

CHURCH HISTORY SUBJECT OF TALK

J. L. Freeman Tells of Happenings Since Organization of Methodists Here.

OCCURRED 75 YEARS AGO

Tomorrow Is Big Day of Diamond Jubilee—Reminiscence Meeting Today.

Historical evening was observed at the First Methodist church last night in the second session of the diamond jubilee anniversary...

SUNDAY'S PROGRAM

Sunday is to be the big day. Bishop Robert McIntyre will arrive tomorrow morning from St. Paul to deliver the jubilee sermon...

HISTORY OF CHURCH

In his historical address of last evening, which was illustrated by numerous stereopticon views, Mr. Freeman spoke in part as follows:

"The first class, of which there is any record, and which became the nucleus of the church, was organized Sept. 6, 1836. At an earlier date Rock Island, or what was then known as Stephenson, was within the bounds of the Illinois conference...

"In the beginning the society met at the home of J. W. Spencer. This was a long house that stood near where is now the home of Mayer Rosenfeld...

PREPARE TO BUILD

"In 1843 preparations were begun for the building of a church, to occupy the northwest corner of the same square...

Three Ordinances to be Voted on Oct. 31

An ordinance permitting the Union Electric Telephone & Telegraph company to sell to the Central Union Telephone company under conditions expressly stipulated in the ordinance.

An ordinance permitting the Tri-City Automatic Home Telephone company to operate in Rock Island for a period of 50 years.

An ordinance to increase the saloon license in the city of Rock Island from \$200 to \$1,000 per annum.

for the building of a church, to occupy the northwest corner of the same square. The church was finished in the year 1844, under the pastorate of Rev. Isaac Searls.

"The conference of 1843 made Rock Island a station and Rev. Andrew Coleman was appointed pastor. During the pastorate of Rev. G. L. S. Staff (1850-51) the first parsonage was built; a brick building, still occupied as a residence on Nineteenth street, just north of Fifth avenue.

"The first conference at Rock Island was held in that church the same year. The dedication of the church did not take place until April 29.

HAVE 'BIGGEST FESTIVAL'

"On the evening of Dec. 5, four months before the dedication, a supper was served in the basement of the church, at \$1 a plate and \$950 was realized. It was spoken of as the largest festival ever held in the city.

BELL 42 YEARS OLD

"The Holbrook bell, which still peals forth its silvery notes, calling to the several services of the church, was purchased in 1869, at a cost of \$1,200. The late C. B. Knox was largely instrumental in its purchase and for a considerable time served in the ringing of the bell—indeed, it was a delight to him. Rev. Richard Haney was pastor at that time.

FURNISHED SOLDIERS

"In 1870-71 under Rev. H. Rhea, the church was thoroughly repaired and an alcove built in the rear of the pulpit for a new pipe organ; the whole expense being about \$8,500. The central Illinois conference convened for the second time in Rock Island in 1864. Bishop Scott presided. At this time the war of the rebellion was on, being fought to a finish. The second election of Abraham Lincoln was pending. It can be stated that of the 2,550 soldiers who went out from this county, this charge furnished its full quota."

"The speaker then went on to criticize briefly Bishops Simpson, Peck, Bowman, Dr. Butler, Rev. J. S. McCord, Dr. T. G. Pearce and all former pastors, after which he spoke of the prominent members of the church and the good they had done.

INDULGE IN REMINISCENCES

"Today's program, which began at 7:30, was of a reminiscence nature, many of the older members of the church relating incidents which occurred in the history of the church and which were highly interesting to the present members. William Jackson presided over the meeting. Numerous letters from former pastors and members who were unable to attend the jubilee were read at this meeting. An original poem written by Mrs. M. T. Stafford was also read.

Perry to Lecture

An invitation has been extended to the board of education and commissioners of Rock Island by the Woman's club through its civic department of Davenport to attend the lecture at the Davenport high school auditorium, Monday evening, Oct. 30, at 8 o'clock by Charles Arthur Perry. The subject will be 'The Schoolhouse—The People's Play Center.' An invitation is also extended to the people of Rock Island. The lecture will be illustrated by 20 lantern slide views and will be open free to the public.

All the news all the time—The Argus.

BLANCHE HEARD ON CIVIC REFORM

Davenport Leader Is Speaker at Fall Meeting of Broadway Club.

GIVES CAUSE OF EVIL

Tells of Conditions in Davenport Before and Since Federation Cleaned Town.

"Civic Righteousness" was the subject of the address delivered by Dr. W. H. Blanche of Davenport before the Broadway Men's club in the first fall meeting last evening. More than 70 members of the club and their friends were auditors, and listened with interest to every word that fell from the lips of the Davenport leader, whose work as a member of the civic federation has made him a man to be feared by the immoral element. In part his speech was:

"You and I, Mr. Churchman, are responsible for the conditions in civic life today. In the first place we are not conversant with the laws of our cities; and in the second we do not enforce them. Should we educate ourselves and learn our ordinances and then enforce all these except the ones mapped out by the unscrupulous politician, we would come to an ideal condition in civic life.

CRIMINAL CLASS LEADS

"It is the criminal class that dominates in politics and fills the offices, while the vote of the man who strives for decency is lost by the united effort of the other element. There is too much personal attention to business rather than to the civic betterment. The decent men are responsible for crime because they allow conditions to be as they are and do not seek to bring about an uplift. Drive out the liquor traffic and you have rid yourself of one of the biggest evils. When I was a student of Carthage college I was one that helped to drive out the traffic from that place, and today because of the moral cleanliness there is not a better place in the land to send your boy or girl for education.

ONE AT A TIME

"Strive to secure one thing at a time as we did in Davenport. Do not seek to undo the things which have accumulated in the last 25 years in a single day. In Davenport we have accomplished a great deal. First we closed the back door to the wine room, for it was through that rear entrance that scores of young girls and young men went down to degradation and ruin. Then we made them remove the front blinds. They became moral then, and said that it would have a bad effect on the young people. The next move was to rid the bar rooms of the tables and chairs, the places where drunkards spent the night. The hours were shortened and the saloons were emptied on the spot. More drunkards for the street, but fewer all around. The number of saloons was reduced, and 13 gambling dens were cleaned out. We still have gambling and a few houses of prostitution, but the old red light district is gone and substantial business blocks are in their place.

INFLUX FROM ROCK ISLAND

"Your commissioners and police department are bringing pressure to bear on the women, for since the cleanup on the side Davenport has had an influx of the undesirable. So go and get your officials on the back and give them the encouragement that they deserve. Do not expect them to clean the city in a year, or in four years, but take one thing at a time and be satisfied.

CHURCH IN POLITICS

"Some have said that the church has no right in politics and that the preacher should attend to his own flock. As an organization the church should not enter the political game, but every church man as an individual should fight for civic betterment. The preacher has as much right in the game as any physician or lawyer."

In addition to the address there were remarks by Rev. J. L. Vance and Dr. W. S. Marquis, pastors of the United and Broadway Presbyterian churches. Rev. Vance invited the Broadway club members to attend a conference meeting that is to be held in his church Nov. 14 and 15.

FOR HIGH LICENSE

Dr. Marquis, in the course of his remarks, answered a question that had been put to him before the meeting. He was asked which way he intended voting on the high license question at the election Tuesday. He answered the question before the club, saying that he would vote "yes." In giving his reasons, he said: "I do not believe in any license, as a matter of fact, but I am going after all I can get at a time. Not because the higher license will lessen my taxes, for I do not believe it will; but I know that the other crowd will vote the other way, and I do not want to be with them. A higher license may reduce the number of saloons, and that will bring about a betterment. Then I am going to vote in the affirmative to encourage the city government and uphold them in the policies which they are pursuing. Furthermore, it will give the commissioners more money with which to administer the affairs of the city."

SOCIAL PROGRAM

Musical numbers were furnished by Rev. W. G. Ogilvie and the Misses Catherine and Teckla Helmbeck. Miss Catherine rendered several whistling solos. She was assisted at the piano by her sister, Mrs. Marion Humphreys gave two recitations.

COMMITTEES ARE NAMED

President L. S. McCabe named the

various committees for the ensuing year as follows: Finance—S. S. Davis, chairman; W. S. Parks, H. W. Crawford, and A. D. Sperry. Reception—A. D. Welch, chairman; F. W. Balmsen, F. D. Blake, B. D. Connelly, G. A. Davis, Dr. J. DeSilva, H. A. Weld, Dr. W. S. Marquis, Rev. W. G. Ogilvie, Mayor Levi M. T. Rudgren, Dr. L. Ostrom, Swayne Pearson.

B. G. Landau, Dr. F. A. Smith, Harvey E. Curtis, and H. B. Hayden. Membership—W. M. Stewart, chairman; A. B. DuVon, H. E. VanDuzer, and B. H. Wilson. Refreshments—C. E. Sharpe, J. G. Hantoon, E. C. Hart, S. Brinkhoff, H. H. Cleaveland, Art Hansen, W. J. Beardsley, G. L. Schmid, and J. W. Welch. (Each member to be chairman for one meeting during the year.)

South Rock Island, Sunday school at 2:30 p. m. J. H. Cleland, superintendent emeritus. J. M. Pond, superintendent. Broadway Presbyterian, corner of Twenty-third street and Seventh avenue. Rev. W. E. Marquis, pastor; Rev. W. G. Ogilvie, assistant. Bible school

at 9:15 a. m. Services at 10:45 a. m. and 7:45 p. m. South Park Presbyterian, corner of Thirtieth street and Fifteenth avenue, in connection with Broadway Presbyterian church. Rev. W. G. Ogilvie. (Continued on Page Twelve.)



Grace Lutheran, Dr. W. F. Eyster, formerly professor of English at Augustana college who is visiting his son Dr. G. L. Eyster will preach at the morning service tomorrow. The evening service will be given over to a song service and the following program will be given: Organ prelude. Hymn. Scripture reading. Prayer. Hymn. Bass solo, "He Wipes the Tear from Every Eye"—C. G. Anderson. Soprano solo (selected)—Miss Clara Clausen. Address, "Men and the Bible"—Prof. V. O. Petersen. Hymn. Bass solo (ele ted)—Tage Joranson. Instrumental solo—Prof. August Anker, professor of violin at Augustana college. Soprano solo (selected)—Miss Clara Clausen. Offertory. Prayer. Benediction. Trinity Episcopal church, Nine south street and Sixth avenue. Rev. Branville H. Sherwood, rector. Sunday school at 9:30 a. m. Services at 7:30 a. m. and 10:45 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Zion Swedish Lutheran, Forty-fifth street and Seventh avenue. Rev. N. J. Forsberg, pastor. Sunday school at 9:30 a. m. Services at 10:30 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. German Evangelical, Ninth street, between Fifth and Sixth avenues. Rev. F. J. Rolf, pastor. Sunday school at

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At Turner Hall Monday Night at 8 Robt. R. Reynolds Will Tell what He knows About the Telephone Question.

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