

SOUVENIR PROGRAM

21st ANNUAL

Elks State Oratorical Contest

**Improved, Benevolent, Protective Order
of Elks of the World**

1925



1946

Friday Evening, May 17, 1946, 8 o'clock

Maple St. Baptist Church

East 16 and Maple Streets

Des Moines, Iowa

**NATIONAL SLOGAN: "God please let us so live that
not our own, but other lives may richer be."**

Sponsored By

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of Iowa

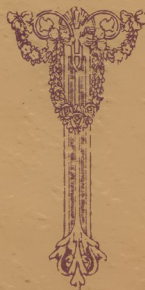


Foreword



The Improved, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks Of the World, in inaugurating these oratorical contests, National in their scope; are hopeful that in this way a force will be put in motion that will result in directing the minds of all Americans to the injustice of race discrimination, and will aid in the correcting of these great Evils.

This is why all 10 of the subjects the Contestants have to choose from pertain to the Constitution of America. The Elks have helped thousands of young Negroes to attain a college education. Our order in the name of humanity, URGES every public spirited person to aid us in this effort. And especially invites and request the principals, teachers, Sunday school teachers and pastors to stress the need of and enunciate the desire for a college education in the minds of each and every young person, and encourage them to complete their College Education.





PATRONS



Cedar Valley Lodge
No. 426

Waterloo, Iowa

Alonzo Potter
Scott Mardis
Robert E. Burt, Jr.
Luther Shields
Thomas Cole
Robert Robertson
Jessie L. Cosby
James M. Derden
Jess Walker
Russell Newman

William Jackson
Wesley Huel
Leroy Wright
Charles Curry
Samuel Smith
Willy Russell
John O. Parham
Ray Shepherd
Eddie Simmons

Earl McDowell
Arthur Carter
Andy Burke
Fredrick Carter
Clyde Lewis
Locke Anderson
Norman Sims
Thelmore F. Ross
William Powell

Melrose Temple 277

Waterloo, Iowa

Iona Alonzo
District Deputy
Julia Dela Rose
Helen Shields
Lovella Buke
Eloise White
Hela Mae Baker

Ona Anderson
Lillian Olliver
Ida Fitcher
Ann Robbison
Selma Davis
Lily Benson
Mary Anderson
Carrie Bates
Hannah Dunn

Melrose Temple 277

Dorothy Weens
Arlief Robbison
Nina Monroe
Georgie Moore
Mable Curry
Viola Kinnard
Elyada Lewis
Ann Powell
Rosie Pickens

Dorothy Sheppard
Magnolia Skyes
Irene Powell
Dorothy Monroe
Florida Washington
Minnie Powell
Marcilla Burkett
Arlena Turner
Julia Brown

Marguentia Williams
Florence Pearson
Mary Sims
Elmer Anderson
Estella Gaundy
Beretta Johnson
Lovenia Johnson
Erma Board
Edythe Gordon
Chm. Sducation Dept.

Hawkeye Lodge
No. 160

Des Moines, Iowa

J. G. Browne
John Williams
A. J. Claybrooks
Issac Bradley
T. L. Howard
Geo. Brown
Buster L. Randall
Isaac Lewis

W. H. Taylor
Manuel Caldron
Everett Wolfskill
Essec Holt
L. Fowlerr, Sr.
L. Fowler, Jr.
Jim Taylor
Homner Bell
James Brown

Hawkeye Lodge

Leon Williams
Norman Blagburn
Norman Walker
Paris Skanes
Willie Vaughn
J. A. Claybrooks

R. D. Claybrooks
B. Buckner
Udella Davis
Less Everhart
Harry Miller

Rose Temple No. 33

Des Moines, Iowa

Beatrice Wallace
Gertrude North
Victoria Hendricks
President of Milwest

Geraldine Stewart
Georgia Calloway
Cleo Murray
Beulah Dixon
Henrietta Hardiman
Nellie Poindexter

Claudine Redmon
B. J. Roach
Oneda Stone
Bessie Brown
De Armour Terrell
Nadine Taylor
Electra Vaughn
Caldonia Williams

Laura Curry
Helen Allen
Sadie McPike
Maxine Harvey
Hattie Witt
Bessie Payne
Ella Gibbons
Zelma Williams

Sylvia Williams
Berenice Carter
Flossie Gates
Wilma Hunt
Margaret Jaco
Olivia Hayes
Lee Ella Porter
Elisabeth Caldwell
Viola Taylor

PROGRAM

Song America.....Led by Rose Temple 33 Chorus

Prayer byRev. G. H. Kindricks

Program Continued on Next Page

"WE ARE BLACK BUT WE ARE MEN"

Charles R. Dinkins

What's the boasted creed of color?
'Tis no standard for a race;
Justice' Mansion has no cellar,
All must fill an even place.
We must share the rights of others,
Dwelling here as kin with kin;
We are black, but we are brothers;
We are black, but we are men.

Heaven smiles on all the dwellers
Of creation's varied breeds;
Virtue beameth not in colors,
But in kind and noble deeds.
Though in humble contemplation,
Driven here from den to den;
We're a part of this great nation;
We are black, but we are men.

South, the land we love so dearly,
Wilt thou plunge us in despair?
Wilt thou hate a brother merely
For the texture of his hair?
Boast yourselves as our superiors,
We allow your claim, but then,
We are black, but not inferiors;
We are black, but we are men.

When our God His image gave thee,
We received a mortal's due;
And when Jesus died to save thee,
Died to save the Negro too.
Stabbed by death, by sorrows driven,
Through one gate we enter when
Passing into hell or heaven;
We are black, but we are men.

Hundreds crowding every college,
What will ye to them impute?
Climbing up the tree of knowledge,
Reaching for the golden fruit.
To this creed the world converting.
There's no virtue in the skin;
Daily proving, still asserting,
We are black, but we are men.

Yet in spite of Death the Raider,
And in spite of hellish strife;
We must rise from this low nadir
To the zenith of this life.
Rising though they mob and seize us,
Hound and chase o'er moor and fen;
Riding by Thy grace, O Jesus!
We are black, but we are men.

Heaven hath your deed recorded,
Vengeance is Jehovah's own!
And though late, you'll be rewarded,
You must reap what you have sown!
Trusting, Father, to Thy goodness,
We shall in the conflict win;
Yet, forgive our brethren's rudness;
Let us live like loving men.

"Poetry By American Negroes," White and Jackson, Trinity College Press, Durham, N. C., 1924.

15 COPIES like this postpaid anywhere in U. S. for 10 cents. . . Address

ROBT. E. PATTEN



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CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA



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LILLIAN WATKINS . . . Secretary

EMMA TURNER

Education Chairman

Cedar Rapids, Iowa

FIDELITY LODGE NO. 1058

CECIL REED . . . Exalted Ruler

CLARENCE HULET . . . Secretary

GEORGE TURNER . . . Education
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Cedar Rapids, Iowa

(Thought Evoking Poser by R. E. P.)

CO-OPERATION is the only thing that will prevent CHAOS in our country within the next few years. And the test years are 1946 to 1956. DON'T let anyone frighten you by calling CO-OPERATION Communism. You owe it to yourself to get the facts by diligent study. ALSO you should join, assist, or encourage support in some way, every co-operative club, organization or business in order to STEM the TIDE of fascism.

OVER 40 years an ardent, consistent advocate of those natural principles which, if put into action by at least ten per cent of the people will abolish poverty, wipe out unemployment, remove the cause of and reduce crime and create a condition of peace for all.

Two piano selections, by.....Mrs. Thelma Miller

1. The Scarf Dance.
2. Merry Widow Waltz.

Program Continued on Next Page

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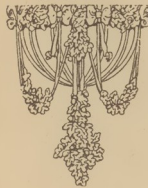


WELCOME one and all to see our new home which we think is the best in the Middle West. Hospitality is our main feature. We welcome all Bills and Daughters, our home is yours.

WE HAVE the smallest membership in the state. But we consider our lodge second to none.

WELCOME one and all to our grand opening, when we entertain the past EXALTED RULERS COUNCIL MAY 26, 1946.

Exalted Ruler . . . Marshall Wells



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Congratulations

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(Thought Evoking Poser by R. E. P.)

THE IDEA of "Consumers Cooperation" may be traced back to the beginning of our Civilization. It is the essence of the "Golden Rule" as was taught by the lowly Nazarene. It was the vehicle that lifted

the "Rochdale Weavers" from economic slavery and want to prosperity and self-sufficiency. What the expressed spirit of cooperation has done for the "Rochdale Weavers" and others it will do for us here in the City of Des Moines.

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(Thought Evoking Poser by R. E. P.)

THE FARMERS, Miners and Weavers produce 90 per cent of the wealth. They are in want most of the time. Who TAKES the WEALTH?

WHY DO we permit one group of human beings to take annually ten thousands dollars worth of GOODS and SERVICES from the NATIONAL INCOME and another group, which is in need of the SAME identical THINGS, to take only one thousand dollars worth? WHY?

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IN THE NEW HYLAND LODGE REST

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Fort Dodge, Iowa

ANITA ANDERSON . . . Daughter Ruler

LILLIAN BROWN . . . Education Chairman



PROGRAM

Solo, "Because".....By Mr. Everett Mays

Opening Remarks.....State Director of Education

Program Continued on Next Page

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Daughter Ruler . . . Maude Moss
Secretary . . . Olivia Hayes



MRS. MAUDE MOSS



Compliments of
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Exalted Ruler . . . N. E. Tillman
Secretary . . . John Williams
PHONE 3-9701



N. E. TILLMAN

TO PREPARE our youth to think and plan for a better day is the hope of our group.

WE ASK for opportunities. Let us prepare for them . . . Let us also make opportunities. The Lodge and Temple join wholeheartedly in this endeavor.

PROGRAM

History of Elks Education.....Atty. Chas. P. Howard

Bass SoloMr. Colen Scales

Program Continued on Next Page

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Introduction of Contest Manager.

.....By State Director of Education

Introduction of Timekeeper.

Program Continued on Next Page

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PROGRAM

OrationContestant No. 1

Program Continued on Next Page

"It's Smart to Smarten Up"

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(Thought Evoking Poser by R. E. P.)

In HUNDREDS of ways I have publicized Co-operation for over 45 years as a definite scientific way to obliterate all human ills. But people still PERISH because they have NO VISION. As a result of the failure to co-operate we have had several poverty stricken depressions, and two WORLD WARS. We are now headed toward the worst of all depressions, and a Third WORLD WAR before the SECOND one is over. There is nothing to prevent it but the acceptance, understanding, application and continued practice of Co-operation.

The O.P.A. is a palliative; a dose of economic Alka Seltzer. It temporarily eases the pain of inflationary robbery, but it cures nothing.

STRIKES are ineffective foolish sociological efforts to CHANGE shameful economic wrongs.

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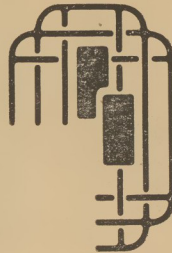
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PROGRAM

Oration Contestant No. 2

Program Continued on Next Page

GREETINGS

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(Thought Evoking Poser by R. E. P.)

Most of us have been crystalized in error and cannot change. But those in the "teens," "twenties" and "thirties" can change and build here a heaven on earth.

A new rational educational system is the first requisite. In this new system one would learn HOW TO LIVE and adjust oneself to life's CONSTANT CHANGES in a natural manner, through every avenue of human contact, in both work and play.

Those elected to serve their fellowmen should have a definite understanding of these basic things; otherwise they will promote error.

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VOTE FOR OLMSTED AT THE PRIMARY ON JUNE 3

This adv. inserted by Olmsted for Governor Committee

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PROGRAM

OrationContestant No. 3

Offering . . . Song . . . Rose Temple No. 33 Chorus

Program Continued on Next Page

(Thought Evoking Poser by R. E. P.)

IF WE FAIL to, refuse to make individual investigations into the realm of scientific facts and truth, then we are easily deceived, misled, befuddled. The TRUTH is the only thing that will FREE us from the bondage of superstition, tradition and silly preconceived notions. Each individual must make the trip for himself. Throw your mind wide open and start. If a man utters the TRUTH listen to him; but if his ACTS show that he lies, SHUN HIM! be on your way to realize TRUTH,—not to follow any ONE MAN.

You cannot get ready for scientific co-operation to bring about justice, peace and plenty by talking about it, for co-operation for the common good is 95 per cent ACTION and only 5 per cent TALK. Let's ACT! Right, sensible, scientific action will dispel unemployment and poverty within 18 MONTHS. Why not SWING into ACTION?

The surest, soundest, safest, most sensible investment in America today for you, your fellow man and country is "Co-operation for the Common Good." Wake up and adjust yourself to a new way of life.

Bell's Lunch

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ROBERT E. BURT, JR, Education Chairman



Introduction of Contestants and Judges.

Introduction of State Officers.

Program Continued on Next Page

WHEN IN WATERLOO, IOWA

RIDE A YELLOW CAB
LOWEST RATES IN IOWA

PHONE 3535

(Thought Evoking Poser by R. E. P.)

THE QUALITY of YOU is reflected in WHAT you VOTE for. We must have a new, fair, just social order. This cannot be instituted by men who have no social vision, and who feel that it is right that they receive thousands and millions of dollars while others receive nothing.

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MRS. CLARENCE BENJANUCE

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(Thought Evoking Poser by R. E. P.)

There is a psychological element in life known as, **COMMON SENSE, Compassion and SOCIAL VISION.** Only a few men, very few throughout all the ages have discovered it. Fewer still have been able to apply it. Unless the type of men and women you select and elect to manage your social institutions have at least a 25% ratio to 100 of this perfect element they are to those social institutions and hence to the social body, as ptomaine or toxic poison to your body.

Remember that the only true and logical help a man can give another man is his continual effort to bring into being a condition of society where every individual will have a sufficiency of the fundamental necessities—which are food, clothing and shelter. Even though you give 50 cents to this man and \$10.00 to that family, and a million dollars to several social organizations which exist to help other groups of men and women

Get to Know
Gildners
YOU CAN DEPEND ON A GILDNER STORE

Good Clothing for Men and Boys

214 E. 4th Street

WATERLOO, IOWA

Announcement of winner.

Benediction.....Rev. Geo. Parish, pastor of Maple
Street Baptist Church



MRS. GERTRUDE NORTH
State Treasurer
Local Director Education

(Thought Evoking Poser by R. E. P.)

We must discard as trash all things which keep us quarreling. We must wipe out PARTY lines, RACE lines, RELIGIOUS lines, CLASS lines and proceed with an economy of abundance. "PRODUCTION for USE and PLENTY for all" must be our aim.

There is nothing more important in life than FOOD, CLOTHING, shelter, rational education, healthful recreation. These are the five basic elements of life sustenance in which fraternity and freedom grow and endure. When a nation has grown intelligent enough to supply a sufficiency of those FIVE BASIC THINGS to all its inhabitants, there will be

no ISSUES to quarrel about, and no political campaigns with a dozen or more different POLITICAL PARTIES making issues out of "donut holes."

If we are unable to put into daily practice in all our relationships and contacts the GOLDEN RULE then all else we do amounts to nothing.

EXAMPLE IS
THE BEST ARGUMENT

By Benjamin Keech

Oh, have you in mind any plan
To help this old earth to be better?
Have you any method which can,
If properly worked, break each fetter
That binds down and crushes our brothers
And wrings forth a bitter lament?
Then treasure this precept with others:
Example's the best argument.

If you see a world full of sin
And long for a good way to stop it,
Suppose that you straightway begin
To hunt up your share, and then drop it.
If you have one wrong that you cherish,
If you are toward trickery bent,
Your power for good cannot flourish;—
Example's the best argument.

Say, brother, have you any way
To help make this foolish earth wiser?
Then tell it, but just let me say
You're apt to receive this reply, sir,
If you and your plan don't agree:
"Your preaching is not worth a cent."
Most everyone plainly can see
Example's the best argument.

'Tis awfully easy to give
Advice with regard to the storming
Of wrong; but 'tis trying to live
By the rules that we make for reforming.
Still, if you'd be really compelling,
Convincing each lady and "gent,"
Just illustrate what you are telling:
Example's the best argument.

Wake Up !

DURING the many years of my door-to-door selling of useful articles and free distribution of varied booklets, leaflets, circulars, etc., advocating a JUST SOCIAL order, my aim has been, and yet is, to contact with a few persons in each precinct who have some general idea of and desire for scientific cooperation; and through them set up the Adult Home School and Forum in each precinct.

IT IS A physical and financial impossibility for us to make a house-to-house canvas and accomplish the desired purpose without the initial cooperation of all those who SENSE the real need of co-operation. So send us your name and address on a postal card.

CO-OPERATION is not the TALKING ABOUT doing right things, but it is the act of DOING those things which ARE right. And you CANNOT do RIGHT things until you KNOW and Sense the A-B-C's of rightness. Therefore I advocate this new educational system to train ourselves to become adjusted to this JUST way of life.

After over 38 years of observation, experiments and tests I find that very, very few people have any conception of what constitutes RIGHT human relationships. In this little circular I am presenting the HARDEST TEST. Those who cannot adjust themselves to this A-B-C RIGHTNESS as recorded in this circular test, it makes no difference how much of Shakespeare or the Bible they may know or any other books in between, it is utterly IMPOSSIBLE for them to be FAIR with their fellowmen, or make any DEFINITE MOVE toward setting up a JUST social order based on EQUALITY, FRATERNITY and FREEDOM.

HERE WE have the basic principles of all philosophies of rightness. No lasting peace, no general permanent human happiness can be brought about without this A-B-C action.

POVERTY, CRIME, hatred, social error cannot be obliterated without this A-B-C action.

OF ALL the Christian acts you ever did or talked about doing none could

have meant or can mean as much to you and your fellowman as the substance of the contents of this circular if put into action. This substance is ages old. Analyze it; meditate on it; demonstrate it.

WANTED—ONE STORE in each precinct as a nucleus for a Co-operative Supply Center. Also two or more homes in each precinct as meeting places for Adult Home School Forums.

A Call For The Cooperative Minded

Wanted 5 or more OPEN, SCIENTIFIC, COOPERATIVE minded human beings in each precinct in every State in the United States to act as Forerunners in this the MOST UNUSUAL Sociological Experiment of ALL TIME. Be Pathfinder Leaders.

DEEP DOWN in my SOUL I feel that if we fail to get a Nation-wide Cooperative ACTION in full swing within a short period of time a peculiar, monstrous obsession of fear will come upon us; we will lose mental balance, and chaos will ensue.

THE PRESENT trend is toward an industrial breakdown, inflationary thievery and fascist rule. NOTHING,—not a single thing short of REAL Co-operation, can prevent general unemployment, bread lines, soup kitchens and poverty.

COMMIT this to MEMORY or paste it in your Bible or hat: There will be NO PERMANENT PEACE, nor any BASIS on which to build PEACE UNTIL at least TEN per cent of all our precincts thruout America actually ACT in unison to establish co-operative Friendly Fellowship.

ESTABLISH a Friendly Fellowship in your Precinct, and Cooperate with us in Publishing The "Precinct Informer."

FOR FULL details of PLAN of ACTION, Send two dimes to R. E. PATTEN, 823 14th Street, Des Moines 14, Iowa.

We Thank You

Orchids to these, for their efforts, In making the State
Oratorical Contest A success.

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District Deputy, Of the State of Iowa.
..... Mr. Scott Mardis of Waterloo, Iowa
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..... Mr. J. G. Browne
State Deputy of the Dt. Elks of Iowa
..... Mrs. Gertrude North
Chief Antler of the Past Exalted Ruler Council. State of
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Loyal Dt. Ruler of the Past Dt. Rulers Council Of the State
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