

The **PALIMPSEST**



Founders of the T.T.T.

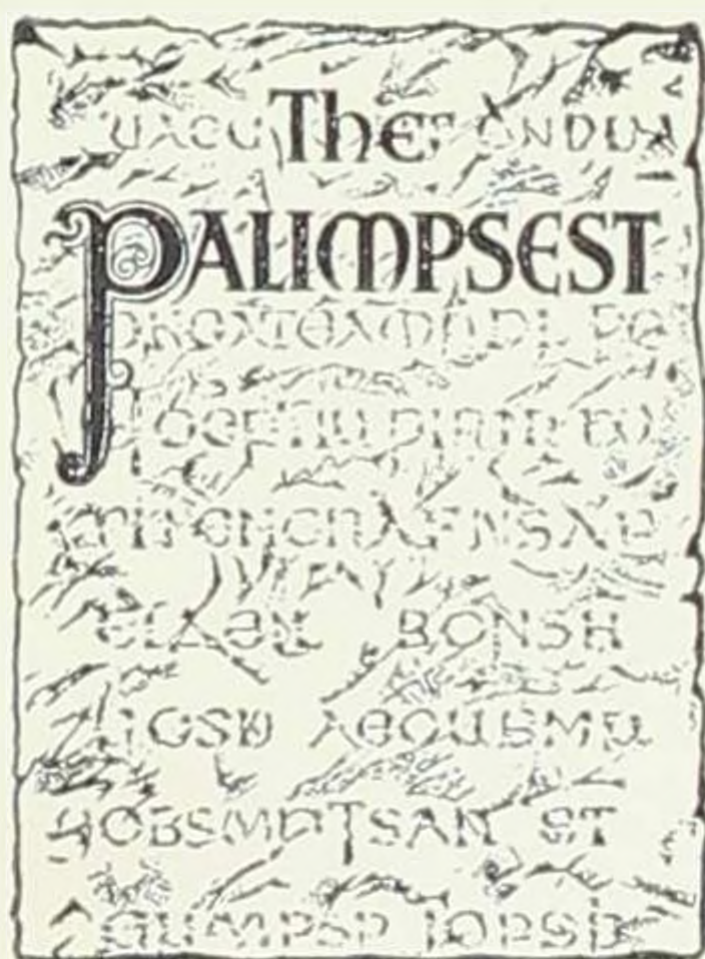
The T.T.T. Society

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The Meaning of Palimpsest

In early times a palimpsest was a parchment or other material from which one or more writings had been erased to give room for later records. But the erasures were not always complete; and so it became the fascinating task of scholars not only to translate the later records but also to reconstruct the original writings by deciphering the dim fragments of letters partly erased and partly covered by subsequent texts.

The history of Iowa may be likened to a palimpsest which holds the record of successive generations. To decipher these records of the past, reconstruct them, and tell the stories which they contain is the task of those who write history.

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THE T.T.T. SOCIETY

DOROTHY ASHBY POWNALL

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Illustrations

All illustrations were furnished by T.T.T. members. Front Cover—L. to R. top: Gladys Stewart Walters, Mary Firebaugh Swaney, Myrl Krieg Fern. L. to R. bot.: Ethel Stewart Foster, Mabel Stewart Bales, Bess Cook Budde.

Author

Dorothy Ashby Pownall was a feature writer on the *St. Paul Daily News* before going to the *Des Moines Capital*. For ten years she served as editor of the woman's page of the *Iowa City Press-Citizen*. She has contributed articles and poetry to newspapers and magazines, including the *Ladies' Home Journal*, *Saturday Evening Post*, *Good Housekeeping* and *THE PALIMPSEST*. She is a member of Iowa Press Women.

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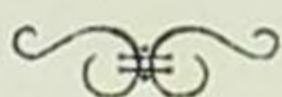
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Six Girls Had a Dream

The philanthropic accomplishments of the National T.T.T. Society are known from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and from Minnesota to Florida. But back in 1911, the Society and its good works were just a dream in the hearts of six young women in Mt. Pleasant, Iowa.

In 1963, fifty-two years later, the T.T.T. Society, with nearly 6,000 members in nineteen states and the District of Columbia, owns its own summer camp for girls in Eden Valley, Minnesota; provides camping facilities for deserving girls in California and Arizona; participates in local and national philanthropic projects, and, unobtrusively, lends willing, helping hands to needy folk at home.

Seated on the steps of the clubhouse at Oakland Mills, near Mt. Pleasant, after a picnic, June 30, 1911, the Stewart girls, Gladys, Ethel and Mabel; Mary Firebaugh, Bess Cook and Merle Krieg made plans for a club which would provide pleasant association for congenial young women in their home town of Mt. Pleasant. Credit for the

idea is attributed to Gladys Stewart, who had recently been graduated from Northwestern University.

Before returning home, she and two college friends had considered seriously what their college life might mean to their respective home communities. "Like all college graduates," Gladys recalls, "we were full of ambition to do something for the betterment of mankind. We had a genuine desire to be of service. I suggested that each of us form a club in our home town."

Her home town friends cooperated eagerly. It was agreed that the Y.M.C.A. furnished recreation for the young men of the town, and that high school and college girls had plenty of extra-curricular entertainment. But they felt that young, unmarried women — particularly those who had been away at college and had lost contact for a time with home folk — were a "forgotten group."

Mary Firebaugh was the first president. Bess Cook was vice-president; Ethel Stewart, secretary, and Mabel Stewart, treasurer. The new secret society members chose *service* as the keynote for its activities. The six founders proposed to expand their membership, specifying that there would be "no restrictions as to politics, race or religion."

The first initiates into the T.T.T. Society were E. Mae Grau, Grace Roberts (Cobb) and Inez King (Jeffs). Early minutes of the Society show

that guests were invited to parties and to picnics in "the Firebaugh Grove," and that pledges wore ribbons to indicate their affiliation with T.T.T.

The last records of the original group were dated October 2, 1914. Then, for several years, the Society was dormant. Gladys Stewart married William E. Walters and moved to Chicago. Bess Cook lived for a while in West Liberty, returning to Mt. Pleasant to live, after her marriage to John Budde. Ethel Stewart graduated from the University of Iowa, married Charles Foster and went to Bismarck, North Dakota, to make her home. The marriage of Mary Firebaugh and Gilmore Swaney (after her graduation from Iowa Wesleyan College) ended in tragedy when he was killed in Brighton, where they were living. Mabel Stewart graduated from the University of Iowa, where she met Vern Bales, to whom she was married in 1915. Myrl Krieg had moved to San Francisco after her marriage to George Fern. She died there in 1913.

The flame which had inspired the six founders of T.T.T. had not been extinguished, however, and two younger sisters, Helen Firebaugh Rogers and Anna Stewart (Caris), fanned the dormant embers when they promoted the re-organization of the Society in March, 1917. During the inactive years, the former members who had remained in Mt. Pleasant had matured, married, managed homes, and established pleasant social relation-

One of Six Who Founded Society in 1911— Iowa Citian Sees T.T.T. Grow to 6,000

When the two Iowa City chapters of T.T.T. celebrate the 52nd anniversary of the founding of the society Thursday at 6:30 p.m. at the Mayflower inn, they will have one of the original club of six women in their midst.

She is Mrs. Vern W. Bales, 28 Highland drive, who as Miss Mabel Stewart of Mount Pleasant joined with her two sisters and three friends to form a philanthropic organization that since has spread from coast to coast.

The history of the T.T.T. society is told by Dorothy Ashby Pownall, Iowa City feature writer and former woman's page editor of the Press-Citizen, in the April issue of *The Palimpsest*, published by the State Historical Society of Iowa.

* * *

MRS. BALES, the first treasurer of the 1911 club, and her companions chose "service" as the keynote of their activities. They also proposed to expand their membership specifying that there would be "no restrictions as to politics, race or religion."

In 1963 T.T.T. has nearly 6,000 members in 19 states and the District of Columbia; owns a summer camp for girls in Eden Valley, Minn.; provides camping facilities for deserving girls in California and Arizona, and participates in local and national philanthropic projects.

The golden anniversary celebration of the society at Chicago in October, 1961, found the four living founders as honored guests: Mrs. Bales; her sister, Gladys Stewart Walters, Des Plaines, Ill.; Bess Cook Budde and Mary Firebaugh Swaney, both of Mt. Pleasant. Mrs. Bales' other sister, Ethel Stewart Foster, died in 1960. The sixth founder, Myrl Krieg Fern, died in 1913.

* * *

SINCE 1952, the T.T.T. chapters have supported the Eden Valley summer camp, where deserving ten- and eleven-year-old girls are given two weeks of outdoor living, including directed camp activities.

Buildings on the site include a main house, barbecue house, handicraft center, infirmary, recreation hall, and cottages. Adding to the camp setting is a rose garden, which was the gift of Mrs. Bales.

Iowa City Chapters AL and CL will send two campers this summer. Money has been raised through several projects.

* * *

IN ADDITION to their national camp project, local T.T.T. chapters help the needy and participate in community activities. In Iowa City food baskets are given to needy families at holiday time, particularly Christmas.

Mrs. Herb Scott is president of Chapter AL. Mrs. James Sangster heads Chapter CL.

In charge of the Founder's day event are Mrs. William Olney from Chapter CL and Mrs. H. J. Thornton from Chapter AL.



For Mrs. Vern W. Bales, left, the April issue of *The Palimpsest* has particular interest, for it retells the history of the T.T.T. society, of which Mrs. Bales is a founding member. Pictured on the cover are the six founders, including Mrs. Bales at lower center. Sharing her copy are Mrs. James Sangster, center, and Mrs. Herb Scott, presidents of the two Iowa City chapters, CL and AL respectively. (Press-Citizen Photo.)

ships. Now they were fired with plans for community service, and the two "little sisters" called them together to "decide by what means the club would broaden and grow."

Elizabeth Hagie (Swafford) was named president of the new group. Violet Ashe (Campbell) was treasurer and Helen Firebaugh Rogers, secretary. The members decided to investigate Red Cross work, or some similar branch of charitable activity. The constitution was amended and married women made eligible to join T.T.T. A "spread" followed this history-making meeting.

Early records reveal that the T.T.T. Society rejected the proposal to do Red Cross work, but mention was made of providing bedding for a child's bed for the Henry County Child Welfare Association. News that the Society was re-organizing was disseminated, and on May 4, 1917, six new members were initiated.

They were Esther Sutherland, Lillian Huebner, Miriam Rineheimer, Esther Gilfillan, Helen Keith and Aletha Orn. Besides this group, the T.T.T. membership in July, 1917, included Flossie O'Neil, Ruth Logan, Martha Porter, Grace Upton, Laura Fraker, Anna S. Caris, Alma Talbot, Bess Cook Budde, Helen F. Rogers, Elizabeth Hagie, Grace Hagie, Maude Mathews, Mae Grau and Gladys Munger.

Emphasizing *service* and *charity* at its meeting May 17, 1917, T.T.T. enthusiastically endorsed a

plan to "adopt a deserving child to care for and help educate." Mrs. Huebner, Mrs. Sutherland and Martha Porter were appointed to investigate the possibilities of this project. During this summer period, Mary Firebaugh Swaney was organizing a new T.T.T. chapter in Brighton, and in June, eight members of Chapter A, the founding group, attended the installation of Chapter B.

Meantime, quiet investigation had been in progress, and at its meeting June 26, 1917, the Mt. Pleasant group joyfully agreed to care for a handicapped girl, Hazel S—, a Mt. Pleasant child who spent much of her time in the hospital in Iowa City.

Minutes recorded in 1917 and 1918 contain many references to Hazel:

June 26, 1917 — Hazel S— to be cared for. Committee appointed to see her parents and find out her needs. Write to inactive members for donations. Have candy booth in Park, Saturday, June 30.

July 10, 1917 — Martha Porter reported on Hazel S. Committee appointed to see about clothes for Hazel.

August 21, 1917 — Letter from Martha Porter said she would take Hazel back to Iowa City. Clothes we are making o. k., but make nothing but plain things.

September 3, 1917 — Martha Porter asked to buy hose and a suitcase for Hazel S.

September 13, 1917 — Collect, mark and finish garments for Hazel.

September 18, 1917 — Two letters a week will go to Hazel. Helen Rogers and Mrs. Huebner volunteered to write first letters. Gladys Wenger and Grace Upton the next.

November 13, 1917 — Letter read from Hazel S.

November 20, 1917 — Plan to send Thanksgiving box to Hazel S. December 12 — Plan to send Christmas box to Hazel. Each member to bring a present for Hazel.

March 20, 1918 — Allowed \$8.60 for taking Hazel back to Iowa City.

May 29, 1918 — Discussed bringing Hazel home. June 25 — Committee to see Hazel as she is to go to the hospital again. September 10, 1918, — Decided to bring Hazel home and start her in school. September 23 — Report that Hazel has gone to Des Moines and will no longer need our help. Committee appointed to find another worthwhile child to take for charity work.

Besides caring for Hazel, the Society held food sales, dressed dolls, assessed five-cent fines against members for non-attendance, and welcomed suggestions for fund-raising to carry on their charitable work. Their projects included participation in a financial drive for the college gymnasium, aid to needy families and even a gift of a fifty-dollar sewing machine to the Henry County Hospital.

Within the next few years, several new chapters of T.T.T. were organized. Chapter C, Boone (now inactive), in 1926; Chapter D, Des Moines, 1927; Chapter E, Fairfield, 1928; Chapter F, Packwood, 1928; Chapter G, Wapello, 1930; Chapter H, New London; Chapter I, Eldon; Chapter J, Wayland, and Chapter K, Newton, 1931.

An important milestone was passed January 10, 1931, when T.T.T. Chapters gathered in Mt.

Pleasant for their first National Convention. Helen Firebaugh Rogers, one of the Society's reorganizers, became the first National president. Other officers chosen were Leona Whisler, Brighton, vice-president; Margaret Crail, Fairfield, corresponding secretary; Mary Myers, Packwood, recording secretary; Helen Miller, Wapello, treasurer; Lillian Huebner, Des Moines, historian; and Blanche Thorson, Mt. Pleasant, organizer.

At its second National convention, held in Brighton, October 2, 1931, officers were re-elected and the high point of the meeting was the decision of the National Society to adopt for its altruistic project a summer camp for girls. Also at this meeting, eighty-three copies of Volume I, Number I, of *T.T.T. Tidings* (first titled *T.T.T. Convention News*) were distributed. The publication, issued quarterly, now goes to almost 6,000 members of the Society.

The growing Iowa membership soon was clamoring for a state organization, prodded by Margaret Hinderman, the instigator of the idea. Serious discussions were held in 1948, most chapters agreeing that Iowa, where T.T.T. was founded, was the logical location of the first State Society. However, while the fifty-six Iowa Chapters were considering the plan, the fifteen Illinois Chapters were able to conclude their negotiations and announce the organization of a State Chapter December 3, 1948. Iowa followed with the estab-

lishment of its State organization May 5, 1949. The Minnesota State T.T.T. Chapter was formed in 1956, and California State Chapter in 1958.

Delegates from forty-eight of the fifty-six Iowa Chapters of T.T.T. attended the founding of the Iowa State Chapter in Centerville. It was a gala occasion, with luncheon for one hundred guests at the Centerville Country Club. Here they were entertained with a "T.T.T. Roundup." There were cowgirls on foot, and one on horseback to greet them. Members of the Centerville Chapter, AS, served the luncheon, clad in jeans, plaid shirts and western hats. National officers present were Mrs. Doris Smith, Ft. Dodge, president, and Mrs. Edna Eland, Mt. Pleasant, organizer.

The first officers of the new Iowa State Chapter of T.T.T. were Mrs. A. W. Hinderman, Wapello, president; Mrs. Fred Weber, Des Moines, vice-president; Miss Beulah Bower, Ames, organizer; Mrs. Harold McCormac, Letts, recording secretary; Mrs. Ben Stockdale, Pocahontas, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Don Pullman, Centerville, treasurer, and Mrs. Garrett Van Vranken, Winfield, historian.

Subsequent Iowa State Chapter presidents have been Mrs. Weber, Mrs. Elouise Sorden, Mrs. Pullman, Mrs. Van Vranken, Mrs. Lois Boylan, Mrs. Margaret Stoutner, Mrs. Darlene Donohue, Mrs. Ethelyn Bennett, Mrs. Theresa Spellman and Mrs. Isadore Moxley.

The twenty-fifth anniversary of the founding of T.T.T. was observed in Mt. Pleasant June 30, 1936. Members from all chapters were on hand for the luncheon, held in the dining room of Hershey Hall at Iowa Wesleyan College. Feature of the program was a playlet written by Helen F. Rogers and Mae Grau, commemorating the founding of the Society.

Founders Gladys Stewart Walters, Bess Cook Budde, Mary Firebaugh Swaney, and Mabel Stewart Bales were honored guests at the Golden Anniversary celebration in Chicago, in October 1961. Formal ceremonies highlighted the event, and on the Friday evening "fun night" six members in Gibson Girl costumes reminded the founders of their 1911 meeting on the steps of the Oakland Mills clubhouse.

This amusing program, commemorating "Fifty Frolicking Years," included a parade of bathing beauties, Charleston and soft shoe dancing, and a description of an old-time movie, in Swedish dialect.

Guiding the far-reaching affairs of the National T.T.T. Society in 1963 are Mrs. John R. White, Ft. Wayne, Indiana, president; Mrs. Paul R. Fry, Omaha, Nebraska, vice-president; Mrs. Boyd F. Stoutner, Keota, Iowa, organizer; Mrs. A. W. Hinderman, Washington, Iowa, recording secretary; Mrs. Clarence H. Schafer, East Peoria, Illinois, corresponding secretary; Mrs. C. Thomas

Dean, Long Beach, California, treasurer; Mrs. Elmer Nellett, Davison, Michigan, historian, and Mrs. W. K. Rogers, Mt. Pleasant, life member.

Mrs. Carl F. Willits, Wapello, is in charge of the National T.T.T. office, while Mrs. Roy H. Eng, Racine, Wisconsin, heads the National Project Board. On the board of trustees for the National office are Mrs. Schafer, Mrs. Sorden and Mrs. H. E. Hoover, Wapello.

Thousands of men, women and children have been given a lift by T.T.T. members in the past half century. One of the founders, Mabel Stewart Bales, feels this little poem expresses the ideals of T.T.T.:

If you would *add* to life's pleasures,
And a lot of your worries *subtract*,
Divide happiness, share it, full measure —
It will *multiply* as it comes back.

DOROTHY ASHBY POWNALL

Summer Camp for Little Girls

Before their first National Convention in Mt. Pleasant in 1931, Chapters of T.T.T. had been busy with many types of philanthropy. Now they agreed that they were ready to decide upon a national project. Their love and sympathy for young girls inspired them to choose as their goal the establishment of a summer camp, where deserving little girls could have the benefit of good food, outdoor fun, directed camp activities and warm affection.

The beginnings were modest. First, an old farmhouse near Mt. Pleasant was rented for ten dollars for a two-weeks' period. Miriam Moore was the first Camp Chairman, and active members of T.T.T. joyfully cleaned the place and made it comfortable for 22 girls, who enjoyed busy camp life at a total cost of \$114.29. (There was even a balance of seventeen cents — the tiny beginning of the permanent camp fund!)

Some of the campers that first year were chosen by the United Charities in Chicago, and some were Iowa youngsters. At that time, the railroads provided free transportation for those who came from some distance.

In June, 1933, the second camp was held in the

Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity house in Mt. Pleasant. Chapters contributed money, bedding, towels and food, and even bought uniforms for the girls. The Society paid \$50 rent for the house, and this modest fee covered the expense of light, heat, gas, water, telephone, dishes, silver, and twenty-two cots and pads. The cook was paid a dollar a day. When Helen Warner paid the bills that summer, the National Treasury was tapped for only \$3.79.

Many T.T.T. members helped with camp chores, including the laundry work, washing an endless assembly line of dresses, pajamas and uniforms. Treats for the campers included movies, swimming at Saunders Park, wiener roasts, picnics, hikes and birthday parties.

Grace Oakes was Camp Chairman, and Helen Warner again Director, when the T.T.T. Camp opened its second season in the fraternity house on July 5, 1934. Twelve Chicago girls and nine Iowa children arrived, eager for their long-anticipated outing. They loved the fun and the bounteous meals. There was an average weight gain of three pounds for each child that summer, and one little girl gained seven pounds. There were many donations of food and special treats from chapters and merchants, and when Camp closed, there was a balance of \$19.61 in the treasury.

Enthusiasm for their camp project was running high when, in 1937, T.T.T. members were able to rent Camp Abe Lincoln, a well-equipped

Y.M.C.A. Camp located on a high bluff overlooking the Mississippi River near Davenport. Lucky ten and eleven-year-old girls were delighted with the big lodge with its huge stone fireplace. Here, also, were airy log cabins; a big kitchen; a handicraft building; a council ring for campfires; an athletic field, and later—a swimming pool. Surrounding the camp were sixty-five acres of wooded, hilly countryside.

The usual camp routine was followed at Camp Abe Lincoln, with much volunteer help from members of T.T.T. Even during the war, summer camp was considered a *must*, though activities were somewhat curtailed because of wartime shortages. However, the children enjoyed wood carving, whittling, making scrapbooks and planning dramatic productions and minstrel shows.

Tribute to her camp experience was expressed by one child in this poem:

The T.T.T. Camp is a wonderful place to be;
You have fun, and everything is free.
The people all treat you swell,
And keep you looking healthy and well.
You say a prayer and thank God
For the people who sent you there.

Since Camp Abe Lincoln was owned by the Davenport Y.M.C.A., it was needed primarily for that organization's activities, and it became increasingly difficult for T.T.T. to arrange for convenient camp dates. The time had come, mem-

bers agreed, to investigate the possibilities of establishing a National T.T.T. Camp of their own. Accordingly, in 1949 Helen Warner, Lucille Loomis, and Mary Yates were authorized to investigate possible locations for a national camp. After visiting several sites, suggested by a national real estate firm, the committee recommended a ten-acre, well-improved property near Eden Valley, Minnesota. The Eden Valley location included seven good buildings, set in spacious lawns and shaded by stately trees. The lawns, bright with flower beds, sloped to a safe sandy beach on Rice Lake. It could be purchased for \$18,000 — \$10,000 cash, and five years to pay the remainder at four per cent interest.

At the National Convention of T.T.T. in Chicago, the purchase of the Eden Valley site was approved, and announcement was made that remodeling of the camp would be completed for the grand opening, June 30, 1952. A call went out for volunteer help. Helen Warner, long identified with T.T.T. camp projects, was named Business Manager by the Project Board. She and her husband, W. R. Warner, supervised the remodeling, doing many chores themselves, and set the wheels turning for the dedication of the new camp. Gifts poured in from T.T.T. chapters located in all parts of the country. They included everything from beds and bedding to washers, dryers, and silverware.

Buildings were made functional and attractive. The main house accommodated a big dining room, kitchen, two bedrooms and bath. The barbecue house was put in readiness. A handicraft center was equipped, and the former guest house transformed into an infirmary. The fine new barn became a recreation hall, with a big fireplace, comfortable furniture and books, with accommodations for sixteen girls upstairs.

Shower room, bath house, a small patio and spacious playground all were ready for the *Great Day*, June 29, 1952, when the National T.T.T. Camp for Girls at Eden Valley was dedicated with great pomp and ceremony.

Members of T.T.T. flocked in from North, South, East and West for the dedication. Three of the founders, Mabel Stewart Bales, Bess Cook Budde and Mary Firebaugh Swaney were on hand, and participated in the ceremonies. Helen Warner made the presentation. Edna Eland, National President of T.T.T., made the acceptance speech, and Eda Boshart recalled the history of the cherished project. At the close of the colorful program, Mrs. Budde rang the old farm bell, officially opening the Eden Valley Camp. A tour of the grounds and buildings followed the formal ceremonies.

The next day, June 30, the first little girls arrived for their vacation in the new camp. The campers, ten and eleven years old, came by bus

from their home localities, chaperoned by chapter members.

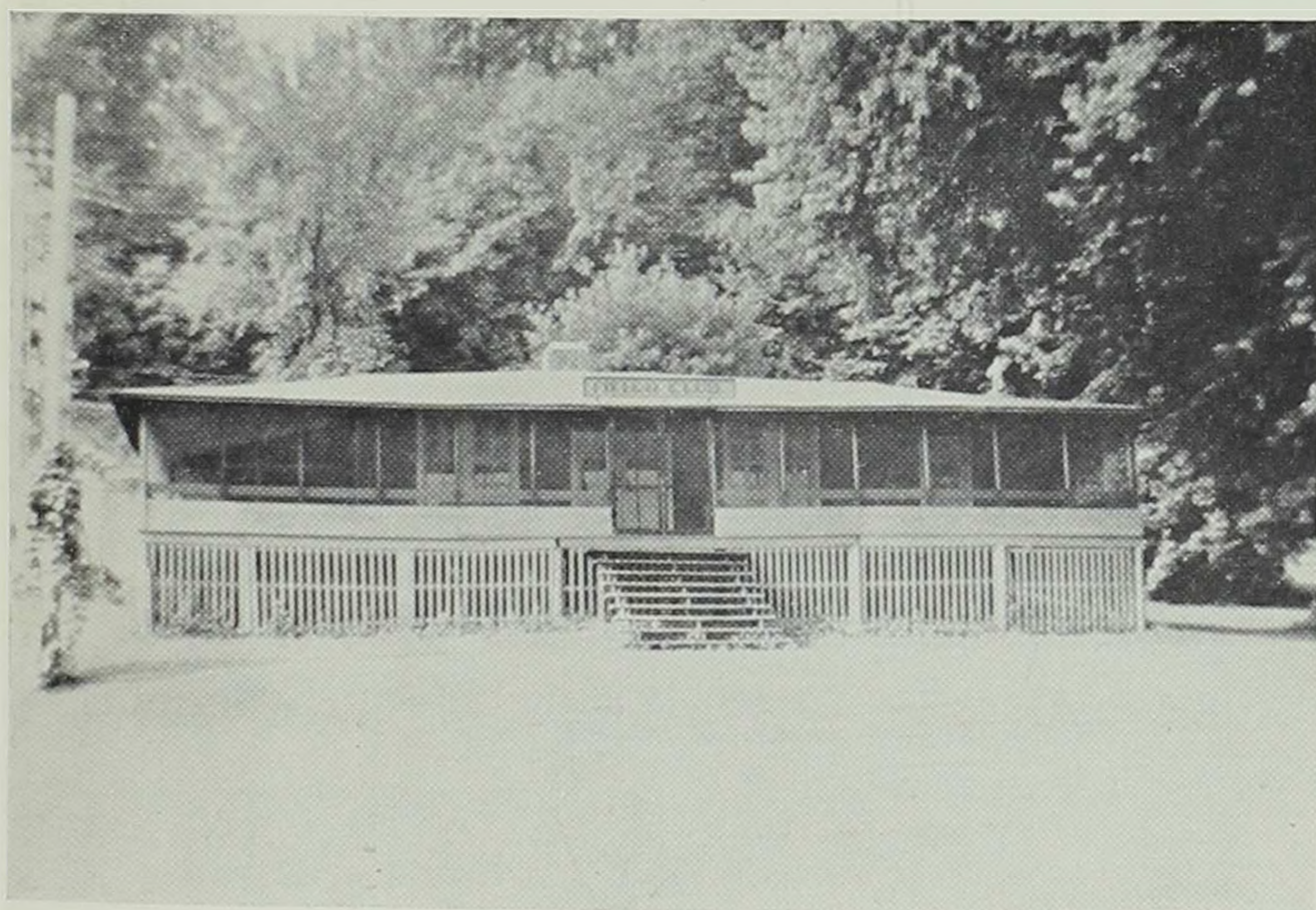
Mary Firebaugh Swaney, one of the distinguished founders, recalls an unforgettable experience as a chaperon for a busload of lively Iowa campers:

We had a wonderful time from the moment we left Mt. Pleasant. The little girls were hilarious! When I told them I was a "K. P." and would wash dishes and do other chores at the camp, they clapped their hands and cheered. "You mean we won't have to wash dishes?" they asked, and when I reassured them they would have other tasks, they shouted and sang.

We were scarcely on our way when they said they were hungry, and wanted to eat their box lunches provided for the trip. I satisfied them for a time with cookies contributed by some of the T.T.T. Chapters. Long before noon they were nibbling at fruit from their lunch boxes, and when the scheduled lunch period arrived their boxes were empty.

Despite several stops for ice cream cones and other treats, the girls were famished and more than ready for the welcoming dinner on their arrival that evening at Eden Valley. But they sang happily most of the way, their young voices harmonizing "He's Got the Whole World in His Hand."

Outfits for the campers are provided by individual T.T.T. Chapters, and include, besides abundant clothing, such articles as bobby pins, rubbers, stamped envelopes and stationery. "We love getting these camp outfits together," one T.T.T. member said. "We try to make them both



Oakland Mills Club house where T.T.T. was founded.



Four living founders of T.T.T.
L. to R.: Gladys Stewart Walters, Bess Cook Budde, Mabel Stewart Bales,
Mary Firebaugh Swaney.



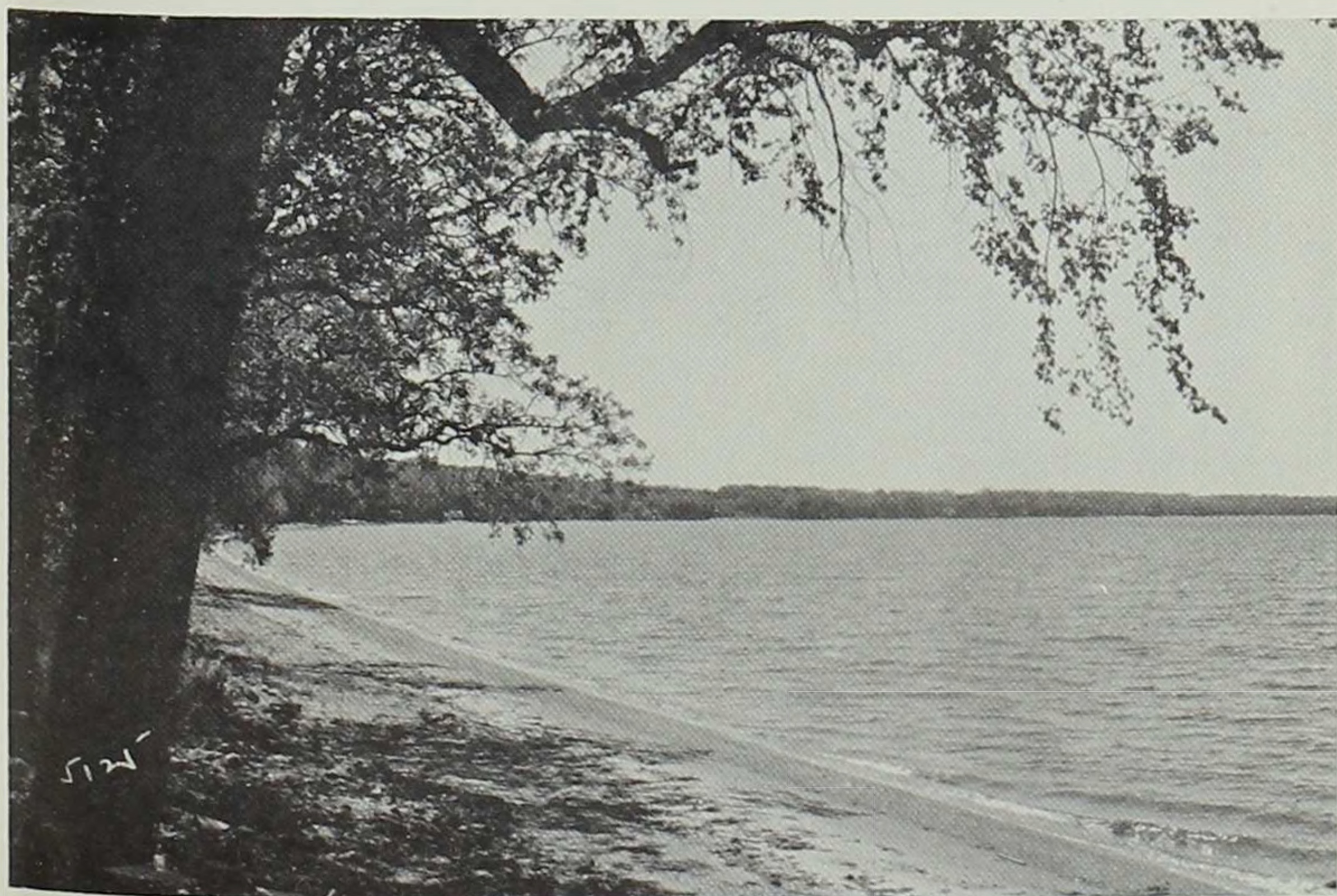
An early T.T.T. Camp picture in Mt. Pleasant.



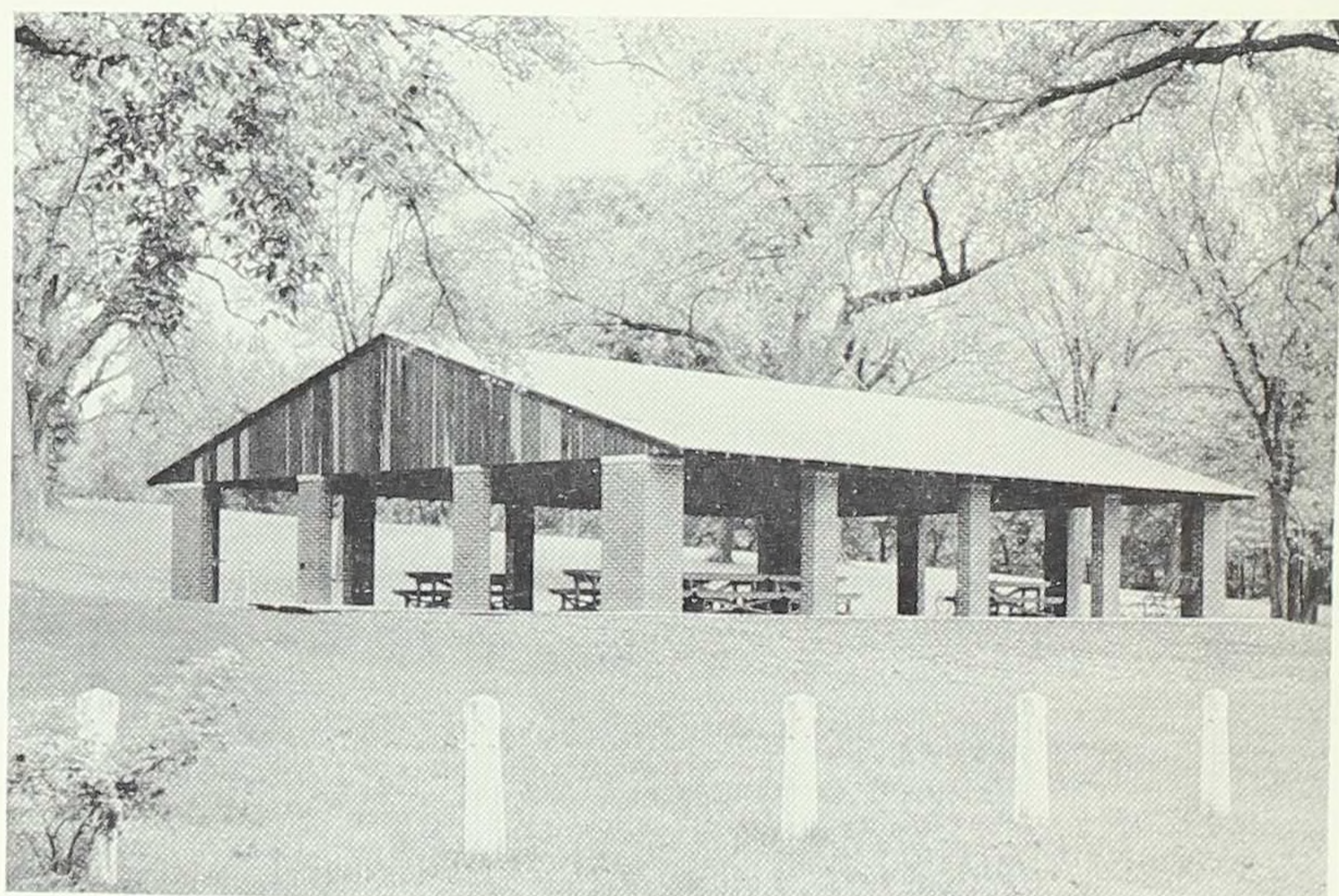
Little girls enjoying sunshine and fun at T.T.T. Camp.



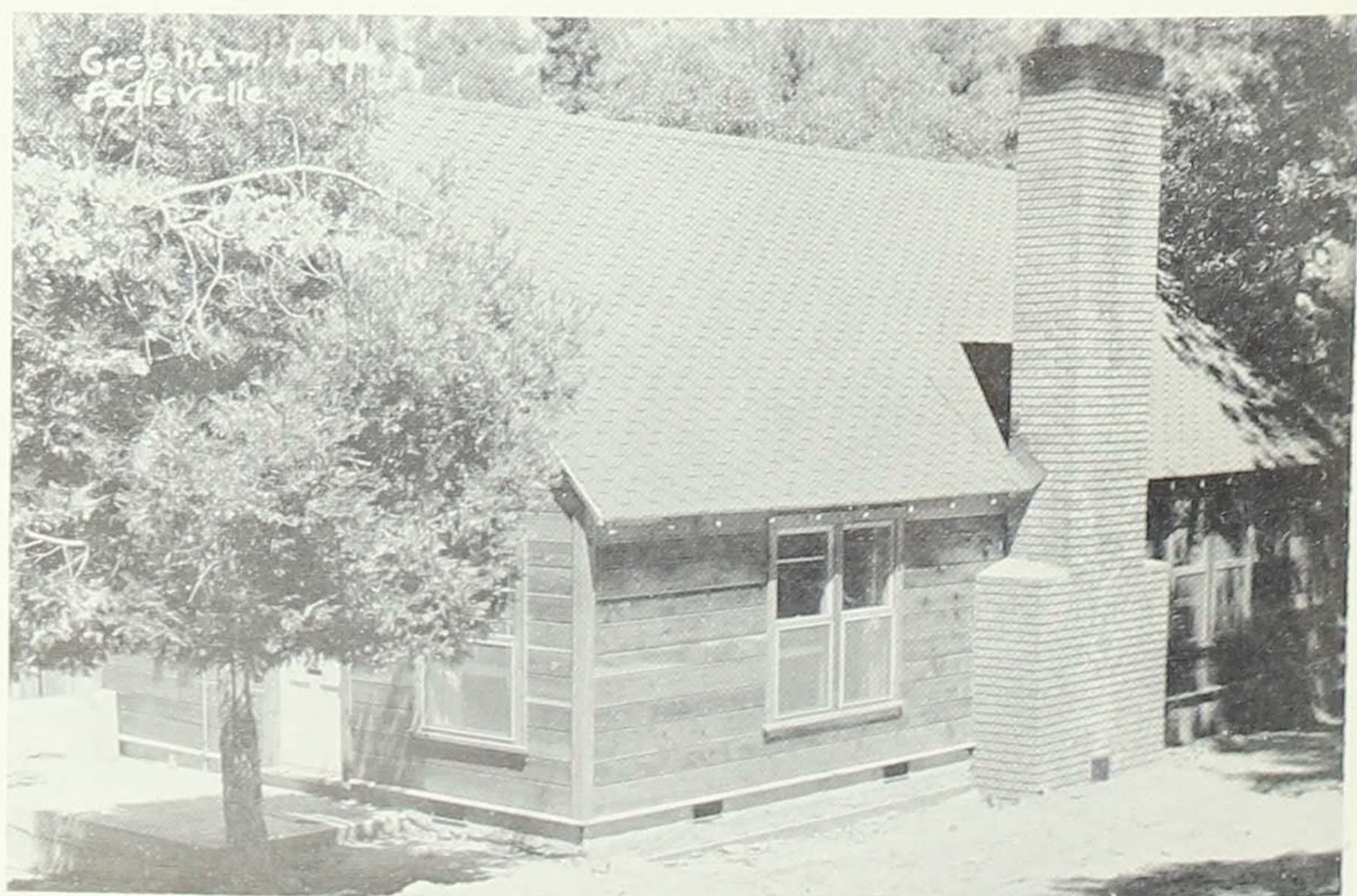
View of Eden Valley Camp for Girls.



T.T.T. Campers enjoy Swimming in Rice Lake.



Shelter House in Saunders Park, Mt. Pleasant. Gift of T.T.T. Society, honoring Founders.



T.T.T. Western Area Girls' Camp in California.

simple and attractive. Some of us have no children and welcome this opportunity to do something special for deserving little girls."

Shyness is dispelled in a hurry when the girls arrive at camp. Most of them have become fast friends on the bus. Each one first receives a stamped postcard to send home. Then all are taken on a tour of the camp grounds. Rules are explained at an assembly where the girls are introduced to camp songs before dinner and a get-acquainted party with gifts for everyone. One dormitory group may be designated as "Barn Swallows," and another "Sea Gulls." The evening program usually includes a show or other entertainment, story time and devotions, with "lights out" at 9:15 P.M.

In the morning, the campers make their beds and set their cabins in order. They observe flag-raising, have breakfast and take part in "Camp Capers," cleanup duties about the grounds. Calisthenics, crafts, swimming and free time occupy them until lunchtime, after which the grownup "K. P.'s" (T.T.T. volunteer helpers) inspect the cabins and award a special plaque to the honor group. Afternoon hours are spent in swimming, singing and games. Gifts for everyone feature the dinner hours. There are birthday celebrations, and costume parties, with colorful outfits provided by Chapters around the nation.

Gaiety reigns on "Cook's Day Off," when

campers start the day with a "Jungle Breakfast," finding their food and milk hidden about the camp grounds. On this special day there are often cook-outs and picnics.

And how about "Christmas in Summer?"

The Christmas party is a highlight at each camp session. There's a decorated tree. Stockings are hung by the fireplace, and Santa Claus arrives with generous gifts. Fresh young voices sing Christmas songs, and a counselor reads Dickens' *Christmas Carol*.

Sunday church services, planned by camp leaders, are held at an outdoor altar, in a circle of trees. To be used for the first time during the summer of 1963 will be new hymn books, the gift of Mrs. Milo Sorden, a former National T.T.T. President from Washington, Iowa. Catholic girls are taken to church in Eden Valley.

Since its dedication, a number of buildings have been added to the T.T.T. Camp. "Silver Cottage" was the gift of Illinois Chapter G, with Jodave Silver, her daughter, Jean, and other donors contributing. "Kitty Clifton Cabin" was given to the camp by Mrs. Clifton in memory of her son, who lost his life in service. "Maasdam Recreation Hall" is a Memorial to Past President Elizabeth Maasdam, the gift of Chapter E and other friends in Fairfield. The Warner and Iowa cabins were added in July, 1957. The former honors Mr. and Mrs. Warner, who have given great service to the

camp project. Kathryn Pullman, a past Iowa State President of T.T.T., gave the keynote talk at the dedication of the Iowa cabin.

"Dollars from Dads" piled up a fund for the purchase of "Scout," a jeep for the Eden Valley Camp. Adding to the beauty of the camp setting is the lovely rose garden, the gift of Mabel Stewart Bales.

Chapters in the Western Area of T.T.T. have rented lodges for summer campers, and in 1962 ten girls attended each of two sessions at Half Moon Lodge near Crestline, California. Adeline Woodworth, who has been in charge of the Western Area camp project, has been succeeded by Lois Johnson, who will supervise the 1963 sessions in Show Low, Arizona. This camp, which will accommodate 50 to 55 girls, is a well-equipped property, 189 miles northeast of Phoenix.

During the summer of 1962, 144 girls were sent to the Eden Valley camp by 141 Chapters and fifty-eight co-sponsors. Those in charge anticipate 200 campers during the 1963 summer session, which will be divided into five periods.

From June 16-29, Southeastern Iowa girls will attend camp. Waterloo and Northern Iowa campers are expected from June 30-July 13; Des Moines area and Nebraska girls, July 14-27; Illinois, Michigan, Iowa and Ohio campers, July 28-August 10, and Minnesota, Wisconsin and South Dakota girls, August 11-24.

During the summer camp period of 1962, Eden Valley proved a pleasant cosmopolitan meeting place for a Negro girl, two Mexican, one Puerto Rican, one Jewish and two Italian girls. During the summer, 150 visitors stopped at the Eden Valley Camp and noted the remodeling projects, new sidewalks, the planting of fifty poplar trees and other improvements.

Displayed in the dining room this summer will be a new bronze plaque, with the camp grace, written by Milo Sorden:

Lord for food and friends and love,
Our heartfelt thanks we give.
But most, we thank Thee for Thy Son
Who taught us how to live.

True meaning of the T.T.T. camp is expressed by Bess Dickey, a member of Ohio A chapter:

It means the moulding of children's lives; health to the ailing; smiles to the lonely; advice to the headstrong; encouragement to the weak and character building for all. Americanism is in the making — children of a free country, where leaders are trained from such as these.

DOROTHY ASHBY POWNALL

Helping Others

Devoted though they are to their successful National Camp Project, members of T.T.T. have continued to work quietly at home, helping the needy and participating in local community activities.

During the war years, they joined and taught classes in nutrition; learned home nursing and first aid. They folded miles of surgical dressings for the Red Cross. They sold Victory Bonds and stamps, assisted with blood banks, made afghans and pieced quilts for hospital patients. Chapter members became Volunteer Nurses' Aides and Gray Ladies, relieving the nurse shortage and bringing cheer and comfort to the sick and lonely.

Many planted Victory Gardens. Those with mechanical skill might be found in the Red Cross Motor Corps. Some members enlisted in the Women's Army Corps, the Waves and the Nursing Corps, and served their country in the United States and overseas. Day in, day out, T.T.T. worked for peace.

Mabel Stewart Bales, one of the T.T.T. founders, who distinguished herself for her war work in her Iowa City community, wrote in *T.T.T. Tidings*:

We know the valiant effort of our men in active service, laboring tirelessly with every ounce of their strength, that we and our children may live a free people. . . .

It is the patriotic duty of us, the home women, to enlist ourselves 100 percent in the Army of the Home Front. Let us do willingly every small and inconspicuous task that is allotted to us.

War activities successfully concluded, T.T.T. chapters have continued their modest activities in their own areas. Day by day they are on hand to aid the deserving — young and old. Eye glasses are provided for school children, and dentures for elderly folk. A young girl is made happy when T.T.T. members come to the rescue with money for her commencement expenses, or provide a Homecoming Queen with an attractive wardrobe.

A new hearing aid helps a grade school student keep pace with classwork. Handicapped children are transported from school for therapy treatments. Movie projectors and television sets, gifts from T.T.T. members, furnish entertainment in County Homes. A little boy who lost both legs in a train accident will walk again with artificial legs. T.T.T. contributed to a fund which changed his outlook from despair to hope.

Many chapters "adopt" families and individuals and provide them with necessities and cheering gifts the year around. One group contributed 3,660 half-pints of milk for undernourished school children. "Fairy Godmothers" sponsored a Cin-

derella project and sent, anonymously, gifts of money, clothing, game tickets and other surprises to two high school girls in need of a special lift.

A member of one chapter gave free music lessons to a talented girl and boy, and later, her chapter financed a year's college scholarship for the boy, who was ready for advanced work. An elderly woman was made happy with a train ticket to her home town, where she spent an unforgettable Christmas holiday with old friends.

Less romantic, but equally helpful, are such philanthropic projects as helping with furnace payments; paying the telephone bill for an invalid woman; assisting during a visit of the Bloodmobile, or giving funds for the repair of a dilapidated chimney. Chapters buy wheel chairs which are free to deserving invalids, and members sew for hospitals and plan ward parties for patients.

Cheers for the good work of T.T.T. are expressed in this letter from a beneficiary, published in a California newspaper:

There is a club in this city of ours that is deserving of a lot of credit. This club started in Iowa and has become nationally known. The members have done wonderful work, and as I and my children have received help, such as food, clothing and fuel, we do want everyone to know that this city (Santa Cruz) has such a wonderful organization. . . . I am writing this article in gratitude to the club for the many blessings we have received. May God bless them and give them the strength and courage to carry on their great work. The club is T.T.T.

Since *charity* is the altruistic purpose of the Society, set forth by the six founders more than a half-century ago, individual and state organizations necessarily display ingenuity in money-raising projects for their philanthropic work.

You may meet T.T.T. members selling hot dogs and hamburgers at County Fairs, horse races and ball games, or presiding prettily at Silver Teas. One chapter sold 500 pounds of pecans — "we really went nuts," a member recalls.

Some groups have earned money serving meals for service clubs, mother-daughter banquets and church meetings. They have washed dishes, assisted at receptions and decorated churches for weddings — for modest fees.

Home talent shows have proved profitable for some chapters. Proceeds of \$315 from a minstrel show went to the school band fund. Another entertainment netted \$350 for the local library.

The attitude of T.T.T. toward its philanthropic activities is expressed by Mary Firebaugh Swaney, the Society's first president, in these words:

It is true that in each local project our love is made visible, because each T.T.T. Chapter has this spiritual approach and concern for persons in need; a sincere desire to share another's burden and to do something about it. Can we be true members of T.T.T. without having that feeling of involvement in the life of mankind?

DOROTHY ASHBY POWNALL

Time Out for Fun

All work, no play, could never be
The chosen aim of T.T.T.

Those lines typify the well-rounded program of the T.T.T. Society, for while dignity, formality and reverence characterize National and State banquets and Founders' Day observances, convention programs always include gay and relaxing functions.

Besides these special occasions there are local parties, both simple and ingenious, for members, their husbands, and friends. These include such festivities as a "Hobo Breakfast," steak fries, potluck suppers, or perhaps a "kitchen carnival" with prizes of canned fruit and vegetables, and an exchange of recipes. At square dance parties, members make merry in calico and jeans.

One chapter dreamed up a "Screwball Party," an hilarious event. The menu was served backwards; invitations were printed in circles; lunch cloths were comic papers and the program was climaxed with a style show of original hats.

More elaborate are the "Fun Night" programs at State and National T.T.T. conventions. Events at a Denver, Colorado, meeting included a "Gold Rush" luncheon and a Western banquet with hos-

tesses in regional costumes. There were Indian dancers and a cowboy singer. Centerpieces were miniature covered wagons and favors were cowboy and cowgirl pins.

At a "Gypsy Carnival" in Wapello one year, guests were taken to the American Legion clubhouse on the bank of the Iowa River. The rooms were bright with gypsy colors, and "Wandering Nomads" outside furnished typical music near a Gypsy campfire. Gypsy dances, fortune telling and a "wheel of chance" followed a fish fry.

"Circus Night" at a National convention in Bloomfield had the traditional brilliance and color of Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey. A clown greeted guests at the door. The dining room was the "Big Top," and tables covered with red cloths circled the sawdust ring. Centerpieces were circus balloons, and entertainment included a parade, band, clowns and adagio dancers.

Remember Graham McNamee, Edna Wallace Hopper and Clara Bow? They were burlesqued on a mock radio program at another National convention. The Newton Country Club became a Western tavern for a memorable program. Indian blankets, guns, saddles and bear rugs decorated the banquet room. Red checked cloths covered the tables, which were illuminated with kerosene lamps. "Wild Nell, the Pet of the Plains," entertained, and there was music by the "Cowhands' Orchestra."

Members and husbands kicked up their heels in Wampler's Barn in Dayton, Ohio, at the 1950 National T.T.T. Convention. One T.T.T. husband, in Western gear, lassoed guests singly and in groups as they arrived. Wrapping paper covered the banquet tables. The Hill Billy Entertainers played for square dancing and waltzing.

Mason City was designated as "River City" for the 1962 convention and Meredith Willson's "The Music Man" and "The Unsinkable Molly Brown" furnished themes for the "fun" sessions. "Molly" was on hand, and many of the 400 convention delegates had dug into old trunks for "Gay Nineties" costumes for the occasion.

Many more special and impromptu parties keep T.T.T. members happy. The spirit of their informal meetings is expressed in this T.T.T. invitation, written by Hazel Mudhank, of Ohio B chapter:

To make you welcome is our Theme, our Topic, our Thesis. We have Toiled and Trembled Through Thick and Thin; Tried to be Tactful in our Task. Would you like to Tour the Town? (The Traffic is Terrible.) Or Toe the Tango? Or Tackle Tennis?

Shall we serve Tossed Turnips and Tomatoes? Terra-pin with Tarragon? Tapioca and Tangerines? Or just plain Tarts with Tea? Would you like Ten-pins or Television; Tiddly Winks or Tick-Tack Toe? Can you play the Tambourine or the Tuba? Or Trill Tenor in Two-part Time? Does your favorite Heart-Throb wear a Toupee, a Tunic or a Toga? Is he a Taxidermist, a Technolo-

gist or a Teetotaler? Or, perhaps, is he still a Tiny Tot?

Temper your Tactics, my sisters. If you Treasure your Tiara, don't Tipple a Tall Tankard, nor Tarry in the Tavern. ('Tis Tawdry to be Tipsy.) Be you Trojan, Tory or Teuton, we have Thermometers to Take your Temperatures, and Transfusions for Therapeutic Tonics. These Tend to make of you Tranquil Tolerant Transients, not Too Tired to Talk.

DOROTHY ASHBY POWNALL



IOWA STATE CHAPTER ORGANIZED—MAY 5, 1949

IOWA STATE CHAPTER PRESIDENTS

1—Margaret Hinderman	Iowa—G, Y and DL	1949-1950
2—Lenore Weber	Iowa—D	1950-1951-1951-1952
3—Elouise Sorden	Iowa—Y	1952-1953
4—Kathryn Pullman	Iowa—AS	1953-1954 1954-1955
5—Bernice VanVranken	Iowa—P	1955-1956
6—Lois Boylan	Iowa—AO	1956-1957
7—Margaret Stoutner	Iowa—AV	1957-1958
8—Darlene Donohue	Iowa—AW	1958-1959
9—Ethelyn Bennett	Iowa—BL	1959-1960
10—Theresa Spellman	Iowa—K	1960-1961
11—Isadore Moxley	Iowa—A	
	Founders Chapter	1961-1962-1962-1963

T.T.T. in '63

More than half a century has passed since those six enterprising young women organized the T.T.T. Society. Four of those founders today join the nationwide membership in rejoicing, as local and national projects are successfully launched or concluded.

T.T.T. members were saddened by the death of Ethel Stewart Foster in Bismarck, North Dakota, in 1960. Very active in T.T.T. affairs are Gladys Stewart Walters, Des Plaines, Illinois; Mabel Stewart Bales of Iowa City, and Mary Firebaugh Swaney and Bess Cook Budde, both of Mt. Pleasant. These founders often are present at State and National meetings where their messages and counsel are cherished by present-day members.

All have watched with pleasure and pride the growth and achievement of the organization. During the past year, nine new chapters have been added to the roster, making a total of 246 Chapters in nineteen states and the District of Columbia. A recent count showed active membership at 5,097; affiliates, 106; non-resident, 596; and members-at-large, 22 — totaling 5,821.

Several new projects have been launched during

the past year. California chapters have been authorized to supplement a foster home for four girls as a trial project in 1963. The committee studying this plan reports that members still are in the "talking stage," meeting with social workers, prospective foster parents, and official agencies to set up the proper framework for the establishment of the home.

Plans also are underway for the organization of a Leisure Home Association which will study possibilities for the establishment of a retirement home for T.T.T. members.

Picnickers in Saunders Park, Mt. Pleasant, enjoy the commodious shelter house, the gift of the T.T.T. Society in honor of its founders. The shelter house was dedicated in 1959, with Mrs. Annette Ralph, Harvey, Illinois, National president, making the presentation to Mt. Pleasant's mayor and introducing four of the Society's founders, Gladys Stewart Walters, Bess Cook Budde, Mabel Stewart Bales and Mary Firebaugh Swaney. A bronze plaque on the shelter house reveals the names of the founders, the date of the beginning of T.T.T., and the date of the dedication.

When Mrs. Helen Firebaugh Rogers resigned the editorship of *T.T.T. Tidings*, the Society's journal, she was succeeded by Mrs. Lela P. Caris of Chicago, but continues as associate editor. The March, 1954, issue of the magazine was dedicated to Mrs. Rogers and tribute was paid to her at the

Society's National convention for her years of service in many capacities.

Each issue of *T.T.T. Tidings* contains a message from the National president; announcements of new chapters; letters from local Societies; reports of National and State conventions, and messages from National Officers, Project Director and special committees. Many interesting news items and pictures enliven the pages.

National T.T.T. president for 1963 is Mrs. John R. White of Ft. Wayne, Indiana. State president for Iowa is Mrs. J. M. Moxley of Mt. Pleasant. Heading other State T.T.T. Chapters are Mrs. M. S. Hanson, for California; Miss Camille Eggleston, Illinois, and Mrs. Dwight King, Minnesota.

Past National presidents of T.T.T. include a number of Iowa women. These are Helen F. Rogers, Mt. Pleasant; Arlene Hoover, Wapello; Mabel Monson, Crawfordsville; Harriet Bunker, Newton; Irene Fairall, Des Moines; Frances Wagler, Bloomfield; Doris Smith, Ft. Dodge; Eda Boshart, Washington; Edna Eland, Ames; Lois Winegarden, Wellman; Elizabeth Maasdam, Fairfield; Lenore Weber, Des Moines, and Elouise Sorden, Washington.

Serving with Mrs. Moxley are these Iowa officers: Mrs. Kenneth Wells, Ames, vice-president; Mrs. Kermit Dreier, Hampton, organizer; Mrs. Don Alcorn, Des Moines, recording secretary;

Mrs. Dave De Cook, Sigourney, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Merle J. Brown, Waterloo, treasurer; Mrs. H. Calhoun, Oskaloosa, historian; Mrs. B. A. Fuller, Centerville, parliamentarian; and Mrs. G. L. Bennett, Des Moines, editor, state page.

The T.T.T. Society doesn't take its official leaders too seriously. Members who have served on the National Executive Board are initiated into the illustrious order of "Has-Beens," at the conclusion of their terms. In Illinois, past T.T.T. presidents become "We Wuzers," and in Iowa, past state officers are designated as "The Tarnished Brass."

During the coming year, T.T.T. Society members will be working for old projects and new; helping as "K. P.'s" and chaperons at their girls' camps, and aiding the needy at home. They will be living up to one of their slogans: "*Caring is Sharing.*"

DOROTHY ASHBY POWNALL

INSTALLATION DATE OF IOWA T.T.T. CHAPTERS

FOUNDERS CHAPTER—MT. PLEASANT

A Mt. Pleasant	6-30-1911	AA Waterloo	11-14-1936	BA Webster City	2-25-1948	CA Fort Madison	3-2-1954	DA Marshalltown	10-7-1957
B Brighton	June 1917	AB Mediapolis	1-14-1938	BB Rolfe	6-1-1948	CB Des Moines	3-3-1954	DB Des Moines	3-20-1958
C Boone*	Feb. 1926	AC Sioux City	5-7-1938	BC Eddyville	6-2-1948	CC Des Moines	3-3-1954	DC Waterloo	4-11-1958
D Des Moines	2-28-1927	AD Wellman	9-2-1938	BD Burlington	6-3-1948	CD Spirit Lake	3-4-1954	DD Mt. Pleasant	5-1-1958
E Fairfield	11-23-1928	AE Pella	10-21-1938	BE Farnhamville	10-1-1948	CE Des Moines	5-19-1954	DE Oelwein	5-22-1958
F Packwood	12-27-1928	AF Davenport	1-25-1939	BF Mason City	8-5-1949	CF Fort Dodge	4-2-1955	DF Des Moines	10-31-1958
G Wapello	5-6-1930	AG Des Moines	6-30-1939	BG Manchester	9-30-1949	CG Sioux City	4-22-1955	DG Cedar Falls	3-3-1959
H New London	1-10-1931	AH Pocahontas	11-13-1937	BH Waterloo	10-13-1949	CH W. Des Moines	5-23-1955	DH Lohrville	3-4-1959
I Eldon	1-10-1931	AI Burlington	12-9-1939	BI Ames	4-17-1950	CI Kingsley	6-1-1955	DI Dubuque	9-29-1959
J Wayland	4-2-1931	AJ Prairie City	2-24-1940	BJ West Liberty	5-9-1950	CJ Cedar Rapids	9-8-1955	DJ Des Moines	10-28-1959
K Newton	9-9-1931	AK Davenport	5-15-1940	BK Des Moines	5-9-1950	CK Donnellson	9-30-1955	DK Ames	11-16-1959
L Crawfordsville	9-24-1932	AL Iowa City	9-16-1941	BL Des Moines	5-10-1950	CL Iowa City	10-21-1955	DL Washington	3-24-1960
M Muscatine	7-16-1934	AM Fort Madison	9-24-1941	BM Sioux City	6-12-1950	CM Mason City	2-27-1956	DM Vinton	5-24-1960
N Sigourney	10-12-1934	AN Agency	4-29-1943	BN Des Moines	11-13-1951	CN Bettendorf	3-12-1956	DN Oskaloosa	5-25-1960
O Ames	5-16-1935	AO LeMars	10-14-1943	BO Des Moines	11-13-1951	CO Hampton	4-16-1956	DO Davenport	9-19-1960
P Winfield	4-2-1935	AP Des Moines	4-15-1944	BP Spencer	12-6-1951	CP Rockwell	8-31-1956	DP Des Moines	10-3-1960
Q Bloomfield	4-25-1935	AQ Clear Lake	12-7-1944	BQ Keokuk	5-5-1952	CQ Des Moines	10-24-1956	DQ Grimes	11-22-1960
R Columbus Jct.	7-23-1935	AR Lone Tree	4-7-1945	BR Ankeny	5-14-1952	CR Des Moines	10-24-1956	DR Des Moines	4-5-1961
S Des Moines	9-14-1935	AS Centerville	6-23-1945	BS Des Moines	10-6-1952	CS Des Moines	10-24-1956	DS Ames	4-6-1961
T Letts	10-11-1935	AT Fort Dodge	3-28-1946	BT Waterloo	3-18-1953	CT Hartley	10-25-1956	DT W. Des Moines	12-4-1961
U Mt. Union	6-29-1936	AU Grinnell	5-17-1946	BU Cedar Falls	3-18-1953	CU Coon Rapids	11-29-1956	DU Davenport	3-12-1962
V Massena	8-8-1936	AV Keota	6-19-1946	BV Davenport	2-9-1953	CV Newton	5-13-1957	DV Muscatine	3-13-1962
W Batavia	8-20-1936	AW Tipton	8-23-1946	BW Farmington*	4-29-1953	CW West Branch	5-22-1957	DW Waterloo	5-22-1962
X Fort Dodge	9-19-1936	AX Adel	9-17-1946	BX Dubuque	4-30-1953	CX Des Moines	7-12-1957	DX Seymour	9-7-1962
Y Washington	10-2-1936	AY Fort Madison	4-11-1947	BY Bonaparte	9-22-1953	CY Oskaloosa	7-12-1957	DY Le Mars	1-26-1963
Z Ottumwa	10-26-1936	AZ Marengo	9-24-1947	BZ Ottumwa	9-22-1953	CZ W. Des Moines	9-26-1957	DZ Davenport	2-5-1963
								EA Chariton	3-26-1963

*Inactive



T.T.T. Members and Husbands Gather for National Convention in Chicago in 1961.