

The Key Note



Volume VI
Number One

GENERAL CONFERENCE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
TAKOMA PARK, WASHINGTON 12, D.C.

BETWEEN
US



STENOGRAPHERS

TO THE KEEPERS OF THE KEYS:



To the outsider, this group name has the sound of ancient times. If it includes largely the stenographic art, then it does stand for an ancient gift for service. In fact, when the archaeologist's spade digs up a tablet used in Babylonian schools of Abraham's time, with the multiplication table running up to 18x18, I begin to wonder if those scribes of Egypt before the time of Moses may not have had among them some artists akin to us modern stenographers. One Egyptian scribe, comparing the secretarial work--nine and clean--with that of the industrial workman, wrote:

"I have seen the smith at his work,
At the mouth of his furnace;
His fingers were like crocodile skin."

But after all, I do not know of any work that is harder and more exacting than that of the office secretary in our day; or any work that contributes more to the quick pressing forward of this cause that we love. What could our General Conference office do without it?

In the stenographic tradition we can count a number of the pioneers: J. M. Loughborough, who kept his diary in shorthand; J. H. Waggoner, who was editor of a Wisconsin newspaper when this message found him in 1851; Uriah Smith, long-time editor of the Review and Herald, whose columns now and then printed somebody's sermon, "reported by U. Smith." But the office secretary's art has made long strides since those times--and since my own stenographic days. What inky fingers we had when all our writing out of notes was by pen and purple copying ink--no fountain pen, no typewriter, no carbon copies, no mimeograph. The first typewriter in this cause, I think, was the little all-capital-letter machine, with small keyboard, that M. B. Duffie brought into our sanitarium work at Battle Creek, about 1883. Since then office equipment and speed and accuracy and efficiency have increased wonderfully. As one of the earlier stenographic helpers in this cause, I salute the ~~new~~ Keepers of the Keys of 1943.

--W. A. Spicer.




"At Christmas play, and make good cheer,
For Christmas comes but once a year."

And "good cheer" was the keynote of the Keepers' party Monday evening, December 14, in the Review chapel. In addition to the Keepers, a number of guests were present, making 120 of us in all.



Much work had been done by the various committees, with the result that we oh'd and ah'd all evening.

Two Christmas trees, covered with silver snow, stood on either side of the platform, in front of which was a mysterious net screen. We soon learned that this was intended to give us the illusion of television, and with Mr. Cummins as our genial announcer, we were taken on a trip to Mexico, Russia, China, and Switzerland, to view their Christmas customs. These were presented in a most interesting manner, complete with authentic costumes, a Russian landlord, in the person of Cecil Higgins,



and the singing of Swiss Christmas songs in French by Edith Geymet and Madeleine Pasche (of the Swiss Embassy). Then we were told to look back of us, and there before our eyes was a pantomime enacting a scene from the home front--June struggling with the Christmas rush at Jelleff's to buy Charlie a tie. (She got one!) Fadeout showed tired June soaking her feet after a hard day. This scene was enlivened by appropriate "patter" from our announcer.



There were games, Christmas carols sung by our own Ladies' Quartet (and by us, too), and amusing readings by one of our guests, Miss Alice Smith.

And of course there were refreshments, Christmasy, delicious, and abundant. Three cheers for the Eats Committee!

What--no Santa Claus? Apparently he was unable to get enough fodder to bring his reindeer so far; but, though we missed the jolly old chap, we did enjoy receiving our presents and then swapping 'em!

--Marie Mooney.

WE JUST PICKED THIS UP

Signe Nelson has a new little nephew--his name is David Wesley Knoefler.



Have you noticed how happy Mrs. Yost is of late? The reason? Professor Yost just returned with his new degree-- Doctor Yost to us all now.

Katie Farney had another enjoyable Christmas with the Dennisons and their four children at Capitol Heights. Katie and Mrs. Dennison were schoolmates.

Edna Edeburn was happy to have her sister, Mrs. Ruth Bowen, of Vallejo, California, for the Christmas week. Ruth had been to see her husband at Camp Blanding, Florida.

Louise Surface enjoyed immensely her first contribution to the war work last Thursday and Friday when she was hostess at one of the USO clubs (Y. W. Branch) in the city.

Did you hear the A Cappella Choir singing out the Old and singing in the New Year last evening, when they broadcasted from the Capitol building over the coast-to-coast network?

A number of the Keepers helped to send Sara Jean Grant on her way rejoicing with a farewell party the night of December December 16, just prior to her departure for another job in Atlanta. We shall miss her sunny smile.

Elsie Minesinger has been improving the six-day furlough granted her husband, John, in learning to drive their car. John left Wednesday for Camp Meade, thence for parts unknown at this writing.

Stella Fleisher, Thelma Wellman, and Lillian Bragan attended the Philadelphia Symphony Orchestra, Eugene Ormandy conducting, with Serkin as piano soloist, last Tuesday evening in Constitution Hall.

HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS:

- Mary Scott's daughter, Doris, from Shenandoah Valley Academy (they spent Christmas with the folks in Baltimore).
- Myrtle Chrisman's daughter, Elizabeth, from Southern Junior College, who worked a couple of days for Mr. J. R. Ferren at the office.

CHRISTMAS PARTIES:

- At the Seminary, at noon Wednesday before Christmas, the Seminary and Home Study girls had a treasure hunt. Each girl had someone's name and sent her looking high and low following clues.
- At the R. A. Andersons, December 26, for the members of the Ministerial Association staff. Music and games, plus a delicious buffet supper.
- At the Bonds, on Christmas Eve. The eats were simply wonderful, and Santa was generous, too.
- At the Mary-T. Rose establishment, on Christmas Eve, for the Paul-Fisher-Curtis-Wakeham families in the Park.
- At the Greers, December 26, attended by Viola Walker. (It seems this was a New Year's party.)

THESE WENT ON TRIPS:

- Ingrid Beaulieu, with husband, to New England to visit relatives.
- Ethel Freeman, with husband, to Elmira, New York.
- Edna Helms, with husband, home to Allentown, Pennsylvania.
- Pauline Klady and two sisters, home to Galatin, Ohio.
- Alice La Bonte to New York to visit her friends the Petersons. Highlight of her trip was shaking hands with Lawrence Tibbett, who is reported to have said he didn't quite remember her, but was glad to see her again!
- Bankie Linbarger, with husband, to Greenville, Tennessee, to visit her parents.
- Bethel Rice, to Saginaw, Michigan, to visit relatives.
- Verna Slate, to Quantico, to visit Mrs. Yelvington, erstwhile proofreader at the Review and Herald.
- Matilda Wyatt, with husband, to their "farm" in Virginia.

TIME OUT, FOR A CHECK-UP!

During the cold winter months, and especially now at the time of the Christmas-aftermath colds, we begin to think more seriously of ways to keep our good health intact.

However, sometimes our health may not be as good as we think it is, and without that foundation to build upon, we find ourselves plagued by a series of vitality-sapping colds, encumbered by a tired, half-awake attitude toward life, and without enough energy to do anything about it. At a time like this one should visit a doctor and learn the cause of his trouble.

The General Conference officers recognize this fact, and they have made it possible for every one of us to have an annual physical examination at General Conference expense. This is not compulsory, but we should all avail ourselves of this opportunity, for good health gives us the equipment we need to do better work. Application blanks for health examination are available from the Treasury Department.

--Alice Fagerstrom, Health Sponsor.

INTRODUCING--

Ingrid Nelson-Beaulieu, latest addition to the Department of Education. It goes without saying, of course, that Ingrid is Swedish. And we weren't too much surprised to find out that her mother once won a prize--a trip to Stockholm--in a beauty contest in her native Sweden.

Ingrid has spent most of her life in Brooklyn, where she attended Greater New York Academy for two or three years. Her college education was acquired at Atlantic Union College, where she didn't stay long enough for a degree but did acquire her Frenchman husband, Johnny, currently much in demand by Uncle Sam.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR 1942

CLUB ACCOUNT:

Receipts:		
On hand 1-1-42	\$6.85	
One-half dues	17.13	
Miscellaneous	<u>3.95</u>	27.93
Disbursements:		
Badm. & croq. set	10.06	
Glass dishes	9.90	
Christmas party	4.29	
Miscellaneous	<u>2.03</u>	26.28
On hand 12-31-42		\$1.65

KEY NOTE ACCOUNT:

Receipts:		
On hand 1-1-42	\$18.77	
One-half dues	17.12	
Subscriptions	5.50	
Stencils sold	<u>.50</u>	41.89
Disbursements:		
Supplies	15.52	
Cash box	1.95	
Christmas party	<u>22.03</u>	39.50
On hand 12-31-42		\$2.39

GIFT FUND

Receipts:		
On hand 1-1-42	\$2.98	
Assessments	<u>20.55</u>	23.53
Disbursements		<u>10.77</u>
On hand 12-31-42		\$12.76

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General Conference Office, Takoma Park, Washington, D. C.

Editor:	Esther Benton	Typists:	Eena Borm
Associate:	Thelma Wellman		Matilda Wyatt
Artist:	Genevieve Melendy	Printers:	Bathel Rice
			Ingrid Beaulieu

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