

JEN-977

Box 3

PACKET 32

HOFGAARD, ARTHUR

Individual Questionnaire for

# Biographical Record of Ministers

of the United Evangelical Lutheran Church (in America) and its parent synods:  
The United Danish Ev. Luth. Church, The Danish Ev. Luth. Church Association  
in America and The Danish Ev. Luth. Church in North America.

(Compiled for the Synodical Historical Archives)

122  
A. Hofgaard

**Personal Data:** (Please give all information you can)

Full name: Arthur Hofgaard

Born when: Mich. 17, 1880 where: Chicago, Illinois

Baptized when and where: In Chicago

Confirmed when and where: May 1902 at Blair, Nebr. by whom: Harald Jensen Kent

If immigrant, date of arrival in America: ..... located where: .....

Date of ordination: June 14, 1908 where: Waupaca, Wis. by whom: G. B. Christensen

If not in above synods, when and where accepted as member pastor of our synod: .....

Retired from active ministry when: not retired why: Retired Sept 1956

Located where: Minden, Nebr. occupation: Mgr. Bethany Od Peoples Home

If dead, what date: Sept. 20, 1960 where: Minden, Nebr. cause: Heart attack while sleeping last supper stroke 4 years before

Buried where Minden, Nebr. date Sept. 23, 1960

**Marriage:** (1) to whom Anne E. Larsen date and place: June 3, 1908 at Hampton, Nebr.

Wife's birthdate and place: Born in Illinois March 20, 1878

Her parents: Hans Larsen location: Hampton, Nebraska

If wife is dead, give date living

(2) Second wife (if any; give same information about her).....

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**Children** (give names and other information of interest, as occupation, spouse, and present address).....  
.Elna V. Married to Pastor Immanuel Petersen, now of Huskin, Nebr. ....  
4 children  
.Alvin H. Married to Florence Fritchhoff of Omaha, Nebr. They live in.....  
Omaha. He is a linotype operator with the World Herald. 2 children.....  
.Ethan H. in the U. S. Air corp. since 1939. Now in England. Married to.....  
Julia Bates. Have two children.....

Other information on family of historical interest, i.e., members in the ministry, missionary work, teaching and medical professions, etc.:

**Educational Training:** Give name of institution, location, and when attended.

No high school.

High Schools: Attended Dana College and Trinity Seminary from January 1902  
to May 1908.

Colleges (Give also degrees attained): no degrees.

Theological Schools: Trinity Seminary.

Honorary Degrees received (give name of institution and date): .....

Parents: Father (give name, birthplace, occupation, residence, etc.) .....  
Andreas Hofgaard, born on Skollerud Gaard, Norway. Came to America 1869.  
Lived in Chicago until 1880 when he moved to Nebraska. Carpenter by trade.  
Lived on farm from 1884.  
Mother (give her maiden name, birthplace, home before marriage, etc.) .....  
Helene Hadelar, born in Christiania now Oslo, Norway. Came to America  
in 1871. Lived in Bergen Norwar as a girl until she emigrated to America.

Ministerial Service. Please give in chronological order the names of congregations or charges served, and period of each.

West Branch, Iowa, June 1908 to January 1911.

Owatonna, Minnesota, three churches, Our Saviors, Dania, Lemond.

From February 1911 to September 1918.

Kenmare, North Dakota. Three churches: Nazareth, Bethany and Our Saviors.

From October 1918 to June 1926.

Minden, Nebraska. Bethany church from July 1926 to November 1938.

Also Superintendent of Bethany Old Peoples Home from July 1926 to <sup>Oct. 1956</sup> date.

Curtis, Nebraska. Ebenezer Lutheran Church from April 1938 to 1952.

REV. P. C. JENSEN  
STATISTICAL HISTORIAN  
UNITED EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH  
BLAIR, NEBRASKA

Offices held in Synod and Districts, and when:

District president in North Dakota-Montana District 1924 to 1926. Just two or three years.

District president of Nebraska District from July 1933 to 1936 (two or three years).

Worked on Pension Fund committees from 1935 to 1954. President of Pension Fund Board 1947 to 1954 date. Term expires 1955.

Other activities and official services-at-large (teaching, chaplaincy, editorial, etc., and period of each):

Literary production (books and pamphlets): Give titles and when published.

Compiled an index of the services each pastor in the United Danish Ev. Luth. Church in Am. had performed as to place, occupation and date up to 1958.

Also a corresponding index of ministerial services ~~xxxxxxxx~~ in each congregation in chronological sequence with data of month and year the pastors served.

Only typed 2 copies; one in synodical archives at ~~Dubuque~~ Wartburg Seminary in Dubuque, Ia.; another at historical library of The Am. Luth. Church in Minneapolis.

P.C. Jensen: 8/27/1960

Date July 9, 1954 Signed A. Hofgaard

NOTE: Our previous biographical records were lost in the tragic fire that destroyed the office building of the Lutheran Publishing House, Blair, Nebr., Febr. 15, 1953, where the synodical historian also had his office. This accounts for the detailed questionnaire now. In the case of deceased members of our clergy we are largely dependent upon living members of their family for correct data. Be assured all cooperation in gathering this historically important data will be highly appreciated. Please fill in what you can, perhaps with the assistance of others acquainted with subject. Furthermore, if you have clippings or other material about the person concerned, especially a photo or picture of him, and we may either have it or borrow it, please send it along. All our collection of cuts was also ruined in the fire. If you can refer us to any person, book or paper that can inform us further, we shall be very much obliged to you.

Return this report as soon as possible to

REV. P. C. JENSEN  
STATISTICIAN & HISTORIAN  
UNITED EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH  
BLAIR, NEBRASKA

**Rev. Hofgaard, 80,  
Minden, Is Dead**

Minden — The Rev. Arthur Hofgaard, 80, a former superintendent and pastor of Bethany Lutheran Church and Old Peoples Home here, is dead. Born in Chicago, he held pastorates in West Branch, Ia., Owatonna, Minn., and Kenmore, N.D., as well as Minden and Curtis in Nebraska.

Surviving are his wife, Anna; sons, Alvin of Omaha and Ethan of Puyallup, Wash.; and daughter, Mrs. Immanuel Petersen of Oregon, Wis.

9/23

Children (give names and other information of interest, as occupation, spouse, and  
 Elna V. ... Married to Pastor Immanuel Petersen, now 4 children  
 Alvin H. ... Married to Florence Fritchoff of Omaha, N  
 Omaha ... He is a linotype operator with the World-Her  
 Ethan H. ... in the U. S. Air Corp. since 1939 ... Now in A  
 Julia Bates ... Have two children.

God hath not promised  
 Skies always blue,  
 Flower-strewn pathways  
 All our lives through  
 God hath not promised  
 Sun without rain,  
 Joy without sorrow,  
 Peace without pain.

But God hath promised  
 Strength for the day,  
 Rest for the labor,  
 Light for the way,  
 Grace for the trials,  
 Help from above,  
 Unfailing sympathy  
 Undying love . . .

IN MEMORY OF  
 REV. ARTHUR HOFGAARD  
 DATE OF BIRTH  
 March 17, 1880  
 DATE OF DEATH  
 September 20, 1960

PLACE AND TIME OF SERVICES  
 Bethany Lutheran Church  
 Minden, Nebraska

Friday, September 23  
 At 2:30 P. M.

CLERGYMEN  
 Rev. Walter Kirkegaard  
 Rev. James W. Olsen  
 Rev. K. R. Jensen

PLACE OF INTERMENT  
 Minden Cemetery  
 Minden, Nebraska

ARRANGEMENTS BY  
 Layton Funeral Home  
 Minden, Nebraska

Dear Fellow Pastor:

I have just received word that Pastor A. Hofgaard, former Superintendent of Bethany Old People's Home, Minden, passed away on September 20.

The funeral services will be held at Bethany Lutheran Church, Minden, at 2:00 p.m. Friday, September 23.

Pastors attending the service are asked to bring their robes. We will assemble in the Pastor's Study at 1:45 p.m.

2:15

Sincerely,

James W. Olsen

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Bauer .....	1.00
Mr. and Mrs. Reuben Hansen .....	1.00
Mr. and Mrs. Henry Pollman .....	1.00
Mr. and Mrs. Merl Nielsen .....	1.00
Miss Lillie Hansen .....	1.00
Miss Laura Hansen .....	1.00
Mrs. Chris Andersen .....	1.00
Mrs. Sarah Madsen .....	1.00
From the estate of Pastor A. Hofgaard .....	192.00

#### Variety Gifts:

Chester Upson—1 bushel tomatoes  
 Jane Maxell—1 box apples  
 Ernest Westberg—2 bags potatoes  
 Mrs. M. Earl, Hinsdale, Ill.—2 paintings  
 St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Minden—Several doz. assorted cup cakes  
 Wm. Talbert—1 peck rutabagas  
 Carlson Bakery—65 loaves bread, 15 doz. doughnuts, 18 doz. cookies, 16 doz. assorted rolls, 2 doz. buns  
 Fredericksburg W.O.C.—1 peck potatoes, 10 lbs. flower, 75 lbs. sugar, 3 lbs. graham crackers, 1 lb. crackers, 1 bag macaroni, 2 lbs. raisins, 3 lbs. powdered sugar, 4 lbs. brown sugar, 2 boxes loaf sugar, 2 bags pancake flour, 6 cans peas, 2 cans green beans, 8 boxes jello, 2 boxes cake mix, 1 gal. peaches, 3 boxes oatmeal, 2 cans shortening, 5 lbs. coffee, 2 bundles tissue, 4 cans fruit.  
 In grateful appreciation,

Sincerely yours,  
 K. R. Jensen, Superintendent

When William Allen White gave Emporia, Kansas, a 50-acre wooded plot for a park and agreed to beautify it for five years, he said: "This is the last kick I'm getting out of these dollars— but it's the biggest. I have always felt that there are three kicks in every dollars: one when you make it—and how I do love to make a dollar; one when you have it—and I have the Yankee lust for saving; and the third when you give it away. The last kick is the biggest one of all."

*Memorial Rev. Hofgaard*

# Bethany Home Messenger

Volume XXXIII      September-October, 1960      Number 9-10

## Men Speaking From God

### The Prophet Jonah — First Chapter

The Book of Jonah is one of the most instructive of the shorter books in the Old Testament. The name Jonah is not very common, but it fits millions. For proof, read the Book often. Perhaps no book of the Bible has been criticized more than this one. A perplexing and irrational procedure is often used by rationalistic critics of the Bible. The palace of faith erected there, they first tear apart. Then, realizing that man is in need of something, they proceed to nail together a shack of the pieces.

There are men of the highest scholastic attainments on both sides of the question of the historicity of the Book of Jonah. Both groups have the same facts; both have evidently not the same faith. One side chooses to believe; the other side chooses not to believe. In each instance belief is a result of an action of the will, a choice. Back of that choice and of that will is the kind of life a person wants to live. That is the motivating and moving power.

There are greater miracles in the Bible than the one about Jonah and the fish. Incidentally, that is not the only miracle in the Book of Jonah. Think, for instance, of such miracles as the crossing of the Red Sea. Recall the experience of Daniel in the lion's den. The fish opened its mouth and swallowed Jonah. The lions closed their mouths and did Daniel no harm. Both were commanded to do so by God. It was also a greater miracle that God preserved the three friends of Daniel in the fiery furnace, than that He preserved Jonah inside the fish. And the resurrection of our Lord Jesus was a far greater miracle. Jesus was dead and was raised to new life; Jonah was not dead, but only in "solitary confinement" and was let out again. Personally, I believed that the

experience of Jonah was true before I became a minister, and I have had no reason to change since.

We might write as a heading over the first chapter: "FROM THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD," see verse 3. Jonah might be called the prodigal prophet. He wanted to get away from God, as the prodigal son wanted to get away from home, though not for the same reason. Why did Jonah expose himself to the dangers of the sea? Why did he leave his country? He was not in danger of a concentration camp or of the "gestapo" if he stayed. His doctor had likely not ordered a change of climate. Why do others try to escape "from the presence of God?" In this connection read Psalm 139. See Obadiah, verse 4.

When Jonah entered the most secluded cabin of the ship, he probably said to himself, "Well, here I am," and the voice of God replied, "And here I am."

Jonah was taking refuge in a city "from the presence of the Lord." The attempt would be amusing if there were not millions who follow his example today. Convince yourself that you can't hide from God. If your way of life is like that of Jonah, that is, in the opposite direction from the way God has pointed out to you, learn the lesson from Jonah and turn back. That applies to you if you are a prophet (Jonah was) or a peddler. Jonah was sailing on a neutral ship, but the hand of God reached down and took him off, and there was no protest. The road having the marker, "From The Presence of the Lord" is very, very dangerous. Turn back at once.

The city of Nineveh, the capital of the Assyrian Empire was likewise away "from the presence of the Lord." It was a great and wicked city. But God is aware of the life of cities as well as of nations. The individual as well as the group is held accountable on Him.

Another thought in the chapter might be expressed by the words: INTO THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD. The crew of the ship on which Jonah sailed seems to have been, what such crews at times are, a motley collection of people. Each man cried to his own god for help. They urged Jonah to follow their example, but

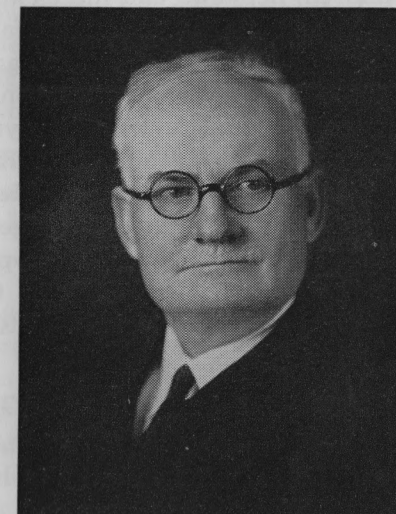
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#### BETHANY HOME MESSENGER

Published bi-monthly by Bethany Old People's Home, Minden, Nebraska at Lutheran Publishing House, 138 North 17th Street, Blair, Nebraska. Subscription price 25 cents a year. Editor, Pastor K. R. Jensen, Minden, Nebraska. Second Class postage is paid at Blair, Nebraska.

he would have to reply that he was not on speaking terms with his God. His was not a child-like fear of God but fear of punishment. —They were not the only sailors who have prayed in their difficulties. The following is a quotation from the diary of one of the men on board the flagship of Admiral Byrd, sailing toward the South Pole in 1934: "7 p.m.—Away goes a piece of the ship's railing, ventilators and boat covers. Heavy seas sweep the ship. Only God can save the ship now. The men are falling down praying. They are asking divine protection . . . 9 p.m. The barometer is rising at last. The gale is slacking to 85 miles per hour. Thank God. Our prayers have been answered."

In the course of Jonah fleeing "from the presence of the Lord," these sailors came into the presence of the Lord—God can make even stubborn and disobedient men serve His purpose. So for this time we leave Jonah, a self-willed sinner, as the sailors left him, in the hands of a disciplinary God.



#### OBITUARY OF A. HOFGAARD

The Rev. Arthur Hofgaard was born in Chicago, Illinois, March 17, 1880, to Andrew Hofgaard and Helene Hadelor Hofgaard. He came to Kearney, Nebr., in 1880 and moved to a farm west of Ravenna in 1884 and attended country school. He was baptized and confirmed in the Lutheran Church.

In 1902 he entered Dana College and graduated from Trinity Seminary in 1908. He was ordained into the holy ministry on June 14, 1908, at Waupaca, Wisc.

He served a parish in West Branch, Ia., from 1908 to 1911, in Owatonna, Minn., 1911 to 1918, in Kenmare, N. D., 1918 to 1926 and



has lived in Minden since 1926. He served the Bethany Lutheran Church of Minden from 1926 to 1938 and Ebenezer Lutheran Church at Curtis from 1939 to 1947 and from 1948 to 1950. He served as the superintendent of the Bethany Home from 1926 to 1956 and for a short time during 1958 and has been retired since that time.

On June 3, 1908, he was united in marriage to Anna Larsen of Hampton, Nebr., and to this union three children were born.

Pastor Hofgaard was preceded in death by his parents, three brothers, Albert, Walter and Henry and two sisters, Cecile Hofgaard and Sophia Reinertson.

He passed away quietly at his home at the age of 80 years, five months and three days.

He leaves to mourn his passing his devoted wife, Anna, a sister, Mrs. Hattie Hice, Minden, a daughter, Mrs. Elna Petersen of Oregon, Wisc., two sons, Alvin of Omaha and Ethan of Tacoma, Wash., nine grandchildren, nephews and nieces and many friends.

He is remembered as a loving husband, father and friend. Blessed be the memory of Pastor Arthur Hofgaard.

Funeral services were held Friday afternoon, Sept. 23, at the Bethany Lutheran Church, Minden, with clergymen Rev. Walter Kirkegaard, Rev. James W. Olsen and Rev. K. R. Jensen conducting the services. Interment was in the Minden Cemetery. The Layton Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Board members of the Bethany Home were pallbearers. They were Ed Petersen, Emerald Nielsen, Martin Christensen, Jim Pedersen, Harold Paulson and Paul Nelson. Visiting clergy were honorary pallbearers.

#### ✓ THE PASSING OF PASTOR HOFGAARD

"He was not, for God took him." This became literally true about Pastor Hofgaard. He was taken away in his sleep. No one knows the moment. He was a great man and a great Christian. It took much planning and work to build up Bethany Home from one small house to what it is today. And it took a large measure of humility and patience and energy to direct the affairs of the Home during these many years.

Pastor Hofgaard relinquished direction of Bethany Home four years ago, but he never really retired. He continued to do odd jobs at the Home such as delivering the mail, help paint a room, and fixing this and that. He also continued to serve as a member of the Bethany Home Board. As such he gave valuable advice. The one thing continually in his mind to the end was the New Nursing Home. Shortly before he passed away the Board in his

presence voted that the New Home shall be called the Hofgaard Memorial.

It seems strange not to see him around any more. It is as though one meets his presence everywhere around here—on the grounds, in the halls, and in the rooms. Many people are grateful for the care given parents, brothers and sisters under his supervision. I am confident that he has heard or will hear the commendation of our Lord: "well done, good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will set thee over many things; enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

K. R. J.

#### LIFE AT BETHANY HOME

"The year now hastens to its end,

Bleak is the country side;

A sad farewell in song I send

The fleeting summer tide.

"I know where I for hope may flee

When nature fadeth here,

On Golgotha, my Savior's tree

Stands verdant through the year.

"He pledges me eternal life,

Though winter storms assail;

He broke the tomb and won the strife,

His promise cannot fail."

The beginning of Fall has been very pleasant this year. Bright sunshine has characterized almost every day. And at this writing there has been no frost as yet. Some of us would like to have frost, as it would help to dry the corn. One sure sign of winter approaching is that more people would like to get into the Home. As of today, October 15th, we have room for two men, but no women. We could make good use of a handy man, not too old and in good health to help with the chores around the Home.

Some of our women have again this year had their flower gardens. The flowers are still pretty, but begin to show the effect of some rain and wind. They fade as do many of our people here.

We have had several of our people in the local hospital from time to time. It is fortunate for us that we have three fine doctors. They all serve our people. Some prefer one and some another. They are all very generous with their time and service when we are in need.

Since the last issue of the "Messenger" we have had only one party. Another is scheduled for next week. The one we did have

was a big one. The ladies of Fredericksburg Church to the south of us made their annual visit to Bethany on October 4th. About thirty women were on hand for the visit. They had a well-prepared program of group singing, devotion, special music, and several readings. Then the always appreciated lunch with several kinds of sandwiches, cookies, cake and coffee. And afterward an informal social hour. The ladies also brought us a generous pantry shower. May their tribe increase! Thank you very much. We shall look for you again next Fall.

K. R. J.

**GIFTS RECEIVED from August 18th to October 15th**

**Gifts of money for the New Nursing Home:**

Mrs. Ruth A. Warp, Minden .....	\$ 50.00
Rebekah Circle of Christ the King Lutheran Church, Denver, Colo. ....	7.00
Gifts in Memory of Mrs. Fred Lyden, Axtell, Nebr.:	
Mr. and Mrs. Otto Frerichs, Hildreth; Miss Hormke Quadhamer, Hildreth; Mr. and Mrs. George Wester- buhr, Hildreth; Mr. and Mrs. Frank O. Johnson, Up- land, Nebr.; Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Wegner, Stevens Point, Wisc.; Mr. and Mrs. John Tornow, Appleton, Wisc.; Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Quadhamer, Hildreth .....	6.00
In Memory of Mrs. Fred Lyden:	
Mr. and Mrs. Holger Boisen, Minden; Mr. and Mrs. Herman Fritson, Axtell; Mr. and Mrs. John Fritson, Minden; Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Harris, Minden; Mr. and Mrs. Edward Olson, Axtell; Mr. and Mrs. Rudy Strat- man, Axtell; Mr. and Mrs. George Wendell, Minden; Mr. and Mrs. Verle Wendell, Axtell; Mrs. W. O. Wen- dell, Wilcox; Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Bang, Minden .....	10.00
Gifts in Memory of Mrs. Minnie Bundgaard, Minden:	
Mr. and Mrs. Gus Soterin; Mr. and Mrs. Ernest J. Christensen; Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Johannesen; Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Andersen; Mr. and Mrs. Jim Pedersen; Mr. and Mrs. Dan Thomsen; Mrs. Katie Twombly, all of Minden .....	3.50
Gifts by Friends of Mrs. Minnie Bundgaard .....	11.00
Memorial Gifts for Mrs. Andrew Jensen, Minden:	
Mrs. Roy I. Bang; Mrs. L. B. Glantz; Edith Petersen; Mr. and Mrs. A. I. Petersen; Mr. and Mrs. Richard Jensen .....	5.00
Gifts by Relatives and Friends in Memory of Mrs. Anna E. Anderson (Grandma Anderson) .....	55.00

Circle No. 3 of St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Northfield,  
Minn. .... 25.00

**Gifts in Memory of Pastor A. Hofgaard:**

Residents of Bethany Home .....	\$ 10.00
Mr. and Mrs. Martin Christensen, Minden .....	10.00
Mr. and Mrs. Dale Christensen, Minden .....	1.00
Mrs. Val Jensen, Minden .....	5.00
Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Simonsen, Ruskin, Nebr. ....	5.00
Mr. and Mrs. Emerald R. Nielsen, Minden .....	10.00
Mrs. L. B. Glantz; Miss Edith Petersen; Mr. and Mrs. A. I. Petersen, Minden .....	3.00
Mr. and Mrs. Chris Rasmussen; Mr. and Mrs. Carl Krueger; Mr. and Mrs. Perry Jorgensen, Minden .....	3.00
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Jensen; Dr. and Mrs. H. S. An- drews; Mrs. Roy Bang, Minden .....	3.00
Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Jensen; Mr. and Mrs. Richard Saltzgaber, Minden .....	2.00
Mr. and Mrs. John Christensen, Boelus, Nebr. ....	25.00
Mrs. Lydia Madsen; Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Hendriksen; Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Hendriksen; Mr. and Mrs. Gail Hendriksen; Mr. and Mrs. Herman Hansen; Lydia Pohl; Arthur Pohl; Lillie Pohl, Hampton, Nebr. ....	9.00
Bethany Home Staff .....	10.00
Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Christensen and May Hartley .....	10.00
Mr. and Mrs. Sutton Hice, York, Nebr. ....	10.00
Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Petersen, Lincoln, Nebr. ....	5.00
Mr. and Mrs. Merle Hasselbarth .....	1.00
Mr. and Mrs. Ervin Larsen .....	5.00
St. John's Lutheran Church, Oregon, Wis. ....	25.00
Mr. and Mrs. Albert Reinertson, Ravenna .....	5.00
Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Reinertson, Ravenna .....	2.00
Rev. Hans Stallknecht, Hastings, Nebr. ....	1.00
Rev. C. Jeppesen, Ord, Nebr. ....	2.00
Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Hofgaard .....	5.00
Mr. and Mrs. Julius Hansen .....	1.00
Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Aspegren .....	1.00
Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Aspegren .....	1.00
Mr. and Mrs. Oscar W. Olson .....	1.00
Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Jacobs .....	1.00
Mr. and Mrs. Orville Nielsen .....	1.00
Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Paulsen .....	1.00
Mr. and Mrs. Martin Jorgensen .....	1.00
Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Jorgensen .....	1.00