

P8029

PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
STATE CONVENTION  
OF  
THE LADIES OF THE MACCABEES OF THE  
WORLD FOR WEST VIRGINIA

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The State Convention for West Virginia convened in the Assembly Hall of the Waldo Hotel, Clarksburg, West Virginia, on May 10, 1907, and was called to order at 9 o'clock a. m. by State Commander Mrs. Helen T. Burt.

The Supreme Commander, Mrs. Lillian M. Hollister, was introduced, and gave the following report:

**REPORT OF SUPREME COMMANDER**

The Ladies of the Maccabees of the World is one of the greatest financial and economic factors in this country, with a membership of 152,953, and with 2,705 subordinate hives. We have paid into the homes of our members \$5,099,537.31, and are paying monthly about \$85,000, or about \$2,834 daily. We have in our Emergency Fund \$2,150,431.20.

The Order of The Ladies of the Maccabees of the World in West Virginia is 13 years old, the first hive having been organized in Mannington, Crescent Hive No. 1, organized June 21, 1894. The state now has 38 hives in good standing, with a membership of 1900, and protection in force \$986,250, \$33,986.70 having been paid in benefits to the beneficiaries of its members.

The report of our field workers and deputies show that they have organized 15 hives during the term with charter lists amounting to 441 members, and that they have added to organized hives 228 members, or a total of 669 members. The total number of members added during the term by field workers and members was 1,651.

The development of the Order in the old hives depends upon the officers and members of the hive as they are the constituted

NOTE.—These proceedings are prepared from the minutes as kept by the state record keeper, who is responsible for same. Omissions of names, etc., if any, are due to failure to receive the information.



agents of the hive. For this reason, the fraternal benefit system can be carried on at a nominal cost.

The officers and members in a subordinate hive should take pride in their administration, and by concerted action, they would become an irresistible power in building up the hive and in increasing the interest of the Order in the community. When an officer takes the oath of office, her duties have just commenced. She should give time to thinking out methods and plans for the development of her hive, and in order to be successful, should plan, not alone to keep the interest of the members, but for the growth, as growth is the only visible sign of a successful administration.

Anyone who permits herself to be installed into an official position in the hive simply for the honor, will not only lose all the honors if she fails in her administration, but will unfit herself for advancement in our Order or official position in any other order. The officer who makes a success and increases the membership in her hive will be advanced and also sought after by other societies as leader. As officers, please remember that ability and reputation are in the balance as against failure and future prospects.

The hives in the Order usually depend largely upon their officers. The members should see to it that only women who will best represent the interest of the Order are placed in these positions.

We would have made a greater showing of hives and membership during the term had it not been that so much rebuilding and assistance had to be given to old hives. It is opposed to the policy of the fraternal beneficiary system to give the time of deputies, and the funds of the Order that should be used for developing new work, to the hives already established. You can readily see that in so doing there is a draft upon the deputy force and the funds of the Order that should be used only for developing purposes. Hives can readily see the force of this principle. A hive of fifty members contributes to the general fund of the Order \$5.00 for the month. This would not pay for the meals of the deputy. If we had an unlimited fund, we could use it in this way, but we have not.

The general fund of the Order is for the purpose of conducting the official and clerical work of the Order, and for developing purposes. We are now giving the members an official magazine that is worth the full per capita tax paid by the members each month as compared with the other periodicals of the country.

I say this as it is not generally understood that the Order cannot keep deputies in old hives. This work of building and rebuilding belongs to the members themselves. The local hive could provide for a deputy and then the hive could make its own arrangements about remuneration.

I am proud of the work that has been done in our Order during the past three years, and let our slogan for 1910 be 200,000 members and 4,000 hives.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

(MRS.) LILLIAN M. HOLLISTER,  
Supreme Commander.



**REPORT OF THE SUPREME RECORD KEEPER**

Miss Bina M. West, Supreme Record Keeper, made an interesting report of the progress of the work in West Virginia. Miss West said in part:

It gives me especial pleasure to meet the delegates and members at this convention of our Order in West Virginia, and to be able to stand before you and tell you that you are here representing an Order which on the first of January numbered about 153,000 women, extending a protection to these women's homes and children of ninety-eight and one-half millions of dollars. We are organized now in 55 states, territories and provinces of the United States and Canada, having over twenty-seven hundred hives in good standing. In the term of three years which has just passed, we have by earnest work and the co-operation of all the parts of our great system made a net gain of more than sixteen thousand members. This enormous gain is a proof that the public wants and believes in stability and business principles, that it prefers "the best" to "the cheapest."

Our last Supreme Hive Review, as you know, adopted a table of rates which a scientific valuation of our own experience combined with that of other societies, showed to be perfectly adequate. We know that the amounts that are being paid in are providing a certain protection against future liabilities. We have already an emergency fund of two million one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, the increase during this term alone amounting to almost twice the amount of the whole fund at the beginning of the term. This amount is all invested in first-class securities,—you know our laws restrict investment to government and municipal bonds. These draw four per cent interest or more, and the interest on so large an investment is a large item in the increase of this fund. These bonds are kept in a safety deposit vault at the Commercial Bank in Port Huron, and closely guarded. The Supreme Finance Keeper and a member of the Board of Trustees are the only ones who have keys to the box containing these bonds, and one cannot visit it without the other, and without the presence of an employe of the bank. Every year the bonds are examined and counted by the Michigan insurance examiners, and they have expressed themselves as well satisfied with the character of the investments and the care and judgment shown by our Trustees in choosing them.

Here in West Virginia, where we have been organized for thirteen years, we have on January 1, 1907, 38 hives in good standing, and over nineteen hundred members. Beneficiaries of members in this state alone have received \$33,986.70.

The amount outstanding in certificates in this state alone is over nine hundred and eighty-six thousand dollars.

Already this Order, organized fifteen years ago without members, without funds, and without influence, has paid out in benefits five million and almost one hundred thousand dollars, and has built up its membership to the number I have already given, 153,000, a great achievement. It has the largest benefit membership of any fraternal order organized solely for women, and stands eighth among all the fraternal benefit orders.



The magnitude of our business can hardly be realized without a visit to the headquarters of the Order, where can be seen the amount of work necessary to carry on this financial business for one hundred and fifty thousand members.

At Port Huron, where the records are kept and most of the detail and financial work done, our mail sometimes has over a thousand letters, besides the papers and other second class mail, and during the busiest part of each month, as much as \$25,000 in assessments alone, is taken in on one day.

I am glad to see so many of our West Virginia hives represented at this state convention. It is a matter for congratulation, too, that in the term just past so many new hives have grown up and are entitled to representation. We have a splendid, growing membership in the state, we have a splendid basis for future growth, our plans are right, we have a reserve to protect our certificates. Careful study of our record, plans, and financial standing bears out these statements. In short, our Society stands equal to any, with no superior in the field of fraternal competition.

The Supreme Record Keeper called the roll and the following is the official roll call and correct mileage of representatives:

No.	NAME OF HIVE	Ben. Mem.	REPRESENTATIVE	Miles
1	Crescent .....	57	Amelia Thompson.....	51
2	Valley .....	127	Anna Bradley.....	71
6	Charleston.....	36	Mary Thompson.....	164
7	Dola .....	6	Nancy E. Stire.....	17
8	Progressive .....	58	Daisy Reeves.....	59
10	Corbin .....	10	Sarah E. Harter.....	13
11	Ellsworth.....	49	Ella Riddle.....	39
12	Salem .....	40	Ella Hall.....	14
14	Alma .....	15	Martha Underwood.....	68
16	Elkins .....	33	Elizabeth Daniels.....	82
17	Parkersburg .....	103	Ruth E. Langfitt.....	81
18	Philippi.....	39	Rachel Switzer.....	46
19	Wheeling.....	86	Jennie B. Furniss.....	99
20	Capitol City .....	36	Kittie Kesterson.....	164
22	Davis .....	30	Lottie Maddocks.....	124
23	Metz .....	26	Amy L. Martin.....	55
26	Fink .....	10	Lena E. Roettig.....	40
29	Wallace.....	18	Martha Dawson.....	22
30	Marion .....	69	Olive E. Harden.....	33
32	West Union.....	22	Gussie Britton.....	28
33	Tyler.....	8	Leola M. Duty.....	89
34	Clarksburg .....	43	Hellice Reed.....	.....
35	Wellsburg .....	37	Jennie Duval.....	127
36	Weston .....	55	Laura E. Van Horn.....	25
37	Queen City .....	37	Daisy Shreves.....	88
38	Burt .....	120	Margaret Marvin.....	99
43	New Martinsville.....	34	Achsaah Rigby.....	60
44	New Berkley.....	29	Mary Smurr.....	202

The following officers were appointed by the Supreme Commander, who gave them the oath of office:

Past Commander—Anna Bradley, Valley Hive No. 2.

Commander—Lottie Maddocks, Davis Hive No. 22.

Lieutenant Commander—Daisy Reeves, Progressive Hive No. 8.

Record Keeper—Kittie Kesterson, Capitol City Hive No. 20.

Finance Keeper—Amelia Thompson, Crescent Hive No. 1.

Chaplain—Ella Riddle, Ellsworth Hive No. 11.

Sergeant—Leola M. Duty, Tyler Hive No. 33.



Mistress-at-arms—Margaret Marvin, Burt Hive No. 38.  
 Sentinel—Mary Thompson, Charleston Hive No. 6.  
 Picket—Martha Underwood, Alma Hive No. 14.  
 The Supreme Commander appointed the following committees:

**COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS**

Margaret Marvin, Burt Hive No. 38.  
 Elizabeth Daniels, Elkins Hive No. 16.  
 Amy Martin, Metz Hive No. 23.

**COMMITTEE ON NEW BUSINESS**

Jennie Duval, Wellsburg Hive No. 35.  
 Ruth Langfitt, Parkersburg Hive No. 17.  
 Rachel Switzer, Philippi Hive No. 18.

**COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS**

Achsah Rigby, New Martinsville Hive No. 43.  
 Laura Van Horn, Weston Hive No. 36.  
 Daisy Shreves, Queen City Hive No. 37.

**COMMITTEE ON MILEAGE**

Jennie Furniss, Wheeling Hive No. 19.  
 Gussie Britton, West Union Hive No. 32.  
 Lena Roettig, Fink Hive No. 26.

**COMMITTEE ON COURTESIES**

Mary Smurr, New Berkley Hive No. 44.  
 Hellice Reed, Clarksburg Hive No. 34.  
 Lottie Maddocks, Davis Hive No. 22.

**COMMITTEE ON NECROLOGY**

Nancy Stíre, Dola Hive No. 7.

**COMMITTEE ON AWARDS**

Olive Harden, Marion Hive No. 30.  
 Ella Hall, Salem Hive No. 12.  
 Sarah Harter, Corbin Hive No. 10.

**TIME-KEEPER**

Hellice Reed, Clarksburg Hive No. 34.

**PIANISTS**

Mabel Gould, Clarksburg Hive No. 34.  
 Anna Hellum, Sterling Hive No. 9.

**CHAIRMEN OF LOCAL COMMITTEES**

General Committee—Helen T. Burt.  
 Reception Committee—Ella Fonner.  
 Committee on Decorations—Lulu Goodwin.  
 Committee on Arrangements—Margaret Standsfield.

**REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS**

The Committee on Credentials reported 28 representatives present with credentials in good form.

Committee:

MARGARET MARVIN, Chairman  
 ELIZABETH DANIELS,  
 AMY MARTIN.

On motion carried the report was accepted.



### ELECTION OF SUPREME HIVE REPRESENTATIVE AND ALTERNATE

Tellers for representative's and alternate's votes were appointed by the Supreme Commander, as follows: Hellice Reed, Gussie Britton and Lottie Maddocks.

Mrs. Helen T. Burt, state commander, was nominated for Supreme Representative, and, there being no other nominations, the nominations were closed and the State Record Keeper cast the unanimous ballot of the convention for Mrs. Burt, who was declared elected Supreme Representative.

Mrs. Emma Brooks, of Wheeling, and Lady Thompson, were nominated for Supreme Alternate, but Lady Thompson withdrew, and as there were no other nominations, on motion carried, the State Record Keeper cast the unanimous ballot for Mrs. Brooks, who was declared duly elected Supreme Alternate.

### REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES

Each representative then made a short report on the following subjects, showing the excellent condition of the West Virginia hives, and the growth which is taking place: membership, growth, attendance and interest in the hive; social activities and relief work; opposition, if any; and number of suspensions.

### REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS

The Committee on Resolutions presented the following report, which, on motion carried, was adopted:

WHEREAS, The city of Clarksburg has been offered to the L. O. T. M. O. T. W. of West Virginia, and

WHEREAS, Governor O. B. Danson and the mayor of Clarksburg, represented by Mr. L. C. Crile, the mayor of the city, who welcomed the Supreme Officers and representatives and friends in a very cordial manner with an address of welcome, and

WHEREAS, The Sir Knights and Ladies of Clarksburg have extended the freedom of the city to our Supreme Officers, Mrs. Lillian M. Hollister, Supreme Commander, and Miss Bina M. West, Supreme Record Keeper, and Lady Helen T. Burt, State Commander of West Virginia, and representatives and friends, be it

RESOLVED, That we extend our heartfelt thanks to the city of Clarksburg, the governor, the mayor, Mr. L. C. Crile, and the press, and be it further

RESOLVED, That we extend thanks to the State Commander of West Virginia, Lady Helen T. Burt, for her presence and interest in the state of West Virginia.

Committee:

ACHSAH M. RIGBY,  
LAURA E. VAN HORN,  
DAISY E. SHREVES.



On motion, carried, the convention adjourned until 12:45 o'clock in the afternoon.

KITTIE KESTERSON,  
State Record Keeper.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION

Following the formal opening exercises in the afternoon, the report of the Committee on Mileage was read, showing that \$117.60 had been paid out to delegates in accordance with section 163 of the laws of the Order.

Committee:

JENNIE FURNISS, Chairman.  
GUSSIE BRITTON,  
LENA ROETTIG.

On motion, carried, the report was adopted.

Prizes were then awarded as follows:

**For New Members:**

First prize—West Union Hive No. 32, 20 new members.

Second prize—Weston Hive No. 36, 17 new members.

Third prize—Burt Hive No. 38; Salem Hive No. 12, 14 new members each.

**For Largest Delegations Present:**

First prize—Marion Hive No. 30.

Second prize—Salem Hive No. 12.

Third prize—Valley Hive No. 2.

**For Drill Contest:**

First prize—Marion Hive No. 30.

Second prize—Valley Hive No. 2.

The Committee on Necrology reported that 45 deaths had occurred among the West Virginia membership since organization in the state, 31 of whom passed away during the last term. A memorial service to deceased members was held by the Supreme Commander.

The following deputies were then introduced to the convention and responded briefly: Mrs. Emma Brooks, Wheeling, and Myrtle Thompkins, of Morgantown.

The greatest appreciation was felt for the able work of all committees and all expressed themselves as delighted with the entertainment accorded the representatives and the success of the convention.

The Supreme Commander then requested the mistress-at-arms to close the altar and declared the West Virginia State Convention

of The Ladies of the Maccabees of the World for 1907 duly closed.

KITTIE KESTERSON,  
State Record Keeper.

SEAL

#### EVENING MEETING

The first of the many pleasant events was the splendid public meeting which was held Thursday night in conjunction with the Knights of the Maccabees. Over 500 people assembled in the court house and an interesting program was given.

The opening number was music by Wells' Orchestra and this was followed by Mayor L. C. Crile, who welcomed the guests to Clarksburg, Mr. Showalter, State Commander for the Knights of the Maccabees, responding. Addresses by Mrs. Hollister and Miss West were received with much pleasure.

Major-General Sletzer, and State Commander Helen T. Burt, also spoke before appreciative listeners.

The meeting was a success in every way and of great value in acquainting the people of Clarksburg and vicinity with the manifold advantages of our great Order. It also formed a fitting opening for the splendid sessions of the convention held the following day.

