

Choir Returns to Blair After an Arduous Tour

As a sketch of the first part of the choir tour appeared in the last issue of Hermes, and since a detailed account of the entire trip would require too much space, I shall give only a short resume of the tour starting from Chicago.

Greatly encouraged by the wonderful reception given them in Chicago, the choir left by rail for Racine on April 16th. In Chicago a large motor bus and a Paige touring car had been chartered for the remaining part of the tour. These two cars were to meet us in Kenosha, Wis., on Monday morning, April 19th. The choir met with great success in Racine, both concerts being well attended. The kind people of Racine made it possible for us to sing in Hartland and Kenosha by taking the choir to these two places in private automobiles.

The large bus and the Paige arrived in Kenosha on schedule, and we were all glad to see them, for it is much more convenient and pleasant to travel by automobile than by train, especially on a tour of this kind. "Jimmie", the bus driver, was a very likeable fellow, and he did his part toward making the tour a pleasant one. The trip through Wisconsin went well until we were on our way from Denmark to Waupaca. "Sparkplug", the bus, had a lame leg, and in addition to this trouble we took the wrong highway out of Appleton. After a tiresome ride we finally reached Waupaca, an hour late for the concert. The hall was filled with people who had been waiting for an hour; consequently, we had to sing first, leaving the pleasure of eating supper until afterwards.

So far, the roads in Wisconsin had been excellent, but we were soon to learn that Iowa is not the only state that has mud roads. On the morning of April 20th, we left Waupaca for Withee, Wis., where we were to sing at eight o'clock that evening. As "Sparkplug" was still lame, we made very slow progress, arriving in Stevens Point at noon. Here we ate lunch while the bus was being overhauled. We had not as yet come to any mud roads, but about nine miles from Stevens Point we ran into a stretch of real "gumbo". The bus settled into a hole and refused to move. It was already late in the afternoon and we were far from our destination. After being delayed for about two hours, we finally secured a tractor to help us out. At Junction City, we unloaded all the baggage and shipped it by rail to Withee. Several of the choir members also went by train. The other two cars, Prof. Nielsen's Buick and the Paige, went ahead to Withee, leaving the bus to fight it out alone. We were not more than a mile out of Junction City when we encountered the enemy again. This time we secured a team of horses to help us out. From that time on, the road was one mud hole after another, but we managed to crawl through. Later the other two cars returned from Withee to pick up as many persons as possible, in order to make the concert on time. Even then, it was 9:30 P. M. (Continued on 3rd page)

Announcements

Examinations May 27—June 3
Baccalaureate Sermon Rev. N. C. Carlsen, May 30 (8 P. M.)
Memorial Day Program
Class in Expression, May 31
Music Recital (Voice and Piano) June 1
Class Day Exercises June 2
Alumni Day June 3
Graduation Exercises June 4 (8 P. M.)

PRESS COMMENTS ON THE A CAPELLA CHOIR

It is one of the seven a capella choirs in the United States and ranks among the best.

—Waterloo (Ia.) Evening Courier. A rare musical program.

—Cedar Falls (Ia.) Daily Record. A program of unusual merit.

—Racine (Wis.) Journal-News. Merited its popularity, and the enthusiasm with which it was received.

—Kenosha (Wis.) Evening News. The singing was marked with great earnestness and fervor, precision of attack and clean cut phrasing.

—Sioux City Daily Tribune.

BLAIR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BOOSTS DANA

Quoted from "The Enterprise" (Proceedings of the C. of C. Meeting):

"It was decided that the Chamber invite the Dana College Choir to give their concert at the city hall and for this the Chamber voted the Choir a donation of \$100.

"The next question brought up was the pledge made by the Chamber of Commerce on the building program of the college. This pledge was made by the Chamber in 1920. The pledge was in effect that the Chamber of Commerce pledge 10 per cent of the amount spent in permanent improvement up to \$25,000. A committee was appointed to see to this matter."

Alumni

Thanning Andersen, former teacher at Dana College, has been elected member of "Sigma Chi". This is another noble example of the progressive spirit inherent in Dana's sons. We extend our congratulations.

Hedvig Nyholm, '25, will teach parochial school in our congregations at Hamlin and Exira, Iowa, this summer.

Hannah Nyholm, former student, will during the summer months attend the Nat. Kindergarten School at Chicago.

Among the Alumni and former students attending the Bible Conference lately conducted by Dr. Sodergren at Dana College were Hedvig Nyholm, Marie Simonsen, Smith Kirkegaard, Marie Petersen, and Lilah Johnsen.

Mr. Harold Hansen, former student was united in marriage May 7th, to Miss Naomi Knudsen of Selma, Calif. "Hermes" extends congratulations and wishes the newly wedded a happy journey.

See correction of Rev. Vammen's article from the April number, on the last page of this issue.

DELEGATES MEET AT FREMONT FOR COLLEGE PRESS CONFERENCE

Meeting for organization to be held at Lincoln

A number of delegates met at Fremont, Friday and Saturday, May 7—8, to discuss the organization of an intercollegiate press association in Nebraska. Due to bad weather and almost impassable roads, some were unable to attend.

Such an organization has been a long-felt need in the state. Other states have formed strong organizations, two of them representing 100 per cent of the colleges in the states. The purpose of such an enterprise might be summed up as follows:

1. To promote college and university journalism in Nebraska.
2. To aid each other in the publication of school papers.
3. To develop better fellowship in the institutions of higher learning in Nebraska.
4. To establish contact between the schools here represented in exchange of newspaper and news.
5. To meet in convention once a year to exchange ideas and suggestions as to the successful editing and management of newspapers.

A temporary secretary was elected at the meeting Saturday morning. The motion was carried, that those present write the remaining seven colleges, not yet supporting the idea, regarding the matter on hand and also, that the secretary write organizations for other information.

The date for organization meeting was set to either Thursday or Friday, May 20th, or 21st, at Lincoln, Nebraska. Here it is hoped we will have a 100 per cent representation. The outlook is very favorable and we hope to have an organization worthy of name very soon.

The journalism class at Midland treated the delegates to a splendid banquet. George Grimes of the Omaha World-Herald delivered the address of the evening.

Jorgensen Wins First Prize in Essay Contest, Ida Johnson Second

Judges: A. C. Debel, Supt. D. V. Masser, H. Skov Nielsen.

Contestants: Harold Jorgensen, Ida Johnson, Johannes Lund, Vera Sorensen, Thorvald Henningsen.

Prizes: First award \$25; Second award \$15.

Question: The Application of the Principle of Authority to Present Day Social Conditions.

Jorgensen's Essay

The consciousness of the many ills which are continually cropping out in our social life is slowly convicting a part of the people that a stricter application of the principle of authority is imperative. On every hand we are confronted with alarming conditions. Some insidious force is distorting the normal movements of society. Some say that these tendencies are only abnormalities, that they are in reality, an indication of man's advance toward spiritual and individual freedom. Others contend that the age is no worse than former periods of history and consequently see no cause for alarm. It would

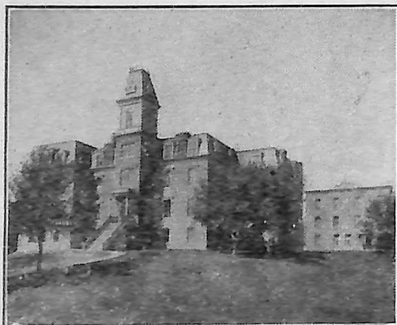
The Bible Conference

The editor has asked for a report of the Bible studies conducted by Dr. Sodergren of the Lutheran Bible Institute, but it is hard to resist the temptation to make it an editorial. We who were privileged to attend the classes have received an impression, but whether we have received a permanent blessing will depend on our willingness to nurture and preserve that impression. Dr. Sodergren is a man with a Christian personality that especially suits him to his chosen work. The methods he employed were unfamiliar to the most of us, but they were also a revelation in the way of Bible study. At the first meeting we were given the historical setting of the Epistle to the Philippians. In addition to this the four chapters of the epistle were given distinctive names; for example, the first chapter was called the "For me to live is Christ" chapter. The chapters again were divided into paragraphs with equally distinctive names. The key-word of the epistle was given as "Joy". For the second meeting we were asked to find all the references to "joy" and "rejoicing" in the epistle. At the succeeding meetings all the "Christ", "all", and "I" passages were discovered. We were also advised to make use of parallel passage study. Dr. Sodergren advocated the repeated reading of parts of the Bible so as to fix them firmly in the mind. He also advised us at the last meeting to procure copy of the Bible in Modern English, pointing out that the versions which we use are antedated as far as the language is concerned and therefore become more difficult to understand and appreciate.

The studies were both instructive and inspirational; and we sincerely thank those who have been instrumental in securing such talent for our benefit. The studies were a rare privilege, and our only regret is that there could not have been more.

indeed, be difficult to determine what age has been the best or the worst, for each has had its peculiar problems with which to contend. But the tendencies of our present time are not made less dangerous on that account, and the alarming fact that something is radically wrong, still remains. And, while a great many have seen the seriousness of conditions, only a few have advanced any practical theories as to their correction. There is a growing opinion however, and one that needs to be encouraged, that the restraint of authority needs to be exercised more than it is.

What the causes for the great moral laxity of the past few years may be, is perhaps not so easily determined. To be sure, the World War had its part in bringing about the result. And yet, there is reason to believe that even that great upheaval was a result of the same forces which even now are harassing society. There is good reason to believe, that the world before the war was beginning to question the right of authority, especially moral and spiritual authority. If reports from Germany can be relied upon this seems to be the case as far as that country is concerned. If we consider Russia, it is clearly evident that the



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Entered as second class matter November 10, 1920, at Blair, Nebraska, under the act of March 3, 1879.

THE STAFF

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Editorial

(By Members of the English Classes)

Five weeks left! A time to "slump" or a time to work. Which shall it be for you? This question has without doubt come to all of us. The Spring Fever to which everyone is more or less exposed these days is acquired easily but it is not as easily cast off. It may seem that these last few weeks are of little account. But the truth of the matter is they are of greater importance than any other part of the school year. They can graduate or "flunk" the Senior; they can make or mar the character of the student; they can make or mar the reputation that the student leaves behind him; and all forces combined can make or mar the school.

THE BIBLE CONFERENCE

The Bible Conference week at Dana College has come at last. The student body has looked forward to this hour with eagerness, and has prayed for showers of blessing. It is always inspiring to hear and speak with a man who is truly interested in a great cause—the greatest work a man can do—that of leading souls to Christ.

Dr. Södergren has come to us from the Lutheran Bible Institute at St. Paul, Minnesota, and brings with him a message of joy. We are inclined to seek joy through our work, especially after having reached a goal, for which we have been striving long and earnestly. And we forget that true joy comes from seeing the crucified Savior and hearing His divine words, "Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you" and "Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled." If it is our will, we shall receive blessings from these meetings and say, "I can do all things through Christ, who strengtheneth me."

great upheaval of Russian society was more than a breaking away from the old system of government. Moral and spiritual restraint was also being questioned. In broad outlines this tendency has exerted itself the world over, and as we shall see, there are reasons why such should be the case.

Rapid transit and quick communication have made the world wondrously small. Intellectual and commercial intercourse between the nations has become so general, that where we once spoke in terms of countries, we now speak in terms of nations and hemispheres. Enlightenment has become general, competition has become keen, and traditions once held sacred have been broken down. While some would stamp the age as one of materialism, there is every evidence to show that it is also one of iconoclasm, one in which the old images are being shattered. It is the result of Nineteenth and Twentieth Century progress. There is not necessarily any reason to deplore this advancement; such a view would be pessimistic indeed. Progress is not wrong, it is essential. Rapid transit and quick communication cannot be wrong for they are the servants of man. Iconoclasm is not necessarily wrong; in many instances it has been a benefit to society. Why then mention these things in this connection?

The importance of the movements of air to the fruitfulness of the earth and the consequent welfare of man, is well known to all, and yet, the winds can become very destructive at times; in a few minutes they can tear down the work of years, leaving in their wake desolation and ruin, where once was peace and order. Just so with progress; it is normal and essential, but its periods of great activity often destroy that which should not have been destroyed, tears down that which must be built up again.

It is obvious that every advance in science and learning has blasted theories and opinions once held to be almost sacred. The history of the past is rich in proof of this. Calamities that were predicted to accompany the breaking away from old forms of thinking, never materialized and it has seemed as though

each age has had different forms of thought. In some respects this is true; no one will deny the change that has been going on during the centuries. But on the other hand, there are things that have not changed and never will. The latter must be conceived of as the basic truths, the fundamental principles of existence. While the former cannot necessarily be considered non-essential, they are at least not basic. The non-basic elements change as the fundamental principles are better understood, but the basic truths must always remain the same, and, while

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as has already been mentioned the non-basic forms of thought can change without disrupting society, a basic principle has never been violated unless the violation was attended by calamity to some part of the social state.

Foremost in the ranks of basic verities, and peculiarly interwoven with all conception of truth, is the idea of authority. Every advance in science points out more and more clearly, the fact that back of every material force, back of all life, is authority. All physical phenomena are guided by law, by some mysterious ordering hand; every science known to man adds proof to this unfathomable, yet undeniable truth. All social groups are directly dependent upon law and order. Even a band of criminals cannot exist without authority. When order goes out, chaos comes in.

There can be no question but that the present chaotic condition of society is due to the impatient casting aside of authority. The idea of individual freedom has so possessed the minds of the people, that they have been blinded to the truth. The craze for unrestrained independence has entered so many circles that its influence has permeated almost all social institutions. It has entered the home, the school, the church, the courts and the legislative halls. But the idea of individual freedom is a myth, and has no basis in fact. It is a form of philosophy ages old. It is a harking back to the famous saying of Protagoras: "Man is the measure of all things." But, however much of fame this saying enjoys,

it is not its truth that has preserved it. It expresses a thought that man in general does not believe, because experience teaches him that it is not true. The abolition of restraint has never been accomplished and never will. The present tendency is wrong, in fact, it has already proved itself so. The individual is not the standard of conduct.

Having eliminated the individual, we next turn to the group as the

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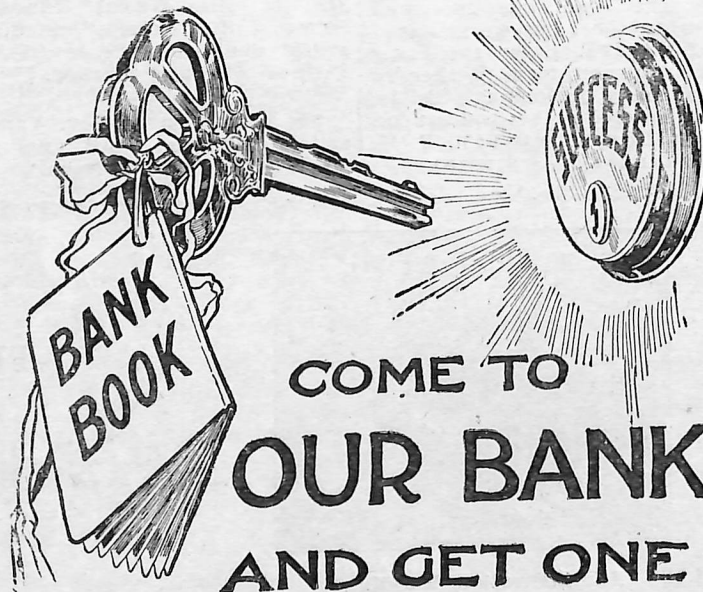
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standard of authority. Are the practices of the social or political group the standard by which authority is measured? Do men have confidence in a strictly human institution? Everything points to the fact that they do not have. There is not anything that stands out more glaringly in international relations than the fact of distrust. The same fear has entered almost all social relations. With just cause man fears his own law. Authority based on strictly human principles always proves itself tyrannical; human nature is, after all, self-seeking.

In presenting, therefore, the Bible as the standard of authority for the ordering of society, it is so presented on the conviction that society has confidence in the Scriptures. "But people no longer believe in the Bible", say some. To be true, the Bible has during the last few years been fiercely attacked. But this is not the first time in its history, that it has been so attacked, nor does it necessarily prove that society as a whole has rejected it. On the contrary, everything points to the proof of the fact that even in this time of rationalistic revival, the Scriptures have the fullest confidence of the great part of society, of great statesmen, politicians, school men, and even military leaders. And, while in some circles there has been an attempt to relegate the Biblical teachings to the realm of myth, there are great and able leaders who come squarely forward, announcing their confidence in the efficacy of the Bible as a purger and preserver of world society. When we are told, and that by men of recognized standing in the world's affairs, that unless the countless hordes of India and China receive the moral influence of the Bible before they awaken to the full realization of their powers, the world will be menaced as never before, then we begin to realize that Scriptural truth is still a recognized authority on the regulation of society. For not only does Scripture point clearly and emphatically, the essentials to a well ordered social state, but it also furnishes the necessary moral background on which authority can be based.

(To be concluded in next issue.)

THE CHOIR RETURNS TO BLAIR
(Continued from 1st page)

before the choir was able to appear on the stage in Withee. That evening we were at a loss as to what we should do the next day, for it would be impossible to make our concerts in Cushing and Luck if we took the train, and the bus had not as yet arrived in Withee.

Early the next morning "Sparkplug" came galloping into Withee. Jimmie had overhauled it during the night and the bus was now in good running order. We were all in good humor, in spite of the unpleasant experiences we had passed through the previous day, for now we had a fighting chance to reach Cushing in time for an afternoon concert. Our hope was short-lived, however, for we had traveled only a short distance when the bus settled into another hole. We were delayed at least three times that day. In one place we had to "corral" six horses to help us out. At the last place, we had to jack up the rear end of the bus, and even then it took four horses and forty people to help "Sparkplug" out of his predicament. Several of the choir should take up tiling as a life work, for they showed rare ability in handling a spade. Even in the face of these difficulties, the party was in good humor, thanks to "La Palinas" and "Black and Whites". (If you, dear reader, have not yet become acquainted with "Black and Whites", you may consider yourself fortunate.) After a wild ride, through mud in some places and dust in other places, we finally reached Luck. We were tired, dirty, and hungry, but as the hall was filled with people who had waited patiently for two hours, we could not refuse to sing. Several of the girls in the choir fainted during the performance, and the rest of us were so exhausted that it was impossible for us to do justice to the songs which we attempted to sing.

The following day, on our way to Minneapolis, we stopped at Taylor Falls, Minn., to view the Dalles of the St. Croix River. As we stood on a cliff overlooking the beautiful ra-

pids, we sang "Deep River". It was worth all the trouble we had experienced just to get a glimpse of this scenic spot.

The Young People's Society served

a delicious luncheon to us in Minneapolis. The menu was unique, including our favorite dish, syrup and cheese, and also ice cream and candy from James Mose. We met many

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old friends in Minneapolis, among them being Carl Nelson, a graduate of our school and a real Dana booster.

Our trip through Minnesota was pleasant until we came to Truman. "Sparkplug" found a nice moist place to rest and we had to secure a tractor to coax him out. We arrived in Truman at noon and stopped there for lunch. After lunch I heard "Justy" remark that he did not like the "digestibility around this place." At any rate, we were glad to get in out of the rain.

During the remaining part of the tour we experienced no difficulties, and on Monday, April 26th, we arrived in Blair.

We wish to express our thanks to the pastors and people throughout the Synod for the whole-hearted support which they gave the choir, and we hope that this tour has, in a measure, served to form a closer bond between church and school.

Contributors (not on the staff) to this issue are Harold Jorgensen, Lillian Lund, Lois Hansen, Irving Petersen.

Local Activities

The choir is very glad to be back again altho their work is not yet completed. Sunday, May 9th, they gave two concerts at Omaha, one at the Danish church, another at the Central Park church. On May 12th, they sing in Blair and May 13th in Fremont. Sunday, May 23rd, they sing at the Kountze Memorial Church at Omaha.

A college song contest was recently held. The object of this contest was to obtain a school song. Max Christensen received first prize for having written the best song, and Thorvald Henningsen, second.

The Junior class met recently to organize in order that they might be able to do the work for commencement. M. Bollesen was elected president and Lydia Olsen secretary.

Friday night, May 7th, Miss Ida Johnsen and Chris Justesen, two of our choir members attended a banquet given for the church choir of Fremont at that place. Prof. Nielsen was also there.

The Botany class is very busy these days making flower classifications.

A number of the students went to Omaha April 30th, that Friday being pre-medic day. Prof. Jensen took his Zoology class down for it. They witnessed a surgical operation in the University Hospital and also attended a ball game at Elmwood Park.

Prof. Bundgaard is getting his classes in trim for the spring tests which will be given some time this week.

Recently a soccer game was played between a team of the boys and R. O. R., a club organized by some of the boys. The result was a victory for the R. O. R.

The tennis games played with Peru last week, May 7th—8th, were not very successful. Peru won the early series. The tournament was called off on account of rain.

Preparations are already being made for the commencement week. The Seniors have orders for their invitations, the Orchestra is practicing hard and the choir is learning a new song for the occasion.

It was certainly a pleasure for all the students to see Walter Nielsen back with us again. "Wally" has been quite sick and was obliged to stay at home in Racine instead of going on the choir trip. We are glad however to report that he is very much improved.

Dana has had the pleasure of having several visitors recently. Mrs. Grill of Denver, Esther Rasmussen of California, Mrs. Carl Sorensen and Mrs. H. W. Bondo of Albert Lea, Minn., Miss Marie Petersen of Elk Horn, Ia., and several others.

A number of the students attended the funeral of Rev. C. H. Schmidt Wednesday, May 5th. Rev. Schmidt was well known by many of the students and teachers, having at one time been teacher here. His death came as a surprise to all.

Jens Dixen visited our school Saturday and Sunday, May 1—2, and spoke at chapel exercises, Saturday morning. He delivered a Moravian Missionary lecture Saturday evening. We are grateful for such visits.

CORRECTION

We wish to make an apology for a mistake in the last issue of "Hermes" in the article "Dana a True Connecting Link" by Rev. C. A. Vammen. Paragraph 2 should read:

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