

WOMEN'S CONFERENCE, WITH 2000 TO ATTEND, HOLDS SESSION HERE

Delegates for Ninth Annual Meeting Arrive Today for Session in Chestnut Street Church

MANY NOTED SPEAKERS

More than 2000 ministers and appointed delegates from all the Baptist churches, associations and mission boards in the States...

MISSION MEETINGS

The first session is scheduled to commence at 2:30 p. m. today and will be related to the Woman's Foreign Mission Society...

WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

There is to be a short meeting of the Woman's Foreign Mission Society tomorrow morning prior to the opening of the general convention...

EDUCATIONAL WORK

The body will adjourn until the afternoon, when the Rev. Le Roy Stephens, of Leisburg, will report on the work done by the educational board during the year...

CLOSING DAY

The closing day of the convention is divided into morning and afternoon sessions. At the first gathering the Rev. J. H. Green, of Germantown, will speak on the subject of "Readjustment of Association Relations."

LUMBER MEN PLAN CAMPAIGN

Co-operative Selling Will Help Meet Competition in Europe

WASHINGTON, Oct. 15.—Formation of the first organization for co-operative selling in the American lumber industry...

HUNDRED NEW STONEMEN

Degree in Fellowship Conferred by Founder Last Night

RIGID LAWS URGED TO CURB GROWING NARCOTIC DRUG EVIL

Continued from Page One

EIGHTY-SIX CASES STUDIED

The findings of the committee fully corroborate the facts concerning the spread of the narcotic drug evil in Philadelphia...

AGES OF ADDICTS

The report backs up the charges contained in the EVENING LEDGER articles that heroin and cocaine parties are important factors in the spread of narcotic drug usage in Philadelphia...

COMMITTEE'S PURPOSE

When the committee was organized it set forth its purpose as follows:

The purpose of the committee is to make a study of the narcotic drug problem in this city and State...

What legislation by the State of Pennsylvania might assist the Federal authorities in their work of restricting the sale of narcotic drugs to legitimate uses...

A sum of money was privately collected, the services of an investigator was obtained and a careful study of the use of narcotic drugs in Philadelphia and Pennsylvania was made.

The committee consisted of Edward W. Bok, chairman; Samuel T. Bodine, chairman of the executive committee; C. H. Ludington, treasurer; Dr. John H. W. Rhein, secretary; Pierce Archer, Jr., Charles W. Edmunds, H. La Harre Jayne, Howard M. Long, Otto T. Mallery, Dr. Francis R. Eckard, J. Rodman Paul, Dr. Horatio C. Wood, Jr.

The report, in part, follows: "We have no reliable means of estimating the number of drug users in Pennsylvania. The number of institutions is hardly a reliable key to the number using the drug since many go for years without treatment..."

USE IN BETTER CLASSES

"That the use of narcotics is widespread among the underworld admits of no question. How extensive is the habit among the better classes can only be a matter of conjecture. But this committee hold the

impression that the number of drug users is large.

"A group of eighty-six persons addicted to the use of one or more narcotic drugs was finally selected from which to obtain accurate information. Of this group sixty per cent were born in and have always lived in Philadelphia. Of this number fifty-eight were found to have formed the habit through association; that is not only by frequenting the company of dissolute tenderloin characters, but by association with fellow workmen and men met in pool-rooms and saloons. Users frequently stated that seeing others use the drug they were seized with the curiosity to experience the sensation.

Two persons attributed the formation of the habit to sickness following operations. Six claimed that the habit was inculcated through physicians' prescriptions in times of illness. One began the use hoping to ward off tuberculosis, which was common in his family and of which he had much fear.

"The users in this group attributed a large variety of ailments to the continued use of drugs. Decayed teeth, loss of appetite, indigestion, constipation often of several days' duration, loss of weight, impaired sight and hearing, weak heart, extreme nervousness, night sweats, tendency to tuberculosis, general health impaired, loss of will power, loss of self-respect—a tolerance of living conditions which otherwise would be intolerable. And if they are deprived of the drug for a brief period, they are possessed with one idea alone—how to get more of it.

"In this group of eighty-six, the largest percentage, sixty-four, contracted the habit between the ages of eighteen and thirty; in other words, they were in the grip of the habit during the very period of their lives when they most needed their strength and vitality.

"The loss of time from work caused by the drug habit varied from six months to two years in thirty-nine cases.

STORIES OF DRUG USERS

"A young man of twenty-four, living in Philadelphia, is a machinist and has worked steadily at his trade since he was about eighteen, turning his money over to his mother, a widow, with whom he lives. One evening two years ago some young fellows urged him to try the new sensation they had discovered. They described the delights of 'happy dust'—the thrill of exhilaration, how strong it made them; further, they assured him it could do him no harm. And so he began the use of heroin. It made him sick that first night, but he got a little at increasingly frequent intervals until at the end of two months he discovered he could not quit using it. He lost his job, has now not worked for a year, is irregular in his habits, eats only in the evenings, suffers from impaired digestion and constipation, and has lost thirty-five pounds in weight. Now he must have the drug before he can eat, he cannot go to sleep without it, and he cannot get up until he has some of it. He curses it, but cannot do without it. He has taken the reduction treatment three times, but he is still using sixteen to thirty grains daily.

DRUG TO STOP PAIN

"Another young fellow was raised in Sharon, Pa. He entered the United States army, and in October of the same year he

was thrown from his horse while on duty at Fort Sam Houston, Tex. He was taken to the army hospital and remained a patient until May of the following year. It was found that he was disabled for further army service and received an honorable discharge.

"On leaving the hospital he came East, the doctor giving him a quantity of medicine, small white pills, and told him to take the pills whenever he had any pain, but not to use more than three or four a day. He stopped in Pittsburgh, where he remained for some time. During his stay in that city the supply of medicine furnished him by the army doctor became exhausted and he suffered great pain, from which he seemed unable to get any relief. A young doctor rooming in the same house told him what the trouble was—that he had been using morphine. As he had some money at that time he continued the use of morphine. He has since learned the profession of trained nurse, and during the last six years has been employed at an institute for feeble-minded. During the last few years he has been growing constantly more miserable. Added to the physical torture has been the worry over the increased price of drugs since the enforcement of the Harrison act. Until recently he obtained his supply of drug by mail from a druggist in the vicinity of Dayton. He claims he recently paid 192 for one ounce of morphine, and that the same quantity could have been purchased, previous to the enforcement of the Federal law, for 14.

"A boy, eighteen years old, who has always lived in South Philadelphia, left school at fourteen and went to work in a textile mill. Within two months of the time he went to work he had formed the heroin habit. An old worker at the same mill, introduced him to its pleasures. The habit was soon formed and its practice maintained. His appetite was affected, his general health impaired; he was most irregular in his habits of sleep; became careless of his personal appearance, lifeless and dull, and finally lost his job in the mill. He has had employment since, but cannot keep it; partly because of the direct effect of the drug in making him careless and incompetent about his duties; partly because all sense of self-respect and responsibility have disappeared. His clothes are frayed and soiled, his shoes patched and broken, and he does not care. He is rough and ill-mannered and inconsiderate. All this his mother says is entirely unlike his former self. What he ought to produce is being lost to the community, when there is need for workers on every hand. The 118 a week or more which he should be earning is lost to him and the expense of his support, as well as that of the drug he is using, must be borne. He has taken reduction treatment from at least four doctors and is yet using all the drug he can get.

"Another young fellow came to the habit through dissipation. He went into the Ten-

Remedial Measures Asked by Drug Investigators

FIVE years' prison sentence and \$2000 fine, or both, recommended by Philadelphia narcotic drug committee for persons convicted of illicit sales in narcotic drugs.

Immediate construction of the Pennsylvania Institution for Inebriates, the site of which has already been selected and approved. Urged that this institution have provision for care and treatment of drug fiends.

Legislature of Pennsylvania urged to enact law which will make possible more strict control of the manufacture, sale and use of opium, coca leaves and their derivatives, and to cover those features of the misuses of drugs not covered by the Federal law.

Report of the committee corroborates facts disclosed in recent series of drug articles published by EVENING LEDGER.

derlin for diversion, and one of the alternatives was "top" smoking. The women he met taught him to use opium. That was fourteen years ago. Now he is thirty-one years of age. He has since learned to use morphine, heroin and cocaine. He married a dope fiend. As a boy he went to work in the office of a well-known lawyer, who would have educated him. Now he is a hopeless dope fiend, a pickpocket, a thief and every kind of crook. He has frequently been arrested and has served time in the House of Correction.

In dealing with the reduction treatment employed by unscrupulous physicians to "bleed" dope fiends, the report states: "Users say that frequently these doctors do not make any physician's examination whatever, but merely ask the user what quantity he wants the prescription written for. Frequently the doctor fills the prescription himself and keeps it. In this way it never passes into the hands of the users."

The report tells of the case of a woman drug addict who pays a peddler \$7.50 per dram for heroin. In this regard the report reads: "She says that all the users in the Tenderloin know where they can get a supply if they have the money, but that most of them, like herself, are afraid of being arrested, so they employ a carrier. The carrier is a person, usually an alcoholic, who is not a drug user. A drug user is never selected as a carrier because he

could be recognized by the vice squad and he could not be trusted with the stuff. As the carrier assumes the risk, he wants to be well paid. This woman says that the current charge is fifty cents per city block covered."

"DRUG PARTIES"

In reference to drug parties the report says: "By two or more persons pooling their funds, 250 or 300 grains of cocaine are sometimes bought. These users then repair to the room of one of the party and continue to use cocaine until the supply is exhausted. The same practice is common among heroin and morphine users."

The committee found it difficult to obtain definite facts in regard to the extent and the number of addicts in Pennsylvania. An attempt was made to get information on this point by sending letters to institutions through the State. These included State, private and county care hospitals for the insane forty-five in all. Fifty-six per cent replied. They reported 244 drug users treated since the enforcement of the Harrison act, as against thirty-three of the preceding year. Forty-seven different counties, located in twenty-eight different counties, were represented by the 244 persons treated at these institutions. Allegheny County Hospital for the Insane treated a large number of the drug users.

About one-half of the hospitals in Philadelphia answered the request for information in regard to the number of drug users treated by them. It was shown that the number of different patients reported as being residents of Philadelphia were as follows: Hospitals, 549; penal institutions, 141; Huntingdon Reformatory, 7; arrested for violation of the Harrison act, 312; in state institutions for the insane, 13; personal interviews, 10; other sources, 15; total, 1126; less duplicates, 100; net total, 1026. In explanation of the foregoing the report states:

"These figures are for the year following the enforcement of the Harrison act, with one exception, where the figures include the preceding year. They probably represent only a fraction of the actual number of addicts in Philadelphia. We have no way of knowing how many persons of means are being treated for this habit in sanatoriums, nor do we have any way of knowing the number of this class of people who continue to use drugs. Not all drug

users live in the Tenderloin or Franklin St. Every other section of this city is represented as well. That part of Philadelphia, west of Broad and north of Market street; South Philadelphia, east and west of Broad street; West Philadelphia, north and south of Market street; Kensington and Germantown are represented."

In dealing with treatment of drug addicts the report says:

"The only provision made by the State of Pennsylvania for the treatment of drug users is commitment, under the habit act to the State hospitals for the insane.

"These institutions are not prepared to take care of the drug user apart from insane patients, and it does not seem right to throw victims of the drug habit among the insane except in a few cases where the drug user is also insane. Under this act persons may be committed by the Court of Quarter Sessions, but as it is required to furnish a private bond and pay three months' board in advance at the rate of \$5 per week, not many indigent patients apply.

"In the various communities in this State drug users have also been cared for in existing hospitals, and in at least two instances have been cared for in the county almshouse. Although some good has doubtless been done by the hospitals in the various parts of the United States, many of these patients have returned to the habit after leaving the hospital.

"The Legislature of Pennsylvania by an act approved April 14, 1915, provided for the commitment of habitual users of narcotic drugs to the State institution for Inebriates, but this act is ineffectual until provision is made for the building of this institution.

Wilmington Councilman Arrested

WILMINGTON, Del., Oct. 15.—Joseph P. McDermott, member of Council from the Eleventh Ward has been arrested on charges of forgery and obtaining goods by false pretenses.

Ready Money

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