

## History of Temperance Union Reveals Much Progress Made

By MRS. HATTIE M. WOLFE.  
Looking backward through the years of activities of the Oregon Woman's Christian Temperance Union, back to the year 1883 when Francis E. Willard and Anna A. Gordon made their memorable visit to the Pacific coast, to the days when they organized the state W. C. T. U. in the old Taylor Street Methodist church in Portland, one finds that the Gresham women were early in the field.

Records are not available for much of the early history, but at least one Union was organized here that did not survive long. The present Union was organized by Mrs. Lucia Addison, for many years a resident of Oregon, and also for many years a national W. C. T. U. organizer and lecturer. This must have been about 1895.

As an incident of these early days, the following story has been told: At that time it was difficult for the W. C. T. U. to get recognition from the press, in any locality, therefore the unions were urged to put up bulletin boards whenever it was possible to find a place for them. Accordingly, the Gresham women had one placed across the street from a saloon. One morning this board was found nailed to the saloon. The saloon keeper sent word to the president to remove it. After consultation she, with another member went to the place, and while one woman stood on a beer keg, the other balanced her, and the board was taken down.

In the first written record found in 1914, we find the officers to be president, Mrs. H. L. Wostell; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Arza Smith; and treasurer, Mrs. W. F. Honey. The membership numbered 48. Central and Albina Union were the only unions among the 20 in Multnomah county with a greater number of members. Eleven years later there were reported to the state W. C. T. U. 104 members, and Gresham ranked first among 16 unions in the county. The following year, 1925-26 the membership had dropped to 70, and the rank to fifth among the 20 unions. However, membership is based on dues paid to the state and not on accomplishments. This was the year that Gresham achieved the almost impossible, and entertained the state convention. This was so well done that delegates went home with many good words for the Gresham women and their friends, not only for service rendered by the women, but for street decorations, courtesies by the press, pastors and of the hearty welcome given them by city dignitaries.

**Present Officers Named**  
At the close of the year 1926-27, the membership had increased slightly, present indications are for a much greater one the present year. The present officers are president, Mrs. Mabel Clow; vice president, Mrs. W. F. Honey; corresponding secretary, Annabell Kirkwood; recording secretary, Mildred Fancher and treasurer, Mrs. Emma Walrad. Fifteen departments have been adopted with directors as follows: Americanization, Mrs. Ella Larson; flower mission, Mrs. I. S. Korsund; evangelistic, Mrs. May Emery; Christian citizenship, Mrs. L. P. Manning; music, Mrs. C. N. Taber; Sunday school, Mrs. Nora Risher; publicity, Mrs. C. Shultz; social morality, Mrs. Hattie Wolfe; child welfare, Mrs. Ada Nickerson; official papers, Mrs. G. Honey; temperance and missions, Mrs. H. V. Wilhelm; scientific temperance instruction, Mrs. Florence Jones; Loyal Temperance Legion, Mrs. Lulu Horning; fairs and exhibits, Mrs. C. J. Lundquist; narcotics, Mrs. W. J.

Cooper. The directors have recently been organized with Mrs. Hattie M. Wolfe as chairman, and Mrs. Geo. F. Honey as secretary. They expect to make a study of department work, hoping to extend their work, as well as to present programs to regular meetings. It is expected that this plan will enable the general officers to give more time to building up the organization. Immediate activities are, scientific temperance instruction in the department, which is largely essay writing and poster making. The director, Mrs. Jones, is now interesting Gresham and nearby schools in this work.

Mrs. W. F. Honey has just managed a gift day for the Children's Farm Home, which resulted in a shower of beautiful and appropriate gifts for the benefit of the Home and its inmates. Miss Maude Aldrich addressed a gathering of the city federation of women's clubs in Portland Saturday.

Mrs. May Emery is giving attention to the evangelistic department, which, to accord with the standard set by the state, must have 20 minutes for devotions at every regular meeting.

### Liquor Facts Studied

Others are finding facts and fallacies about the prohibition question. As to bootlegging and poison liquor, they find these are not new things. In 1915, San Francisco records showed 2000 places where liquor was sold illegally, and in 1925 one thousand places.

From the files of a New York paper of 1869, is found a report of an investigation of liquors which says that of 32 samples of brandy and bourbon, three were styled "good", five, "fair", seventeen, "inferior", and seven, "bad". Opposite one of the "bad" was written "Flavor like vinegar and lamp oil." Others were marked, "Vile stuff", "Vile stuff", "flavor like pine shavings", or "40 per cent below proof", etc.

On November 28, 1827, according to an associated press dispatch, a dinner was given to 297 persons in the Union club of New York city, at which time, Captain William H. Stayton, chairman of the Association Against the Prohibition Amendment was a speaker. Captain Stayton said the association wanted to raise three million dollars which would be used to send twenty-seven million letters to voters within the next four years, in a campaign designed to learn the attitude of people on the question of modification or repeal of the 18th amendment.

In a statement recently sent to members of legislatures, the manager of the political operations of this same association, commonly called the A. A. P. A., the following (mis) statements were made as to the results of the 18th Amendment: "It has caused the substitution of the prohibition Bible for the holy Bible." "It has caused loss of

prestige to the churches." "It has caused loss of patronage on steam ships." "Bootlegging has developed." "Farm values have decreased." "Criminal courts have become clogged" and so on and on. A careful study will show that these conditions are either entirely false or that they result from some condition entirely apart from the 18th Amendment.

To refute these statements, an intense study of a favorable press is necessary. To this end Mrs. Geo. Honey is conducting a series of quizzes at regular meetings intended to give the women correct information. A few years ago Capt. S. Stayton sent out a call to his constituents for annual dues of \$1 each, absolving them from further responsibility.

Membership in the W. C. T. U., either active or honorary also requires \$1 dues, but, in addition to this, each person must sign a total abstinence pledge, and promise "To do all in my power to enforce the 18th Amendment to the constitution of the United States of America." This dollar provides the financial link between the worlds, national, state, county and local.

## Fraternal and Benefit Orders Exist for Mutual Helpfulness

A history or brief sketch of the fraternal and benefit organizations of Gresham indicate progress and mutual helpfulness. The pioneer lodge of Gresham is the Independent Order of Odd Fellows which was organized November 18, 1893. Only three charter members of this are now living, George Kenney, W. H. Johnson and William Gedemke. The lodge meets every Thursday evening. There are now 130 members. At a recent meeting officers were elected for the ensuing year as follows: Alex. Huber, noble grand; R. T. Stefansson, vice grand; Roy H. Gibbs, secretary; C. H. Hoecker, treasurer. The appointive officers will be named later.

The ladies' auxiliary of the I. O. O. F., the Gresham Rebekah lodge, is a thriving organization of 130 members which meets the second and fourth Monday evenings of every month. At the last meeting the following officers were elected for the coming year, the installation to take place the 9th of January: Tilda Dahl, noble grand; Mary Huber, vice grand; Helena Strebin, secretary; Mary McManus, treasurer; Christina Humason, warden; Inez Lusted, conductor; Arlie Gibbs, chaplain; Lucy Donley, R. S. N. G.; Minnie Wyant, L. S. N. G.; Etta Hoover, R. S. V. G.; Ethel Lundquist, L. S. V. G.; Jennie Strebin, inside guardian; Anna Beers, outside guardian; Winnifred Osburn, district deputy president.

The A. F. & A. M., No. 152, Blue lodge of the Masonic order, was organized and chartered in June of 1913. It has now approximately 145 members. The Gresham membership was formerly a part of Fairview Lodge No. 92, but withdrew to form a local organization

when a large enough number warranted it. Election of officers has been deferred on account of the ban on public gatherings. At present A. W. Metzger is the worshipful master and W. L. Gorsage the secretary. The attendance has been unusually good during the past year, with gratifying interest in everything pertaining to the welfare of the order.

The Royal Arch Masons, with a membership of 40, meets the second Monday evening of each month. It was organized in October, 1921, and chartered in June of the following year. At present W. J. Todd holds the office of high priest, and James Elkington is secretary. As soon as the quarantine is lifted to permit public gatherings, the election of officers will be held. The Royal Arch, as the other Masonic bodies, is fraternal in its scope. The Gresham Masonic orders, including the O. E. S., are planning the erection of a Masonic temple at such time in the future as may be possible. For several years they have owned a lot on Powell street, west of the Raker & Son garage.

Gresham Chapter Order of Eastern Star is a wide-awake organization of over 200 members. It meets on the first and third Tuesdays of each month in the Masonic hall. The O. E. S. is synonymous with service and energy. The social organization of the order is the Areme club, which holds monthly meetings and plans many interesting events, including high-class dances and card parties, also an annual bazaar. The lodge was organized in 1915. The worthy matron is Edith Tegart, and the secretary Clara Pulfer. The latter has served for nine years as secretary. The first worthy patron of the lodge was O. J. Brown, and the

first worthy matron, Mrs. Anna Brown, his wife. It will be of interest to note that of the 40 charter members of the lodge, 30 are members at the present time.

The Gresham Camp, Modern Woodmen of America was organized nearly 20 years ago and has a membership of 81, widely scattered, however, through various localities. The organization meets on the third Friday evening of each month in the I. O. O. F. hall. This is a fraternal and benefit order, and considerable interest is maintained in the meetings held in Gresham. W. J. Todd is consul of the order and C. J. Lundquist clerk.

The auxiliary of the Modern Woodmen, the Royal Neighbors of America, has a membership of 26. It was organized in April, 1916, and meets on the second Thursday of each month at the various homes of the members. Mrs. Etta Hoover occupies the office of oracle, and Mrs. C. J. Lundquist that of secretary.

Clover Circle, Neighbors of Woodcraft, which has a membership of 40, was formed in Gresham about 25 years ago. At a recent election Mrs. C. E. Van Slyke was given the office of guardian neighbor and Mrs. Richard Beadle, secretary. The members meet on the fourth Tuesday of every month at the home of Mrs. J. H. Metzger. Charter members of the order include Mrs. L. P. Manning, Mrs. Carrie Powell, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Metzger, Mr. and Mrs. D. D. Jack, Mrs. Anna Cleveland and Mrs. Iona McColl. The organization was formed as the auxiliary of a W. O. W. camp which later transferred to Multnomah Camp No. 77 in Portland.

The Gresham grange, which is composed largely of those interested in agricultural activities, has a membership of 82. The grange is identified with not only the agricultural interests of the community, but with every industry that tends to the betterment of the town and surrounding territory. It meets on the second Saturday of each month in the grange

hall which, during the past year has been entirely remodeled and painted. Four charter members of the grange are now living, Mr. and Mrs. George Sleret and Mr. and Mrs. John Roberts. O. I. Neal is the present worthy master, and Mrs. Theodore Brugger the secretary.

The American Legion was organized in Gresham on Armistice Day, 1919, and has since continued with unabated zeal and interest. Ted Johnson, who recently returned from a nation-wide gathering of the Legion at Paris, France, is the present commander, and E. J. Brugger the adjutant. There is a membership of 73, all stirring young men who have served their country either in one capacity or another in relation to the World War. The adjutant of the state department reports that Gresham post has now a higher paid-up membership than in any previous year. The local commander states that January 1, 1928, will be the expiration of the time for application for adjusted compensation.

The American Legion auxiliary meets on the fourth Tuesday evening of each month in conjunction with the Legion meeting, and on the second Tuesday of each month the members meet at the various homes for sewing. The auxiliary members are continually putting forth a great deal of effort to help the disabled veterans and their families, both locally and in general. The veterans' hospital also receives much attention from the auxiliary. At the election held in November the following officers were elected for the coming year: Mrs. Pearl Gray, president; Mrs. Hazel Hamlin, first vice president; Mrs. Edna Brugger, second vice president; Mrs. Georgia Roberts, secretary; Mrs. Walter Olmschied, treasurer; Mrs. Mabel Gilbertson, Hoss, historian. There are 68 sergeants at arms; Mrs. Marian Hoss, historian. There are 68 members enrolled in the auxiliary.

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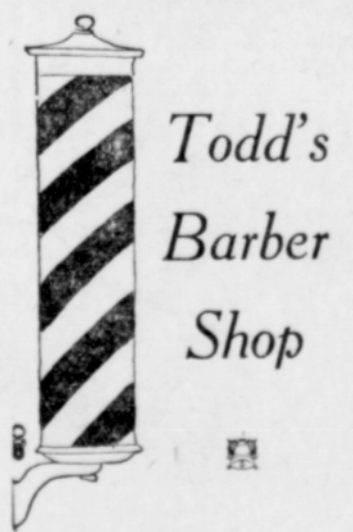


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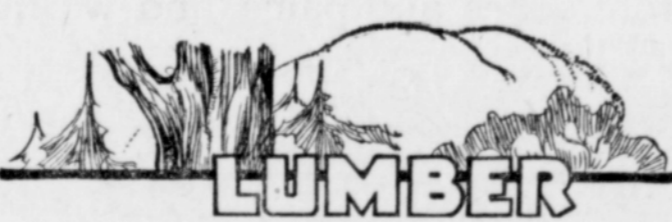
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