

Lutheran Tidings

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THE HOME AND THE COMMUNITY

The family is the fundamental institution of the human society. It represents the most precious interest and the most permanent joy of human life. The home is a woman's kingdom and a man's paradise. Its purity and prosperity are the strength and glory of the community. No community can long endure whose family life has become corrupt or degraded.

If the state fails to protect the family and the family and community fail to foster the domestic graces and virtues—simplicity, industry, purity, and reverence, then the day of judgement is surely near at hand.

These are truths accepted as commonplace. It must assist a powerful local interest which places a restraining hand on our homes and community to keep it pure and clean. And don't forget that the home itself often breeds crime by condoning it. Our crimes all too frequently start in the cradle and the greatest aid to criminality is the fatuous father and mother who believe that while there may be problems for other children, their offspring can do no wrong.

Not until every community acquires this viewpoint and does everything possible to protect itself through clean politics, efficient law enforcement, will our homes and communities be safe.

Addressing the fathers and mothers of students attending Gonzaga (Roman Catholic) High School, Washington, D. C., Police Court Judge Edward M. Curran recently charged that parents who fail to exert control over their children are largely responsible for juvenile crime. Said His Honor: "If you parents and teachers would accept your responsibility in fuller measure, I'd have less to do."

The jurist pointed out the necessity of instilling in children respect for their parents, adding: "If they have respect for parents, they will have respect for the law when they grow up. The solution to the crime problem—if there be any—lies in the cradle; and that's where the parents' duty comes in."

Speaking from his experience on the bench, Judge Curran explained that most first thefts on the part of juveniles are for the purpose of obtaining money for movies, candy, or the admission price to a ball game. This petty thievery not only broadens in extent as the youthful perpetrators become bolder with success, but gradually involves higher "stakes." Finally, the grand larceny stage is reached, and the now hardened criminal realizes the desperate chances he is taking, arms himself to resist apprehension and sooner or later—well, we all know the answer.

More than half of our crimes are committed by persons of 25 years or less. During the first nine months of 1937, youths under 25 years of age committed almost a third of our murders, more than half of our robberies, nearly two-thirds of our burglaries, almost half of our larcenies and close to three-fourths of our automobile thefts. These "children" in crime are still young enough to have mothers and fathers, sisters and brothers, who are interested in their welfare and who are humiliated by their incarceration.

Nearly everyone has noted certain "problem children," petted and pampered by foolish, indulgent parents. As the years go by, these incorrigible ones, weed-like, grow in crime; from minor offenses they advance to misdemeanors, and at last the felony stage is reached and—jail. Then it is that the heart-broken mothers wring their hands and shed tears and wonder why heaven was inflicting this "punishment" upon them. It is now too late for the exercise of spiritual home influence, now too late to inquire where these mere children were during the late hours of the night, who their associates had been, what were they legitimately doing in the way of self-support. No, the courts speak definitely and finally, and prison gates yawn.

Some day the parents will awaken to the fact that they have certain obligations and responsibilities with respect to their children. If a certain few credulous ones doubt the present extent of juvenile delinquency, let them visit some of our larger penal institutions where they may determine the facts of the matter for themselves. Parenthood is an inflexible duty that must be fully performed, not only for the many benefits it will bring to self, but for the common good of the social order in our community.

Family life is in its best estate profoundly religious, and the true home in itself is a veritable sanctuary.

Here and there, even in young America may be seen abandoned villages. Some years ago a goodly stream came down the valley from the distant wooded hills. A dam was built across the stream. A mill or factory was erected by its side. The rushing waters and the swiftly moving machinery began to sing the song of prosperous industry. People quickly gathered, homes were constructed, and presently a thriving hamlet filled the open place at the foot of the valley.

Little by little the great rocks of the hills began to show bare brown like elbows through a worn garment. The trees of the Lord had vanished, the crown of the glory had faded away. The upreaching arms of the forest were no longer there to pull down the rain drops. After a while the stream began to dwindle. It was difficult to get power enough to drive the machinery. Later the mill was idle days at the time. A family here and there moved away and soon vacant houses were common. After a time the wheel stopped, never to turn again. The stores closed one after another; lawless hands broke the windows of the unused school and church; fences toppled over, and before long the streets were deserted lanes of grass and weeds.

Let the high ideals of family life die, cut off the tender pieties upon the height of a standard community life and what will then happen? The springs will be dry and the channels empty. Desolation will fast sweep down on the smiling valleys of life.

The gospel of Christ can be made a life-giving power among the people in the community only as it attracts and as we organize our activities on Christian principles.

John Elmen in "Cov. Wkly."

(Somewhat abridged by the editor.)

Grand View College.

Financial Aid to Needy Young People.

Our new board of education met at Grand View College, June 27. It will be recalled that the members of this board are: Rev. Ottar Jorgensen, Cedar Falls, Iowa, president; Rev. Johs. Knudsen, Askov, Minn., secretary; Rev. Alfred Jensen, Kimballton, Iowa, Mr. S. N. Nielsen, Chicago, and Mr. Jens Thuesen, Fredsville, Iowa.

Among the things discussed was the question of what could be done to help worthy young people who because of financial adversity are unable to attend our college. The following motion was adopted: "A limited number of students of ability and good character may be admitted to Grand View College for \$135.00 for the school year 1938-39 upon the written recommendation of the local pastor and church council when the financial situation necessitates such reduction. The pastors and church councils must consider ability and character when making such recommendations."

The regular cost as announced in our catalog for the school year is \$270.00. When compared with costs in other colleges, this figure will be found very low. We hope that many of our people in more favored circumstances will send their sons and daughters to us.

The reduction of the cost for the entire year to \$135.00 is especially for those among our people who have suffered because of repeated crop failures and unemployment. We all know that there are many of these.

May I urge the local pastors and church councils to consider this matter at once. Please send the names of young people whom you recommend directly to me.

Alfred C. Nielsen,

Grand View College, Des Moines, Iowa

You Can Go To Denmark in 1940.

Last spring a committee was appointed by the president of the Danish American Young People's League to arrange a tour to Denmark in 1940. To this committee was added a representative of The Danish Lutheran Church—Mr. J. Fr. Petersen of Des Moines, Iowa.

The committee met during the annual convention of our synod and drafted some preliminary plans for the tour, chief of which was the decision to contract with the Swedish American Line for the ocean passage. By doing this the present rates of passage are guaranteed to all those who are members either of our Young People's organizations or any of our local congregations at the present time. If rates decrease you will receive full benefit of the decrease.

We believe there are many of our people who would like to make a trip to the land of our forefathers together with a group of their friends throughout the synod and the Danish American Young People's League. Here is your opportunity. Please keep this tour in mind and help us by putting in a good word for it among your friends and by planning, if at all possible, to travel with us. We of the committee will do our utmost to make this trip worth your while.

Beside Mr. Petersen and the undersigned, the committee is composed of Mr. Arthur Jensen of New York, Miss Marie Schmidt of Long Prairie, Minn. (also of Newell, Iowa), Miss Ingeborg Lund of Hampton, Iowa, and Rev. Enok Mortensen of Salinas, California.

Two years may seem a long way off, but this is no small undertaking and we must begin now to lay aside for it. By doing so, that which may seem out of reach can become possible for many of us. Remember—"DENMARK IN 1940".

Marinette, Wis.

Ejnar Farstrup, Chairman.

To Our Sunday Schools.

From the annual report you will be able to learn about our preliminary recommendations for those Sunday Schools which may desire to make a change in the materials now in use. The best time to make the change is the beginning of the month of October. Since our convention at Tyler, Minn., we have added a few books which we like to recommend as a general help.

For Teachers and Parents

Egermeier's, Bible Story Book, \$2.00

Hurlbut's, Story of the Bible, \$2.00

These two books are arranged about the same; they are both what parents and teachers used to the Danish "Bibelhistorie" have been looking for. The language and illustrations are excellent in both books. Take time to examine the similarity of these books before you buy them; they can be had in most book stores and these will undoubtedly be glad to send you both copies for examination.

For Story Telling and Reading

Eggleston, 75 Stories for the Worship Hour, \$1.50

Forty Missionary Stories, \$1.50

A. A. Wallace, Hands Around the World, Stories of Christian heroes, \$1.25

For Advanced and Special Study

Dummelow, Bible Commentary, about 1,000 pages of Bible information and special articles, \$2.50

Morton, In the Steps of the Master. One of the best books ever written on Palestine and the Life of Christ, \$3.00

For the Pastor's Group Sessions with his Teachers

My Life,

By Bible,

My Pupils,

My Preparation,

My Material, etc.

These books are about 100 pages each and the price is only 25 cents. "The Council of Elementary Religious Education", as we have named your committee, will be glad to have your advice and cooperation on any matter that will serve the needs of our Sunday and summer vacation Bible schools.

Any of these books can be had from The United Lutheran Publication House, 860 N. Wabash Ave., Chicago, Ill., or 1228-34 Spruce St., Philadelphia, Pa., or from Augsburg Publ. House., Minneapolis, Minn.

For the Council, *L. C. Bundgaard, Secy.*

To Friends of Grand View College.

After quite a thorough discussion of different proposals and plans presented to the convention, the two following motions concerning the Junior College and the construction of a physics laboratory in the college basement were adopted by the convention at Tyler:

"That our Junior College be accredited", and "that the synod construct a laboratory according to 'the remodeling plan', that the synodical board solicit funds for this purpose, and that thereafter the needed amount be borrowed from the Endowment Fund."

As already explained in "Dannevirke" and "Lutheran Tidings", 'the remodeling plan' provides for excavating what still remains under the east part of the main building of the college in order to set up a class room and a physics laboratory there. In this remodeling the present physics laboratory will be included.

Prof Erling Jensen, who is instructor of physics, presented to the convention the details of the plan. As the lowest bid on the work of remodeling was withdrawn, the cost will be, not \$3,490.00, but \$3,940.00. Besides, the

estimate of \$5,000.00 mentioned in my report to the convention did not include approximately \$500.00 for laboratory furniture. It was made clear to the convention, however, that the cost of the project would be about \$6,000.00.

Before the convention the synodical board had succeeded in getting subscriptions from good friends of the college to the amount of \$1,900.00. This is a good beginning. And I believe there are many other good friends of the college who have determined that the whole sum of \$6,000.00 must be raised so that it will not be necessary to borrow from the Endowment Fund.

This is the intention of the board also, and at the board meeting held immediately after the convention it was decided to send out a general appeal to friends of the college everywhere in our congregation for help in raising this sum. The board does not feel that it is necessary for it to go from congregation to congregation, or from door to door, to get this money. There are many former Grand View College students in our various churches whose wishes are that the work of the school may still be carried on efficiently and thoroughly at the same time that those values of mind and spirit which they received here may also be given to their children when they become students. On behalf of the board I would ask all these to help by contributing what they can afford to give and by communicating with others and asking them to help.

May I also ask the pastors of our churches to take the lead in this work. Though there have been several opinions about the advisability of this undertaking, it was decided by the convention to go on with it; and I can only express my gratitude to those who, though they held different opinions, loyally and willingly gave their

support to what the majority decided. It is on such unity in cooperating that the future must be built. May the same spirit also appear in action for this cause.

If there are men and women in every congregation with understanding for this cause and willingness to take it up, it will succeed. Lists may be started without further delay. Those who can afford it should contribute generously, but no one must feel that his or her contribution is too small. If it is desired, contributions may be sent directly to the synodical treasurer; otherwise a local committee can collect the contributions and send them to Mr. Axel Thomsen, 230 Sheridan Rd., Menominee, Mich.

All the participants in the convention were through their presence cooperators in the common task that our church wants to accomplish. We are grateful for this will to cooperate. That is the real authority back of everything the convention decided, whether in regard to home mission work and the newly established "Church Extension Fund", the Canada Mission, the Santal Mission, or any other department or institution of our synod. I would urge, however, that our people during the coming month will take up the task of collecting whatever funds the work at Grand View College requires.

This is no more than the friends of the college can undertake to do in a month. I am asking Mr. Axel Thomsen to send weekly acknowledgements for money received to our papers.

The work of construction began right after the convention, and it requires continual outlay to keep the work going. It should be completed before the beginning of the school year in September.

Alfred Jensen.

Report of the 61 Annual Convention of the Danish Ev. Lutheran Church in America Tyler, Minn., June 7-12, 1938.

Foreword

It is with a feeling of trepidation that we undertake to write this report. The revised constitution and by-laws of the synod make the writing of an English report of the convention mandatory. The plan, in accordance with instructions received, is not to make this report collateral with the official Danish report, but to give a synopsis of the business sessions of the convention and to mention briefly those events that are of interest to our people throughout the synod. We shall strive for conciseness in form due to the limited space available. At the very best this report can be only an abridgement of the discussions that took place and the decisions that were made during these days.

Although this report has been read and examined by the Reverend Viggo Hansen, Synodical Secretary, the responsibility for any possible errors rests solely with the writer.

Opening Worship Service

The large church, which was convention host this year, was beautifully decorated with an abundance of cut flowers. They added a festive spirit to the service of the day. The church was filled to overflowing when President Alfred Jensen entered the pulpit to deliver his opening sermon to the vast throng of worshippers. The congregational singing was an inspiration as the assembly of delegates, visitors, pastors, and members of the Tyler congregation lifted their voices in praise to God. The pastor, Rev. Holger Strandkov, extended a hearty welcome to all and spoke about the preparations that had been made for their physical welfare during the convention. The worship

service, with its challenging sermon and the warm welcome from the local pastor, promised a good convention, and we were not disappointed.

Convention Organizes

It seems to the writer that the daily devotional period with which we began each day was unusually well attended. Wednesday morning we were led in prayer and confession of faith by the Rev. Sv. Kjar, Fredsville, Iowa, who also delivered the meditation for the day. This devotional hour was followed by the official opening of the convention in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit by President Alfred Jensen. Convention officers elected were: Rev. Johs. Knudsen, Chairman; Rev. Alfred Sorensen, Assistant Chairman; Rev. Henrik Plambeck, Secretary; Rev. A. Ejnar Farstrup and Rev. Ernest D. Nielsen, Assistant Secretaries.

New Procedures

President Alfred Jensen briefly explained the work of the Nominating Committee, and to this explanation Rev. C. A. Stub made a few comments. Divergent views in regard to the work of the Nominating Committee were expressed by several speakers. It was moved, seconded, and carried that: "The Nominating Committee shall nominate all regularly elected synodical officers; members of the Pension Board; members of the Synodical Committee of The Santal Mission of the Northern Churches; editor of "Kirkelig Samler;" editor of "Child's Friend;" editor of "Børnevennen;" superintendent of the Old People's Home; and Ordinator."

The convention digressed from its order of meeting to
(Continued on column 60.)

Lutheran Tidings

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EDITORIAL.

As has already been mentioned in a number of places already, the convention at Tyler, Minn., created a new fund called the "Church Extension Fund". As a modest beginning, about \$300.00 was subscribed to this fund at the convention.

The purpose of such a fund is stated in its name. It is for the extension of the work of the church. We might also call it a 'home mission' fund. It is, of course, the intention that this fund is not to be used up. It should grow and become large. The income from this fund is then to be used to further the work of small churches who can not carry on without help, as well as to take up new work for our church. Though the principal of the fund should not be used up, it should nevertheless be put to work to help in the work of extending the church by making loans from it to small congregations for the purpose of building churches, parsonages, etc. These loans must then be paid back again as soon as possible so that other and newer churches can be helped with it.

Rules have not yet been made for this fund; but they are to be drawn up and presented to the convention of our synod for approval.

During the year the committee which was elected for this purpose is going to appeal to the people of our church to make contributions to this fund. We hope the appeal will be met with generosity. It is for the furtherance of the work of God's kingdom, for the extension of our synod.

Such work is sorely needed in our synod. It should have been done many, many years ago. In almost all parts of our great country there are groups of Danish people who could have been drawn into the church if we had been there to minister to them with the heavenly gifts that have been entrusted to us. Instead they were left to shift for themselves. Some of them joined other Scandinavian Lutheran churches, others have been won over by the reformed churches, and still others have never had any thing to do with the Christian church.

Many of these people are lost to the church of their own people, but there are still many who could be gathered into our church if we were active and alert. Almost everywhere you go in these midwestern states,

you can hear of groups of our countrymen. But there is no Danish church among them. It is for the purpose of doing some of this neglected work that we have established a Church Extension Fund. C. A. Stub.

Grand View Camp.

For Juniors 11-16 incl.

Aug. 1-7

Sponsored by
the "Danish American Young People's League"

Daily Program

7 A. M.	Arise
7:15— 7:30	Gymnastics
8:00	Breakfast
8:30— 9	Clean Up
9:00—10:00	Devotion and Bible Hour
10:00—12:00	Organized Play
12:00— 1:00	Dinner and Rest
2:30— 3:30	Swimming
4:00— 5:00	Quiet Games—Crafts
5:30	Supper
7:00— 8:00	Singing Games
8:00— 9:00	Camp Fire
9:15	Refreshments
9:30	Evening Devotion
10:00	Lights Out.

Expenses

Registration Fee (For all campers)	\$1.00
Room, Board and Tuition	6.00
Room, Board and Tuition by the day (per day)	1.00

Boys and girls, you are invited by the D. A. Y. P. L. to spend a week at Grand View College, Aug. 1 to 7. Study the program printed above, and plan to bring a group of your friends along.

Rev. and Mrs. Harris Jespersen of Viborg, South Dakota, and Rev. Ottar Jorgensen of Cedar Falls, Iowa, will lead activities at the camp, and you may rest assured that they will do their best to make your stay worthwhile.

If you desire further information about the camp, or should you wish to enroll, then write to

Harald Knudsen.

Grand View College, Des Moines, Iowa.

REPORT OF THE 61. ANNUAL CONVENTION AT TYLER, MINN.

(Continued from col. 358.)

hear the President read a letter from the Board of the Danish American Mission (Denmark), and another greeting from our sister synod, the United Danish Ev. Lutheran Church in America. The first letter was written by the Rev. M. F. Blichfeld, Copenhagen, Denmark. In his letter he mentioned that this work had been delegated to him due to the illness of the president of the board, Provost Eilif Wagner, who at the time of writing was a patient in the Deaconess Hospital, Frederiksberg, Denmark. The second letter was from the pen of President N. C. Carlsen. The assembly arose in recognition of the thoughtfulness and sincere greetings which these letters conveyed. Notwithstanding the fact that all printed reports were not read before the convention, we were still reading unprinted reports when the convention adjourned at 4:15 p. m. to hear the Rev. Johs. Knudsen lecture on the subject: "Kirkenes Genmæle 1938." In the evening we heard a stirring address by Rev. Holger Jørgensen on the subject: "Now go on with the story." In this address the speaker pre-

sented a splendid picture of the importance of the Oxford and Edinburgh Conferences of last year. Prof. Alfred C. Nielsen spoke about Grand View College and its work. As the challenge of the first speaker stirred many hearts, so the sincerity of the second speaker warmed the hearts of the crowded church.

Twenty-five Years of Foreign Mission

Thursday morning we were privileged to hear the Rev. L. C. Bundgaard at the devotional hour. Again it was a joy to observe the many people that desired to be present for this hour. The Convention Secretary read the minutes of the previous day, which were accepted after a few corrections had been made. The Convention Chairman gave the floor to Rev. J. C. Aaberg, who was to have read his report of the Santal Mission before the convention. Instead of the written report we heard an extemporaneous talk about the work of the Santal Mission. He made a comparison between the mission field and our own synod. He said, "The work has borne fruit to the extent that the mission field with its congregations, church buildings, elementary and secondary schools, hospitals, etc. now is one-third larger than our own synod." The speaker suggested that we may learn something from the mission field in North India. Plans are in preparation, he said, for a new girls' school and also for the establishment of another settlement for work among lepers. Accessions through Baptism numbered 1,500, of which 1,000 represent adult baptism and 500 infant baptism. He concluded his message by reading a letter from Mrs. K. Kjølhede and another from Miss Dagmar Møller, India. To these letters must be added one from Dr. Erling Østergaard and his wife. It is twenty-five years since we as a synod entered this work, although the Santal Mission has existed for 71 years.

This year we missed the presence of the Rev. J. Madson of the Ebenezer Sanatorium and Motherhouse. His report was read by President Alfred Jensen. His absence was due to illness.

Bishop Rosendal to America

Thursday afternoon the committee which was to study the President's report submitted its findings, which were presented by the chairman, the Rev. J. A. Holst. The committee recommended that the Executive Board of the Synod be empowered to plan the itinerary of the Rt. Rev. Axel Rosendal, bishop of the diocese of Roskilde. The exact time for the visit of Bishop Axel Rosendal will be made public later. He represents the Grundtvigian group and is a younger man whose influence is very wide among church people in Denmark. President Alfred Jensen spoke about his correspondence with Bishop Rosendal, and Rev. A. W. Andersen also participated in the discussion of this question.

The Creation of a Board of Elementary Religious Education

Continuing the discussion of the President's report, the committee also called attention to the work of the Committee on Sunday School work, which had been appointed the previous year. The discussion arose as to whether this committee should continue its work, or whether another committee should be appointed or elected. There was a general consensus of opinion that the committee had accomplished the work outlined, and that it should not be continued under its present form. It was moved, seconded, and carried that: "The convention elects three members to constitute a Board of Elementary Religious Education which shall continue the work which has been begun for Sunday Schools and work among children. The members shall be elected for a term of three years, except the members of the first board which shall be elected for a term of one, two, and three years respectively. The Nominating Committee shall submit a list of nominees."

At this point the question of vacant congregations and unemployed pastors was brought before the floor. The convention was not able to solve this vexatious problem, which has created an anomalous situation. Several speakers were given the floor to express their views on the subject. The first speaker, the Rev. J. L. J. Dixon, set forth the views of those who had proposed that the convention adopt a more feasible plan for the calling of pastors. Rev. A. W. Andersen was opposed to any change since the revised constitution presented the best plan possible under our form of church government. President Alfred Jensen questioned the willingness of the congregations to forego their autonomy in the matter of extending calls. A lay delegate from Clinton, Iowa, expressed his serious doubts about the list of available pastors ("Flyttelisten"). To illustrate his argument he said that their congregation had never called a pastor from this list of available men. Realizing the need of further study on this acute problem, it was moved, seconded, and carried that: "The Executive Board of the Synod appoints a committee of five to outline a plan for the calling and placement of pastors. This committee is to report at next year's convention."

Canada Mission

Glimpses of the Field

With rapt attention the assembly listened to the message which Rev. P. Rasmussen delivered during the business session Thursday afternoon. He found it difficult to convey in adequate words the gratitude which he felt toward the Danish Ev. Lutheran Church in America. "I cannot say it well enough; but it is well meant." On winged words he carried the assembly with him to Dalum to tell about some of the things that had thrilled him in his work on the lonely posts of Alberta and Saskatchewan. Through friends in Denmark the old church bell which formerly belonged to the church at Vartov, Copenhagen, had been secured and given to the congregation at Dalum, Alberta, Canada. The East Asiatic Co. Ltd. transported the church bell free of charge to Vancouver, and the Danish congregation at Vancouver defrayed the cost of shipping between their city and Dalum. He pointed out that the congregation at Dalum repeatedly had experienced the unstinted generosity of its friends in Denmark and the United States of America.

Rev. P. Rasmussen serves the Danish people in the province of Saskatchewan once each month during the summer. There are five preaching points and the trip takes about fourteen days. The plan is not entirely satisfactory because the work at Dalum suffers on account of his absence. After some discussion, it was decided that the Executive Board of the Synod should work toward the placing of a resident pastor in Saskatchewan. President Alfred Jensen, Mr. T. G. Jensen, and Pastors V. H. Jensen, P. H. Pedersen, and Ottar Jørgensen all contributed to the discussion of the work in Canada.

Proposes Plan for Financial Assistance to Ministerial Students

Speaking about the need of recruits for the ministry, the Rev. L. C. Bundgaard contended that the present shortage could in some measure be traced to our lack of vision on this point. We are not doing anything in a concrete way to make our words of encouragement to prospective students bear fruit. The speaker used concrete illustration to show what steps other Lutheran synods have taken in this important work. They not only encourage young men to take up the Christian ministry but they stand ready to assist in a financial way.

Professor S. D. Rodholm, the dean of the theological seminary, expressed his dissatisfaction with the conditions under which most of our ministerial students work their way through school. "It is not satisfactory when students

become overburdened with outside work; it prevents them from doing justice to their studies."

It was moved, seconded, and carried that: "The Executive Board of the Synod and the president of Grand View College develop a plan whereby financial assistance may be offered to ministerial students."

In the evening the following speakers addressed the convention: Dr. Dagmar Petersen and Foreign Missionary J. M. Girtz, both of the Santal Mission, and Rev. Erik Moller.

English Translation of Constitution Referred to New Committee

Friday morning the Rev. Ernest D. Nielsen led the devotional period. Immediately following this period the Convention Secretary read the minutes of the previous day which were accepted.

The first question to receive the attention of the delegates was the English translation of the revised constitution. The committee which had been appointed to study the translation presented for adoption made its report through its chairman, Rev. Holger Jorgensen. The work of the translators was seriously criticized from the point of rhetoric and composition. The committee did not feel that it could recommend the translation in its present form.

To this criticism the Rev. C. A. Stub replied that it was an absolute necessity to give a literal translation of the Danish since the synodical constitution in its bilingual form would have to be used side by side. Under such circumstances, he contended, smoothness of form and mode of expression would have to be given less importance than the task of providing an exact translation of the original Danish.

Mr. Frederik Petersen objected to important omissions in the translated constitution. The omissions pertained to questions relative to the administrative policy of the Old People's Home. On this point a very long discussion ensued. Many speakers were heard. The discussion was brought to its final close by the following motion which was seconded and carried: "It is moved that the English translation of the constitution and the revision of the constitution be referred to a committee which shall report to the next annual convention."

Convention Favors School Board

In regard to the proposed plan for the establishment of a School Board for Grand View College the committee was divided into a majority and a minority group. The first speaker, the Rev. Holger Strandskov, explained the points at which he dissented from the other members of the committee. Professor Peter Jorgensen strongly emphasized that unless the plan which was presented by the majority group was accepted *in toto* no advancement would be made over the present form. Rev. V. S. Jensen warned the convention against widening the gulf between the college and the congregations. It was his conviction that they should be kept in close contact with one another. He said, "We do not wish our college to go the way of some schools."

It is quite impossible to give an account of the many various views that were expressed. The participants were so many that it was moved to limit the speakers to three minutes, and not allow them to speak more than twice on the same question.

Of importance to the readers is the question of accreditation. Professor Peter Jorgensen explained the requirements of the State for those desiring to teach in the public schools. Hence, he favored that the College should become fully accredited. The pastors Erik Moller and Hakon Jorgensen spoke against seeking accreditation. Rev. Erik Moller said, "It is the question of a choice between a free

school and a state school." And Rev. Hakon Jorgensen expressed his view in these words: "We can operate a Junior College without accreditation. Recognition of the state is not a necessity." Also laymen contributed to the discussion of this very weighty question. Among those who championed the college few spoke more fervently than Mr. Jens Thuesen, Fredsville, Iowa. He said, "Let us go out and sell the good points of our school." The Rev. A. W. Andersen moved that the college become an accredited institution. This motion was seconded and the votes cast were 77 yes and 56 no.

The question of the creation of a School Board also elicited much controversy. Some doubted the feasibility of such a board; others contended that it would lead toward a much needed stability. With 67 votes for and 29 against it was voted to create a School Board consisting of five members: the President of the Synod, two laymen, and two pastors who are to be elected by the convention.

Dispute evolved in regard to the question of when the School Board should begin to function, and also as to whether the present members of the faculty would come under its authority. In regard to the administration of the college and the seminary, it was also decided that each department may have its own dean, if necessary. The Dean is responsible to the President of the College and must be elected by the School Board, subject to the approval of the President of the college. Two motions were made: the one that the rules proposed should become effective at the close of the convention, and that the Nominating Committee should nominate candidates for the School Board at this convention; the other motion was to the effect that with the election of members to the School Board its authority extends over all relations also in regard to the election of present teachers and their salaries. For the final decision in regard to these we refer the readers to the official Danish report. The first of the above motions received 99 votes for and 18 against. A problem of major importance was beginning to reach its close. The new rules and regulations governing Grand View College were adopted with those changes made during the discussion. Only six votes were cast against their adoption as amended by the convention.

Home Mission Problems Results in Church Extension Fund

Saturday morning the Rev. Swen Baden, Bridgeport, Conn., led the last of the daily devotional periods. Minutes of the previous day were read and approved, and the convention turned again to a discussion of the President's report. The problem and the challenge of the forenoon was that of Home Missions. Rev. L. C. Bundgaard urged the establishment of a church extension fund. "Our whole existence as a synod," he said, "is tied up with the problem of home mission." Rev. A. W. Andersen informed the convention of a new movement of home mission within the United Danish Synod, and suggested that an effort be made to cooperate with our sister synod.

Rev. Alfred Sorensen spoke enthusiastically about home missions. He suggested that we might make excellent use of some of the unemployed young men of today (and perhaps we may also add unemployed young women). He was not thinking so much in terms of prospective pastors as in terms of employing lay leaders in this enterprise of home missions. He made a stirring appeal for a more determined effort in this direction.

Also from the Eastern District we heard the urgent need of home missions. Rev. Swen Baden supplied detailed information about conditions on the Atlantic coast. "In Orange County, New Jersey," said Rev. V. S. Jensen, "there are thousands of Danish people."

The pastors Bundgaard and Baden urged that immedi-

ate steps be taken, and their concerted plea issued in the following results. Pastors V. S. Jensen and J. C. Kjar promised to write tracts, and two significant motions were made and carried. The first called for the appointment of a committee on Home Mission the duties of which will be more clearly defined at a later time; the second, made by President Alfred Jensen, called for a committee of three to solicit pledges and gifts for the establishment of a church extension fund. This committee, appointed by the Convention Chairman, consists of the following members: Pastors V. S. Jensen, C. A. Stub, and L. C. Bundgaard.

Laboratory to be Built Under Modernization Plan

Professor Erling Jensen was confident that the amount of money needed for the proposed laboratory could easily be obtained without increasing the synodical budget. He informed the convention that pledges had been received to the amount of \$1900.00 for one plan and more than \$2000.00 for the other. The speaker explained the cost of the two different plans proposed. Mr. T. G. Jensen moved that: "The Synod builds a laboratory under the remodeling plan, and that the Executive Board of the Synod solicits the amount needed, and that the balance be received as a loan from the endowment fund." This motion was carried.

Elections

President of Synod: Rev. Alfred Jensen, Kimballton, Ia. (Reelected).

Executive Board of Synod: Mr. Chr. Korsgaard, Chicago, Ill. (Reelected).

Mr. Aksel Holst, Cedar Falls, Ia.

Pension Board: Mr. J. K. Jensen, Chicago, Ill.

Editor of "Kirkelig Samler": Rev. J. L. J. Dixen, Withee, Wis. (Reelected).

Editor of "Child's Friend": Rev. Marius Krog, Marquette, Neb.

Editor of "Børnevennen": Mrs. P. H. Pedersen, Perth Amboy, N. J. (Reelected).

Board of Elementary Religious Education:

Three Year Term: Rev. J. C. Kjar, Racine, Wis.

Two Year Term: Rev. L. C. Bundgaard, Brush, Col.

One Year Term: Mr. J. G. Thuesen, Fredsville, Ia.

President of Grand View College: Professor Alfred Nielsen.

Rev. Ernest D. Nielsen's appointment to the faculty of the theological seminary was approved by the convention.

School Board of Grand View College:

Four Year Term: Rev. Johs. Knudsen, Askov, Minn.

Three Year Term: Mr. J. G. Thuesen, Fredsville, Ia.

Two Year Term: Rev. Ottar Jorgensen, Cedar Falls, Ia.

One Year Term: Mr. S. N. Nielsen, Oak Park, Ill.

Convention 1939 to be held at Withee, Wis., Rev. J. A. Holst, Pastor.

The convention was finally drawing toward its close, but there was still an interesting and much encouraging communication to be read. In a letter, which President Alfred Jensen read, the Bethania congregation at Granly, Miss., conveyed its greetings to the convention and informed us that they rejoiced to share in our synodical fellowship. Their relationship to the synod is mentioned in the report of the district president and was further explained by the president of the synod. Since it was brought out that the congregation has not signed the synodical constitution, the Secretary of the Synod was instructed to communicate with the congregation and arrange for the necessary steps involved in their formal acceptance into the synod.

It was late Saturday before the convention was able to adjourn. In the above report we have touched upon the more important aspects only. There is scarcely place for any mentioning of the addresses, services, etc., from which we benefitted during our stay at Tyler. It is our sincere hope that some one will write about some of these inspiring addresses and lectures, and especially about the Sunday services and the unveiling of the monument on the grave of the late Rev. Kr. Østergaard.

Fully conscious of the incompleteness of this report, we kindly ask your indulgence. It is a new venture and there is need for more definite plan in this work. We believe that its value will increase as this method of reporting the convention will be a permanent feature of coming conventions. Trusting that this report may give our readers an unbiased glimpse of a truly great convention, we bring this narrative to its close. Permit us first, however, to convey our thanks to all of those who helped to make the convention a success. Thanks to Rev. Holger Strandkov for the way in which he and his fellow workers engineered the task of caring for our physical and spiritual welfare.

Ernest D. Nielsen,

Asst. Secretary of the Convention.

Our Church.

Vacation Bible School. Rev. Edwin E. Hansen, who took up the work in the Juhl and Germania (Mich.) churches after these churches had not had a resident pastor for many years, is now beginning a summer vacation Bible school there.

Joint Services. The Juhl and Germania churches, Rev. Edwin Hansen, pastor, are planning a joint service on the fifth Sunday in July, July 31. The services will be held in the open. Afterwards the two churches will have a picnic dinner together.

Young People's District Convention for the Michigan and Illinois District will be at Muskegon, Mich., Aug. 13-14.

Rev. A. E. Frost, Dannevang, Texas, is expected to make a visit to Juhl, Mich., some time in August, at which time he will speak in the church there.

Rev. Viggo M. Hansen, secretary of our

synod, is expected to speak at Juhl, Mich., the latter part of the summer.

At the Old People's Home, Des Moines, Iowa, there are 18 inmates. The cost of operating the home is \$243.00 per inmate. No appropriation for the home was asked at the convention for the coming year.

The Tyler Orphanage now has 7 children and 7 old people. There seems to be more need for an old people's home at Tyler than for a children's home.

The Pension Fund now amounts to \$37,000.00. During the past year pensions were paid to the amount of \$5,700.00. The number receiving pension was 29.

Rev. Swen Baden, Bridgeport, Conn., preached at Port Chester, Conn., on July 3. Members of his church at Bridgeport were invited to attend the service.

Hartford, Conn. Rev. Swen Baden, Hartford, Conn., has been invited to speak to the Young People's Society at Hartford, Conn., on July 14.

Dean Olsen, Dartmouth College, will be the speaker at a party to be held in our Bridgeport, Conn., church July 31.

Rev. Harris Jespersen, Viborg, S. Dak., spoke at a 4th of July Festival held at West Denmark, Wis., on the 4th of July. Rev. Jespersen is visiting West Denmark in connection with the Summer Camp being held there.

Summer Camp at West Denmark. July 4-10 a Summer Camp for young people is being held at West Denmark, Wis. The programs of the camp are a combination of Bible study, study of young people's problems and out-door recreation and sports. The leaders of the camp are Rev. Johs. Knudsen, Askov, Minn., Prof. A. C. Nielsen, Grand View College, Des Moines, Iowa, and Rev. Harris Jespersen, Viborg, S. Dak.

Sunday School Parade. Rev. A. Th. Dorf, Brooklyn, N. Y., reports that the Sunday school of his church has taken part this year also in a mammoth Sunday school parade held annually at Brooklyn.

English Services Discontinued. During the summer months the English services will be discontinued in Rev. A. Th. Dorf's church in Brooklyn, N. Y. The younger people are nearly all on their vacation in the country during the summer, for which reason the demand for the use of the English language in the church is slight.

Trip to Atlantic. On May 29 the Young People's Society at Omaha, Nebr., paid a visit to Atlantic, Iowa, on the invitation of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Jessen there. The young people enjoyed a picnic dinner with their hosts and had a very delightful visit with them.

Annual Sunday School Picnic. St. Peder's Church, Minneapolis, Minn., Rev. J. C. Aaberg pastor, will hold its annual Sunday school picnic at Minnehaha Falls on July 10.

"Bud og Hilsen", the parish paper of our Minneapolis church will suspend publication during the months of July and August this year.

Young People's Convention for District III of the D. A. Y. P. L. was held at Askov, Minn., July 1-3.

West Denmark's New Church. May 29 the new church at West Denmark, Wis., was taken into use for the first time. At the first service in the new church was held confirmation and the Lord's Supper was celebrated, a truly good beginning. It will be remembered that the old church at West Denmark burned down last fall.

Miss Laura Ibsen has been teaching the summer school at West Denmark, Wis., this year. She has an enrollment of 33 children.

Fiftieth Anniversary. The Betania Danish Ladies' Aid at Ringsted, Iowa, is planning to celebrate its 50th anniversary on Aug. 7.

Hampton, Iowa. Sunday, June 26, the congregation at Hampton, Iowa, celebrated its 60th anniversary. Rev. A. W. Andersen, Chicago, Ill., was invited as the guest speaker.

Trinity Church, Chicago, Ill. At the congregational meeting this spring it was decided to use the English language at the business meetings of the Trinity Church. The younger people of the congregation will soon have to take up the reins and guide the destinies of the congregation; it is therefore appropriate that they are given an opportunity to take part in this part of the church work so that they may become accustomed also to bear responsibility for the leadership of the church.

Count Your Blessings.

There are many times when we say, "Everything has gone wrong today." It really seems so at times. Everything we touch seems to fail, and we are apt to become disheartened, because so little seems worth while. Of course, some things may go wrong, but then, if we stop to think, we shall see that many things have gone right. God's sun still shines, the flowers still bloom, the birds still sing, and when we stop to count our blessings, we shall find that there are a dozen blessings for every case of trouble. Did you ever stop to think how much oftener you laugh than cry? It may rain days at a time, but there are weeks and weeks of sunshine. One friend may prove false—but there are scores who are true. One business venture may be a failure, but there are many that lead to success. We simply cannot count all the blessings that God sends us. And so, when we are prone to grumble, let's begin thinking about the good things of life and of the sunshine and joy which come from Him who doeth all things well.

For everything that happens wrong
A dozen things go right.

For every tear a flood of song
Rings out across the night.
For every dark and stormy day
A week of days are fair.
However chill the clouds and gray
'Tis always bright somewhere.

Annual Festival at Ebenezer

The Annual Festival at Ebenezer, Brush, Colorado, will be held July 22 to 24th. We hope many friends will spend these days with us. All are welcome.

J. Madsen, Pastor.

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