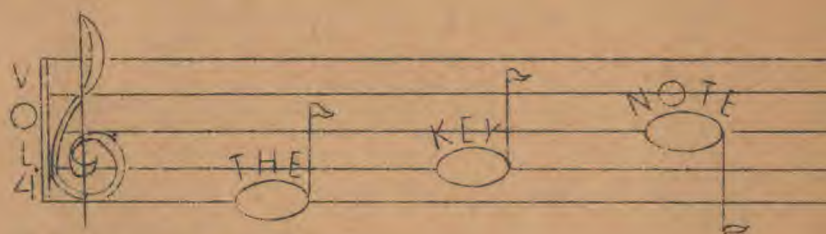


Key Note



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MAINTAINING THE KEYNOTE

Five years ago this month, a rather timid and very inexperienced editor sat before her typewriter under the necessity of writing an editorial. This literary production, if it should ever materialize, was destined to find a place on page 2 of a brand new periodical which had just come into being. The name--THE KEY NOTE; the format--an eight-page paper, size $6\frac{1}{2}$ " by $8\frac{1}{2}$ "; the frequency of publication--once a month,--had all been decided upon. Alert reporters were scurrying around, ferreting out news to appear on the "Key Taps" page. Able sponsors were planning original ways of advertising their departments on the center spread entitled, "The Sponsors Speak." A careful secretary was condensing club minutes into "Secretarial Snapshots."

What the editor wanted to do on that second page was to strike the keynote for this official organ of the recently organized society of the lady workers in the General Conference office--the Keepers of the Keys. She wanted to say that even as it is necessary in music to choose the proper keynote, so it was essential that the charter members of this organization should set the right standard of procedure in their meetings, in their activities, and in their paper.

The same individual described in the opening paragraph--however now meriting an "ex" prefixed to the word "editor"--sits again before her typewriter. What she would like to say this time is that those high standards about which she dreamed, and which she tried to express five years ago, have been maintained through the intervening years. That keynote which was struck when the Keepers of the Keys club was organized has been resounding--yes, becoming clearer--as time has passed.

And THE KEY NOTE is still tuned to the high ideals presented in an article on the first page of the first number of the first volume of this now-famous publication. The writer of that article, the first president of the Keepers of the Keys, represented these ideals as keys--the Key of Confidence, the Key of Influence, the Key of Loyalty, the Key of Industry. May these keys ever be treasured possessions of the Keepers of the Keys, and may their clear note ring out afresh each month in the pages of THE KEY NOTE.

--Ruth Conard

TO THE KEY NOTE

Can it be five years ago that we organized the Keepers of the Keys! Five years since Marie Mooney--after the second or third meeting in which we sought a name worthy of such a group of girls--threatened to lock the chapel doors and keep us all prisoners until we arrived at a decision!

Many names were suggested--Greek names, Latin names, short names, long names,--but finally all agreed on the name that now has still deeper significance as each Keeper has been true to her trust through the years.

Almost automatically THE KEY NOTE was accepted as the name for the organ of communication for the group.

You are to be congratulated that during these five years this paper has bound the group together, and never once have you failed to issue a copy. That it has been held to a high tone is evidenced by the fact that it is still going strong.

The ideals of the Keepers of the Keys have been reflected in every issue. How well I remember that first copy! How proud we were of it. And now how we who are away thrill at receipt of the monthly issue. Whatever I'm doing, I sit me right down to read every word of the "letter" from my old office home.

Keep on, girls--dear Keepers of the Keys of Christian ideals--holding high the standards you have held these past five years.

Hold high the torch,--
You did not light its glow,
'Twas given you by other hands, you know.
'Tis yours to keep it burning bright,
Yours to pass on when you no more need light.
For there are other feet that we must guide
And other forms go marching by our side.
Efforts which we think are not worthwhile
Are sometimes just the very helps they need,
Actions to which their souls would give most heed,--

Hold high the torch!
You did not light its glow--
'Twas given you by other hands, you know.
And He once said Who hung on Calvary's tree,
"Ye are the light of the world -- Go! -- Shine for Me."

--Kathryn Jensen Nelson

THE KEEPERS OF THE KEYNOTE

What a variety of opinions! How wide the scope of interests! Where the center of molding and blending? Could there be a better organization than the "Keepers of the Keys" to foster a spirit of friendliness, to carry on worthwhile projects, and to promote various activities--physical, mental, social, and spiritual--for the development of a well-balanced life?

The five years of organization called for leadership. Our presidents in order: Kathryn L. Jensen-Nelson, Margaret Weir, Evelyn Wells, LaVerne Case, and the one now in office.

Ten editors have with remarkable cooperation from each staff, and in turn Keepers in general, collected news concerning callers at the office, visits from relatives, appendectomies, birthday surprises, greetings from former Keepers, weddings, showers, employees joining the office force, farewells and vacations! Our editors: Ruth Conard, Margaret Weir, Edna Edeburn, Mary Paul, Irma Lee Hewett, Dorothy Ford, Evelyn Wells, Nora Buckman, Carol Crabtree, and Mary Jane Dybdahl.

Keepers, we must keep our organization going and growing. If you are "almost new" among us, join us in every phase of activity you possibly can. You are one of us by your consent to work in our office. If you have been a Keeper a long or short time, you are one for ever.

Time waits for no one, and so we will have to speed on past the five-year anniversary and into the future, which we hope will keep on keeping us Keepers with a Keynote!

--Elsie Minesinger.

SPONSORSHIP

- Music:** (Viola Wilkins-Walker) This sponsor helps us to better understand and appreciate the universal language--music--for being able to appreciate good music is part of the art.
- Health:** (Lillian Bragan) She is constantly suggesting various ways to guard our health.
- Literary:** The purpose of the Literary sponsor is to make Keepers want to Read Things. Only, the way it works out, everybody lends the sponsor things to read. These are very, very much appreciated. Alas, the sponsor has nothing to lend but a paper-bound copy of Mrs. Miniver.
- Spiritual:** (Louise C. Kleuser) "War is not all evil. For one thing, war has the virtue of forcing men and women to face the realities of life. It demands that we substitute hardness for softness, endurance for easy-going acquiescence in the present state of things, sacrifice for indulgence, purposefulness for go-as-you-please, courage for cowardice, decision for indecision, strength for flabbiness."--Zion's Herald, September 9, 1942.
- Nature:** (Alice La Bonte) It is just the "nature" of things! Gone, till no one knows when, are the days of easy and distant field trips by private automobile. Gone the rubber and the gas. But the results of this curtailment need not lessen our interest in nature. Perhaps we shall be relieved of the illusion that the grass is greener, the birds finer, and the plants stranger in other pastures. Let's find out and appreciate what we have in our own vicinity!
- Household Arts:** (Margaret Lay) It is the aim of this sponsor to pass on a tasty recipe and to write things of interest to those who are household-minded.
- Sports:** (Helen Porter, Dorothy Ford, and Edna Helms) These sponsors foster activities, that we might learn or recall cooperation, the effects of laughter, and the joy of association.

INTRODUCTIONS --

Mrs. Pearl Perez is another blond from the sunny south. Pearl says that ever since she began her business course, her ambition has been to become a member of the force of workers at the General Conference. (Glad you attained your objective, Pearl.) She attended college at Southern Junior and Washington Missionary, and so has a host of friends in the Park. Questioned as to how she spends her time outside the office, she confessed that she especially enjoys watching her husband play baseball, or cycling with him to points of interest.

Miss Verna Slate was graduated from Washington Missionary College in 1936. She worked, however, during the seven years spent there, serving as typeroom foreman at the College Press. She then went to Southwestern Junior College as a member of the industrial faculty, being supervisor of printing for two years. New England then beckoned, and she joined the staff of the Sanitarium as payroll clerk and director of the Health Extension Service. She said she was not the credit manager, but just did the work connected with that office, but for the last year of her stay there, she was officially termed "the accountant." In the midst of her busy activities, however, she has devoted some time to tennis. Welcome to the clan of Keepers, Verna!

Miss Geneva Bryan will serve as the Medical and Educational secretary for the Negro Department. Miss Bryan taught at Harlem Academy six years while Miss Kleuser was Educational Secretary of Greater New York. She added nursing to her education and was later connected with the Tuberculosis Association in the District as public health nurse. She was superintendent of nurses at the Meharry Medical College two years. Before accepting a call to the General Conference, she had been connected with the Board of Health in the city of New Orleans.

- - N E W S - -

Helen doesn't work here any more, and how we miss her cheery presence. From observations made and remarks overheard, we gather that everyone enjoyed the treasure hunt conducted in her honor on the morning of September 15. From garret to cellar she wandered, but always managed to end up in the right spot, finding a little bit of treasure after reaching her destination. We miss you, Helen, but since wives must follow where their husbands lead, we wish you well.

Mary Jane "has had a real vacation" since she left us ten days ago. She wished "it would not end". She went sight-seeing Boston and vicinity, and certainly has a lot of interesting things to say about this section which is so full of history.

It was Labor Day and most of us were vacationing, but not Bethel Rice. She was working fast and furiously getting everything in shape to leave for a vacation. With what anticipation she was planning a trip to Detroit, and on the way she was to be a bridesmaid for a friend in Ohio. But alas! an angry appendix changed her plans and she went to the hospital instead. But Bethel's a plucky gal, you know. She recuperated quickly, and left the Park for Detroit the 28th. We hope she is having a grand, though belated, vacation.

About three weeks ago, Mrs. Mary Scott met with a serious accident, falling down her outside stairs and receiving a compound fracture of the wrist. She would not allow a young man, who came running across the street, to help her up, telling him she had had a course in First Aid, and that she should not be moved until the doctor arrived. Because of her absence from the office, Brother Altman has had to call in help from other sources. The first to come to his aid was Effie A. James, who was enroute to Cuba, to join the Inter-American Division office. After her departure, Mrs. Rubye Ramsey was called in, and is at present ably assisting in the work.

MORE NEWS--

On Sunday evening, September 20, at five, the Keepers all met in the chapel with an air of expectancy. They were not disappointed, for Mrs. Charles Larsen, returned missionary from HongKong, told a thrilling tale of her experience in an emergency hospital on the island just before it was taken by the enemy. The other nurses and nurse aides looked to her for guidance and comfort as the bombs fell, and as enemy soldiers came in to molest them. When HongKong fell, on Christmas day, the patients and nurses from this hospital were transferred to the Queen Mary Hospital. Mrs. Larsen then went into the concentration camp to take care of her husband, who had fallen ill. At the conclusion of her story, opportunity was given for questions, and a number were asked. Many visitors came in from outside the office, and the chapel was packed with women and girls. We all listened with intense interest for an hour and a half to this stirring recital.

T. Rose reports a delightful week-end with her cousins at (or near) Philadelphia recently.

Who wants to miss a Radio party with an invitation to "Reduce while you stuff?" Three "stuffing" parties were well and willingly attended during September.

IN AUTUMN

Is it too much to ask of us, that we
Should imitate the grandeur of a tree?

And when our year is dying, lift on high
Some flaming torch of Faith against the sky?

--Ethel Standish Woods

MORE FUN!

What more could you ask from a picnic spot than that it provide space for tennis, baseball, volley ball, badminton and croquet, and that it have a nifty stone and wood panelled recreation hall, huge stone fireplaces, piano and even juke box, which glowed brightly and occasionally gave forth with "The Old Oaken Bucket." Add to that good food, good spirits, good fellowship, and we say it adds up to amighty nice picnic, which is exactly what the Keepers and their guests had on Tuesday evening, September 29. We can't say that the Keepers' batting average compares with Joe DiMaggio's, but there was nothing wrong with their appetites, for we noticed the baseball broke up the moment they thought they heard "Come and get it." (Social Committee, please copy: "Wouldn't Rock Creek Recreation Center be a wonderful place for another party soon?")

The Keepers took advantage of the occasion to make a little farewell gift to Mildred Butts, who has been a Home Studier for the last five years. We wish to Millie and her soldier husband the very best of luck.

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