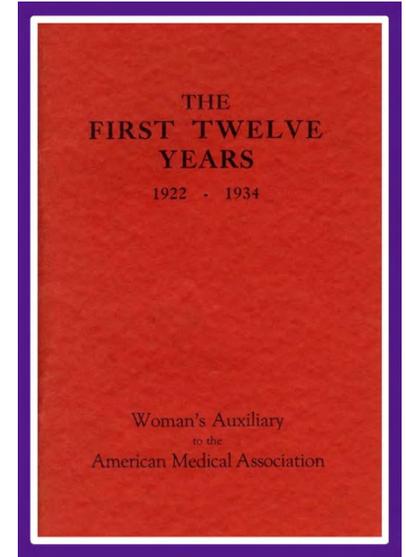


The Women's Auxiliary to the American Medical Association The 1930's

The 1930's were whirlwind years of growth as the organization fleshed out its purpose and developed and strengthened its publicity and communication pieces. By the end of the thirties, membership was 20,000 strong with all states represented and 37 states organized. Strong programs in health education were shared throughout the country and the Auxiliary collaborated with other women's national organizations and Parent-Teacher Associations. The Auxiliary was recognized as the AMA's "good right arm, our trusted associate."

- 1930: Thirty-seven states organized with 12,100 members but only 9,995 paid. Auxiliary pages begin in the AMA Bulletin. "Our grateful appreciation of the privilege of a department devoted to auxiliary affairs."
- 1931: The ninth annual convention took place in Philadelphia in June 1931. The "first" at this convention was the fact that the auxiliary registered all doctors' wives (total registration 1,439), regardless of whether or not they were members, and arranged for their entertainment.
- 1932: Annual meeting has registration from all states. For the first time the auxiliary has a room for exhibits at the AMA meeting. Dr. E.H. Carey, now president of AMA, who ten years before presented Texas resolution to AMA House of Delegates to organize a woman's auxiliary, reaffirms his faith in the auxiliary. AMA House of Delegates instructs Secretary to send a letter of appreciation "in order to stimulate interest in the auxiliary."
- 1933: Quarterly newsletter begins; Corrine Keen Freeman Fund established in memory of Mrs. Walter Freeman who died during her presidency.
- 1934: New constitution and bylaws written (not adopted until 1944); president urges "permanent, continuous form of executive administration"; Nominating Committee consists of nine members: three appointed by the president, six elected by board.
- 1935: Two new Study Program Envelopes issued: "Milk" and "Prevention of Blindness"; budget is \$3,200; Public Relations Committee urges cooperation with PTA units in health programs.
- 1936: Six Convention conferences conducted by national chairmen; message from President Franklin D. Roosevelt read to the House of Delegates; membership reaches 16,693.
- 1937: Recommendation read at annual meeting that paid secretary be employed by auxiliary; president indicates dues increase necessary to cover cost; awards given for greatest increase in Hygeia subscriptions; archives stored at AMA Headquarters in auxiliary-owned cabinet; membership: 18,259.
- 1939: Membership: 20,000; Newsletter is replaced by Bulletin, Vol. 1, No. 1; more discussion of staff and revisions, but neither is approved; group social affairs continue to be popular.



Past National Presidents The 1930's



1930-31
Mrs. J. Newton
Hunsburger



1931-32
Mrs. Arthur B.
McGlothlan



1932
Mrs. Walter
Jackson
Freeman



1932-33
Mrs. James
F. Percy



1933-34
Mrs. James
Blake



1934-35
Mrs. Robert W.
Tomlinson



1935-36
Mrs. Rogers
N. Herbert



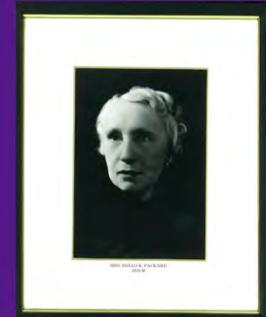
1936-37
Mrs. Robert
E. Fitzgerald



1937-38
Mrs. Augustus
S. Kech



1938-39
Mrs. Charles C.
Tomlinson



1939-40
Mrs. Rollo K.
Packard

Mrs. James Blake 1933-34 WAAMA President



Mrs. James Blake
1933-34
9th AMA Alliance President

Foreword

It gives me a great deal of pleasure to write a few words for the opening page of this Historical sketch of the first decade of our life as the Auxiliary to the American Medical Association. This work is of primary importance, for we have long felt, the beginning of such a work should not be too long postponed—if we were to have a detailed, accurate, comprehensive, permanent and trustworthy record of the early days of struggle, sacrifice and romance. If we are to keep vivid the memory of the dreams that have become realities, if we are to link our organized activities of today, with the sporadic efforts of the days gone by; if we would give the rising generation, an adequate knowledge of the debt of gratitude it owes to the pioneers in this Auxiliary work, we need this History of our first years, because our work is truly an ideal worthy of the best endeavors of the membership. Our hearts are dedicated to the work we have assembled, and the success we attain is as naught, when we contemplate the rewards that are as sure to follow as daylight follows darkness.

We owe a debt of gratitude to the splendid women who have kept our pages together all these years, and as you see the things that are accomplished, I have not the least fear but that your interest will grow, and that you will endeavor in every way to carry on the work and grasp the opportunities that lie before you.

Mrs. James Blake.

March 24, 1934.

*North Carolina WAAMA Members
1935*

