

July 10, 1936

## EAGLE M. E. CHURCH CELEBRATES ITS 65TH ANNIVERSARY

From 5:30 p. m., on Saturday, June 27th, to 10 p. m. on Sunday, the Methodist church at Eagle was a hive of activity and sociability. The anniversary which had been planned for weeks back was now being celebrated. And what an anniversary? In the words of the Rev. Dr. R. B. Stansell, the District Superintendent, "It is the most unique and one of the most impressive celebrations I have ever attended." He was not alone in that spontaneous expression.

At 5:30 p. m., Saturday, the ladies had a wonderful supper ready for all comers. And they came; a big crowd, a jolly crowd, a good crowd. They came from all parts of the state. It was many from out of the State. It was good to hear them greet one another, after years of absence.

In between the supper and the meeting that followed scores visited the model church that the pastor had made for the occasion. There it was, complete to the minutest detail—pews, altar, piano, collection plates, furnace, coal-bin—nothing was omitted. Admiration was freely and readily expressed.

At 8 o'clock John Earl Baker was introduced as the speaker. It is safe to say that never has a better speech been given in the church than that to which the people listened then. From start to finish he held his people spellbound—oratory, interest and personality were all there; and they appealed wonderfully.

Sunday morning, at 9:30, the church was filled with worshippers, many of whom had been brought up in the church, and had been away for years. The Rev. Dr. Stansell preached a most wonderful sermon, which we shall not soon forget. In the afternoon he conducted the Fourth Quarterly Conference, when the business of the church was found to be in a most satisfactory condition.

In the evening, at 8 o'clock, the church was jammed to the doors. This was the focal point of the celebration. Ninety-seven people were to take part during the proceedings. After the opening, the pastor introduced to the people thirteen new members, who were to be received at that time. He gave the incoming talk, which was on BUILDING A LIFE. Mr. Richard Williams was actually constructing the model church, each part he fitted being relative to the building point the pastor had just raised. It was a most impressive service. Then came the reading of the church's history, which went back for one hundred years. That gave to the people an idea of the trail Methodism had blazed in this community during that time. By this time a temporary frame had been erected around the model church, in which were candle sockets. As the name of an old dead and gone pioneer was called so his next of kin living would come to the altar, accompanied by one of each succeeding generation, and place a candle in memory of the one who was represented. Fourteen were thus commemorated. Then came the present officers, and, lastly, the new members, each placing a candle on the building. It presented a wonderful sight at the close.

Votes of thanks were given by the pastor to the people, and by the people to the pastor and his wife. People went home expressing their delight at being able to attend, and that which they had witnessed by attending. One hundred and fifty postcards of the pastor and the model church—as produced in the Milwaukee Journal on Sunday—were sold during the celebration, while a beautiful five-layer cake, donated by Mrs. William Stevens of Racine, was cut into one hundred pieces and sold.

Yes; it was a wonderful time. The people who were there will long remember it.

### M. E. CHURCH

Divine service will be held in the above church on Sunday next at 9:30 a. m.

Let us continue the anniversary spirit, and make this year an outstanding year in our church attendance. There are only eight more weeks before our church year ends.

William B. Petherick