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Chapter 9: Twin Rocks Conference August 4-10, 1925

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Twin Rocks Conference
August 4-10, 1925

Before the Conference of 1925, the key word was "BUILDINGS". In the March issue of "The Friendly Endeavor" Carrol Tamplin, later a pioneer missionary to Bolivia, wrote a lead story about the need, "But the buildings, the buildings! Where are the buildings?... another year will be too late. Now is the time to Work...Think! Pray! Pay for your shares! Buy shares now! Let's get under the burden and work—prove ourselves faithful ~~to the~~ to the task at hand." The Christian Endeavor Union was growing, numbering around 700 at this time. The paper reported news items from various societies, which indicate lively and active C.E. Societies interested in that program and also in the church. The Executive Committee tried to plan ways and means to challenge the societies to work hard toward the goal of a permanent Conference facility. Several ideas were implemented in the spring of 1925.

In April an invitation was extended by the Portland Quarter C.E. Union to the other young people of Oregon Yearly Meeting to a "Grand Banquet and Rally at First Friends Church April 18th"...the purpose was to become better acquainted and "to plan for the LARGEST and BEST C.E. Summer Conference that has ever been held...come directly from your work, in your work clothes and aprons. Come in autos, by stage, by train, by trolley, by car, on bicycles, wagons, horseback, roller skates or on foot. Any way to get here. Come filled with energy, enthusiasm and determination to have a good time..." A special invitation went to Boise Valley and Tacoma Quarters.

The challenge was accepted by 200 young Friends who enjoyed games and fellowship followed by a good dinner. At each place was a place card with a picture of Twin Rocks and the date of Conference. There was a program of singing, stunts and speeches. Walter Lee showed the group the imperative need of permanent improvements on the property. Eleven shares were sold. Edward Mott spoke of his appreciation for the Conference idea and its benefits in the lives of young Friends. Elizabeth Ward gave a closing boost for Conference and "fired us with courage to count big on the coming gathering." This was the second spring rally to promote fellowship and to boost the Conference. The enthusiasm generated was reflected in "The Friendly Endeavor" as C.E. Unions reported their attendance.

Later in April Walter Lee wired Rosa Allen, C.E. Union president for Boise Valley Quarter, asking if it would be advisable for a carload of people from Oregon to come to that Quarterly Meeting for three C.E. Union rallies in the interest of the summer Conference and the sale of shares. Pastors and presidents of societies were contacted and all were in favor so an invitation was wired and plans begun. Rallies were held at Star, Melba and Greenleaf. Marjorie Brown of Springbrook, Oregon, had visited the Quarterly Meeting Rally in February with a glowing account of Conference so Idaho young Friends were prepared to hear more.

Walter Lee, Walter Cook, Chester and Grace Hadley made the trip in the Hadley Model T Ford in eighteen and a half hours driving time, stopping in Arlington, Oregon, overnight on the way. Rosa Allen reported on the rallies, "Chester Hadley gave the background of his burden for the young people and his wish for them to have something that would bring them together for fellowship and give them assistance in becoming established in the faith. Walter Cook, superintendant of Newberg Quarterly Meeting, told of the studying, eating and playing together. He listed the leaders and speakers for the coming Conference, many of whom were known by Idaho Friends. Grace Hadley told of the spiritual benefits of such a gathering and went on to describe the recreation. She told it in a way that made us all want to be a part of it, even the deep-sea fishing. Walter Lee told of the help many had received in the classes and evangelistic services. He outlined plans for the future, especially the building needs, and explained the share program. He suggested that the societies take shares. We feel the Lord had a part in sending these people to Idaho, and we want to thank Him and them...do not be surprised if there are six or seven car loads from Boise Valley to the next Conference." Actually, there were five carloads that made the trip in 1925.

There was some progress in building. A modest cook house was erected. In front of that a platform was built to serve as a floor for the dining hall. Over this was stretched a canvas top, thus completing an open-air dining room. Fifteen tent frames were built. Chester Hadley and Carl Miller did much of the building.

Some groups did their own cooking, in camping areas. Chehalem Center attenders camped by the old post office. It was their first time to come in a group. Around 125 ate together in the dining room under the familiar Club Plan. Nathan Swabb, manager of the dining hall, sounded a gong for meals, hammering on a big, rusty, discarded circular saw from an old mill. Emma Fogg, Dora Wright and Grace ~~HADLEY SERVED AS~~ Hadley served as cooks. There was much singing and joking at meals with friendly rivalry among the Societies. Reports indicate huge appetites and plentiful servings. The cost was \$10 for room and board.

A new feature which proved a great blessing was a chorus class under the direction of Bess Owens Runyon of North Pacific Evangelistic Institute, Portland, Oregon. About 75 joined her class and rehearsed daily. Their concert on Sunday afternoon drew the peak attendance of the week.

Leadership for classes was drawn from Yearly Meeting pastors, laymen and teachers at NPEI. Each was a specialist in his subject and there was a wide spectrum of interesting and challenging topics: Messianic Psalms, personal evangelism, prophecy, the Parables, missions, Bible biographies. Children's meetings were conducted by Clarice Morford of Piedmont. Inspirational addresses were given each day by Edward Morr. Calvin Choate brought the evening evangelistic messages. At his first service he used the Conference theme, "Let down your nets." Many people found personal experiences of the grace of

God at the altar services. The large tent was used again for plenary sessions.

John C. Brougher, student at University of Oregon Medical College, served as director of recreation. The afternoons were devoted to a variety of activities, most renowned was the deep-sea fishing trip. The crowd of those wanting to go was so large that three boatloads on the "Richard M" out of Garibaldi were needed. Launches went to Bay Ocean two afternoons. Some hiked on the beach or into the forest to pick huckleberries. Some played tennis or volleyball on the beach. On Saturday evening 314 gathered on the beach for weenies, buns, gingerbread and coffee. A huge campfire lighted the stunts in which nearly every society participated. All were reported mirth-producing.

There were two contests—for the Conference song and for publicity posters. Piedmont C.E. Society won the song contest and also were recognized as the youngest C.E. Union, with twenty-five members attending Conference. Sunnyside Union won the poster contest, taking all prizes with posters by Emil Pearson and Gerald Morrison.

In the promotion the names of respected Friends were signed to articles urging young Friends to attend. Helen Cammack, Edward Mott, Bell Badley, Rosa Allen and Walter Lee wrote glowingly of the benefits to be gained by attendance, especially in the spiritual lives of those wanting to grow in grace and the knowledge of Christ. The spring rally in Portland, the articles in "The Friendly Endeavor" and the trip to Idaho of four leaders produced the largest attendance ever. There were 382 registered by Sunday and so many came for the musical concert that there were over 400 on the grounds during the week. Many societies had most of their members present.

The momentum of enthusiasm and support carried the vision along. A committee composed of the Executive Committee of the Yearly Meeting C.E. Union with Edward Mott and Carl Miller added, recommended an official name: Oregon Yearly Meeting Friends Christian Endeavor Conference.. This step gave official status to the program. As the young people became more unified across the Yearly Meeting, they took an interest outside their own societies, sending greetings to the C.E. Union of California Yearly Meeting holding their own first Conference in 1925. The vision of bringing the young people together for fellowship and spiritual growth was becoming a reality at Twin Rocks. The vision did not change.

NEWBERG AREA FRIENDS CHURCHES
Cooperative Need Sheet
June 16, 1985

AVAILABLE:

House for rent: 2 bdrm, 1 bath. Garage. Garden spot. Large yard. No pets. Call Mike McBride, 538-8806 (eve.) or 538-8898 (days).

NEEDED:

Need to borrow Amy Grant's "Straight Ahead" album and sheet music. Also a book with Evie's "A Thousand Candles" for Camp Cherith. Linda Byrd, 538-7698.

Babysitter needed for June 28 Women's Prayer Breakfast at Tilikum, 8:15 to 9:45 a.m. Will pay. Call Beth Mader, 538-9152.

Needed: babysitting or odd jobs to earn money. Shannon Post, 538-1995.

Need white elephant gifts to use as prizes to reward adolescents for achievements. Examples: stuffed animals, knick-knacks, games, books, clothing, slightly used bottles of perfume/cologne. Call Debbie at Chehalem House, 538-4874.

Need: parttime childcare workers for overnight shift (includes light housekeeping), also relief childcare and parttime bookkeeper/secretary. Chehalem House, 538-4874.

I need to borrow a van for the weekend of Thursday, June 20 through Monday noon, June 24. My family will all be in town for my wedding! Sandra Conant, 538-6776.

Need to borrow 3 air mattresses and 3 duffle bags, June 26-July 2. Gilmores, 538-3514.

Need furniture on a one-year loan for furloughing missionaries Wayne and Bev Chapman. Have need for living room, dining room, kitchen table, and odds and ends. Also cleaners, movers, arrangers, etc. All needed about the 2nd or 3rd weeks in July. Call Marie Chapman if you can loan something or help.

FOR SALE:

1973 Buick Apollo. Runs well. \$650. Also, 1970 Starcraft 16' w/ outboard motor (80 hp), \$2350. Call Creceliuses, 538-0997.

Set of bunk beds, \$50. Also used RCA stereo and speakers, \$20. Dave Clark, 538-3558.