



White Ribbon Bulletin

World's Woman's Christian Temperance Union

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*Fairmont Chateau Hotel – Ballroom,
Ottawa, Canada*





Sarah F. Ward

Dear Friend,

Last August, Margaret Ostenstad and I traveled to Reigate, England, to see a former home of Lady Henry Somerset, third World WCTU President. She was a close friend of Frances Willard's and often entertained her at Reigate Priory (see picture below). We are indebted to Ros Black, a local author, who took us to various sites in Surrey County which were associated with Somerset. Black has written a biography of Lady Henry and another book entitled *Duxhurst – Surrey's Lost Village*.

Duxhurst was the village Lady Henry created in 1894 to cure inebriated women. A Manor House already existed on the property so women of high social status were placed there as the customs of that time dictated. Another house, Hope Cottage, was acquired and used for middle class women who could pay a little. The working class women were housed in charming cottages built for them. There was always a need for financial assistance.

Activities suitable for the various classes of women were established to help the women avoid boredom as they gained sobriety. The working class women were taught employable skills they could use when returning home. Those who had no home to return to were helped to find a new location and suitable position.

Somerset's belief that alcoholic women could be cured was shown by the 73% success rate she claimed for women who remained at least a year. Kindness and compassion guided the women toward a better life and development of inner strength kept them free from alcohol and other drugs. The village no longer exists but its history tells a grand story of redemption.

Yours for a drug-free world,
Sarah



President's Message



Dear All,

We have every reason to be thankful as we enter 2016. I am reminded of the words of the great Statesman, Winston Churchill, who said in one of his most famous speeches, "Never give up! Never give up! Never give up!" Remember this when you hear people say, "Is there any hope for the world today?" We can only fail if we give up! Ignore the news coverages which bring unpleasant questions to mind. There is always HOPE as we are reminded in Matthew 1:23 " and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us").



Margaret Ostenstad

In the midst of all this uncertainty, there is a light, a hope, and a purpose. Retain the message that "God is with us." Know that we are never alone because He brings light, hope, and life to the world. What a wonderful gift to have a light that shines in the darkness.

Follow the light of hope to the 40th World WCTU Convention. Already so much has been done in the new year. You can read the preliminary program in this edition of the World WRB.

We have shown that "we care" and now we will build on that with solid academic justification for the importance of our work. We will do this at World Convention this year through our keynote speaker, Dr. Allan Handysides, from Canada. He will speak in depth on FASD and reinforce the dangers of any drinking during pregnancy. Thanks to all of you who each year have faithfully observed FAS Day on 09.09 at 09.09 a.m. to remind everyone that FASD is entirely preventable! We will also have excellent speakers on relevant topics including domestic violence, alcohol and its effects on youth/Students, leadership, and drug-endangered children.

Each day we will share a time of reflection hoping to inspire fresh ideas for projects. Department Directors will also give their reports and country presentations will show projects on which they have been working. An exciting time for all!

Canada's day will also be exciting. As Canada is a member of the Commonwealth of Nations, we will have the pleasure of seeing the changing of the guard on Saturday, 20th August, 2016. (see back cover). A rich WCTU history in Canada has left many beautiful banners which we will also see. To God be the glory!

You are IMPORTANT! Your presence will make a DIFFERENCE! The Registration form was in the last issue of the WRB or can be accessed on the World website, www.wwctu.org.

May our Lord cover you with prayers and blessings as you prepare to attend.

Margaret



Irja Eskelinen

HOPELESSNESS AND HOPE

Setting New Year's resolutions is a well-established tradition, but the vast majority of people who set such goals for themselves fail to adhere to them, ending up living as before. For many of us, even failed New Year's resolutions serve as a reminder of the importance of self-improvement. More often than not, however, we fail to learn the most important lesson of all - what we should do when we fail to adhere to a new and higher set of principles.

Two Biblical characters come to mind: Judas Iscariot and St. Peter. Judas betrayed Jesus for money whereas Peter denied knowing Him for fear of punishment. Although their actions differed, they shared the sin of not following the path of righteousness. They also shared the feeling of being utterly disappointed in themselves.

The most important difference between the two men, however, is that the fall of Judas was final whereas Peter returned to the faith. Like the one who chooses to simply abandon a New Year's resolution never to return to it, Judas did not re-join the group of disciples, but committed suicide instead. Peter, in contrast, did like the one who continues following a New Year's resolution even after failing to keep it. Peter returned to his fellow disciples and waited, not knowing what to expect.

Jesus did not keep Peter or the others waiting for long, but revealed Himself to them after His resurrection. Forgiven, Peter could renew his commitment to follow Jesus. Clearly, to be a servant of God, Peter did not need a record of never having failed in his calling. Neither do we.

Succumbing to despair and self-pity is often tempting: *I always fail at what I do, and going on is futile. Everyone is better off without me.* This is the voice of darkness.

Jesus Christ, however, opens the ears of his disciples to a different message: *I have created you; I love you, do not run away from me; Return to me again and again, tired and disappointed in your own ability; I am the God who has suffered for you, and I care deeply about you; Do not condemn yourself, but let my love make your heart rejoice!*

At the beginning of this year, we are welcome to bring out fears and worries to Jesus. May our tears flow, be they of regret, peace, sorrow, or gratitude!

My beloved sisters around the world, I wish you all a year of prayer and sisterhood. May our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ help us realize that He is with us even when we feel broken and disappointed in ourselves or others.

Irja



WCTU is an organization that is upheld by prayer. We are in a spiritual battle, and in our own strength we cannot make an impact on the problems caused by alcohol and other drugs in our communities. Noontide is the traditional time for prayer for WCTU but if that is not the best time for you to pray, make prayer for WCTU part of your daily devotional time whenever that may be. Cut out this page and put it with your Bible.



*Anne Bergen
1st Vice President*

Prayer suggestions:

- Did you cut out the monthly prayer schedule from the previous Bulletin? Don't forget to pray for these matters each day.
- As we start 2016, pray that the Lord will give us inspiration, wisdom, energy, and perseverance as we undertake new projects.
- Pray for work among young people. Ask that the Lord will raise up enthusiastic young women with talent in every country who can reach their generation with the total abstinence message.
- Pray for new, active younger members to take up the challenge to grow and expand our work.
- Pray for our WWCTU Officers and WCTU Canada as they continue to plan for the World Convention in August.
- Pray that many will attend the World Convention and that they will return to their countries motivated and equipped to continue our work.



*Heavenly Father, we thank and praise you for your great love and power. Motivate us with your love as we work for God and home and every land. We thank you that we can bring the needs of WCTU before you and that you hear and answer. In Jesus' name we pray.
Amen*

Anne



Desiree Lanigan

Desiree Lanigan, Organization Secretary

A new year has dawned - 2016. The headlines and news reports are full of tragedies, wars, rumors of wars, disease, displacement, and sad stories. It's enough to strike fear into one's heart. I would like to encourage you in this "New Year 2016" to trust in the Lord. Here are six reasons why you should trust Him.

He knows you by name (Is. 43:1); He thinks about you (Psalm 139:17); He will fight for you (Ex. 14:14); He is your refuge (Psalm 62:6-8); He has a plan for you (Jer. 29:11); He is always with you (Matt. 28:20). His word is full of many more reasons to trust Him. I pray these scriptures will be a reminder to you of our Lord's great love for you.

The WCTU headlines are good news reports! Our 40th World convention will be held this year in Ottawa, Canada! Plans and preparations are underway so mark your calendars now – August 18-24. Pray, plan, and participate! Another good news and happy story is about the Toronto District WCTU in Canada.

Over the Christmas holidays the TDWCTU hosted a wonderful party for children and a good time was had by all. The investment of time and energy into our children's work of the WCTU is an investment into the continuing of the WCTU. Today's children are our leaders of tomorrow.





Another good news headliner for the WCTU comes from the United States. One evening during their 2015 National WCTU Convention, about 100 attendees visited Statuary Hall in the U.S. Capital in Washington, D.C., to see the statue of Frances Willard. Statuary Hall is a chamber in the U.S. Capital devoted to sculptures of prominent Americans. Frances Willard was the only woman so honored for over 50 years. A brief program about the placing of the statue in 1905 was given by the National Officers. The audience participated by praying the Lord's Prayer and singing Amazing Grace.



The Willard House is temporarily closed!! Good news?? Yes. The Willard House in Evanston, IL, is temporarily closed to tours until spring. The largest ever restoration project on the Willard House is now underway and will include returning the parlor, Anna Gordon room, dining room, and main entrance to their original appearance as much as possible. It is an exciting time.

These WCTU news releases are good news. Each one of you local members of the WCTU have good news to share - the good news of the gospel of Jesus Christ and the good news of the WCTU temperance message. May you each be encouraged in 2016 to share it.

Blessings,
Desiree

PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME FOR THE 40TH WORLD CONVENTION

VENUE: Fairmont Chateau Laurier Hotel, Ottawa, Canada

THEME: "Preserving the Past, Reflecting the Present, Shaping the Future."

TIME: 18-24 AUGUST, 2016

Lunch 12:00; Registration 14:00; Official Board meeting 16.00 and rehearsal with flags

Each morning - Meditation music, Devotional thought for the day, Reading of the Minutes

08:15	Prayer and Praise
12:00-1400	Lunch (after noontide prayer)
17:30	Dinner
19:00	Evening program

**Thursday evening -
18 August**

Opening program,
Music: Susanne Curry (USA) - World Recording Secretary
Procession National Flags:
Announcer: Desiree Lanigan (CAN) World Organization Secretary

1st Vice President presiding - Anne Bergen (Australia)
Welcome: Jean Freeman, National WCTU President, Canada
National song "*O Canada*"
Response: Anne Bergen, National WCTU President, Australia,
Devotional thought: Reverend June Ballard (USA)
CRUSCADE PSALM 146:
2nd & 4th V.P. Dr. Dora de Barrientos (Gua) and Joy Butler (NZ)
Greetings by dignitaries
World President's speech, Margaret Ostenstad (Nor) "*Time is priceless*"

Song: "*Amazing Grace*" 3rd V.P. Young Joo Kim,(Korea) W.Treas. Dorothy
Russell (USA) and Margaret Ostenstad (Norway)
Reception provided by the Canada WCTU

**Friday morning -
19 August**

Roll Call, Minutes - By Law addition
PAST: Past World President, Sarah Ward "*Our Heritage*"
Play: "*Frances Willard's advice to the YTC*"
Break:
Keynote address
Dr. Allan Handysides "*FASD - When our choices impact others*"

Friday afternoon -

WORKSHOPS:
SPEAKER:
Heather-Dawn Small: "*Domestic Violence and Child Abuse - STOP IT NOW!*"
Break
SPEAKER: Dr. Peter Landless: "*Binge drinking - past, present and future*"

Friday evening -

World Choir practice
Country reports - **Europe**
REFLECTIONS:

- Sat. morning -** 08:30 **Worship Service:**
Sermon: Pastor Kevin Amos "It does not matter"
- 20 August** 09:15 Information before leaving for **Canada segment**
10:00 **Changing of the Guard/The Famous 5/Queen Elizabeth statue.**
- 11:20 **Department reports:**
Reena Kumar (India) - Education Department
Florence Einwichter (Can) - Home Protection Department
Hyun Sook Lee (Indo) - Social Service Department
- Sat. afternoon** **Workshop :**
Speaker: Dr. Kiti Freier-Randall: "*Drug-endangered children*"
Break
Fieldworker reports:
Joy Butler - Field Worker for Africa
Dr. Kyung-il Park - Field Worker for Asia -
Country report: Asia and Africa
- Sat. evening :** **Department report:**
World Children's Director: Glenda Amos (Australia))
Program and video from Canada WCTU
Get acquainted activities
REFLECTIONS
World Choir practice
- Sun. morning -** 8:15 Prayer and Praise
21 August 9:00 Minutes
Department report:
Irja Eskelinen - Christian Outreach
Workshop:
Speaker: Pastor Ragnar Engen (Norway) "*Treating addictions*"
break -
Devotion: June Ballard (USA) "*Serving Him*"
- Sun. afternoon -** **Church service** 2:30 p.m. First Baptist Church
Sermon: Pastor Gina Torres (Can) "Great is Thy Faithfulness"
- Memorial service
- World Choir (group)
- Sun. evening:** **Workshop:**
Speaker: Dr. Katia Reinert: "*Alcohol and Youth*"
Department report
Youth Director - Dr. Elsie Masaku (Zimbabwe) Program:
"The voice of youth reporting" with Hannah and Sarah Oh (Korea)
and Charlotte Lauritzen and Selma Joyce Olsen (Norway)

REFLECTIONS

**Mon. morn. -
22 August**

08:15 Prayer and Praise
09:00 Minutes
Election
Bylaws
Resolutions
Invitation to 41st WWCTU Convention in 2019
World WCTU Honor Awards
Break
Fieldwork reports:
Brita Nilssen (NOR) Fieldworker for Europe:
Dr. Jung Joo Kim (KOR) Fieldworker for Korean Missionaries

Mon. afternoon -

Workshop:
Joy Butler, World 4th V.P: "**Leadership**"
Break
Country Report: N and C. America
Fieldwork report:
Eugenia Coloma de Calderon - Field Worker for C & S America

Mon. eve.

REFLECTIONS
Talent program

**Tues. morn -
23 August**

Country reports: Oceania
Workshop:
Dr. Dora de Barrientos, 2nd. V.P. "**Poverty - Feeding the children
of the future**"
Fieldwork report:
Margaret Ostenstad and Glenda Amos - Pacific Islands
Break:
State of the Organization Address:
Desiree Lanigan (Can) - World Organization Secretary

Tues. afternoon

Canada WCTU's Day:
Museum "**Gather under the banners**"
Sightseeing trip of Ottawa

Tues . eve.

Installation of Officers and Directors
CONVENTION: Closing remarks before going to see the fireworks display.
"**Auld Lang Syne**"

World Officers & Department Directors



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