

LOCAL UNIVERSALISTS MEET FOR CENTENNIAL

Great Church Leaders Here for District Reunion at First Church,
Which Reaches Climax Tomorrow—Go to Ideal Park This Afternoon

Ambrose R. Fenner, picturesque member of the Universalist church, a resident of New Berlin, Chenango county, and alert with the liveliness of 80 years of youth, was elected chairman of the Chenango Association of Universalists at the opening session this morning of the District reunion held at the First Universalist church, this city. It is celebrating the centennial of the association. The members of the denomination began getting together early and by noon visiting official leaders had arrived. The celebration reaches its climax with tomorrow's services, afternoon and night.

The Rev. John Van Schaick, Jr., D.D., of Washington, World War commissioner for the Red Cross in Belgium, and with a military title of major won in the service, is here. Also the Rev. Helene Ulrich, assistant to the Rev. John Fort Newton, formerly of the Temple in London and now pastor of the Church of the Divine Paternity [Fourth Universalist], New York city. The Rev. Edson R. Miles, who holds the chair of homiletics at St. Lawrence university, Watertown [should be Canton], N.Y., was of the party, but unable to come here today, as he must preach a baccalaureate sermon tomorrow morning in an up-State city. The Rev. Mr. Miles was for years pastor at the local church. He gets here tomorrow morning.

The Association organized for the session at about 11 o'clock, being called together by the Rev. Charles E. Petty, D.D., who explained the reason for the gathering and urged upon it the necessity for more intensified church effort in these parts. Mr. Petty and Miss Ulrich were named a committee on resolutions.

The enrollment up to noon in addition to the visiting official party included Mrs. Eliza A. Paige, Miss Hattie Robbins of Whitney Point, Mr. and Mrs. Chauncey L. Hill, and Mrs. S. M. Dent of Greene.

Dinner was served to ministers and delegates by the women of the church in the dining room in the basement. Devotionals were held at 1 o'clock by the Rev. Mr. Petty, and this program was followed: minutes of last meeting, history of the association, survey of the district, program for the future and the reports of committees. The most prominent improvement in sight is the building of a larger, institutional church on the site of the present edifice of the First church at Exchange street and Congdon Place. It will be erected some time next summer.

The latter part of the afternoon will be devoted to picnic and field day in Ideal Park. The delegates and the members of the Sunday school make the trip by automobile and trolley cars.

Following is the detailed program for tomorrow:

10:00—Church school

10:30—Centennial service. Sermon by Rev. John Van Schaick, Jr., D.D., of Washington, D.C. Holy communion in charge of Rev. Charles E. Petty, pastor of the Binghamton church.

Sunday afternoon, 2:00—Service of song. L. Raymond Smith, leader.

2:15—Rally service. Speakers, Rev. Helene Ulrich, of New York City, state president, Y.P.C.U.

Binghamton Press, Binghamton NY, Sat. 24 Jun 1922