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-

149

THE PALIMPSEST

150

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."

TIME OUT FOR FUN

151

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? Terrapin 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 Twopart Time? Does your favorite Heart-Throb wear a Toupee, a Tunic or a Toga? Is he a Taxidermist, a Technolo-

THE PALIMPSEST

152

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

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