

A Civic Movement

===== TO MEET =====

A Great Civic Need

101

GENERAL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE

J. C. BASSETT, Chairman

A. F. MILLIGAN, Chairman Executive Committee

W. D. SWAIN, Vice-Chairman Executive Committee

W. G. BICKELHAUPT, Treasurer

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ROSWELL BOTTUM

H. C. JEWETT

GEO. M. L. ERWIN

B. C. LAMONT

GEO. H. FLETCHER

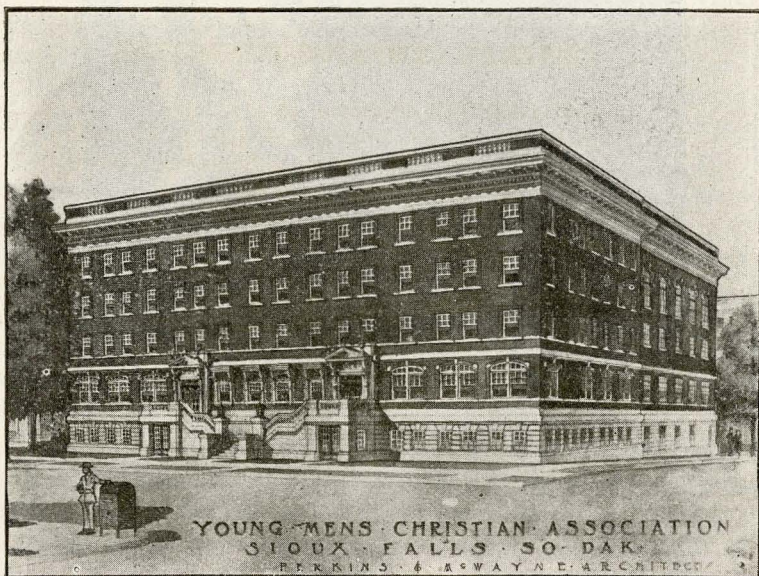
ISAAC LINCOLN

C. N. HARRIS

GEORGE MABBOTT

J. C. SIMMONS

THE GREATEST CIVIC PROJECT
BEFORE ABERDEEN IS
The Conservation of its
Young Men and Boys



Young Men's Christian Association Building now being erected
in Sioux Falls.

The Greater Aberdeen Depends Upon Our Boys.

“The Test of a City’s Greatness is the Kind of Men it Brings Forth.”

—Ralph Waldo Emerson.



Beloit, Wisconsin, ‘Man Factory’.

“The Young Men’s Christian Association’s work with Boys is scientifically correct in that it recognizes the whole boy and adapts itself to his entire needs rather than to any one exclusively, and appeals wholesomely to his ambition to become a man. If you are going to do anything permanent for the average man you have got to begin before he is a man. The chance of success lies in working with the boy and not with the man.”

—Theodore Roosevelt.

A STATEMENT

Many of the leading citizens of Aberdeen have for years desired to establish a Young Men's Christian Association in this city. Action on the project has been delayed until a community-wide conviction based on actual need of the Association program for boys and young men has grown up. Sensing this community feeling, a group of men met last fall to discuss ways and means of building a Y. M. C. A.

They doubted the ability of the city to raise a fund large enough to build an adequate building; and they were not convinced that the maintenance of the enterprise was possible through the three ordinary sources of association income: Dormitory rentals, cafeteria returns; and boy's, young men's, and business men's subscription memberships. So they sent a committee of three of their own number, J. C. Bassett, W. G. Bickelhaupt, and A. F. Milligan,—on an investigating trip through a number of Associations in near-by states.

The proposition now being submitted to the citizens of Aberdeen is the result of that investigation. These men came back thoroughly convinced that the project was practical.

And secondly they came back convinced that the Y. M. C. A. with its vigorous, four-fold program of citizenship training is what Aberdeen needs.

The Y. M. C. A. will present to the 2,000 young men and boys of Aberdeen a physical training program of classes, play, and games in a well-equipped gymnasium and under expert direction. It will offer a clean comfortable place of meeting for boys and young men in a friendly atmosphere, with constructive social activities under friendly direction for the boys away from home, as well as for those with homes in the city. Its dormitories will be a big feature of this service. The Association will offer such supplementary educational night classes as a survey of the city's needs will suggest. And lastly it will retain its distinctive character by forwarding practical Christianity in cooperation with the churches.

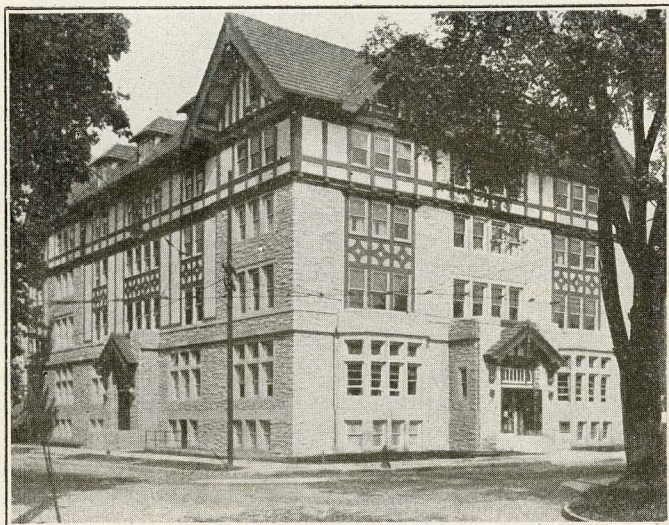
Therefore the citizen's committee submits the following:

PROPOSITION

That we enter at once into an active and well-organized campaign for the securing of at least \$175,000 for the erection and equipment of a modern Young Men's Christian Association building in Aberdeen.

“There is possibly nothing needed worse in our cities and towns than well-equipped Young Men’s Christian Associations, which shall stand for character building in the three-fold way in which the Association works.”

—Theodore Roosevelt.



Appleton, Wisconsin, is a “city of homes”.
It’s Y. M. C. A. reproduced above, is a Home
Away From Home for the boys that come into it
to start their lives in a new place.

“A great Christian Association club, in an adequate building will keep men from drinking, gambling, and other vices, by offering them an opportunity to spend unoccupied hours in a home atmosphere, surrounded with good influences. The Young Men’s Christian Association has come to be recognized as a powerful and necessary factor both in business and in government.”

—William Howard Taft.

“If I had my life to live over again, I would not put less into the Young Men’s Christian Association, but would double what I have done.”

—John Wanamaker.



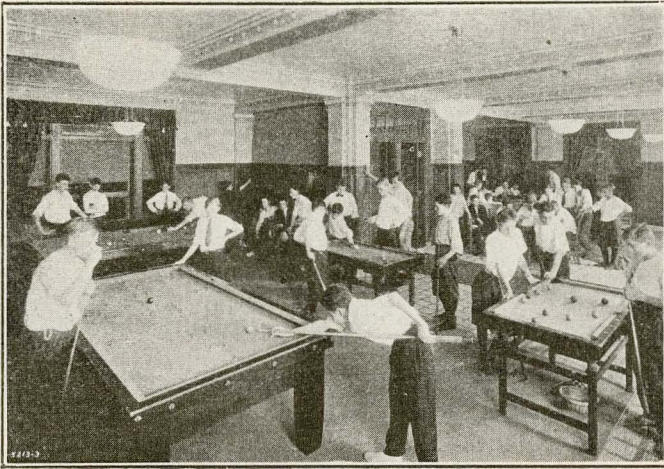
Winona, Minnesota, Y. M. C. A.

“You may think it strange for a Jew to encourage the building of a Y. M. C. A., but I do not believe there is a better work than that done by the Association.”

—Julius Rosenwald.

"Any idea or ideal which you wish to dominate a nation must first lay hold of thoughtful boys; the age of boyhood is the age that determines the future; history shows that character is determined by Youth."

—John R. Mott.



The play-time of a boy determines his moral character far more than his school surroundings, or his church influences. Is Your Boy's Play-Time Supervised?

"The Young Men's Christian Association is perhaps the best expression which has been reached by modern methods of bringing good influence to bear on young men."

—Hamilton W. Mabie.

A TRIED AND TESTED METHOD.

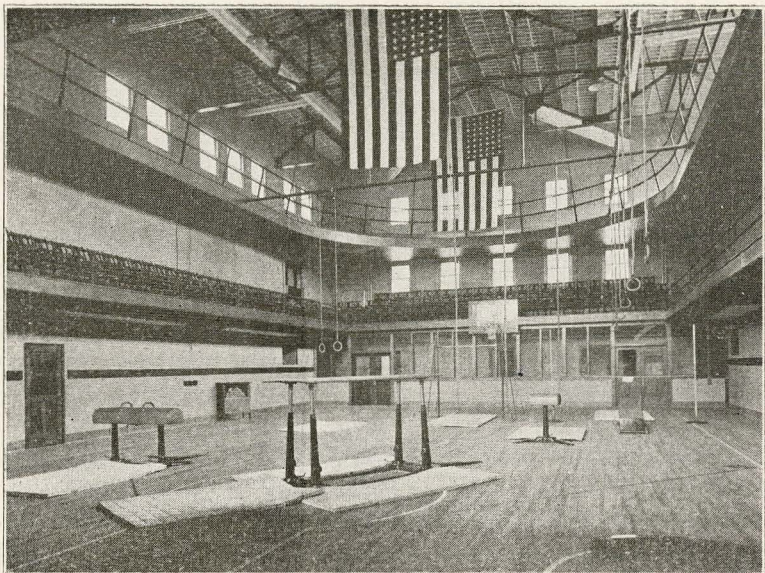
The Y. M. C. A. has won recognition all over the country as the standard agency for helping young men and boys to help themselves. It meets a recognized need in preoccupying and conserving their leisure time. It has a well-defined purpose in the production of symmetrical Christian character, by the normal development of body, mind, and spirit. Its program is essentially a four-fold program of athletic, educational, social, and religious activities closely inter-related. It has developed a unique and dependable method that appeals powerfully to young men, developing efficiency and power as few other institutions do. The increase in earning power alone that comes from the increased health, knowledge, social spirit and purpose of its members has repaid the public many-fold for the investment they have made in its buildings and equipment.

Such a program is necessarily dependent on the knowledge and ability of the men who run its activities. A nation-wide training system has therefore been developed. Three Association colleges are located in various sections of the country, giving regular three and four year courses in association secretarial training. And since the life of the movement depends on its continuous and uniform progress, a system of summer school training institutes for all association employed officers has been developed that is the most complete in existence. Fifty per cent of the employed staffs of the Associations of America are in attendance for from three to four weeks every summer at these institutes. There need be no gamble on secretaries. A system like this insures high grade and qualified men.

From them the Y. M. C. A. has built up an international organization of experts that makes available the year round to all its affiliated and self-governing units the experience of Associations in hundreds of other cities. These are a guarantee to every city that a certain type of work and certain standards of efficiency will be maintained. During the past century many agencies have been promoted with good intentions; few have been built on a permanent basis. In all of our leading cities the Association is successfully standing the test, and in meeting the needs of community life, not for a short time only, but steadily, from decade to decade. Its success in local fields is in no small measure due to the fatherhood of the international organization.

"You can test the modern Community by its Interest in its Young Men's Christian Association."

—Woodrow Wilson.



A Corner of the Gymnasium.

In the water, THERE'S the Life!

"Modern health investigations make plenty of Exercise taken under careful supervision, in clean airy surroundings, and accompanied by the spirit of fun and companionship that we used to have at the old swimmin' hole, a prerequisite to health and vigor. And that means a prerequisite to success in living."

WHAT A MODERN ASSOCIATION BUILDING CONTAINS.

Social rooms which include a large foyer or reception lobby, which is the general gathering place. The boy's lobby is separate from the men's.

Reading room, music and lounging rooms, billiard room, restaurant, lunch room, and small dining rooms.

An Athletic Department including a gymnasium, individual exercise rooms, hand-ball courts, wrestling, boxing and fencing rooms, bowling alleys, a swimming tank, shower baths, steam room, rest room, separate locker rooms for boys, young men and business men, and a physical examination room.

Class rooms where a school can be conducted, where young men can increase their vocational efficiency and capacity for enjoying life.

Office, library, and rooms for religious work.

An Auditorium and banqueting room.

General offices and committee rooms, check rooms, toilet, space for barber shop.

Dormitory rooms for from fifty to a hundred away-from-home young men.

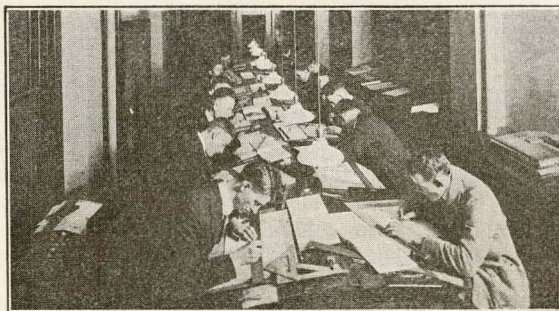
THE GYMNASIUM.

One of the principal features of the Y. M. C. A., building is the gymnasium, and certainly the most popular department of activity is the Physical department. This popularity is based on three things: First, a recognized need in city life for organized physical training and class work. Second, a scientifically developed program of graded activities, calisthenics, and games. Third, careful and expert supervision of all gymnasium work by a trained Physical Director. Without the fundamental need for exercise as a prerequisite for health, and the total lack of exercise facilities in most cities, the Y. M. C. A., would never have been called upon to put a gymnasium into its program. But the need is there, and the program answers. Without a scientifically developed program, carefully graded for varying ages of boys and men, the Physical department would have gone out of existence long ago. But the science was there, and the Association developed it till the Association system has been taken over by the Army, the educational agencies of the country and of the world, and private clubs everywhere. And without careful and expert supervision more harm than good would have been done to growing boys and business men in games and work. But that need too was seen, and trained personnel secured, till at the present time perhaps the strongest department of the association is its Physical Department.

“The City which does not Regard its Boys as Its Greatest Asset, is apt to find them its Heaviest Liability.”



The Association's educational program for young men is supplemental. It discovers the needs of the community, and develops the program to meet that need.



The Typical Gang is a Club if it is organized and supervised.

“Aberdeen as a City is essentially an agricultural center. Its men know the value of the hogs and corn of the country around it, and are ably supporting projects for better hogs and better corn. How about an institution that will produce BETTER BOYS? They are Aberdeen's greatest crop.”

THE BOY IS FATHER TO THE MAN.

It is self-evident that the boys of a community are its greatest asset. It is equally evident if you think about it, that they are the asset most easily enhanced or destroyed. The Boy's Department of the Young Men's Christian Association therefore has the greatest task in the city.

The Association program for boys is developed along natural lines. It believes that if a boy's time is occupied usefully, he will not want to become vicious. So it builds up a program of group activities that keep him busy when he wants to be busy. It believes that if a boy spends his leisure time in clean and wholesome surroundings, there need be no worry about his future. So it provides in its building fine lobbies and social and game rooms, for boys as well as for men.

It believes that if a boy is normally healthy in body, his chances of mental and spiritual development are far better than if he is below par physically. So it provides a splendid athletic and gymnasium program, and gives him clear instruction on health hygiene.

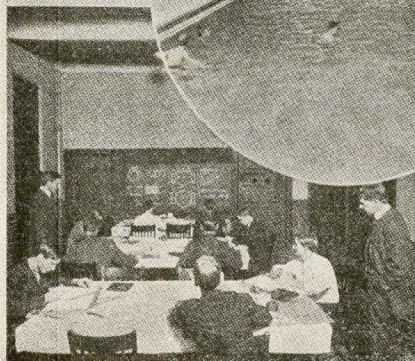
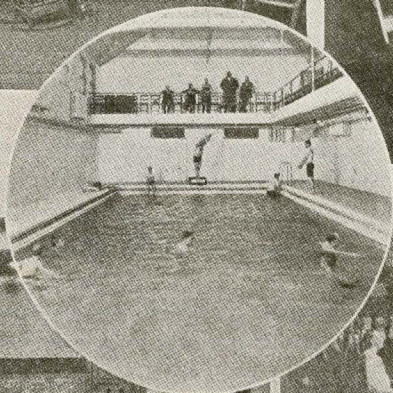
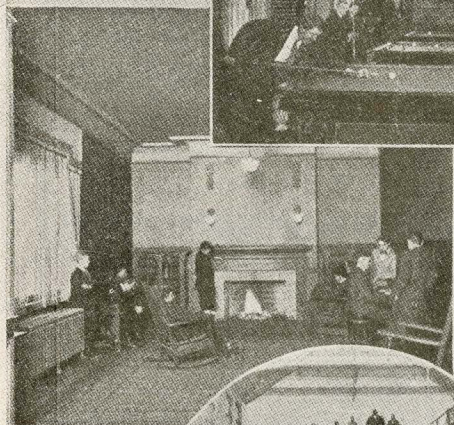
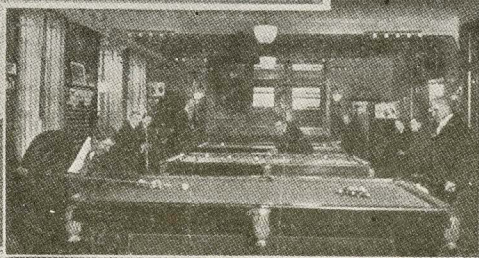
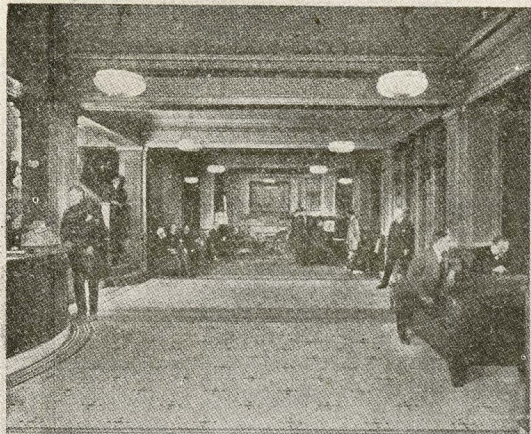
It realizes that a boy will not always be at home. That he must learn to take his place among his fellows. And it gives him a place to meet them, of the right sort.

It realizes that a boy must be given constant opportunity for self-improvement; constant inspiration to attain high ideals. And that every boy is by nature a Hero-worshipper. So the Association steadily holds before its boys the greatest of all Heroes, and teaches personal loyalty to His ideals.

It recognizes that a boy's life decisions are made in a large part before he is out of his teens. And it seeks to have him face up steadily and frankly with those decisions—his life work; whether he is to be a Christian or not; what his obligations to his fellows are, and how he is to meet them.

And lastly it realizes that all systems and methods and programs ultimately depend on the men who are organizing and running them. And it enlists in the community the best leadership available, seeks to train that leadership in boy-lore, and then ties it up to Boy Life.

For after all the boy is father to the men.



“The surroundings a man has during his leisure time determine his character.”



Dormitory Room Interior.

A clean and wholesome home, with cheerful and valuable neighbors, and constant inspiration to self development through Christian activities.

“Every boy who comes to maturity has cost the state,—that is you and me,—one thousand dollars. Some boys go wrong. When a boy goes wrong, we not only lose our thousand dollars, but we have to spend another thousand to protect ourselves against him. The Y. M. C. A. is an organization of manly men, whose sole object is to keep our boys morally, mentally, and physically RIGHT. The RIGHT ONES in turn keep others right. The Association is an investment that pays cumulative dividends, not only in cash but in character. Can you suggest a better investment?”

—T. A. Craig in Toronto World.

A FEW OF THE MANY GIFTS FOR Y. M. C. A. BUILDINGS.

ASSOCIATION	DONOR	AMOUNT
Sioux Falls, S. D.	John Morrell Co.	\$ 20,000.00
Sioux Falls, S. D.	Tuthill Lumber Co.	10,000.00
Sioux Falls, S. D.	Russell M. Bennett (Mpls.)	5,000.00
Sioux Falls, S. D.	Loonan Lumber Co.	5,000.00
Sioux Falls, S. D.	L. D. Manchester	5,000.00
Sioux Falls, S. D.	C. H. Ross	5,000.00
Sioux Falls, S. D.	C. W. Thompson	5,000.00
Sioux Falls, S. D.	W. I. Thompson	5,000.00
Minneapolis, Minn.	R. M. Bennett	50,000.00
Minneapolis, Minn.	Geo. H. Christian	25,000.00
Minneapolis, Minn.	The Dayton Company	25,000.00
Minneapolis, Minn.	Minneapolis, St. Paul and Sault Ste Marie Railway	25,000.00
Minneapolis, Minn.	John S. Pillsbury	25,000.00
Minneapolis, Minn.	Shevlin Company	25,000.00
Minneapolis, Minn.	C. C. Webber	25,000.00
Minneapolis, Minn.	Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Carpenter	15,000.00
Minneapolis, Minn.	Mrs. E. C. Gale	15,000.00
Minneapolis, Minn.	T. B. Janney	15,000.00
Minneapolis, Minn.	A. F. Pillsbury	15,000.00
Minneapolis, Minn.	Chas. S. Pillsbury	15,000.00
Minneapolis, Minn.	Mrs. Geo. Chase Christian	15,000.00
Minneapolis, Minn.	F. W. Clifford	10,000.00
Minneapolis, Minn.	L. S. Donaldson Co.	10,000.00
Minneapolis, Minn.	F. E. Kenaston	10,000.00
Minneapolis, Minn.	Lindsey Bros.	10,000.00
Minneapolis, Minn.	E. J. Longyear	10,000.00
Minneapolis, Minn.	Minneapolis Street R. R. Co.	10,000.00
Minneapolis, Minn.	Minneapolis Tribune	10,000.00
Minneapolis, Minn.	Washburn-Crosby Co.	10,000.00
Ottumwa, Iowa	The Foster family	50,000.00
New York	Cleveland H. Dodge	250,000.00
Rochester, N. Y.	Charles A. Eastman	250,000.00
Perth Amboy, N. J.	Mrs. Elizabeth Voorhees	40,000.00
Chicago, Ill.	Sears Roebuck Co.	100,000.00
Chicago, Ill.	Julius Rosenwald	150,000.00
East Moline, Ill.	John Deere Plow Co.	115,000.00
New Haven, Conn.	Winchester Arms Co.	100,000.00
Gary, Ind.	Judge E. H. Gary	250,000.00
Cincinnati, Ohio	Mrs. Thomas J. Emory	85,000.00
Cincinnati, Ohio	J. N. Gamble	50,000.00
Buffalo, N. Y.	Wm. A. Rogers	75,000.00
Nitro, W. Va.	U. S. Explosive Plant	150,000.00
Troy, N. Y.	Robert Cluett	150,000.00
Wilmerding, Pa.	Westinghouse Air Brake Co.	167,000.00
South Bend, Ind.	Studebaker Bros.	285,000.00
Lackawanna, N. Y.	Lackawanna Steel Co.	100,000.00

SOME OF THE ABERDEEN MEN AND WOMEN BEHIND THIS MOVEMENT

Mrs. Boyd	J. C. Simmons
J. C. Bassett	Isaac Lincoln
H. C. Jewett	B. C. Lamont
A. F. Milligan	Chas. A. Howard
S. C. Hedger	Yeldus Temple A. A. O. N. M. S.
A. W. Campbell	W. D. Swain
The Olwin-Angell Co.	Aberdeen Laundry Co.
W. C. Nissen	Squire Land and Loan Co.
Geo. M. Fletcher	G. M. L. Erwin
W. G. Bickelhaupt	W. E. Milligan
H. C. Behrens	David Strauss
John B. Romans	Scottish Rite
Geo. A. Mabbot	C. A. Draeger
Adolph Olander	C. A. Sauer
C. N. Harris	Brown Bros.
J. H. Firey	A. L. Ward
Aberdeen American and News	McDiarmid & Slatter Co.
Howard Smith	C. J. Lavery
L. T. Van Slyke	Wells Bros.
Thompson Yards, Inc.	Aberdeen Business College
Aberdeen Lodge A. F. and A. M.	The Home Furniture Co.
J. F. Hagerty	Spaulding Automobile Co.
Nick Heinzen	D. D. Jones
Witte Hardware Co.	The Dakota Farmer
W. F. Corrigan	

THESE MEN AND WOMEN BELIEVED.

“That it is fairer to train a boy to do right than to restrain him from wrong doing; that it is easier to cultivate good habits than to remove bad ones; that it is cheaper to prevent crime than to cure the criminal; that it is businesslike to form character instead of trying to reform it; and that it is better to win a boy to the Christian life when he is in the formative period than to wait till he is hardened.

“That every community should give its boys the best of intelligent care; that the best supervision can be brought about by community cooperation; and that even if a Community gains the whole world it is benefited nothing if it lose its own boys.”

And they are backing their belief with their money.

WILL YOU?

SUPERVISION.

Local Supervision and Management.—The Aberdeen Young Men's Christian Association will be supervised and managed by a Board of fifteen Directors elected by the active members of the Association from among their own number. The property and trust funds committed to it will be held by this Board of Directors or by a Board of Trustees nominated by them. The Association is incorporated under the law of the State of South Dakota governing Young Men's Christian Associations. The Directors will hire a capable, trained General Secretary who meets their requirements, a competent Physical Director and Boys' Work secretary to give all their time to the promotion of the Association's work.

The Aberdeen Association will be, like all local associations, a self-governing body in charge of its resident membership and the Directors they elect.

State Supervision.—The State Committee, with its three traveling specialists, assists the local association in developing standard types of work in all departments, aids greatly in the setting up of Boys Conferences, and unifies the work of the association in the state in a way that avoids duplication and local expense. Its service in bringing in speakers of national repute to its conventions and conferences is invaluable to the local secretaries and Directors in the development of their work. It is the promotional agency for new work in fields in the state where there is now no Association work, and as such is representing the local associations in all parts of the state.

International Supervision.—Just as South Dakota has a State Committee to supervise, promote, and develop the Association program throughout the state, so there is an International Committee which is responsible for a somewhat similar program covering all of North America, and through its Foreign Department, some thirteen other countries. The secretaries of this committee, some 111 traveling experts, are also at the call of the local Associations. Perhaps the most valuable immediate contributions of the International Committee to Aberdeen will be the supplying of the Campaign Director, the suggesting of a number of available General Secretaries, and Physical and Boy's work men for the local staff, the service rendered through the Building Bureau in the planning and erecting of the new building, and the aid and counsel of the Boy's Work Secretary for the Central Region in the development of the local Boys' Work program.

The State and International specialists cover the fields of: Buildings, Boys' Work, Business Administration and Financial Service, County Work, Educational Work, Industrial Work, Physical Education, Publications and Literature, Railroad Work, Religious Work, Work Among Students, and Secretarial Recruiting, Training, and Placing.

WHAT IS THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION?

It is high-class, far-sighted INVESTMENT in the greatest undeveloped resources of a city—its young men.

It is a wise and economical ENLISTMENT of young men themselves in the work of their own development.

It is an attractive and workable COMBINATION of the club, athletics, education, religion and organization, the most effective agencies known in mutual improvement work with men.

It is a far-reaching EFFORT of practical and resourceful men, through more than sixty years in nearly eight thousand places, on a solution of the vital and urgent problems of young men.

It is a philanthropic and also self-interested PROVISION of an all-round opportunity for young men.

It provides a CLUBHOUSE; the young men fill it and close evil places for lack of patronage.

It provides a GYMNASIUM; the young men use it, and put increased health and vitality into their day's work.

It provides a NIGHT SCHOOL; the young men join it, and gain and keep the higher places waiting for skilled labor and efficiency.

It provides THE GOSPEL; the young men practice it, and the community cuts down expenses for asylums, courts and jails.

It provides and organizes the TIME OF MEN; the best and busiest in the community. The young men respond to it and develop latent powers of character and service.

It invests money; it gets manhood.

It invests sympathy; it gets friendship.

It invests small sacrifices; it gets abundant and deathless dividends.

It invests time and things that might otherwise perish; it gets character that continues and perpetuates itself, in vital and constructive forces, for the moral and spiritual uplift of the world.

Its investments are human; its dividends are divine.

