## PROCEEDINGS OF THE SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE ASSOCIATION OF TRUSTEES, SUPERINTENDENTS, AND MATRONS OF CONTRY ASYLUMS FOR CHRONIC INSANE OF WISCONSIN

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Proceedings of the seventeenth annual convention of the Association of Trustees, Superintendents, and Matrons of Contry Asylums for Chronic Insane of Wisconsin by Various

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# VARIOUS

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Trieste

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### PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

## SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

OF THE

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

Assembly Chamber, Madison, Wisconsin June 11, 12, 13 and 14, 1918

Public printing authorized by Section 35.30, Revised Statutes 1917. Published under direction of the State Board of Control of Wisconsin



MADISON, WISCONSIN 1919

## OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION

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#### FOR 1918-19

H. F. PRIEN, Verona	President
MRS. E. E. MANUEL, Winnebago	President
L. E. GILSON, Marshfield	.Secretary
MRS. O. GULLICKSON, West Salem Assistant	Secretary
GEO. H. SEELY, Menomonie	Treasurer

The next annual convention will be held at Wausau, Wis., the first or second week in June, 1919.

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### PROCEEDINGS

#### OF THE

## Seventeenth Annual Convention Association of Trustees, Superintendents and Matrons of County Asylums

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HELD IN THE ASSEMBLY CHAMBER, MADISON, WIS.

#### Tuesday evening session, June 11, 1918, 8 P. M.

Meeting called to order,—Chairman M. H. Duncan in the chair. Music by Thompson's Orchestra. Invocation—Rev. T. B. Johnson.

#### ADDRESS OF WELCOME

#### HON. GEORGE C. SAYLE, Mayor of Madison.

I am pleased to have this opportunity on behalf of the city of Madison to extend to you a hearty welcome to our city. I was very much pleased when I was informed that your organization was going to hold its convention in this city and I assure you that the people of Madison appreciate your coming here and will show their appreciation at every opportunity and on their behalf I tender to you the freedom of our city, our institutions and all the opportunities of our city.

We are exceptionally pleased at this time to welcome an organization such as yours—an organization composed of men and women who come here in an unselfish cause—the cause of humanity. You have been selected by the people whom you represent in your institutions to manage your institutions and provide for the care of the unfortunate, and you are charged with the responsibility of managing those institutions in the interest of the taxpayer, but your greatest problem should

#### PROCEEDINGS OF THE SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

be to care for those who are unable to take care of themselves. It has been said that "the poor are always with us" and that seems to be a true saying but it does not necessarily follow that all persons committed to institutions of this kind will have to remain there. It seems to me, that by proper care and treatment many of these unfortunates who are mentally deranged, might be returned to society and remain useful citizens, and I am sure that the members of your association meeting here in convention are here for the purpose of discussing the various questions which have to do with that line of work, which will educate each other in the various methods of care and treatment and which will in time return to society many of those unfortunate people.

I hope that while you are in our city that you will have an opportunity to visit our many points of interest, to which we refer with considerable pride. Madison is one of the most beautiful cities in the country and we are unable to realize that ourselves. It is a fact that people living in a beautiful city never appreciate what they have and I think the same is true of Madison. We go on through life without paying any attention to our surroundings and it is up to our visitors to really tell us what we have. Since I have been Mayor of Madison, I have come in contact with many, many people meeting here in convention who have told me what a beautiful city Madison really is. Situated as it is with four beautiful lakes and rivers, with our beautiful new State Capitol and one of the greatest educational institutions in the world, it is certainly an ideal environment.

We have here very many beautiful parks to which we refer with pride and a great many park ways about our parks, the beauty of which cannot be surpassed. This work was all done by voluntary contribution on the part of our citizens at an expenditure of \$350,000. I am sure you will appreciate their beauties if you have an opportunity to visit our parks and park ways.

Madison stands high in Wisconsin and I think over all the West as being a modern city. We have the finest artesian water in the world. We have just completed a new sewage disposal plant that I am sure any one of you institution people would find it profitable to visit and one of the finest water plants which is being completed now with many new ideas that I am sure would afford many valuable suggestions to anyone who would visit the same. We have a sewage disposal plant equipped with an asceptic tank system costing \$600,000. That is another thing in which people in charge of fastitutions may be interested. We have reports printed which would be interesting to anyone who has these problems to deal with and they are available at the City Hall where anyone will be welconted to receive a copy.' These reports contain views of Madison, builing of our water system, work of the Park and Pleasure Drive Association and Various other Hings.

Out at Henry Vilas park we have a zoological garden which has cost up to date about \$150,000, and which will be one of the finest in the state when completed. There may be found many rare species of bird and animal life. This park is a spot of natural beauty, situated on Lake Wingra.

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#### TRUSTESS, SUPERINTENDENTS AND MATEONS OF COUNTY ASTLUMS

We have many points of interest that you will enjoy and I hope that your visit to our city will be one of pleasure, useful and profitable to yourselves and your organization and that some day you may be inspired to live in a beautiful city—one whose environments are ideal, whose schools are the best and whose health and sanitation are perfect and I am sure you will then think of Madison and we shall be glad to extend to you a welcome. Thank you.

Music-Orchestra.

#### RESPONSE

#### TO

### ADDRESS OF WELCOME

#### M. H. DUNCAN, Supt. Marathon County Asylum.

On behalf of our Association I wish to thank Mr. Sayle, and through him the people of Madison, for the splendid opportunity of meeting together in this beautiful building in one of the very best cities of the state.

As in former years, I would like to emphasize that the public is cordially welcome to attend our sessions and listen to our discussions. We have here an ideal place for our meetings, and I hope the public galleries will be well filled at all our sessions.

We must not forget a word of appreciation for the officers of our Association, and any others, through whose hard work this meeting has been made possible. Anyone with experience in getting up a program of this kind knows what a lot of work and worry are involved.

I see by the program that we are to be favored with some music after the response, and I am sure that you would prefer listening to the orchestra to any talk I might give, so will close these brief remarks with the hope that we may have a very enjoyable and very helpful meeting. I thank you.

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Music—Orchestra.

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#### Wednesday, June 12, 1918, 9:00 A. M.

#### ADDRESS -

#### Governor EMANUEL PHILIPP, Governor of Wisconsin.

Ladies and Gentlemen: I must apologize to you for not coming to you last evening. I contracted what is ordinarily called a cold. Towards evening I became very hoarse, so that I could not talk. I thought I had better wait until morning as long as you were going to be here.

I am glad to meet you and I am glad to welcome you to the capitol. I will ask you to feel at home here. It is your capitol and, as usual, I will extend an invitation to you to visit the different departments of the state, which will all be glad to meet you, I am sure. We keep everything open but the Treasury. We keep that locked.

Now, you men and women are engaged in an important work. As I understand it, you are the trustees and superintendents of the county asylums. It is the duty of a civilized people to care for the helpless and it is one which we accept gratefully-the care of the unfortunate, those who are born unfortunate and those who become dependent upon others. It is right that we should do this and we should do it well, otherwise we can not lay claim to being civilized human beings. It is hard enough for those who must be cared for. It is hard for them to remain with us and for us to remain around them, but those are matters that neither they nor we can control. The state has been as generous in erecting institutions for its dependents as it can afford to be at present and judging from the number of county and private instituting that have been built throughout the state, the people of the state fully approve the state's generosity. They have themselves added many institutions, not only institutions for the care of the insane, but the counties are doing much now to aid us in the care of the tubercular.

I want to say a word about a measure that was presented to the Legislature at its last session. It was a proposed rearrangement of the payments to be made by the state to the counties for the care of its patients in county asylums and payments to be made by the counties to the state for the care for their patients. The rate which it attempted to exact from the state to the counties was substantially increased, while that which the counties were to pay the state remained the same.

You cannot in all fairness to the state treasury exact payments from the state which you are unwilling to pay to it, and I vetoed the bill on that ground. The cost of keeping up public institutions has grown yery much. Of course, that is due primarily to the additional cost of

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#### TRUSTRES, SUPERINTENDENTS AND MATEONS OF COUNTY ASTLUMS

food—the cost of bread, the cost of meat, the cost of fuel. Everything has gone up for the state as it has in the private home, but there is this to be said for it. If you gentlemen in county institutions are going to raise the rate for the state, you must pay the same rate to the state. I would advise you to bear that in mind if you wish to make an additional charge for the state. I question whether any governor who comes here will be willing to consent to any other arrangement.

Now, a word about the feeble-minded. The state is about to open up its institution at Union Grove. I wish the state could find money to build additional room. We will be able to take care of 140 applicants. The cost of living is so high the demands made upon the people so great that I feel that we should not continue any extensive building operations during the period of the war or attempt to undertake anything new. To begin with, we haven't the labor. Every man now must devote his time to the production of material, whether it be material for the war or upon the farm, and I think we are all agreed upon this, that the constant great problem before the people now is, how to win the war, and to devote ourselves almost entirely to that subject. First of all, we must destroy that which threatens us, and when that is done we can settle back and take care of our own affairs. Now, that institution at Union Grove should have a very substantial addition built to it. The plans are ready for it, but as I said before we are going to postpone it until the war cloud blows away.

Now as to the question of building highways. I have advocated everywhere that we should go slow. We cannot take the labor away from the farmer and until we do we cannot make any very extensive highway improvements. I trust that you people who have influence in your counties, who have to do with your county officials, will pursue the same policy with reference to county improvements that the state is pursuing at this time in order that we may preserve our labor and our money for the support of the army. And even though some things must go, even though some things are not cared for as they should be, even though some people have not the care and the comforts they should have and that would be given them ordinarily. I feel that it is justified under these circumstances.

Now, ladies and gentlemen, as I said before, I shall be glad to see you and I am sure that the Board of Control, with whom you have, no doubt, to do, will be glad to come here and discuss your interests with you, particularly the state's interests, but also the counties', and especially the state's people who are in your and our charge.

I thank you.