

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT

CHAPEL HILL

Curriculum in Folklore

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill 228 Greenlaw Hall 066A Chapel Hill, N.C. 27514

January 29, 1980

Dear Hugh,

Some long time back, you asked me for information about the order of the day at a nineteenth-century singing convention. I had a xerox of a session of the "Mountain Auxiliary Singing Convention" attended by William Walker, John G. McCurry and others in 1860. Knew I had it, because I remembered John Garst sending it to me. I looked repeatedly for it, but had misfiled it. Finally today, Eureka! I'm enclosing a copy.

Boiled down it seems to run like this;

Thursday, assembled about 1 p.m.

The President opens the session with one tune, followed by a prayer delivered by someone else; appointment of a Secretary.

One song leader takes the floor for 30 minutes.

Business session: setting up a "temporary arranging committee" all teachers and leaders present are asked to submit their names and are considered members for the session.

Recess: 30 minutes

Reassemble, with one tune by the President.

Song leader no. 2 leads for 30 minutes.

Business session: introduction of the classes brought by various teachers

Recess: 15 minutes

Reassemble --

Song leader no. 3 leads for 40 minutes President leads for 40 minutes Adjournment.

Friday, assembled at 8:30

Prayer

Song leader no. 4 leads for 30 minutes

Song leader no. 5 (secretary), for 30 minutes

Recess--15 minutes

Business session, I hour: letters read, members received, visitors recognized, election of next year's officers, appointment of committee of arrangement.

Recess: 30 minutes for dinner [even with a 15 min. prayer, this makes ll.am] Reassemble, with one tune by Chairman

Song leader no. 6, for 40 minutes

Recess, 15 minutes

Reassemble, with one tune by the Chair

Visiting teacher leads and makes instructive remarks.

Adjournment [ca. 1 p.m.?]

Saturday, assembled at 8:30

Singing of one song and prayer [by Walker] Chair leads one tune.

Business session -- next year's site picked.

Song leader no. 7, for 30 minutes

Recess: 15 minutes

Reassemble, with President leading, 30 minutes

Secretary leads for 30 minutes

Recess for dinner, 30 minutes [ca. 11?--depends on length of Walker's stint at the first and on the length of the business meeting]

Reassemble, with one tune by the chair
Song leader no 2 returns for 30 minutes
Song leader no. 6 returns for 30 minutes
Recess: 15 minutes
Reassemble for "a practical and instructive address" by Walker
Business: Urging other groups to action; thanks to host church.
Adjournment [ca. 2 p.m.?]

Sunday, assembled at 8:30

Singing and prayer, led by Song leader no. 8 Song leader no. 2, returns for 30 minutes Song leader no. 6 returns for 30 minutes Short recess

A few pieces of music led by Song Leader no. 9, followed by Song Leader no. 10

Recess for dinner, 30 minutes

Reassemble, with a few pieces of music and some instructive remarks by the President

Song Leader Walker leads few pieces and makes sympathetic, instructive, and encouraging address.

Sing "the good old tune 'Parting Hand'"

Invoke blessings "of the Great Author of music in Prayer." Adjourn

This is the schedule as near as I can figure it out, Hugh. Looks like they kept the leading to the very best teachers they had present. Ate fast. Adjourned fast.

Hope this is of some help. The plans coming along well? Did you get approval for the NEA grant?

All my best,

Dan