

## TO AID THE LOWLY.

**Third Minnesota State Conference of Charities and Corrections.**

**AN IMPRESSIVE ADDRESS**

**Delivered by the Venerable President, R. A. Mott, of Faribault.**

**ABLE PAPER BY S. R. THAYER**

**Many Distinguished People Are in Attendance as Delegates.**

The first session of the third state conference of the Minnesota Association of Charities and Corrections was held last evening at Unity church. While not all the delegates had arrived, there was a fairly large attendance. A band composed of boys from the Faribault school for the feeble-minded enlivened the opening with several patriotic pieces. As will be noticed in the list of delegates, many ladies are present, and they evince a deep interest in the proceedings.

Rev. Dr. Millard offered the opening prayer, and then Secretary Hart, of the state board of charities and corrections, offered a welcome on behalf of the state and Gov. Nelson, who, for obvious reasons, was unable to be present. Secretary Hart was happy in his remarks, and his talk proved a good opening of the sessions.

Speaking of the work of the local and state associations, he cited the testimony of a man noted in this line of work who recently visited St. Paul.

"That gentleman," said Mr. Hart, "after being shown what are called the slums, the very worst we have to show, remarked: 'Why, you have no slums in St. Paul like they have in the older countries and in other states. You have no such aggregations of misery as are seen elsewhere.'"

This condition, Mr. Hart asserted, is largely owing to the work and the influence of the association.

The annual address of President R. A. Mott was an exhaustive review of the causes that made the association a necessity, and also went over in detail the various phases of the work. He dwelt with especial vehemence on the necessity for more aggressive work to eradicate the sources of crime, poverty and desolation. In this connection he laid down

### **Some Forceful Ideas**

he would like to see carried into effect. Briefly these are: First—General and thorough information on the laws of life and the mysterious sanctity of heredity. Second—Radical reform of the laws of marriage, that shall protect the rights of future families. Third—Complete isolation of some of the defective classes with the object of studying and analyzing special cases. Fourth—Restriction of immigration. Fifth—In extreme cases, under conservative legal rules, surgical interference.

On these propositions the president talked pointedly and at some length. His earnest and lucid words demonstrated the fact that he has given the matter much thought and study. In closing the remarkable philanthropist grew really eloquent. His tribute to the pioneers of Minnesota and the pioneers in the humanitarian movement was charged with pathos and tenderness, and there were few who were not affected as he feelingly recited the last stanza of Burns' "John Anderson, My Jo, John."

Hon. Samuel R. Thayer, of Minneapolis, ex-minister at The Hague, read a scholarly and instructive paper on "The Charities of the Netherlands." He traced the growth of the charitable and penal institutions of Holland at length, and enlarged in detail on the features which have made notable the Dutch methods of dealing with poverty and crime. He drew the conclusion that the excellent results attained in Holland are due principally to the broad and comprehensive lines on which the charitable work and punitive proceedings are planned. The closing suggestion was that, perhaps, the American humanitarian movement would achieve greater and better results if its scope is broadened and provision made for a centralization of authority.

**The List of Delegates**

who registered last night is printed below. Most of them are officers of counties and of state institutions directly connected with the dispensation of public charity or the enforcement of restraining and punitive laws. There are, however, a number of "friendly visitors," unofficial delegates in the list:

St. Paul Delegates—Rev. Dr. R. R. Heffron, E. W. Peet, Nels J. Ness, J. H. Moritz, Capt. M. J. O'Connor, C. F. Pusch, Patrick Butter, Mrs. J. H. Murphy, Mrs. C. D. Smith, Capt. R. H. L. Jewett, Mrs. H. S. Fairchild, Hon. C. D. Kerr, Hon. John W. Willis, Miss Jennie E. Rankin, Mrs. Angus Macdonald, Ambrose Pierce, Rev. Dray, John Kerwin, John D. Lulden, Rev. W. B. Millard, Rev. David Morgan, Rev. W. C. Pope, J. Watson Smith, J. J. Todd, P. A. Abbott, Miss Mary Cramsie, A. P. Croonquist, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Haas, Miss Louise Emory, Mrs. G. W. Wylie, Mrs. A. A. White, W. L. Wilson,

Minneapolis Delegates—Mrs. C. H. Graham, Mrs. M. J. Thompson, Mrs. J. H. Pray, Mrs. McClrry, William Powell, Eugene Fay, Mrs. T. H. Egan, Miss Mary Egan and Miss A. T. Leonard, Mrs. Michaels, Mrs. Lehrmeier, George Brackett, W. G. Byron, Mrs. D. C. Donaldson, Mrs. W. H. Gerry, Dr. W. A. Jones, Judge Woods.

Delegates From State at Large—Frank Temple, Stillwater; F. Whitney, Anoka; C. E. McMillan, Luverne; Rev. Albert Warren, Lake Benton; ex-Gov. J. B. Wakefield, Blue Earth City; C. Amundson, St. Peter; A. F. Anderson, Red Wing; Supt. J. W. Brown, Red Wing; J. J. Dow, Faribault; Hon. John F. Norrish and John Hetherington, Hastings; George D. Holt, Hinckley; C. E. Holt, Duluth; W. Hoefling, Fergus Falls; Rev. Robert McCune, Worthington; J. A. Johnson, Nicollet; F. I. Johnson, Goodhue; N. J. Miller, Sandstone; John Murphy, Hastings; Warden Wolfer, Stillwater; J. R. Parshall and Dr. C. A. Rogers, Faribault;

J. Adrian Johnson, St. Peter; J. F. Oliva, A. F. Kjos and Andrew Larson, Goodhue county commissioners.

President R. A. Mott was accompanied by his wife and daughters Alice and Louisa.

**Today's Programme.**

The meetings scheduled for today will be held at the state capitol, and are as follows:

Prayer.

Business Meeting—Report of committee on nominations.

9:30 a. m.—Committee on insane and feeble-minded; chairman, George O. Welch, M. D., Fergus Falls. "State Provision for the Insane," by the chairman (fifteen minutes). "Future Provision for the Insane of Minnesota," Rev. S. G. Smith, D. D., St. Paul (fifteen minutes). "Creative Manual Employment a Necessity in the Curative Treatment of Insanity," H. A. Tomlinson, M. D., St. Peter (fifteen minutes). "The Future of the Feeble-Minded and the Epileptics," A. C. Rogers, M. D., Faribault.

11 a. m.—Committee on public care of the poor; chairman, H. M. Palun, Worthington. "The County Poor; How Shall They Be Cared For?" by the chairman. (Fifteen minutes.) "Public Provision for the Adult Blind," Superintendent J. J. Dow, Faribault. (Fifteen minutes.) "Duties of the Public to the Unemployed," by Hon. William H. Eustis, Minneapolis. (Fifteen minutes.) Discussion. (Section meeting on public care of the poor on Thursday at 2 p. m.)

2:30 p. m.—Appointment of committee on time and place, and committee on organization of the next conference.

8 p. m.—Session of the state board of corrections and charities, his excellency, Gov. Knute Nelson, president. Preliminary remarks, Gov. Nelson. "Relation of the State Board of Corrections and Charities to the People of the State," C. P. Macginnis, Duluth (fifteen minutes). "Relation of the State Board of Corrections and Charities to the State Legislature," Rev. S. G. Smith, D. D., St. Paul (fifteen minutes). "Relation of the State Board of Corrections and Charities to the State Institutions," J. B. Wakefield, Blue Earth City (fifteen minutes). "Relation of the State Board of Corrections and Charities to the Counties and Municipalities of the State," H. H. Hart, St. Paul (fifteen minutes).