.30, Revised Statutes 1919.  
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of Control of Wisconsin



MADISON, WISCONSIN  
HOMESTEAD COMPANY, DES MOINES  
1922

## OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION

for 1921-1922

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| MRS E. E. MANUEL, Winnebago.....        | Vice President  |
| HENRY G. FISCHER, Jefferson.....        | Treasurer       |
| SUPT. THOS. B. FLANAGAN, Appleton.....  | Secretary       |
| MRS. J. F. WALLACE, Chippewa Falls..... | Asst. Secretary |

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## PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

## TWENTIETH ANNUAL CONVENTION

OF THE

Association of Trustees, Matrons and Superintendents of  
County Asylums for the Chronic Insane of Wisconsin,

HELD AT

Fond du Lac, Wis., June 8-10, 1921, in Library Hall

Convention was called to order by President R. M. Smith, at 8 P. M.,  
and was opened with an invocation by the Rev. W. E. Gibroy of the  
Plymouth Congregational Church of Fond du Lac.

Mayor R. D. Haentze then gave the following:

---

### ADDRESS OF WELCOME

Trustees, Superintendents and Matrons, and Friends:

In behalf of the City of Fond du Lac I want to extend a cordial welcome to you all, and I want to assure you that the welcome not only comes from myself, but the public in general. I want you to feel at home. I also want you to feel, when I extend this welcome, that the City is yours during the time of your being in Fond du Lac, and I am sure there is no doubt but what you will accomplish, during your Annual Convention here, a great deal of good, not only for yourselves but the public in general.

I might say at this time that I recall some of my past experiences away back about fifteen years ago, when I first attended a Convention. I thought at the time when I left home to attend the Convention that it was more of a frolic than anything else, and nothing but a frolic; but I found after attending my first Convention that I learned a whole lot of good; in fact, it made me feel that if we ever had a Convention, wherever I had any interest, I would be always ready to attend, and I don't doubt but what all the delegates of this Convention will find themselves in the same position I was at that time.

I also at this time wish to extend a personal invitation to all of the out-of-town delegates to visit the Haentze Floral Co.'s Greenhouses, situated on Linden Street, any time during the daytime while you are in the city. I might say that was my former occupation; I was con-

nected with them up to about a month and a half ago, and I feel proud of the fact, for I think they have one of the best floral institutions in this part of the country. I feel sure, also, that the other people of Fond du Lac extend to you the same invitation to inspect the various institutions around Fond du Lac. I want you to feel as though you are one of us while you are visiting here in the city.

I thank you.

---

## RESPONSE TO THE ADDRESS OF WELCOME

PRESIDENT R. M. SMITH

Your Honor, Ladies and Gentlemen: At the time of holding our last Convention, in the City of Milwaukee, Superintendent Kenyon, of Fond du Lac, made it known that Fond du Lac would bid for the next Convention. I, for one, pledged up immediately, and when the time arrived for selecting a place for our next Convention, any who had other intentions withdrew, and Fond du Lac received the unanimous support of the Convention. Consequently, we are here today.

Fond du Lac, as you all know, played quite a part in the early history of Wisconsin. She early was identified in agriculture, even when the bulk of agriculture in Southern Wisconsin was wheat. Diversified farming brought a change, and Fond du Lac and surrounding towns shipped an immense amount of farm products north—dressed beef, pork, mutton, veal, poultry, butter, eggs, cheese, etc.—to supply the lumber and mining regions in this section. The invention of the refrigerator car was destined to bring about a change, and years later—some years later—we saw the products of the farm, such as cattle, hogs, sheep, poultry, etc., being shipped south, to the great dressing plants. Butter, eggs, cheese, etc., also turned-about-face and went south, much of it into cold storage, there to be distributed then or at some future time, for then it was possible to ship the dressed carcass from the west, the great producing center, to the east, where formerly the live animals had to be shipped. The surrounding territory has been devoted to dairying, and today Fond du Lac is in one of the strongest dairying centers in the west, unexcelled by few, if any, localities. Many who are looking for dairy cattle, head for Fond du Lac County.

In the past, Fond du Lac was also a noted lumber center, or noted for the lumber industry. They clung tenaciously to this, bringing the products of the forest for many miles to be manufactured. As that industry began to dwindle, other factories took its place, and today we know Fond du Lac as a thriving, beautiful, industrial city, backed by a strong agriculture.

I can assure you, Mr. Mayor and citizens of Fond du Lac, that we thank you for the privilege of holding this Convention in your city.

Some twenty years ago fifteen County Asylum Officials conceived the idea that much good could come to these institutions by holding



an annual convention, and today thirty-five County Asylums in the State of Wisconsin are members of this organization.

Fond du Lac County has one of the best County institutions in the State, located on the border of the City of Fond du Lac, and I hope that the holding of this Convention in your city and county will increase the interest of your people in this institution, if any interest be lacking.

Mr. Mayor and citizens, on behalf of the membership of this organization, we accept your hospitality. And I thank you.

## ADDRESS

HON. M. K. REILLY

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen: I have not been assigned a theme, I am a kind of a free lance. I am not going to talk shop to you people. First, because I know nothing about your line; and second, because I know you do not want me to talk along that line.

I am going to talk this evening about the duties and responsibilities of present day citizenship. Something over one hundred and forty years ago, a new idea of government was given to the world by our forefathers. At that time the prevailing idea of government was that certain men came into the world specially commissioned to rule the people, or, in other words, what is known as the divine right of a special few to rule their fellowmen, held away in the world generally.

Our revolutionary fathers believed that this theory was wrong. They held that no man received or could receive a commission from the great ruler of the universe to rule his fellowmen. They believed that the right to rule came up from below and not down from above. In other words, they believed in the rule of the people.

Our government, a representative democracy, as finally launched, was in many ways an experiment in government, or rather a modern experiment in government. Our idea of government was not entirely a new idea in government. It was a new idea as applied to our country, but it was an old idea as far as history of governments was concerned, because history discloses the fact that republics and democracy have existed and flourished and finally have found their resting places in the common tomb of nations; but it was a new idea, as I have said, as applied to the virgin soils of the land of Columbus.

When our ship of state was launched upon the sea of democracy, there were a great many skeptics who believed that our form of government was foredoomed to failure.

I recall reading sometime ago, a letter from Lord Macauley to an American friend, wherein the distinguished Englishman pointed out the impossibility of the success of our experiment in government. He says in that letter: "You cannot have a government of the people. It is absolutely impossible to have a representative democracy. You must have classes, you must have blood, you must have those who

serve and those who rule, otherwise your government cannot exist." In spite of prophecies of failure, our experiment in government has lasted for almost a century and a half, and its history discloses a record of achievements and successes unparalleled in world history.

Remarkable has been our progress, individually as a people and collectively as a nation, during the almost century and a half since first our idea of government became the controlling factor in the unfolding destiny of our country.

From a struggling band of many nationalities scattered along the Atlantic Coast, we have grown to be more than a hundred million strong, extending from the rock of the Pilgrims on the east to the Golden Gate on the west, from the Great Lakes on the north to the Rio Grande and the Gulf of Mexico on the south.

We have transformed bleak prairies and dark forests into fertile plains and smiling valleys. We have tunneled mountains and bridged chasms. We have laid thousands of miles of railway—more than all the rest of the world combined—and we have strung a network of living wires penetrating every corner of our land, annihilating space and time and making the inhabitants of Maine and Oregon neighbors to their fellow citizens in Florida and Texas.

We have millionaires and philanthropists, Napoleons of finance and captains of industry such as the world has never before known, and we also have churches on every hilltop for the worship of God, and schoolhouses in every valley for the ennobling of men.

Our country at one time was the scene of the greatest civil war in history, and in the dark chasm of rebellion was buried forever secession and slavery, and from that field of domestic conflict our country came forth more united and more powerful than ever. Less than a quarter of a century ago our country gave to the world one of the finest examples of lofty ideals and unselfish devotion to liberty and the principles of democracy that history records.

Aroused by the sufferings of Cuba, our government, backed by the will of the people, sacrificed precious lives and millions of wealth upon the altar of war, in order that the tree of freedom might be planted in the soil of suffering Cuba, and recently the republic of Washington and Lincoln threw its might and power into the great world conflict, in order that the rights of American citizens might be vindicated, and a government of the people might be the common heritage of all mankind.

In a word, our country, as the exponent of the idea of the people to rule, has risen from a contemptible position in the politics of the world to be the guiding star in the great family of nations. From the standpoint of natural progress, we have outstripped the achievements of all mankind. We have hitched the forces of nature to the car of human progress and it thunders along at such a rate as to outrun hope and defy prophecy, while all the other nations of the world look on and marvel at the giant strides of our republic as it moves upward and onward to realization, beyond the dreams of all times.

Today our country stands before the world for the application of the eternal principles of justice to the relations of men to each other under the social compact. In our land, under our form of government, men are not born to power and the humblest son of toil, no matter how lowly born, has before him the possibilities of boundless success. We know no race, no creed, no caste. Each citizen is the architect of his own future and his own fortune, and all alike can aspire to the prizes of the political, industrial and social world.

But wealth, power, glory and wonderful educational institutions will not prevent the foundation stones of our republican institutions from crumbling to dust.

Republics, above all other forms of government, depend for their existence upon the patriotism of their citizens.

The men and women who came from foreign lands to find homes in the land of Columbus, came to these shores as a general proposition to escape religious and political prosecution. They sought new homes for themselves and their children, where they would be free from the religious and political oppression of their more numerous fellow citizens.

Our government has successfully met every test and trial of its strength and ability to endure, to date; but the enemies overcome and conquered so far in the life history of our republic, have been what might be called external enemies, enemies overcome on the field of battle.

Whenever the war drums have sounded, whether the call to arms meant to fight a foreign foe or an internal foe who sought the disruption of our government, our citizens have rallied almost to a man in support of our government.

Before the recent European war, it was charged by foreign critics of our government and our country that America was money mad. That we had no ideals, that our God was the dollar. There can be no doubt at all but that there was considerable truth in this charge, and there were not a few at home and abroad who believed that no threat of danger would be able to arouse the old patriotic spirit of sacrifice and devotion to country that dominated our people in different periods of our country's history.

In the spring of 1917, when the clouds of war lowered upon our horizon, and the call came for men and money to defend our country, that call was answered with an enthusiasm and unanimity that surprised the most optimistic friends of our republican form of government.

Deep in the game of commerce and industry, worshipping madly at the altar of Mammon, as our people were, at the call of country, at the sound of beating drums, the great mass of the people turned their backs upon the altar of Mammon and stood ready and willing to sacrifice their all upon the altar of country.

Never before in the history of the world did a nation and a people make such tremendous sacrifices in war for an ideal, for a principle, as the citizens of our country made in the recent European conflict.