ANNOUNCEMENT
FOR
OPENING WEEK
OF THE
YOUNG WOMEN'S
CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION
NEW ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
5820 GERMANTOWN AVENUE

THE GIFT OF THE CITIZENS OF GERMANTOWN
PENNSYLVANIA
THE NEW ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

LOUIS H. Rush, Architect
YOUNG
WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION
OF GERMANTOWN
Organized 1872
Program for the Opening Week

Sunday, March 21st, 4.30 P.M. Dedication Services.
Hostesses, Vesper Committee
Bible Committee
Executive Committee

Monday, March 22nd, 4.30 P.M. Reception to Junior Members, their parents and friends.
Hostesses, Junior Committee
Junior Teachers
8.00 P.M. House Warming for Senior Members.
Hostesses, Monday evening classes

Tuesday, March 23d, 4.00 P.M. Reception to Germantown Teachers and Professional Women.
Hostesses, Association Teachers
Educational Committee
8.00 P.M. Reception to Germantown Business Men and their families.
Hostesses, Board of Directors
Tuesday evening classes

Wednesday, March 24th, 4.00 P.M. Reception to Germantown Women's Organizations.
Hostesses, Board of Directors
Current Events Club

Thursday, March 25th, 4.00 P.M. Reception to Germantown Teachers.
8.00 P.M. Reception to Germantown Business Women.
Hostesses, Educational Committee
Extension Committee
Physical Committee
Thursday evening classes

Friday, March 26th, 4.00 P.M. Reception to Private School and High School Girls.
Hostesses, Student Committee
8.00 P.M. Reception by Board of Directors to Subscribers and friends and to Young Men's Christian Association Board.
Hostesses, Board of Directors
House Committee
Friday evening classes

Saturday, March 27. Afternoon and Evening—Open House. Visitors welcome.
Hostesses, Social Committee
Physical Committee
OFFICERS

President.................................Mrs. Edward M. Wistar
Vice-Préidents
  Mrs. William Y. Warner, Religious Work Department.
  Mrs. William L. McLean, Business Department.
  Miss Emily R. Vail, Educational Department.
  Mrs. David Halstead, Social Department.
  Mrs. James S. Williams, Extension Department.
Treasurer.................................Mrs. William J. Montgomery
Recording Secretary....................Mrs. Frank Leake

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Term to expire May, 1915.

Mrs. Thomas Carmichael  Mrs. James S. Williams
Mrs. Charles Pancost     Mrs. Edward M. Wistar
Mrs. Arthur M. Kennedy   Mrs. W. Y. Warner
Mrs. J. S. McCracken     Mrs. W. F. Monroe
Mrs. Charles Smoot

Term to expire May, 1916.

Miss Hetty B. Garrett      Miss Natalie Kimber
Mrs. Wm. L. McLean        Miss Emily R. Vail
Mrs. W. J. Montgomery     Mrs. Dillwyn Wistar
Miss Hannah Morris        Mrs. Walter T. Lee
Mrs. David Halstead

Term to expire May, 1917.

Mrs. A. W. Button          Mrs. Morris A. Stout
Miss Mabel Denise          Mrs. John McArthur Harris
Mrs. Thomas Hodge          Mrs. Frank Leake
Mrs. John H. Smaltz       Dr. Eva M. Blake
Mrs. George Esterbrook

SECRETARIES

Miss Jane W. Button..........General Secretary
Miss Ruth C. Kirtland......Associate Secretary
Miss Faith Clark..............Junior Secretary
Miss Anna C. Atkinson......Physical Director
Mrs. Nelson J. Gulick.......Domestic Arts Director
Miss Mary Loughridge.......House Secretary
Miss Lucy Lightowler.......Office Secretary
Mrs. M. L. Goldie............Visitor
The

Young Women’s Christian Association

The Young Women’s Christian Association is the organization through which the women and girls of the community are gathered together under one common roof for service to one another. It is the channel through which they may work to a common end, for the physical, intellectual, spiritual and social development of all groups, believing that the best results can be obtained by drawing, with a common interest, those engaged in different occupations.

Because of the variety of interests centered in its building, it is a most democratic organization, where all women, regardless of lesser differences, may meet for business or pleasure. The Association wishes to have its building used to its utmost capacity.

To the churches not equipped for that purpose, it opens a door of opportunity for institutional work.

MEMBERSHIP

Regular membership dues—per year.............. $1.00
Sustaining membership dues—per year........... 5.00
Life Membership Dues (for the support of the Association, at any one time)............. 100.00
Junior membership dues—per year............... .50

ASSOCIATION PRIVILEGES

All women and girls of this vicinity, and parents of members, are cordially invited to make use of the Reading and Rest Rooms of this Association, to attend the Mothers’ Meeting, the Sunday Vesper Meetings, the Bible Classes and certain entertainments to which a general invitation shall be given.

Members of the Association are privileged, in addition to the above, to join the Association classes, to enter certain of them without tuition fee, such as English, Mathematics, Sewing, etc., to join the Association Clubs, i.e., Camp Fire, Loyalty, Educational, etc., and to have the opportunity to work on committees, and to serve the Association in various ways, according to the preferences and talents of the individual members.
Description of the
New Administration Building

The new building for the Young Women’s Christian Association of Germantown has been most carefully studied in order to fill the needs of all of the various activities represented in this splendid organization. No pains or effort have been spared to secure the very best in planning and arrangement, so that the completed building would be economical to maintain while fulfilling every present and prospective need.

The site selected at 5820-24 Germantown Avenue, although in the centre of a populous district, overlooks Vernon Park, thereby assuring an abundance of air and sunshine. The building itself is of the Georgian type of architecture so typical of Germantown and is placed sufficiently far back from the street to insure that air of quiet but earnest endeavor that is so typical of the work of the Y. W. C. A.

The building will be entirely devoted to the general work of the Association. No dormitories have been provided as it was very properly felt that it is impossible to establish an atmosphere of a real home amid the bustle and noise incidental to the activities of a large number of people.

The Association will welcome the young women of Germantown into its fellowship of work, mutual service, social companionship and recreation that makes life worth while to all of us. It is this social aspect that is foremost upon entering the new Germantown building. One passes directly from the vestibule to a large living hall or lobby, invitingly furnished. Three windows looking out on Germantown Avenue and two overlooking Vernon Park admit plenty of light and sunshine, while a large open fire place gives an added touch of comfort to the room. To the right of the entrance connected to the lobby by large sliding doors is the reception room, where large gatherings of a social nature and the religious services on Sunday afternoons will be held. This room also has a large open fire place.

Almost facing the entrance is the general information desk, back of which are the administration offices and the main coat room.

A broad passage extends through the centre of the building from the entrance lobby to the gymnasium. On the right of this is the main stair, lavatory and tower fire-escape, to the left a large Conversation room where the members may receive their friends. A small kitchenette is attached to this last to enable tea and light refreshments to be conveniently served.
GYMNASIUM

The gymnasium, separated from the rest of the building by a vestibule with double doors, is a splendid room, 50 x 70 feet in size, well lighted and ventilated by large windows on each side. A gallery is provided, seating 150 people and containing an asbestos booth for the moving picture machine. Beneath the gallery are the physical director’s offices and storage space for the portable stage and chairs used when the gymnasium is turned into an auditorium.

The Junior Department is in the basement with its own separate entrance. Here is provided an office for the Junior Secretary, class rooms, a large play room, coat room and lavatory so arranged that the closing of one door will separate entirely this department from the rest of the building. By the use of movable partitions the class rooms and play room may be thrown into one large room that may be used as a small auditorium while the floor of two other class rooms is raised to serve as a stage, footlights being provided with a cover to protect them when not in use. These rooms, when used as an auditorium, which would be mostly in the evening when the children were not around, would seat about 250 people.
A passage leads from the Junior Department to the baths. On one side of this is the boiler room and mechanical plant, on the other is the locker room and some extra dressing rooms. At the end of the passage is a kind of lobby from which stairs lead directly to the gymnasium. Here also is placed the counter from which the bathing suits and towels are distributed. Beyond this is a large room extending across the building, thereby assuring perfect cross ventilation, in which are placed the shower baths and dressing rooms. Low partitions form a passage across this room to the swimming pool room.

The swimming pool is one of the most completely equipped in this country. No study or expense has been spared to perfect it in every detail. The pool is 60 x 20 feet with a depth varying from 3 feet 6 inches to 8 feet. The pool room, almost surrounded by windows, is of ample width to accommodate 3 rows of seats on each side and still allow a wide space around the pool. The floors are arranged to drain away from the pool, but the spectators are protected from the splash and drip incidental to aquatic sports, by a low concrete wall. One entire end of the room is of light glass and iron construction insuring a flood of sunlight on the water.

Everything possible has been done to insure the constant purity of the water. An electric pump draws the water from the pool and forces it through two large filters. From the filters it passes through an ultraviolet ray sterilizer and then flows again back into the pool. The capacity of this cleansing and purifying apparatus is such that the entire water in the pool can be re-filtered and sterilized every ten hours. This sterilizer is the first of its kind to be installed in Philadelphia and is among the first dozen in this country, but they have proved very successful wherever used both in this country and abroad.

The first floor is largely taken up by the upper part of the gymnasium and the gallery, but at that point the portion of the building devoted to physical training ends. In the front on this floor are large, well-lighted rooms devoted to millinery and sewing classes, the balance of the space being devoted to a rest room, an emergency room (in case someone should be suddenly taken ill), a store room and lavatories.

On the top floor, in front, is a large club room with an open fire place, for the use of the various groups which find their inspiration in the Y. W. C. A. Divided only by a movable partition from this is a large dining room of ample size to seat 50 people. This room also has an open fire place. These rooms may be either used separately or together, for class suppers, reunions or other large gatherings. A large serving pantry connects the dining room with the Domestic Science Kitchen. A dumb waiter, direct from a special service entrance in the
basement, conveys all the supplies to the kitchen. There are two gas ranges provided, upon which the meals served in the dining room will be cooked, and in addition there are seven domestic science tables, each equipped with two gas burners, mixing boards, cupboards, etc., so that a class of fourteen may receive instruction.

Next to the kitchen is a room in which the Board of Managers will hold their meetings, while beyond that is a small suite of bedroom and bath for the use, in emergencies, of the Secretary.

The balance of the floor is divided into eight class rooms. Three of the largest of these are divided by movable partitions only, so that a large room, 26 x 60, may be secured at any time for exhibitions of student work or any other purpose.

Special precautions have been taken to prevent any danger of panic in case of fire. Not only is there a stand pipe with hose reels at every floor, but two tower fire escapes have been constructed, one at each end of the building, so that it will be impossible for anyone to be cut off from safety, but the construction of the building is such as to reduce to a minimum the danger of fire.
Religious Work Department

The courses planned by the Bible Class Committee include several short-term courses as well as two all-winter courses, providing systematic Bible and Mission Study, at convenient times, for volunteer workers, business young women and young women of leisure.

Sunday afternoon meetings are held at 4.30 o'clock during the winter months, when short, bright, inspiring addresses are given and good music, while an informal cup of tea adds to the enjoyment of the program and gives opportunity for better acquaintance with the leaders, committee members and secretaries.

Brief evening services are held each class night at the close of the class session—9.15 to 9.30, when the important announcements for the week are given, and the evening ends with a five-minute talk and a good-night hymn and prayer.

On the last Sunday afternoon of each month, the Vesper Circle, the only distinctly religious club of the Association, has its meeting. This club, composed chiefly of business girls, is for mutual helpfulness and the consideration of matters vital to the life of a Christian.

Educational Department

The Educational Department is one of the most active and useful in the Association. It comprises General Education, Physical Education, Domestic Arts and Domestic Science.

For information concerning all classes inquire at the General Office of the Association. Special appointments may also be made for interviews with heads of departments.

Many pleasant and lasting friendships are formed in the department, and the teachers always consider it their highest privilege to encourage and guide all who are associated with them.

GENERAL EDUCATION

English—The work offered in the English courses is graded to meet as nearly as possible the varying needs of students. For those who have recently come to America and who must necessarily acquire a working knowledge of the language, there is a class of English for foreigners. Following this come classes in Elementary English, in Grammar and Composition, and in Advanced Composition and Rhetoric. The Educational Club takes up some form of literary study each year; this winter the aim of the club is to gain a slight acquaintance with the three great masters, Homer, Dante and Shakespeare, and to discuss some important current topics.
Domestic Arts

Arithmetic—Work in this branch, like that of the English classes, is planned according to the demand. There are groups studying Elementary and more Advanced Arithmetic, and one beginning Algebra.

Special Classes in Modern Languages and in other subjects are formed if there are enough applicants to warrant securing a teacher.

Hand Crafts—Basketry and Stenciling are interesting and attractive courses, and are taught by experts. Special groups may be arranged for by applying at the office.

First Aid to the Injured is of especial interest this year, and is offered by the Association in response to a demand.

Domestic Science

Courses in Elementary and Advanced Cooking, in charge of an experienced teacher, are offered in this Department. Both day and evening classes will be formed, and will include fundamental principles of combining foods, a study of nutritive values, practical cooking, recipes, table service, etc.

Private classes are frequently arranged among groups of friends.
Domestic Arts

This department had its beginning more than a decade ago with two evening classes in Dressmaking. Now it has a yearly registration of over two hundred members and seven teachers. There are day and evening classes in Dressmaking, Millinery, Embroidery and Plain Sewing. Instruction is given in elementary and advanced work, and according to the latest and most approved methods. Observation and practice are emphasized, but not to the exclusion of the garment produced. Street and evening gowns are made, undergarments, velvet and straw hats, wire frames, bows and rosettes, ribbon flowers, centerpieces and doilies.

A short summer course begins in May, during which two dresses are made.

Each year the members have raised money toward a fund for equipment, and no worthy girl has ever been compelled to discontinue her course for lack of material or unpaid fees.

Physical Department

Here is developed good health among our members. The use of the gymnasium produces systematic development of the body, it corrects physical defects, it strengthens the muscles, it improves the circulation, it increases the respiratory powers and gives agility and grace of movement.

Classes are offered for general exercises, corrective and medical work. The courses include Swedish Gymnastics, Marching, Indian Club, Dumb Bell, Wand and Hand Ring Drills, Apparatus Work and Folk Dancing, Basket Ball, Volley Ball and Indoor Tennis.

The costume consists of black bloomers, white sailor blouse and gymnasium shoes.

The gymnasium, dressing rooms, lockers, shower baths and offices are equipped with all modern and necessary appliances.

A medical certificate is required of all entering gymnasium classes and of those using the pool.

Swimming Pool

It is our aim to teach the women in Germantown to swim. It is an excellent exercise to increase strength, to produce good carriage and poise, and it also will develop self-reliance and courage. It may be a means of saving life.

All the regulations regarding the use of the pool are planned for the convenience, protection and benefit of its patrons. It can be used at
any time except meal hours. The pool fee includes suit, shower bath and dressing room. Suits worn in the pool will be furnished by the Association. Every suit after being used will be disinfected and no suit will be allowed in the pool that has not been subjected to this treatment.

For the protection of all, before entering the pool, everyone is expected to present a physician’s certificate guaranteeing freedom from skin and heart trouble.

**Junior Department**

This department aims to take care of the girls from nine to sixteen years of age, through class and club work along educational and recreational lines. Each class meets weekly and is in charge of a volunteer teacher. Following the class work, a half hour is given to stories and games.

All girls are invited to visit our new rooms, and join in our good times.

Special attractions for High School girls in the gymnasium, swimming pool and club work.

The membership fee is $0.50 per year.

Gymnasium and swimming—additional fee.

**Home Department**

As the new building is arranged for all the general activities of the Association, the old building will be retained as the Association residence, and a larger number can now be accommodated there. About twenty self-supporting girls and a few transients can be taken care of for a very reasonable price, in rooms that are well lighted, ventilated and comfortably furnished. The well-served meals are of the best quality and afford a pleasing variety.

It is now possible to serve in the dining room, a few extra people who may drop in for single meals, but the Association expects before long to open a regular cafeteria in the residence building, of which due notice will be given.

**Social Department**

The Social Committee and the Loyalty Club are in charge of the program for all social events, every Saturday evening being devoted to this part of the life of the Association.

These occasions are varied to suit the seasons and the many interests represented. Parties, concerts, sketches, banquets, club meetings, lectures, picnics and walks are some of the entertainments arranged for by this committee.
Appreciation

The members and officers of this organization take this opportunity of expressing their appreciation of the generosity of the citizens of German-town, who made possible, by their contributions to the Finance Campaign held in the spring of 1913, the erection of the comfortable building which the Association is now to occupy. This building is the largest and best equipped in proportion to the size of the city. The doors of the building will be open daily to all young women, regardless of their circumstances or creed.

They also desire to express their appreciation to Mr. Louis H. Rush, architect, for his skill and earnest co-operation in planning an ideal building for Association activities.

To the Wm. J. Gruhler Company and their corps of assistants we express our thanks for their pains-taking care in the work of erecting the building.
“To become a member of the Young Women’s Christian Association is not to buy a dollar’s worth of privileges or to sell a dollar’s worth of support of a thing that is good and ought to be kept going, but is to share in something which is living, and sharing means giving what one has and getting in turn what others have given.”

Jessie Wilson Sayre.