

11-12, 1998

ARCHIVE JOTTINGS John W. Nielsen

November/December Report

EXPLANATION: These Jottings come somewhat late because of a wonderful extended Christmas holiday and a vicious sinus infection. I hope you experienced the former and escaped the latter!

YEAR END REMEMBRANCE: Two weeks ago I received a request from Minden, Nebraska for the Danish text and a translation of "Klokken Staar," a hymn often sung at the burial of loved ones. It begins:

Klokken staar,
Tiden gaar,
Evigheden os forestaar.

My translation:

The bell is tolling,
Time is passing,
Eternity engulfs us..

It is a good reminder, and as the hymn continues, there is a resolution to use the remaining precious time in serving our Lord. Without being irreverent, we of the Archive crew might add, "Let us use the time to preserve a heritage that will otherwise pass away before its time with the passage of each successive year." As we look back upon 1998 we remember with fondness Carol Mengers Johnson, the third of our volunteers to die since we have launched our archive project. Carol who lived in Clarendon Hills, Illinois, brought a refreshing matter-of-factness and a wry sense of humor to family accounts. We will miss her as we miss Marian Anderson of Swannanoa, North Carolina and Ruth Nelson of St. Cloud, Minnesota. The year also saw the deaths of several generous archive contributors: Edna Bondo Nance, Marie Johnson, Arnold Nielsen, Vita Hansen Jensen and Ingrid Beck Bondo. Our sincere sympathy and our deep gratitude go to the families of all these friends.

AVE ATQUE VALE: The Latin quotation, "Hail and Farewell," has special significance for this letter. Some of you are receiving it for the first time and to you we say, "Welcome;" for others of you this is your last mailing since we can afford to send it only to volunteers and to those who have contributed materials or money during 1998 and 1999. To you we say, "Farewell; we'll miss you."

AT LAST! After referring to them for almost a year, we are happy to report that four ranges of shelves have been installed in the archive, and do I have to add, are already filled!

SPECIAL NEED: We have a special need for information on people who have immigrated to America since World War II. If you are aware of such Danes please send us information.

VOLUNTEER ALERT: Dody Jensen Johnson will be sending out information on our April work-week shortly. To those who might wish to join us, please let us know.

GIFTS AND MEMORIALS

The following cash gifts, memorials and payments to the Danish Immigrant Archive are received with thanks.

Doris L. Smith (Scottsbluff, NE) services	\$ 5.00
Elaine Rennerfeldt (Blair, NE) gift	25.00
Harold and Phoebe Sorensen (La Crosse, WI)	
Karen Dana Sorensen and Andrea Sorensen	
Christofferson - Dorothy Sorenson Erickson memorial	30.00
Gurina Wolford (Missouri Valley, IA) services	15.00
Donald and Audrey Pedersen (Pea Ridge, AR) gift	100.00
Dorothy Romer (Tulsa, OK) Helen Sagen Romer and John and Agnes Romer memorial	100.00

Geraldine Jasan (Northfield, MN) Dorothy Sorenson Erickson memorial	20.00
Borge Christensen (Tucson, AZ) gift	25.00
John W. and Elizabeth Nielsen (Blair, NE)	
Vita Hansen Jensen, Bodil and Algot Povelsen, Ingrid and Elmer Bondo, and Arnold Nielsen memorials	85.00
Bee Krantz (Blair, NE) gift	10.00
Robert and Janice Hansen (Fremont, NE) gift	25.00
Paul Thisted (Colorado Springs, CO) services	30.00
Carl and Alice Schattauer (Omaha, NE) gift	25.00
Ninna Engskow (Blair, NE) Vita Jensen and Ingrid Bondo memorials	25.00

TO: Dorothy Willis, Library Director
 FROM: Sharon Jensen, Assistant Director
 PREPARED: John W. Nielsen, Special Projects Director

VOLUNTEERS: 500 hours by 17 volunteers from Blair and Omaha, Nebraska
 VISITORS: 3 visitors from Iowa and Nebraska
 USERS: 5 archive users from Iowa, Missouri and Nebraska

ACQUISITIONS:

1. Genealogy of her family, some of whom are from Washington County (Presented by Shirley Phelps, Kansas City, Missouri).
2. Taped interviews of Jensen family members (Presented by Vernie Marie Jensen, Uehling, Nebraska).
3. Kagawa by J.M.T. Winther (Presented by Lloyd Neve, Blair, Nebraska).
4. 5 Dansk Almanaks, 3 Sangerens, 98 other Danish books including readers, Bible histories, catechisms, novels, and Aaberg's Hymns and Hymnwriters of Denmark (Presented by Gerry Rasmussen, Junction City, Oregon).
5. Oversøisk Udvandring: en kommenteret registtrant (Presented by * Birgit Fleming Larsen, Aalborg, Denmark).
6. 35 books including novels, religious works and schoolbooks, 24 issues of America Letter, 3 photographs of Elk Horn College students, 1904, 1908, 1913 (identified), 12 photographs of individuals associated with Elk Horn College, greeting to Christian Christensen from Marie Tovel, 3 photographs of Elk Horn gatherings, 13 photographs of Elk Horn students (identified), photograph of Elk Horn parsonage, 5 photographs of EHC students, 1902, 1903, 1904, 1899, 1897, photograph of EHC gymnasts 1890's, 13 postcards to Mrs. A.P. Andersen (1917-1935), 2 silver wedding Danish song-sheets, and a letter to Bertha Andersen from Aline Miller (Donated by Bertha Andersen, Elk Horn, Iowa).
7. Clipping: "Dana Professor Writes Book Preface," copy of The Pacific Woodman picturing Ruth Herman Nielsen, copy of Home and Away with article including Dana's Danish collections, Garden Retirement Community News with article on Annelise Abrahamsen, Dacotah Folk School of the Northern Plains by Erling Duus, clippings on Niels Skov, Lise Munk, Shirley McAllister, and Tante Johanne, Oaks Arrow with interview with Ruth Herman Nielsen, "The Inner Mission Movement in Denmark" by Stinus Loft, and photograph of Stinus and Martha Loft (Presented by Norman C. Bansen, Blair, Nebraska, Ferndale, California).
8. 1934 Wisconsin District Luther League Convention badge in envelopes containing expenses for the trip, postcard from J.M. Girtz (1939), "Fifty Years of Service" (Danish Lutheran Publishing House), 12 Ansgar Lutherans 1951, 1960, 6 copies of The Sower 1951-54, 1977, 1978, 13 calendar scenes from Dana, Women's dormitory rules at Dana (1950), 43 Hermes 1950-1954, and picture of Old Main (Presented by Joan Nelson Coffey, Kenosha, Wisconsin).
9. 5 clippings: "Danish Society Moves to Ames," "Arm Restored, Dough-boy Salutes Again," "Dana College: 6 Businesses Create a Forum for

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- Training," "English Only Workplace Rule," and "De fandt ham i Betlehem," obituary for Ingrid Jensen Matzen, Carol Bly's Letters from the Country, pictures of the Dry Creek, Nebraska church, of Ben Engskow, and of the Indianapolis, Indiana church (Presented by Ninna Engskow, Blair, Nebraska).
10. 450 letters written to her parents, Ove and Anna Hansen, in Denmark from the time of her emigration until their deaths (1984-1995) (Presented by Roelie Goddik, Dayton, Oregon).
 11. Reminiscences of Edna Elizabeth Larsen Sorenson (1896-1984) and letter to Edna Sorenson (Presented by Letha Sorenson Grutzik, Buena Park, California).
 12. Copy of picture of Golgotha (Chicago) Church Council (1938) and anecdotes of Luther League days at Golgotha (Presented by Betty Beck Hansen, Harmony, Minnesota).
 13. 2 copies of Stjernen (November and December), obituaries for Sven Jensen, Anita Johnson, Mabel Gentzler, and Elvira Petersen and clippings on "Nielsen Elected V.P. of Danish Society" and on Ted Sorensen (Presented by Sara Hansen-Walter, Blair, Nebraska).
 14. 125th anniversary booklet of Central Lutheran, Muskegan, Michigan, 1873-1998 (antecedent: Danish Bethlehem), 2 anniversary programs, reminiscences of Alice Thuesen Imig, and clipping on Central's anniversary (Presented by Alice Nielsen Thuesen Imig, Joliet, Illinois).
 15. Clipping: "Hongs Receive St. Olaf Honor" and auction ad for Harold and Ila Olesen (Presented by Geraldine Jasan, Northfield, Minnesota).
 16. The Memoirs of Dr. John M. Jensen - 1893-1984, edited by Frederik Jensen and Danish Lutheran Church Life in Canada by John M. Jensen (Presented by Frederik and Janice Jensen, Wilmar, Minnesota).
 17. Commemoration medal for Queen Margretha II's visit to Dana belonging to Lydia Hermann (Presented by Kenneth Jensen, Blair, Nebraska).
 18. Clipping on Howard and Edna Hong and their work on Kierkegaard and a letter from Ed and LaVena Fries (Presented by Bee Krantz, Blair, Nebraska).
 19. Clipping on quilting day at First Lutheran, pictures of Naomi Sorensen and Mrs. Martin Kuhr sewing, Indre Missions Almanak (1902), Liberia, Africa, Annual Report of the Foreign Missions-of the ULCA (1926), Luther's Christelige Betragtninger, and The Lutheran Church in Australia and Its Schools (Presented by Phil and Florence Larsen, Blair, Nebraska).
 20. Family albums on the Neve, Carlsen, and Larsen families to be copied (Presented by Paul Neve, Blair, Nebraska).
 21. Approximately 1000 clippings on Dana, Washington County, Blair, Albert Lea and Clarks Grove, Minnesota, Freeborn County and Trinity Lutheran Church, Albert Lea (Presented by Luella Nielsen, Blair, Nebraska).
 22. Clipping: "Danish Harmony," Scandinavian Press, Spring 1998, obituaries for Carl Neubert and Anna Hansen Sorensen, copy of Augusta Pedersen's theme book from Ryslinge Hojskole with a translation by Ruth Herman Nielsen (Presented by Ruth Herman Nielsen, Omaha, Nebraska).
 23. Stjernen (June, August, September 1998) (Presented by Harriet Palle, Blair, Nebraska).
 24. "A Tribute to Casper Johnson" by Audrey Johnson Pedersen, letter to JWN from Donald Pedersen, copies of 41 Danish letters to Laurits and Ellen Pedersen from Anne Kristine Pedersen, Laurits' mother,

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- in Denmark 1920-1940), biographical sketch of Karl Pedersen, Laurits' father; section of a notebook kept by Chaplain Pedersen on a trip to Denmark while on leave from the U.S. army in France in 1945, copies of 27 letters to Laurits and Ellen Pedersen from Anna Kristine Pedersen (1940-1945) (Presented by Donald and Audrey Pedersen, Pea Ridge, Arkansas).
25. Obituary and funeral folder for Ingrid Beck Bondo, Elaine's reminiscences of her mother, meditations at Ingrid's funeral and prayer service, poems and acknowledgements (Presented by Elaine Rennerfeldt, Blair, Nebraska).
 26. Article on Paul Simon from Chicago Tribune magazine (Presented by Ellen Schooley, Chicago, Illinois).
 27. 1000 plus farm records, bills, receipts, maps, etc. (Presented by Lily and Severin Sorensen, Nebraska City, Nebraska).
 28. 3 tapes of Sophus Sorenson speaking about the Sorenson and Ness families (taped in 1983 and 1986) (Presented by Edward and Carol Sorenson, Northfield, Minnesota via Harold Sorensen, La Crosse, Wisconsin).
 29. 2 Sangeren (one music edition), Psalmebog, The Lutheran Hymnary, The New Testament, Bible Primer, funeral folder for Clarence Vig, wedding invitation for Patricia Beck, picture of the Lund sisters, note to Mary Andersen Vig, Mary Vig's final exam, Lauritz Melchior program (1950), Lutheran Guild roster (1956), program for Mid-Winter Church School Workers' Institute (1955), copy of Mary Vig's presentation at the institute, First Lutheran (Blair) council and treasurer's report (1958-59), Dana Diamond Jubilee Homecoming napkin, Dana Choir program (1955-56), bulletin from St. Paul's, Penn Yan, New York (1943), bulletin from First Lutheran, Blair (1943), note to Mary Vig from Isabel Klopp, certificate of Sunday School attendance for Ron Vig, clipping on First Lutheran, Westbrook, Maine, Inauguration program for Dr. C.C. Madsen, Blair Elementary School Dedication and Open House program (1960), dedication program for Pioneer Memorial at Dana (1948), 7 Ansgar Lutherans, 10 Christmas Chimes, and 12 clippings on Mary Vig, Elja McCullough, Clarence Vig, and Blair (Presented by Ron Vig, Blair, Nebraska).
 30. UELC Yearbook (1954), 2 letters to Paul Jeppesen from Christen Jeppesen (1952, 53), letter to Paul Jeppesen from Carl Hendriksen (1952), 2 clippings on Bethany Lutheran dedication, Ord, Nebraska (1951), and clipping of Christen Jeppesen's account of Christmas in Denmark (Presented by Ada Jeppesen, Pomona, California).