

[Mount Vernon, Westchester Co. NY]

THE FORTY-SEVENTH ANNIVERSARY  
Universalist Society  
WAS CELEBRATED AT CHURCH LAST WEDNESDAY  
A Banquet Was Served and Was Followed by Many Toasts Which Covered  
Practically the Entire History of the Society—Brief Sketch of Toasts

The 47th anniversary of the First Universalist Society of this city was an event of great significance to the church, and of interest to the entire city. It was celebrated at the church on Wednesday evening, and while it was the date of the incorporation that was recognized in the anniversary, the organization is in reality about fifty years old.

The seats of the auditorium had been removed, three large tables were arranged for the supper that was given by the ladies of the church in honor of the event.

At eight o'clock, Mr. Penoyer introduced Mr. W. Eugene Kinzie, B. S. Heidelberg University, as toastmaster of the evening. Mr. Kinzie called on Dr. Strong who made the invocation.

After a season of feasting and satisfying the inner man, the toastmaster in a happy vein called upon the moderator of the church, Mr. James A. Blanchard, who spoke in "The Local Parish and the Conventions."

It being Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the Lenten season, it was appropriate that Mr. W. B. Lascelle in making a few remarks on "The Church as It Is," should read General Superintendent Atwood's "Lenten Pastoral."

Mr. Maitland B. Sloat followed with a few remarks on "The Sunday School," concluding with a poem on Abraham Lincoln.

Mrs. J. W. Redway spoke ably and feelingly on the "Makrina<sup>1</sup> Society and Other Workers."

Miss Charlotte B. Daily, president of the Sunshine Circle of Kings Daughters represented that department of church work, while Mrs. W. A. Trowbridge spoke for the Dramatic Club, and Miss Bertha Cottrell for the Sunshine Gleaners.

Miss Alice R. Fogg, in response to a toast "Our Soprano" sung [sic] a selection that gave much pleasure. Mr. Sloat accompanied on the piano.

Mr. Charles F. Reiger responded to the toast "Our Soldier Sexton" and referred to the incident of drafting men into the army from the steps of the First Universalist Church.

Mr. John W. Cornell, one of the original four who, fifty years ago in New York planned the co-operative settlement of Mount Vernon, and who was one of the original members of the Homestead Association was present and spoke briefly of that period.

Mr. Cornell, Mr. Cornelius A. Cooper and Mr. Horace M. Gowen were the organizers of the Universalist church. Mr. Cooper was the first superintendent of the Sunday school. Mr. Cornell exhibited a copy of the original by-laws of the Homestead Association, also his ticket 591, on which he drew his lot and a badge of the "Pioneers of Mount Vernon" parade, held fifty years ago, when the city was almost only farm lands.

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<sup>1</sup> the Women's Auxiliary of the church

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Miss Emma C. Robinson, B. S., spoke on the "Public Schools and the church."

Mr. Charles E. Fogg, treasurer spoke on "The Business of the church," and Mr. Pennoyer then followed, and spoke on "Our Church as it has been," concluding the announcement that on next Sunday he would preach an anniversary sermon.

Rev. Dr. J. S. Dodge, of Stamford, Connecticut, the speaker of the evening dwelled on "The Place of a Universalist Society in a Community." And Dr. Augusta J. Chapin, former pastor of the church, on "Art and Religion."

Letters were read from former ministers, Rev. Frank S. Maseck, Rev. J. Russell Taber, M.D., Rev. J. Riley Johnson and a word on Rev. Dr. [Thomas Jefferson] Sawyer, by his son-in-law, Professor G. T. Knight, D. D.

Mrs. E. A. Flint spoke for "the newer Members."

Mr. L. F. W. Wallace read letters from absent members: Mrs. Lillian Dearborn Thompson, of the King's Daughters Settlement of New York city, Mrs. Hannah M. Beach of Buffalo, Mrs. Alice K. Anderson and others. After a hymn, Dr. Chapin pronounced the benediction.

Those present included Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Flint, Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Morgan, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Sharp, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence E. Holmes, Miss Mildred Holmes, Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Nichols, Mr. A. B. Cooper, Mr. and Mrs. George W. reeves, Mr. and Mrs. F. T. Martin, Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Belcher, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Blanchard, Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Fogg, Miss J. R. Walker, Mr. and Mrs. L. F. W. Wallace, Mrs. Mary H. King, Mrs. Sarah Northrup, Mr. and Mrs. D. E. Wheeler, Jr., Mrs. Ann Tisdale, Mrs. E. Levinis, Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Clark, Mr. and Mrs. Harry J. Robinson, Miss Gertrude Ostrander, Dr. and Mrs. M. W. Van Denburg, Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Lascelle, Mr. and Mrs. G. S. W. Carpenter, Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Rankin, Sophia F. Carpenter, Mr. and Mrs. M. B. Sloat, Mrs. J. W. Redway, Miss Elizabeth Ebert, Miss J. W. Halsey, Miss Emma B. Rankins, Mrs. Mary Davis, Mrs. E. M. Foote, Mr. E. H. Cole, Mrs. S. A. Taylor, Mrs. L. A. Shultis, Mrs. W. A. Trowbridge, Douglass Trowbridge, Mrs. C. C. Croll, Mr. William H. Marsh, Mrs. George H. Dederer, Mrs. M. C. Vaugh, Miss Sutton, Mrs. George Bonts, Mr. and Mrs. Stublings, Hazel Flandreau, Mr. and Mrs. Dwight Wheeler, Miss E. Jennie Allen, Mrs. S. Grant, Mr. Edwin Allen, Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Brown, Mrs. R. Cheny and others.

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