

Lutheran Tidings

Volume IV

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Number 1

SPIRITUAL FITNESS

"When the king came in to see the guests, he saw, there a man which had not on a wedding garment . . . Then said the king to the servants, 'Bind him, and cast him into outer darkness.'" — Matt. xxii 11, 13.

One of Christ's parables tells of a man who came to a king's wedding feast without a wedding garment. The king had invited everyone. No one was to be left out, however poor or ragged or disreputable. Such is the wideness of the love of God. When the guests assembled, there was one who had not on the right clothes. The king noticed him at once and was displeased. He gave an order and the unfortunate guest was immediately rejected. It seemed a strange thing for this king to do. How could he trouble himself about such a trifle? The matter looks different when we learn that garments were provided, and that this man had not put one on. But even so, it seems strange that this generous-hearted king should be so strict.

The clue to Christ's meaning may be found in a phrase He once used. He told a man that he was "not fit for the Kingdom of God." His grace is a gift we cannot merit. But that does not mean that we need not have the right spirit. That was what was wrong with this man. His neglect may have come of carelessness, a lack of respect for the king and his guests. It may have been pride or churlishness. Perhaps he thought he was doing the king a favor by coming at all. In any case he was not in tune with the occasion. He could not get the best out of it for himself, and he spoiled the harmony of the hour for others. For want of the right spirit his privilege became his undoing.

The right spirit is needed if any of life's privileges are to be ours. Without that they may prove a curse and not a blessing. This is true, for instance, of the kingdom of success. We must have the right spirit if we are to succeed. It may harden us. It may fill us with pride and self-satisfaction. It may make us contemptuous or patronizing toward those who fail. The result will be disastrous for ourselves. But more than that, it will take from us the real joy of success. It will spoil our fellowship with men. Some have been ruined, body and soul by it. "For this is death and the sole death when a man's loss comes to him from his gain."

There is also the kingdom of home. We must be spiritually fit for that. Marriage is too often "entered on lightly or thoughtlessly." That is the cause of many breakdowns. It takes more to make a home than a well-furnished house and the will to be happy. Deeper qualities are needed. We need mutual reverence, the love that is capable of patience and unselfishness. We need, above all, a reverence for God. There must be a throne of judgment to which self-will can be brought. Without this, home has no firm foundations. Unless the spirit is fit, its very intimacies may bring conflict and misery.

There is also the kingdom which the modern world is throwing open to us in the closer contacts we have with one another. It has often been said that the world is becoming one neighborhood. Science has banished distance. Old barriers that separated people, like partition walls in a house, are breaking down. This common life might be the means of enrichment in many ways. We might do so much to help each other. We might find the chance of sharing and exchanging the gifts which God has given to each class and nation. But what if this big community, with the partition walls down, have not the right spirit? What if the human family have not the family mind, the capacity for fellowship? Nothing can lie ahead but bitter strife and even war. It will be tragic if this new world into which God is calling us should become the very place of our doom. We must all answer for ourselves. Are we preparing for this closer fellowship? Have we the spirit that seeks to understand, and is ready to live a common life? Are there things in our own spirit that cause friction and strain? Do we cherish prejudices? Do we only seek to live for ourselves? Then we are not spiritually fit for God's new day. There is a tragic incident at the end of the "Pilgrim's Progress." When the pilgrims had come to the gates of heaven and were about to enter, they saw one come up to the gate. But before he could go in, another door opened that led into the nether darkness, and this unfortunate man was cast into it. "Then I saw," says Bunyan, "that there is a way to hell from the very gates of heaven." It is a solemn truth. The gifts of God all need the right spirit. Without it, their very blessing may become a curse.

The greatest kingdom of all is God's own Kingdom. For that, above all, we must have the right spirit. We must be very humble and very willing to learn and be taught of him. The forgiveness of God is a blessed fact. It is the most wonderful privilege that any man may know. It opens for us the deepest joy of the spirit which is unclouded fellowship with God. But it is possible for us to take forgiveness lightly and to let it work in us an easy view of sin. The result may be the utter blindness of the soul. That blindness is possible to us all. It is the door of hell that lies close by the heaven of his love. There is one sure way to prevent it. It is to remind ourselves of what our sin cost God. It is to keep ourselves day by day in the shadow of the Cross. "He was wounded for our transgressions." That fact can keep our hearts tender and sensitive if we hold it before us. We shall hate and fear the sin that put Christ on the Cross. We shall "go softly all our days," pouring contempt on all our pride. We shall be filled with an undying gratitude that will make us eager to pay our debt of love. That spirit of humble gratitude is the wedding garment that makes us fit for the feast.

James Reid in "Cov. Wkly."

God Our Father — Lazarus Our Brother

It would be too easy if from the parable of the rich man and Lazarus we should only draw the lesson that the rich man was proud, callous, unkind and cold and that this was the reason why he ended as he did.

The rich man was a Jew, i. e. a man who had faith in God, whose relationship with God was in order, as it would be with an orthodox Jew. When he sees Abraham afar, he is not afraid to emphasize the special relationship which exists between him and the father of the faithful: "Father Abraham . . ."

The parable tells us, however, that having Abraham for a father is not sufficient, it is not enough to have the right faith, for no one can call Abraham father who does not have Lazarus for a brother. In other words we can not be rid of our neighbors and at the same time be bound to God. Here freedom and bondage belong together in everlasting reciprocity. To be emancipated under the law of the spirit of life means to be bound to God and our fellow men.

This is a fact continually overlooked by the rich man and his seven brothers. They all serve God, but they all serve him in vain; they keep the law, attend the synagogue, there is no fault to find with their church-going, which they cultivate with as much care as they give to their other secular and spiritual interests.

There is that to note, however, that through it all they are thinking only of their own edification, their own enrichment. As they live at home in joy and glory, so they also want all the spiritual enrichment they can find for themselves.

But Lazarus is constantly at their door. His name is a constant reminder that all these things are of no avail. In spite of all his material and spiritual riches, in spite of faith and church-going, the rich man together with his seven brothers go to hell. — Or rather they do not go together, but one by one. We go together only to heaven. How true that it is blessed to go together to the golden city of love.

This is only true, however, when we proceed in Jesus name, when Lazarus no longer lies at our door, abandoned to the mercy of the dogs, but is one of our company, not as one permitted to drag himself along the best he can, but as our brother, exactly in the same manner as God is our Father. C. H. in "Menighedsbladet".

To the Congregations of the Danish Church

Sunday, July 11th, our Savior's Congregation held its quarterly meeting on which occasion Rev. Møller gave his report of our Synod's Convention. We discovered with regret that President C. A. Olsen had resigned from Grand View College and the reasons for his resignation.

A serious discussion followed concerning our school and its purpose. For example, one mother expressed joy over the interest the school had created in her daughters and especially did she express her appreciation of its valuable spiritual influence. Others regretted that seemingly the work of our school was to be limited to our Danish-American youth.

We therefore beg to recall that the original purpose of the Danish Church was to establish a Danish University in conjunction with the Theological Seminary and we quote what several of our prominent men; namely, N. P. Gravengaard, R. R. Vestergaard, P. Kjølhed, K. Knudsen, and F. L. Graundtvig, wrote on behalf of the synod during the latter part of the nineties.

"We wish to establish a school where the children of Danish parents would be enabled to receive a thorough and comprehensive education, where the official languages should be Danish and English, but where it would also be possible to educate one's self in all lines of human interest.

"We wish to establish a school where all who desire to understand the spiritual life of the Danish people as it is portrayed in its history, poetry and scientific accomplishments may get this desire satisfied.

"We wish to establish a school here in America that would become a living testimony concerning the little Danish people's spiritual significance and thus contribute to heighten the esteem of the land from which we came, in the thoughts of our fellow citizens."

It is our conviction that if our school is to continue to progress and in accordance with its original purpose, is to be a "living testimony concerning the little Danish people's spiritual significance" we must now more than ever emphasize that "all who desire to understand the spiritual life of the Danish people" must be permitted to attend our school, regardless of their nationality.

As it is clear that President Olsen has fulfilled his duties with ability, in strict accordance with the synod's original ideals, as outlined in the above quotations, and has tried to realize these ideals by accepting students from other nationalities, we therefore sincerely appeal to the congregations of the synod to seriously consider whether or not we can justify ourselves in accepting his resignation.

As it is generally well known that President Olsen's parents are members of our congregation, we wish as a courtesy to them and in order to avoid possible misunderstandings, to take the liberty to inform that this communication has been drawn up without their inducement or influence.

Our Savior's Danish Ev. Lutheran Congregation,
Omaha, Nebr.

The Future of Our Synod

We need young men in our synod, intelligent and well educated young men, filled with a desire to serve God in the field of our synod.

Then comes such a man, eminently well fitted for the work, with a burning zeal for strengthening our young people in the faith of our fathers.

He is entrusted with the leadership of our college, carries it successfully through the extremely difficult years of the depression.

And now it is discovered by the synodical board that this man's enthusiasm in the service for the young people goes farther than to the boundries of our Danish speaking communities.

He is enthusiastic in his belief that we of Danish descent have a spiritual inheritance from our mother church which is given us to use, not only for the comparatively few who speak our ancestral language, but for the spiritual upbuilding of that America which has also become ours.

Is he not right in this?

This view is in harmony with the sentiments voiced by our synodical leaders that were active in building Grand View College.

We are here to give our share in building a spiritually minded American people. This we can not do by egoistically hiding our light from our neighbors of other nationalities.

If we persist in doing so, the light will be taken from us. Only by freely using our spiritual inheritance for the benefit also of our neighbors can we maintain it as a living reality for ourselves and our children.

The idea that it is dangerous to admit to our college young people of other nationalities is fallacious and indicates lack of faith in the real value of our spiritual life.

Our synodical board thinks that president Olsen's views in this respect are heretical and inconsistent with "the spiritual aim of our school."

On account of their criticism he has felt obliged to leave his work with our young people and will, I presume, seek other fields.

This criticism, contained in the report of the board president is veiled in phrases that to the casual reader may seem innocent, but that the criticism is intended to go farther is proven by the resignation of the entire board.

The board recommends to the convention that we do not admit to our school students coming from cooperative interested circles.

Does that indicate a capitalistic view?

In view of the board's criticism that a number of students had been admitted who had no connection with our synod, this their recommendation is undoubtedly meant to exclude students not of our nationality.

I am informed that the convention took no action on this recommendation, the question is therefore open for our answer.

Shall we allow such narrow egoistical and therefore for the future of our synod suicidal view of the board to prevail as the verdict of our synod?

If so, we had better follow the example of one sect, move to the wilds of South America and build a Chinese wall around a decaying life.

Young men of ability and of the kind we need will continue to hesitate to enter the service of our synod as ministers or teachers if this narrow view continues to limit the field of activity and threaten its future.

Let us open the doors both of our churches and schools and give freely to all of what has been entrusted to us.
C. Christensen

Competition and Cooperation

This is the burning question in the relations between the nations of the world.

It means war or peace.

There will be no peace between nations until competition is replaced by co-operation.

And so it is in national affairs, in the industrial and business relations.

We shall not have lasting peace between employer and employee until both learn the co-operative method.

Co-operation, not as a method of competing with other business methods and keeping prices low, but as a fellowship imbued with the spirit of Christ.

This was the message Kagawa came to proclaim and serious attempt is being made to carry forward his work here.

The president of Grand View College has interested himself in this work and as a result of his speeches on this subject, on the views of N. F. S. Grudtvig and life at Danish Folk Schools, a number of young people, not of Danish origin, had enlisted as students at Grand View College last school year.

Our synodical board, consisting of 2 pastors and 3 laymen, considers this dangerous and have seriously criticised president Olsen.

Speaking for the board the synodical president says

God's Country

By Vincent D. Beery

*Where sunset glows on the mountain slope,
And prairies roll forever west;
Where deserts reach with eternalness
And toiling men aspire with hope—
That's God's country!*

*Where rugged manhood and sterling worth
Measure the height of mortal man;
Where treasures of heart and generous hand
Rank higher than station or birth—
That's God's country!*

*Where righteousness rules because it is right,
And the nation's God is the Lord;
Where statesmen, led by the law of the Word
With humbleness walk in his sight—
That's God's country!*

in his report to our annual convention that these outsiders may easily draw the attention of the other students away from the spiritual aim of the school and center the interest of the entire student body in practical and economic and social questions.

What a poor opinion the board must have of the faculty of our college and of the strength of the spiritual life they are living at the college.

Here comes a dozen young men of their own accord, without any solicitation from the college, they come to learn more about these spiritual values that have enriched the people of Denmark and which we claim to have inherited. And we should turn them away because they are not of our nationality and may lead the entire student body astray?

As a young man I worked with Kjølhed, Vestergaard, Gravengaard, and to a smaller extent also with F. L. Grudtvig in furthering the interest of Grand View College, it was then at its beginning and I well remember the aim which they set before us.

Not the narrow, selfish view of building for our own nationality only.

They visualized a future when we of Danish extraction should make use of our inheritance to aid in building a spiritually minded America.

My enthusiasm was kindled for such a future, and I have not lost it yet, that is my excuse, if any is needed, for protesting against such a fall from the altitude pointed at by Grundtvig, Kjølhed, and Vestergaard to that depressed and depressing view set forth by the synodical president in his annual report.

To reach the high altitude aimed at by these our college builders calls for young men and women with intelligence, ability and enthusiasm. This applies not only to our college but our churches.

We shall not get them by limiting the field for our churches and schools to people of our own nationality.

I am not interested at this time in avoiding the withdrawal of President Olsen. Those who think that I as treasurer specially favored G. V. C. on his account are very much mistaken.

But I am vitally interested in preventing the view expressed by the present board from being adopted by our synod.

I noticed that the committee headed by Rev. Aaberg took exception to it, but that exception should be emphasized much stronger.

O. C. Olsen.

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EDITORIAL

A discussion has begun in this issue about the very important subject; the future of Grand View College. I am glad this discussion has begun. The question should be thoroughly discussed in a factual and unpersonal manner, with the open-minded attitude that there are at least two sides to the question. Any such treatment of this subject or any other subject concerning our church "Lutheran Tidings" welcomes; we invite you to make use of our columns for this purpose.

In the articles discussing this subject in this issue only a very limited part of the problem is given much consideration. There are other sides also to the subject. Some questions that might be raised in regard to the future of our college are as follows: Shall the college make room for young people not of Danish descent? Shall we take students who have no connection with our church? Must the president keep out of the school any special outside human interest he may have? If not, to what extent can it be permitted to influence his work at the school? Who is to make the policy of the school: the president, a school board, the synodical board, or the convention? Should the college consciously endeavor to bring our Danish heritage to the attention of the American people? Or should the outgoing influence from the school come to our own church first? Should our school endeavor to imprint itself on the life of the synod, or should it be merely the highest and farthest advanced expression of our church? What influence can the college have in the present crisis of our church? Is it within the province of the college to be an awakening influence in the personal Christian lives of its students? Can the college do anything to create a desire in its students to take up the work of the ministry? Is it fair to demand of the college that it should have a Christian influence on students, which their homes and their home churches have not succeeded in exerting? Does the Danish language still have a place at Grand View College? If so, what place? How long can we use the Danish language in the daily religious exercises of the school if there are some students who do not understand Danish?

To all these questions and many more we need answers. And it is not enough that I have my own private answer to them. If we are a fellowship, we must come to some kind of working understanding of these burning questions. They can not be put off indefinitely, unless we become the sufferers.

C. A. Stub

She Doesn't Like Us

—"the young preachers."

"Aarsmøde Snapshots" by Ellen Nielsen is a palatable morsel.* I'll wager it's the only report on the "Aarsmøde" that all of us read. Neither "Dannevirke," "Kirke-lig Samler," nor "Lutheran Tidings" run a photo-gravure section, so why not have a few "snap shots?" If she brings a bouquet of orchids for "passing around" at next year's "Aarsmøde," we'll all like her.

E. N., like most people who stand perched on a lonely knoll and watch the human show pass by, gets mostly 'snapshots' of life's procession. (This holds true of Sinclair Lewis and lesser lights.) Lewis held "Main Street" up before our eyes and asked,—"How do you like it?" His keen sense of observation may be necessary, but it took the creative genius of a F. Melius Christiansen to gather these boys and girls from towns and farms of Minnesota to make St. Olaf's Choir. It is fortunate that there are people who can hold towns, conventions and preachers up in the air for everyone to look and laugh at. We need it. But thank God for a Rølvaag of "Giants in the Earth," who could "blow the breath of life" into his characters and make them as living souls.

The sweeping condemnation and criticism of people via the "snapshot" way is too superficial and easy. Neither character nor the life in "Main Street" can in its finality be measured and judged by snap shots. Neither can our "Aarsmøde" nor its people. It is of a more subtle nature.

I will never forget the first church convention I attended just after having finished the seminary. How weary I got with the endless oratory, sick at heart with synodical politics and the temptation there was among us to bask in the convention light. (I vowed then never to speak at the convention until I had overcome the temptations in my heart.) But I know today that the church is not all Christ's. And I know today that all the fault does not lie with the young ministers, that these unfortunate attitudes come to the front.

Our church convention, as meetings go within our synod, is a large meeting. There is a good listening audience. Many of us talk to tragically small church gatherings and, alas—at the convention there is a whole church packed full of people. Even for the most noble it's a hard opportunity to let pass. . . . Furthermore, the convention is often a place where congregations scout for new or different ministers. Can you altogether blame young and old ambitious ministers for trying to flash a little? I am very afraid that the pomp you lament goes good with most lay people. Our age believes in advertisement and high pressure salesmanship. It's indeed vanity, and the Lord help us in a commercialized world.

All respect to our venerable old pastors. In their young days they had congregations to work with and not so many divergent groups and crowds as we have today. One meditates a little as to how the ministers of 30 or 40 years ago were viewed by their superiors? I wonder if old Kjølhede of yesterday was so certain about the character of the youthful ministers of that day as E. N. is about these same gray haired ones of today?

That the ministers of a generation ago were less "eager to declare themselves" I do doubt. May I refer you to the defunct paper of yesterday called "For Ordets Frihed."

At a mid-western Bible Conference the other day I
(Concluded on Column 16)

* Refers to an article in "Dannevirke" by Ellen Nielsen.

THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT OF THE CONVENTION

(Continued)

THE CONSTITUTIONAL COMMITTEE

The committee for the revision of the synodical constitution and ritual should be continued for the purpose of revising and codifying the rules and regulations of all our institutions so that these, the synodical constitution and by-laws, and the articles of incorporation of the synod and the Children's Homes can be printed and published in a manual, which should also contain forms of bequest to the different institutions. All the laws and rules therein should be in English. This manual and the protocol proposed in the new by-laws will enable the synodical officers to keep abreast of the acts and decisions of the synod.

It would also be proper to have the rules of Grand View College revised. Consideration should be given to the establishment of a school board which should be fully responsible for the leadership and administration of the school and should elect the president and the faculty. This board, of course, should be accountable to the convention. In favor of the establishment of a school board it might be pointed out that such a board might be supposed to have a better understanding of the nature of the work of the school. It would also be able to concentrate its efforts on carrying out a policy of education extending over a longer period of years. In opposition to such a plan is the contention that the synodical board ought to be responsible for the most important problem the synod has to solve, and that the welfare of the whole synod depends in a large measure upon how the school is conducted. It is my opinion, however, that the rules and regulations of the school should be revised. A committee of three should probably be appointed to do this work in conjunction with the synodical board and to present the results of its work to the next convention.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

The committee which has taken over the comptroller's duties of auditing the accounts and presenting a survey of the financial status of the synod was also given the task of presenting a plan outlining the duties of the treasurer and the comptroller and their relation to each other. This plan is divided into three parts and is found in the report of the committee. In keeping with the resolution passed by last year's convention the board has cooperated in this work.

CENTRALIZATION OF FINANCE

Nothing is mentioned in the new plan about the comptroller. This office will thereby be abolished.

The board has endeavored to come to an agreement about a proposal concerning the work of the comptroller. The following is not, however, a proposal but the opinion of the board in this situation.

Some of the duties of the comptroller were as follows: He must ascertain and certify that all assets appearing in the accounts were actually present and in safe keeping. He must supervise that all papers, surety bonds, etc., are renewed at the proper time. He had a right, in conjunction with the respective boards, to recommend the purchase of new stocks and bonds when necessary. He must ascertain that all papers which are not registered are in the safe keeping of a reputable bank under its care and guarantee. His consent must be se-

cured before the boards of the various funds could sell or otherwise dispose of their stocks and bonds. These were important duties. The other duties of the comptroller had to do with the audit of the accounts, the improvement of the methods of book-keeping, and a survey of the financial status of the synod.

These last named duties are turned over to the office proposed by the last named committee. The first named duties it was not possible for the comptroller to fulfill for various reasons. And now that the office of comptroller is abolished they will not be carried out. Mr. H. P. Rasmussen was the comptroller. He has expressed as his opinion that it is absolutely necessary that the control inherent in the above named duties of the comptroller be exercised in one way or another. He writes in a letter of June 4, 1937:

"What is especially needed is an expert and centralized control of the assets of the funds so that they may be preserved as a safeguard of a definite enterprise. The control now in force is too casual and changeable. It is not important what this control is called if it will function and be respected. It may be exercised through a finance committee, a board, or a bank or Trust Co.

"The safekeeping of stocks and bonds is one thing, their administration another. Both functions can be performed by the same agency or the responsibility can be divided, if desirable . . .

"... we should be able to agree that when there are fund assets to be preserved it is very necessary to have experts who have time to devote to such things. Otherwise we may easily get too many committees or boards, whose members are honest and of good intentions, but who do not understand these things.

"This need has been present ever since we began to have funds. We ought to be able to learn from others. With a good will we should be able to find a solution which is not too radical and which all are willing to try . . ."

I have a letter from Mr. O. C. Olsen, also a former synodical treasurer, in which he strongly recommends the establishment of an expert centralized control of the synodical funds and that they be brought together and deposited in a bank which is willing and able to guarantee their safe keeping.

It is the opinion of the board that the safe keeping of the assets of the funds should be exercised in the manner used by the Pension Fund. All income bearing stocks and bonds of this fund are kept by the First National Bank of Omaha, which has guaranteed their safety and looks after the collection of the income from them when it is due. This income is promptly sent to the treasurer of the Pension Fund. For this service we pay \$1.00 per thousand, which is much cheaper than buying surety bonds for the treasurer.

It is also the opinion of the board that the investment of the assets of these funds should be made with the knowledge and consent of the board. Either the committees which administer these funds should secure the approval of the board before they make purchases or sales of stocks and bonds or properties, in order that the board shall not find itself in a state of ignorance and powerlessness in regard to

the responsibility and control of the assets of the synod they are chosen to manage. Or all the assets of the funds should be invested by the board with the aid of an expert advisory finance committee. In the event of the latter the result would be that the board would assume both the responsibility for the safe keeping of the assets and the control over their investment.

When the Articles of Incorporation of the synod, which define our juridical status in the State of Iowa, were adopted in 1900, there were no special funds and not much other property. It says in these articles: "Said board shall have control of the affairs, property and funds of said association." If this rule had been observed at Greenville, Mich., in 1931, the appointment of a comptroller would hardly have been made. The decision of a comptroller would have no judicial support except in so far as the board should consent. At present no civil or probate court will permit anyone but the synodical board to represent our synod, nor will any purchaser of properties or stocks and bonds which are registered under the name of the synod accept any signature but that of the board. Judicially, it is impossible for the synod to lodge its control in any but the board's hands. It may be tempting to divide the responsibility and appoint a comptroller to control the board. But in the last analysis the synod must have confidence in the board, and the board must assume complete responsibility and control of the "affairs, property and funds" of the synod, of course, with full accountability to the convention and according to its orders.

What would be the practical results of a more centralized control in the hands of the board? The Endowment Fund Committee would become superfluous. The boards of the Old People's Home and the Pension Fund would become administrative boards, while the synodical board would assume the responsibility for the assets of the respective funds. The Reimbursement Fund would be divided among the funds holding an interest in it. It would be possible for the synodical board, assisted by an expert finance committee, to invest the assets of the synod, consisting of these funds and amounting to \$150,000.00-\$200,000.00, according to a definite policy. This policy could be determined by the convention. According to the rules of the Pension Fund this fund must be invested in first mortgages on farms. The assets of the Endowment Fund and of the fund of the Old People's Home must be invested in first class interest bearing stocks and bonds. Our sister synod, the United Danish Church, has the rule that the assets of its funds may be invested only in government bonds and first mortgages on farms not to exceed 50 per cent of their value and never to exceed \$50.00 per acre.

This is a very important matter. It is not easy to find men expert in financial affairs. Nor does the board in any way pretend to be experts; but with the assistance of an advisory finance committee it would be able to assume the leadership, responsibility and control which the synod ought to demand for its funds.

THE HYMNAL COMMITTEE

The committee for the English hymnal has been very active this year. It was increased by the appointment of Rev. Erik

K. Moller and Rev. Ottar S. Jorgensen. These two, Rev. J. C. Aaberg, Rev. A. Th. Dorf, and five members from the United Danish Church constitute the committee. In cooperation with Dr. N. C. Carlsen, president of the United Danish Church, we succeeded in working out a plan according to which the publishing house at Blair, Nebr., is to furnish the capital necessary for the publication. The price of the new enlarged edition will be about the same as that of the old edition.

THE SANTAL MISSION

The efforts of the Santal Committee to raise the necessary sum of money with which to contribute our synod's share of the mission budget met with success. It is a cause for joy that Dr. Ostergaard could be sent out to the work which he has given his heart.

BEQUESTS

We owe the late Ane Marie Petersen, Cozad, Nebr., a debt of gratitude for her gift of \$500.00 each to the Mission Fund and the Pension Fund. During the coming year the Santal Mission and the Pension Fund will receive a bequest from the estate of the late Lars Peter Hansen and his sister of Withee, Wis.; this will amount to several thousand dollars.

It is a blessing to know that the cause of the Danish church has so won the devotion of good men and women that even in death they will accompany us in this way. We shall remember these friends of our church in the time to come.

ANNIVERSARIES

It has been a joy for me to participate in several anniversary celebrations during the year. In June of last summer the congregation at Tyler, Minn., celebrated its 50th anniversary. Jan. 13 I participated in the forty year festival for the dedication of the church at Perth Amboy, N. J., March 18 Trinity Church, Chicago, observed its 65th anniversary with a festival, and April 10-11 I was present at the 25th anniversary festival at Brush, Colo. The congregation at Viborg, S. Dak., celebrated its 60th anniversary last summer. Dec. 3 I was the guest speaker at a celebration for Rev. Svend Jorgensen on the occasion of his 25 years as a pastor.

THE NATIONAL LUTHERAN COUNCIL

As announced in the papers the Danish Church was admitted as a member of the National Lutheran Council at its January meeting. Many important problems were discussed at this meeting: marriage and divorce, gambling, communism and the church, the family, and many other practical matters concerning the work. It would surely be of importance if the discussion of these problems could be known to more people than those participating in this meeting. In order to come into vital relationship with the National Lutheran Council, we must be informed of what takes place at its annual meeting. It is not enough that the council can appeal to us for support in its work. For this reason it would be well for the convention to authorize the board to appoint a representative for our synod, who could participate in the meetings and bring us into contact with the efforts of the National Lutheran Council.

TO THE KING OF DENMARK

In conjunction with Dr. N. C. Carlsen, president of the United Danish Church, I sent a message of congratulations to King

Christian X of Denmark on the occasion of his 25th anniversary as king, in behalf of our two sister synods. In answer His Majesty returned thanks.

BISHOP ROSENDAL'S VISIT

A board meeting held in Des Moines, Iowa, in January decided to invite Bishop Rosendal of Roskilde to visit our church, if the convention should approve and he was willing. I sent him our invitation. Later I wrote Provost Wagner personally to intercede with the bishop in favor of our invitation. Provost Wagner writes that he had visited the bishop, who was much interested in a visit to our church. But since he has been in office as bishop a comparatively short time, it would not be convenient for him to visit our church before the spring of 1939. We are grateful to Provost Wagner for his assistance in this matter. I want to propose that we send Bishop Rosendal an invitation to visit our churches in 1939. Further I would suggest that we gratefully accept any help the Committee on Danish-American Missions in Denmark can render in successfully carrying this matter to a conclusion.

THE CONVENTION

As will appear from the report of District VIII the congregation at Solvang, Calif., is considering to invite the synod to hold its convention there in 1939. To be sure, every congregation has the privilege of inviting us to hold convention there, and every convention has the right to decide where the next one is to be held. However, it costs altogether too much to have all the machinery involved in the business side of a convention transported so far away from the centrally situated communities of the synod. Either the synod, the pastors, and the congregations must pay a great deal of money to go to convention or a small number will be present, as at Dannevang, Texas, where the number of voting participants was only about 50. However, one solution of this situation might be that the synod could sponsor a large meeting at Solvang or some other remote part of the synod. The synod and the districts could send representatives and speakers to such a meeting. This would be able to bring our people in the outskirts the desired contacts with our church. Certainly it is not the business side of the convention that is inspiring. I believe it should be an unwritten law in our church that the convention should always be held in one of the centrally located congregations so that the largest possible number of pastors and delegates could attend.

"BØRNEVENNEN"

According to reports from the publishing house at Blair, Nebr., the number of subscriptions to "Børnevennen" is constantly decreasing. The question is how long the United Danish Church is willing to pay the deficit from its publication. Would it not be worth while, in case the publication of "Børnevennen" should cease, to establish connections with a children's paper from Denmark. I make this suggestion especially to the editor of "Børnevennen."

OBITUARIES

I would briefly remind the convention of a few names of persons who during the past year have entered into their everlasting resting place.

We who had the joy of the visits some years ago by Rev. Morten Larsen and Mr. Holger Begstrup can not refrain from call-

ing to mind these two great men in the life of the Danish church. Likewise I must mention Rev. R. R. Vestergaard. He was the first president of Grand View College and has created for himself a lasting memorial in the hearts of his students and in the Danish Church. The church at West Denmark, Wis., lost a faithful friend when Mr. Henry Utoft passed away last winter. Mr. Marius Løkken Andersen, who unnoticed has rendered our synod many friendly services, died suddenly last winter. Mrs. Rev. Thomsen, a widow, passed away at her daughter's home at Marquette, Nebr. My old friend, Mr. Niels Olsen, Cordova, Nebr., grandfather of Rev. Harold Petersen, died at the home of his daughter at the age of 87. His reminiscences of the old Rev. Grundtvig and his great knowledge and love of the life of the Danish church has meant much to several of us younger pastors. It was with a sense of grief that we read last winter of the accident which robbed the congregation at Dwight, Ill., of one of its best men. Mr. Carl Christoffer's work for the Sunday School there was quite remarkable, and his helpfulness in the service of the synod and of the Pension Fund is held in grateful remembrance. I shall mention no more, though there are many others who should be mentioned. With gratitude and reverence we shall bear concealed in our hearts the memory of our departed friends and fellow workers.

Let me close by giving thanks to all who have helped me in the past year. Especially do I want to thank my fellow workers on the board. It has been a pleasure to share the burdens and the responsibilities of the work with them. Thanks to God the most for His grace to the Danish Church in the year now past.

Alfred Jensen.

Danish Women's Mission Fund

Treasurer's Report
From May 10, 1936, to May 31, 1937

	Contributions	Pamphlets	Total
District I			
New York:			
Brooklyn -1935-1936	\$ 10.00	\$ 8.00	\$ 18.00
Johannes Jepsen		.25	.25
Froy			
Connecticut:			
Bridgeport		2.50	2.50
Hartford	8.00	3.00	11.00
New Jersey:			
Perth Amboy		5.00	5.00
Maine:			
Portland		1.50	1.50
	18.00	20.25	38.25
District II			
Michigan:			
Detroit	10.00		10.00
Manistee	16.04	2.25	18.29
Manistee-Santal Child	25.00		25.00
Muskegon	8.90		8.90
Trufant	5.00	1.25	6.25
Grayling	13.25	2.50	15.75
Grant	8.00	3.50	11.50
Greenville		6.00	6.00
	86.19	15.50	101.69
District III			
Illinois:			
Chicago (St. Stephens Ladies Aid)		3.50	3.50
Dwight		3.50	3.50
Wisconsin:			
Racine	15.00		15.00
Michigan:			
Menominee	10.00	3.00	13.00
	25.00	10.00	35.00
District IV			
Iowa:			
Clinton	30.00	2.50	32.50
Des Moines		3.25	3.25
Hampton 1935-6	9.25		9.25

Hampton	10.40	5.00	15.40
Cedar Falls		4.00	4.00
Atlantic (Rev. Plambeck)		3.75	3.75
Newell			
Voorhies			
Ringsted	8.60	2.25	10.85
Kimballton	24.68	4.00	28.68
Fredsville	20.00		20.00
Storm Lake		5.00	5.00
District V	102.93	29.75	132.68
Wisconsin			
Withee	7.60	3.00	10.60
Luck		1.00	1.00
Minnesota:			
Minneapolis 1935-6	5.00		5.00
Minneapolis	5.00	3.50	8.50
Alden		1.00	1.00
Montana:			
Dagmar		3.75	3.75
Sidney			
North Dakota:			
Flaxton			
District VI	17.60	12.25	29.85
Minnesota:			
Tyler	5.75	3.75	9.50
Askov	50.40	3.75	54.15
Lake Benton		.50	.50
South Dakota:			
Viborg		2.50	2.50
Hetland		1.25	1.25
District VII	56.15	11.75	67.90
Nebraska:			
Marquette			
Omaha	5.00	4.00	9.00
Hay Springs		2.50	2.50
Nysted-Dannebrog		1.25	1.25
Davey		1.25	1.25
Blair		2.45	2.45
Kronborg		6.25	6.25
Cozad		1.75	1.75
Cordova			
Oak		1.25	1.25
Texas:			
Dannevang	5.00	4.75	9.75
Colorado:			
Brush		4.00	4.00
District VIII	10.00	29.45	39.45
California:			
Los Angeles		2.00	2.00
Fresno		5.50	5.50
Selman		1.25	1.25
Solvang	5.00	5.00	10.00
Long Beach (Mrs. Kjærgaard)	5.00		5.00
District IX	10.00	13.75	23.75
Washington:			
Seattle (Annex Club)	5.00		5.00
Seattle	5.00	1.25	6.25
Wilbur	5.00	2.50	7.50
Enumclaw		.25	.25
Grand total from Districts	340.87	146.70	487.57
At Church Convention, Kimballton, Iowa June 1936	46.96	3.50	50.46
John Cook, Detroit Mich. in memory of his wife, deceased.	2.50		2.50
Rev. P. Rasmussen, Wayne, Alta., Canada		2.00	2.00
Mrs. Rev. Kjolhede, to Canada Mission	3.00		3.00
Bank Interest	1.53		1.53
Total Receipts during year	394.86	152.20	547.06
Balance in Treasury May 10, 1936			\$58.79
Receipts			
Contributions:			
D. K. M.	365.33		
Santal Child	25.00		
Canada Mission	3.00		
Bank Interest	1.53	394.86	
Sales of Pamphlets		152.20	547.06
Total			\$605.85
Disbursements			
Seaman's Mission	50.00		
Grand View College	100.00		
Canada Mission	3.00		
Santal Child	25.00		
Vancouver Church	50.00		
Rev. P. Rasmussen	10.00		
Vagn Duus—Student	25.00	263.00	
Presents--			
Erling Østergaard	2.35		
Dagmar Møller	5.00	7.35	

Holst Prtg. Co. - Pamphlets	186.75
D. K. M. Presidents expenses	6.65
Treasurers expenses	3.91
Balance in Treasury May 31, 1937	138.19
Total	\$605.85
Assets	
Foundation Fund	2000.00
Loans to Students	150.00
Cash on hand and in Bank	138.19
Total	2288.19

Mrs. Seeley-Knudstrup.

Our Church

Rev. Ewald Kristensen, who was pastor and leader of Atterdag College, Solvang, Calif., for a number of years before he went to Denmark to enter the church there, has been appointed pastor of the church at Taars, Denmark. Rev. Kristensen has served the Elling church since his arrival in Denmark. He had planned a trip to the United States this summer, but the change of pastorate hindered his visit.

Mr. Martin Nielsen, Minneapolis, Minn., has recently been decorated by the King of Denmark with the Order of Dannebrog. For more than a generation Martin Nielsen has been one of the most prominent leaders of the Danish people of Minneapolis, and there are very few worthwhile Danish enterprises of a public character to which he has not contributed in some way. He has been the president of the Danish Old People's Home since its beginning, president of the Danish Young People's Home since its beginning, for many years president of St. Peder's Danish Lutheran Church, an active member of the Danish Central Committee, besides holding many other positions of trust and honor. It is believed that Mr. Nielsen is the only man in the State of Minnesota with the title Knight of the Order of Dannebrog.

Meeting of Dist. IX. The convention of District IX will be held at Enumclaw, Washington, Sept. 17-19.

Joint services will be held by the Seattle, Tacoma, and Enumclaw, Wash., churches at the Old People's Home in Seattle on Sunday of August 15. Rev. Jorgen Nielsen of Enumclaw will preach.

All Lutheran Picnic. Rev. Alfred E. Sorensen, Seattle, Wash., reports that an All Lutheran Picnic was held at Des Moines, Wash., on August 1, in which our Seattle church participated.

New District Board for the 3rd District of the Danish American Young People's League was elected at the convention of the district held at the West Denmark Summer Camp. It is made up as follows: President, Rev. Harris Jespersen; Secretary, Miss Elsie Sandahl; treasurer, Mr. Folmer Hansen.

District V Convention of the Young People's Societies will be held at Hampton, Iowa, Aug. 20-22. Rev. Edwin Hansen is the Hampton pastor.

Convention At Denmark, Kansas, will be held by the 1st District of D. S. U. on Aug. 20-22. Enrollment should be made to Rev. Harold Petersen, Denmark, Kans.

D. S. U. District IV will hold its convention in Chicago, Ill., Sept. 3-6. Rev. Leo Broe is the president of the district.

Rev. Leo B. C. Broe of Manistee, Mich., is spending his vacation at Portland, Me., which is his home town. During his visit he has preached in our church there, which is without a pastor at the present time.

Santal Mission. The annual meeting of the Santal Mission will be held at Willmar, Minn., on Sept. 23-26. It was on Sept. 26, 1867, that the foundation of the mission was laid at Benagaria, which was given the name Eben-Ezer. This will be just 70 years ago this year. This fact is expected to characterize the convention and draw an unusually large attendance.

Anniversary Calendar. A calendar has recently been sent out by the Santal Mission to all its friends on the occasion of this 70th year of the mission's existence. These calendars will be sold for 10 cents a piece for the benefit of the Mission. They may be ordered from The Santal Mission, Augsburg Seminary, Minneapolis, Minn.

Dr. Dagmar Petersen, who is medical missionary in the Santal Mission in India, is spending her furlough at her home in California. She will be coming east in September and is willing to visit congregations and speak about the mission in whose service she is.

Rev. Aage Møller, Nysted, Nebr., spoke to the young people at Tyler, Minn., at their meeting on July 25.

Harvest Festival. The Tyler congregation will hold a harvest festival on Aug. 15. The festival will begin with the morning service in the church. In the afternoon Rev. Harold Ibsen, Lake Benton, Minn., will speak. In the evening there will also be a program.

Open House At Danebod will be held Sept. 1-5. The speakers at these meetings will be Rev. Alfred Jensen, Kimballton, Iowa, president of our synod, and Rev. Johannes Knudsen, Askov, Minn. Participants will live at Danebod College. The cost of attendance will be \$2.00. The meetings begin with services in the church Sept. 1 in the evening. The following days a meeting will be held in the forenoon, afternoon, and evening, except Saturday.

Prof. Alfred C. Nielsen, Grand View College, Des Moines, Iowa, who is the national president of the young people's societies of our church, will speak at the church at Brush, Colo., on Aug. 5.

New Paint At Brush. The painting of the church at Brush, Colo., has now been completed after a good deal of trouble. After the first coat had been put on a dust storm came along and undid the work.

Rev. And Mrs. J. C. Kjar, Racine, Wis., celebrated their sixth wedding anniversary on July 15. One hundred guests at the open house in the evening, flowers from the congregation, a huge cake from the Ladies' Aid, and greetings from friends near and far made the day a beautiful one.

Iowa District Convention will be held at Newell, Iowa, Sept. 24-26.

"Confirmand" Party. The confirmants of the last ten years of the Racine, Wis., church were guests of the young People's society on July 28. The party took the form of a lawn party at the pastor's residence, 2015 W. High St.

Centennial Service. A joint centennial service was held at Muskegon, Mich., on July 18, under the sponsorship of the Greater Muskegon Pastors' Conference, in which our church also participated. Rev. Ernest D. Nielsen, the business manager of "Lutheran Tidings," is the pastor of the Muskegon church.

The Annual Sunday School Picnic was held by our church at Racine, Wis., at Wilmette Park on July 18. In the morning Danish services were held under the big trees. There were English services for the children and young people in the afternoon, as well as games, contests, sports, and refreshments.

Rev. J. C. Kjar, Racine, Wis., preached at Clinton, Iowa, and Sheffield, Ill., on Sunday, July 25. From there he went to Chicago, where he attended the Pastors' Institute at the University of Chicago.

Acknowledgement of Receipt

Geo. T. White, Brush, Col. 7-5-39; C. L. Sorensen 2622 N. 50 St. Omaha, Neb 10-20-37; Hans Steen, for Congregation at Brush, Col. 1-5-38; M. Mortensen, 2128 Henry St., Muskegon, Mich. 3-5-38; H. P. Rasmussen, 723 E. Willow Ave., Wheaton, Ill. 7-20-39; Mrs. Harold Madsen, 1703 Washington, Cedar Falls, Ia. 7-20-38; Mrs. Walter Petersen, 424 Allen St., Waterloo, Ia. 8-5-38; From Ringsted, Ia. Hans Christensen, 4-5-38, Jens C. Jensen, 5-20-38, Hans Mouritsen, 6-20-38, Chris J. Nielsen, 6-5-38; Fred Lund, Hampton, Ia. 5-5-38; John Hansen, Sidney, Mich., 5-5-38; O. S. Willeadsen, Newell, Ia. 7-20-38; Thorvald Jensen, Mason City, Ia. 7-20-38; From Withee, Wis. Alfred Frost, 7-20-38; Mrs. Chr. Frost 8-5-

39; J. P. Johansen, Tyler, Minn. 7-20-38; Mrs. Peter P. Nielsen, Brayton, Ia. 8-5-39; Rev. S. Isaksen, Østergaard, pr. Hæstrup, Denmark, 8-5-39; Lawrence Thomsen, Jackson, Minn. 8-5-38; Chr. Westergaard, Latimer, Ia. 3-5-38; Mrs. Godfred Berggren, St. Paul, 6-20-38; Peter Jorgensen, Muskegon, Mich. 7-20-38; From Chicago, Ill. J. M. Jensen, 8009 Woodlawn Ave. 7-5-38, Mrs. Chris Hansen, 4104 Lake Park Ave. 4-5-38, H. T. Hansen, 909 E. 55th St. 7-5-39, Robert Nussell, 7549 Emerald Ave. 7-5-38; From Des Moines, Ia. Mrs. E. A. Kramme, 2210 E. 32nd St. 7-20-40, C. Olsen, 905 Hull Ave. 7-20-38, H. T. Rasmussen, 2340 N. Union, 7-20-38, C. Skov, 4406 Greenwood Dr. 7-20-38, V. Skov, 3043 E. Walnut 7-20-38; Peter J. Nissen, Hay Springs, Neb. 8-5-38; Thomas P. Christensen, Iowa City 5-5-38.

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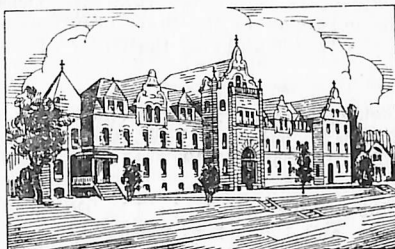
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She Doesn't Like Us

(Continued from Column 8)

heard a well known minister make this statement, "It is with much concern that I view the popular and persistent demand that American Protestantism has for young ministers. It's all we hear from our congregation." This attitude is unsound and unfair to our old ministers and unhealthy

Grand View College



Des Moines, Iowa

Sept. 13, 1937 — May 27, 1938

The Seminary of the Danish Ev.-Luth. Church in America.

Pre-Seminary Course at G. V. C. two years.

The Seminary, three years.

The Junior College.

Liberal Arts.

Pre-Professional: Commerce, Engineering, Law, Librarian, Medicine, Nursing, Teachers.

Special Courses.

Physical Education, Commerce and Business, Music, Arts and Crafts, Leadership Training, Danish Teachers' Course.

Winter Session

Dec. 6, 1937—March 6, 1938.

College Courses in the Junior College. Shorter Special Courses in Physical Education, Commerce and Business, Music, Arts and Crafts, Leadership Training.

For Bulletin and further information write C. A. Olsen,

President

Nurses Wanted

Three Christian women are needed at the Hospital at Eben-Ezer. All three must be graduate and registered in their respective states.

One must—besides being registered in her home state—also qualify for registration with the Colorado State Board if her home state does not have "reciprocity" with Colorado. She must be capable of taking charge of the care of patients, the nurses and other helpers connected with the care of the patients.

One must be a surgical nurse—capable of taking charge of the operating room and all pertaining to it.

One shall be needed as night nurse in charge.

All must be of good health and past experiences urges us to add that smokers or drinkers are not wanted—no matter where they graduated—church hospital or not.

The salaries are those customary for the respective positions.

Any one desirous of becoming a constructive force in the hospital at Eben-Ezer will please confer with:

The Superintendent,
Eben-Ezer, Brush, Colo.

NB: We beg pastors to aid us in calling the attention of capable Christian women to the above.

J. Madsen, Motherhouse, Pastor.

for the young ones. What a future, to start at 30 and retire at 50. A man should be at his very best when Christian congregations decide he is useless by starving him out. Our age seems not to hunger or thirst after anything so profound but rather after someone who can keep step with our fast moving age and its youth. May I state candidly that I hope the ears of our people may be opened so that the word born out of many years of prayer and experience may be welcome in our midst.

Thanks to E. N. for bringing us on the carpet. It has opened a way for thoughts in regard to the ministry that has been on my mind for a long time.

One of the Saplings.

UNGDOM

Magazine for Young People

Issued 1st and 15th of each month

by D. S. U.

\$1.25 a Year

Editor

Johannes Knudsen,
Askov, Minn.

Bus. Mgr.

Rev. E. Farstrup,
Marinette, Wis.

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SAILING DATES

(from New York)

Stavangerfjord August 25

Bergensfjord September 8

Stavangerfjord . September 25

Bergensfjord October 9

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