

Lutheran Tidings

Volume VII

April 5, 1941

Number 17



Easter Anthems Singing

By N. F. S. Grundtvig

From the Graves remove dark crosses,
Grow the lilies in their stead,
Blend the flow'rs with tender mosses,
Plant sweet roses in the bed.
Place, instead of signs of grief,
Angel wings in bright relief,
Palms instead of columns broken,
Words of hope that God has spoken.

Here He is, the God-man risen,
Broken are the chains of death,
Opened is our gloomy prison,
And His word is life and breath;
Now a summer morning bright
Dawns on us to end our night;
And, their Easter Anthems singing,
Souls their way to Him are winging.

::

What is Christianity?

From of old men have not heard nor perceived
by the ear, neither hath the eye seen a God be-
sides Thee, who worketh for him, that waiteth
for him. Isaiah 64:4.

There is this difference between Judaism and Christianity on the one hand, and the man-made religions on the other that what Jew and Christian believe, this has really happened.

Our forefathers believed that there were gods by the names of Odin and Thor,—that Odin sat in Hlidskjalf and sent out his two ravens, Hugin and Munin over all the earth, and that these came back and sat upon Odin's shoulders and whispered into his ears what they had seen and heard. They believed that Thor had a hammer, with which he smashed the heads of the "Jætter."

But faith in Odin and Thor has disappeared from the earth. Why? Because they were merely the thoughts and imaginings of man,—had never walked the earth in flesh and blood. There were no foot-prints by which they might be followed.

The God of Jew and Christian has proved himself on earth. He had said to Moses: Let the Israelites put the blood of the Paschal lamb upon their door-posts, then will I see the sign and the angel of death shall pass over, and your first-born shall remain alive. And the Israelites **did** put the

blood upon the door-posts, and their first-born were not touched; but the first-born of the Egyptians died.

How do we know that this has happened? Why does the Jew celebrate the passover unto this day? Is it likely that if the story of the first passover had been the imaginings of men's minds, that the custom would have prevailed 3400 years? But if Israel owes its life to obedience to the word of God then they are not likely to forget.

There was a man of Nazareth. He went about and did good. He lived as other men lived, though he did not sin. He was crucified, and he died as other men die, though with words upon his lips that no other man can ever have uttered. He died, but on the third day he came back from the kingdom of the dead with a life over which death had no power. Of his death one of his disciples writes: Christ, our passover, also has been sacrificed. What does he mean?

By the blood of the Paschal lamb the Israelites were kept alive; by the blood of Jesus we shall live and never die.

Or is this also imaginings of men's hearts? How do we know that Jesus has lived, has died, has brought life and immortality to light, and has implanted this life in us so that we now have life over which death has no power?

By the powers of resurrection now active in us.

Life is its own proof. If you are able to get up and go

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70th ANNIVERSARY

As early as 1866 the Danish immigrants began to settle in Grundy and Blackhawk counties, which were at that time open prairie. After the first settlement was made the colony soon grew larger.

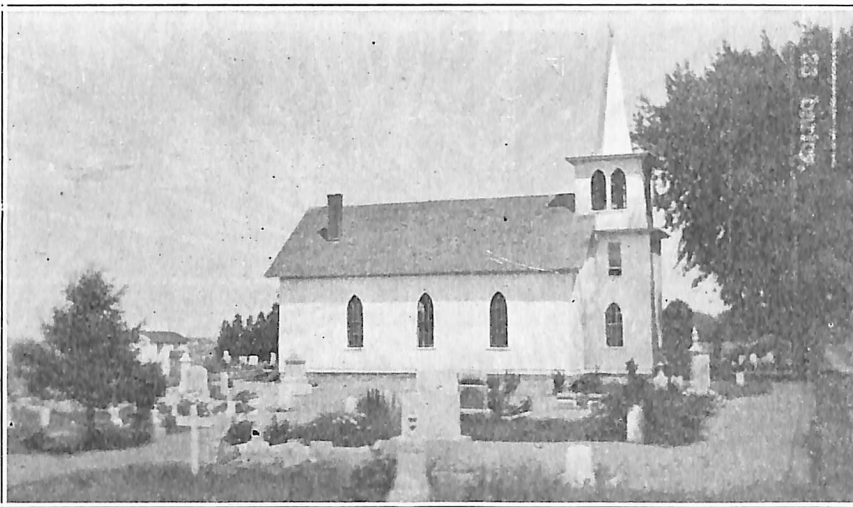
The people began to assemble in their homes to sing the old familiar hymns, to read sermons and to pray. This beginning of spiritual life led to the thought of organizing a congregation.

The first Danish minister who preached in Fairfield township was Rev. C. L. Clausen.

The congregation was organized March 12, 1871, at the home of Jeppe T. Slifsgaard. The next difficulty was to find a minister.

God soon provided the man. A. S. Nielsen responded to the call, and was ordained Nov. 17, 1871.

In 1874 the first little church was finished and dedicated by Rev. A. S. Nielsen. A new and larger one was built in 1885.



Fredsville Lutheran Church

Besides A. S. Nielsen the following pastors have served the church: J. Jensen Mylund, R. Thomsen, C. H. Fechtenburg, Adam Dan, S. D. Rodholm, P. Götke, Rasmus Jensen, J. Holst, P. C. Stockholm, Holger Nielsen and S. Kjær.

The 70th anniversary was observed with festival services Sunday, March 16. The visiting pastors were S. D. Rodholm, J. A. Holst and Ottar Jorgensen.

On the hill stands the white church as the center of a rich farming community. May the spiritual light continue to shine from this place as the church proclaims the word of life. S. Kjær.

WHAT IS CHRISTIANITY? . . .

(Continued from front page)

about your work then you know that you are alive. If you are able to live your life in greater and ever greater certainty of the forgiveness of sins; if you are able to find rest for your soul in the forgiveness of sins, if a peace which passes your understanding takes possession of your mind and heart, then you know that you have that of which Jesus was speaking when he said, I am come that they may have life and have it abundantly.

Life is its own proof. If you have it then you know that you have it. But we are not speaking of life in the abstract; we are speaking of a person. We are speaking of him of whom St. Paul says, The Spirit bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God.

That is why we believe in the Holy Spirit. When a person bears witness with you and for you in such a way that you discover that he knows your innermost soul, then you believe that person. When the Holy Spirit gives rest and fulfillment for your soul's innermost need, then you believe in the Holy Spirit. When your soul is at rest in its sonship with God, then you know that God is. Then you know that God has come to you in his Son. Then you know that the Holy Spirit is, and that he has searched the depth of your soul, since he knows your innermost need. Then you know that he has searched even the depths of God, since he can speak with authority of so great a love that it could be in no one, save in God the Father.

No one has ever seen God, save the Son. No man on earth today has seen Jesus in the flesh as he was before he died and rose. No one has seen the Holy Spirit. What, then, is Christianity?

Christianity is what eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor has it arisen as thought and imaginings in man's hearts. But nevertheless it is and it has all happened. We are as certain of this as we are of our own life, because Christianity is our life. We live it, and living it we experience the reality of it. Christianity is the life of God in us, manifesting itself as certainty of the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and life everlasting,—manifesting itself as righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

Valdemar S. Jensen.

Bishop Berggrav of Norway:

"When truth becomes holy for us, it creates martyrs. Only when a task becomes holy for a man does it become a power in him which makes him capable of achieving the greatest deeds. The same is true of what we call society. It cannot rest only on the basis of rational factors. If the deep, mysterious respect, the holy inner obligation were taken away, all that would remain would be millions of legal paragraphs which bring forth milliards of executive clauses, and yet society would fall to pieces. The Church submits itself to the law; she does not have to determine it. But note that to submit to the law does not mean submitting to any apparent legal order; for above all law and all power stands God, as He speaks through His Word in our conscience. The Church does not create law, but the conscience does. The awakened conscience which is aware of law is therefore the place where a deeply human encounter takes place between law and religion. Here law and religion both experience their most serious conflicts, but also the defeats which turn into victories. When Thomas More, the Chancellor of Henry VIII, came into conflict with the King because he would not carry out the King's will against his holy convictions he was thrown into prison against all law. In his call, he wrote to his daughter these words: 'It strengthens and comforts me to think that in all my deadly anguish I have through the mercy of God never harboured the thought of agreeing to a thing which is against my conscience.' This is a dramatic example of this encounter of law and religion, which are united in a common source; in the absolute obligation from which there is no possibility of appeal, but whose secret and immediate call makes man free to live for truth, goodness, and justice, and if need be to suffer too. The words of our Church prayer are strengthening and comforting: 'Thou art the strength of those who are oppressed for righteousness' sake.' "

—:—

Some church people think they are broadminded when they are only shallow . . .

The best way to silence some critics is to put them on the committee.

—The Christian Advocate.



BOOKS

CHURCHES AND SECTS OF CHRISTENDOM, by Dr. J. L. Neve. 634 pages, price \$3.50. Order from Prof. J. L. Neve, 1015 N. Fountain Ave., Springfield, Ohio.

Prof. J. L. Neve of the Hamma Divinity School of the United Lutheran Church has published his results of an extensive and thorough study on the subject: Churches and Sects of Christendom.

Dr. Neve has had forty-two years of experience in training young men for the Christian ministry, and he reveals in his book a profound knowledge of his subject.

The writer treats the whole of Christendom in thirteen families and an additional group. This last group is presented under the heading: "Movements and Organizations, independent and unrelated".

Dr. Neve makes the following statement in the foreword of the book: "This book could have been made a popular and widely selling publication if the author had been willing to sacrifice its critical character. But it is the objective critique, in Christian charity, which the churches owe each other". My contention is that because of its critical character the book will become popular in the libraries of church schools and pastors.

The book will be a valuable asset especially in the library of pastors and students of Church history.

Holger Strandskov

P. S. Dr. J. O. Evjen, known to the pastors who attended the Pastor's Institute at G. V. C. last year writes about the book: "A herculean piece of work". Dr. G. M. Bruce of the Norwegian Lutheran Church of America: "It is the largest and most comprehensive work on Symbolics produced by an American Lutheran scholar".

H. S.

OBSERVATIONS

—By Bundy

The First grade of self-discipline.—"Let the minimum be 20 minutes a day spent in practicing the presence of God. 20 minutes a day given to adoration, joy, thanksgiving, meditation and intercession. This prayer time could be spent sitting, kneeling, lying, walking whichever one finds more apt. It could be split up into fractions of time or taken in a single period."—Christian Century.

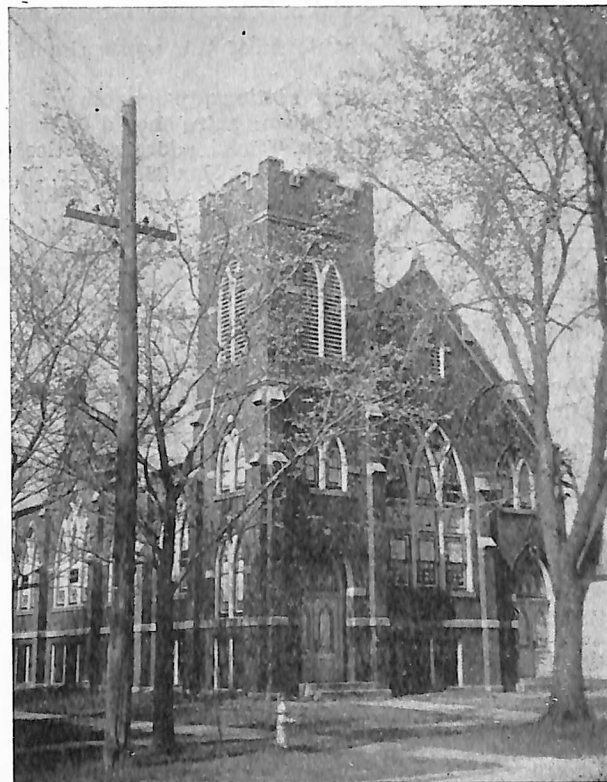
Attitudes.—There are small mountains a short distance from where I live, some of them are real close and yet I had never been up on top of them. A residence up there had long attracted my attention. Some people have called it "the dream house," and it is a wonderful place to dream. The air up there is so different from the valley. A couple of hunting dogs greeted my first visit there with loud howls. We were soon good friends and they followed me on the higher explorations, chasing butterflies in the blue sunshine and alertly detecting partridges hiding in the tall wild grass. It is a strange atmosphere up there among the rocks. I wonder why melody after melody ran over my tongue as we walked along. It is because in that atmosphere, removed from all man-made conveniences, we unconsciously begin to long for that other unknown world so closely attached to the source of perfect goodness and purity. Up there it is not hard to understand why all great music is composed in primitive surroundings. Lost in the woods we begin to hear a whisper from that other world where the language of God never ceases.

65th Anniversary, Dwight, Illinois

This is the day which the Lord hath us given." That was the thought which filled each heart, as we assembled on Sunday morning, March 23, 1941, to observe the 65th anniversary of the founding of St. Peter's Ev. Lutheran Church, in Dwight, Ill.

In spite of the weatherman's forecast, the skies were sunny, and Spring was at hand. Therefore, the church was filled to capacity when the church bell rang out to call us to worship.

A happy spirit was felt everywhere, and why would that be otherwise, for we had so much to be grateful for, in this



St. Peter's Church, Dwight, Ill.

free and happy land of ours. No one interfered with our worship, and our hearts gave thanks to God for our many blessings.

First and most of all we were thankful for the blessing from above that gave courage to those early pioneers to begin Christian worship in this place; then strengthened them in their faith, till no sacrifice was too great for the privilege of having their own church. They had to give of their service too, and carry that down through the generations to the present day.

Our thoughts were expressed in the beautiful words of the hymn—"Come Thou Almighty King, Help Us Thy Name to Sing."

Many weeks ahead, Rev. Lund had been working to prepare a memory book. It had meant a great deal of work and effort on his part, but through this lovely book we now may follow the history of the church up to the present time; and the many pictures keep fresh in our minds how the church has progressed, step by step.

Rev. J. C. Aaberg and Rev. Svend Kjær, who both have served the church for many years, had been invited with their families to be our guests, and help us in making this a very happy occasion. We had all looked forward to meeting with these friends, but "God's ways are not always our ways" and so it was with sorrow in our hearts, that we received the message of Mrs. Aaberg's passing away. In spite of his own great loss, Rev. Aaberg came to bring us the message of God's

(Continued to page 133)

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Volume VII

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EDITORIAL

The Life and Light of Easter and its message to the world is given to us on the dark background of the crucifixion of the Son of God by the hand of man. On Good Friday men crucified Christ. They mercilessly crushed out the life in His body. The world has never experienced a darker background than this historical fact: The Cross on Calvary.

But on Easter morning God lifted a smiling face to the world and spoke with the living reality of a victory unparalleled in the history of man. God gave new life, new hope, new faith to a dying world. On the doorstep of the world God laid the message: "He is risen! He who was dead, He has broken the bonds that held Him, He is now alive."

Nineteen hundred years have come and gone, but Easter still speaks to the world of a victory that can be won in spite of the dark background of the cross. Easter proclaims again the fact that victory may arise from the ashes of defeat.

As we enter the Passion Week we of Danish descent are reminded of the anniversary date of the German invasion of Denmark on April 9th, 1940. It will be well for us to pause on this day and reconsider what this invasion and the terror of war in all its horrors may mean to the world of which we are a part. The following statement was made recently in regard to the situation in Denmark: "Unbalance has replaced balance; tyranny has replaced freedom; economic invasion has followed military invasion; life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness have been stifled."

Through the Lenten period we have prepared ourselves spiritually speaking for the coming Easter festival. The suffering and the death of Jesus on the Cross is the central theme of this Lenten period. Only as we spiritually can re-experience this tragic chapter of life, will we be able to find the dawn of Easter day and its message to us. This is true in the spiritual world where we find the Light and Life of the risen Christ on the dark background of the Cross. It is equally true in the small world of which we are a part, the world which today is covered by the dark shadows of the consequences of war.

Easter was a new Day to a world in darkness. Pilate thought he was speaking the last word in regard to the life of Jesus from Nazareth, and consequently for His kingdom. There are similar "Pilate" tyrants in our day who create an apparent darkness and who crucify Truth, Justice and Peace. On Easter morning God eternally proclaimed the Victory. This message still prevails. By His grace his people shall be given help to remove the dark crosses to see the Easter lilies in their place.

Holger Strandkov.

3d Annual Pastors' Institute April 22-25

Once again Grand View College and Theological Seminary invite the pastors to attend the annual pastors' institute. In accordance with the expressed wish of those who participated last year, we are closing the institute at noon, Friday, the 25th. This, of course, means that there will be only three afternoon sessions. In the letter, which we addressed to the pastors, we wrote: "Although we are not attempting to formulate an institute theme, nevertheless, an important part of the institute will deal with, which one may term, the Heritage of the Lutheranism of the Northern Churches."

Personally, I should like to see pastors of other synods of the Northern Churches share with us this particular institute. Such a wish does not rest upon any sense of superiority, as far as we are concerned, but upon an awareness of the fact that the spiritual treasures, which in a particular way are ours, may pass away unless we are able to translate them for our people. Here, I am not thinking of books as much as of those living truths that we cannot dispense with without an irreparable loss. Here is a field which the leaders of an earlier day have left as a challenge to us. What is said of Laur. Larsen, the first president of Luther College, holds true about the pioneer leaders in all churches. "He himself could do little to prepare directly for the day when the pioneer spirit of the new generation should go on to new fields of work beyond the little group in which they grown up. Yet who can chide the pioneer leaders who had grappled with the problems of two generations for not solving those of the third?"

We regret to announce that Dr. Conrad Bergendoff, President of Augustana College and Seminary and a distinguished scholar, has informed us that he shall not be able to be with us during the institute. However, we are very grateful that he is sending a very able man to take his place. We list the program as we have it to date. A few minor changes may be made as we are waiting to hear further from some of the participating speakers.

Dr. Bernhard Christensen, President of Augsburg College and Seminary, will give two lectures dealing with the general subject mentioned in the first paragraph. He will approach the subject from the angle of the free churches. Professor Eric Wahlstrom, who is taking the place of Dr. Bergendoff, attended the two recent ecumenical conferences and has been a member of the American Theological Committee for the Study of the Church since its beginning. Professor Wahlstrom will give the following two lectures: The Ecumenical Study of the Church and The Metaphor of Redemption in Paul. Principal Bernhard Helland, India, will lecture about Christianity in India. Dr. Sterling W. Brown, Drake University, will give two lectures on the subject: Pastoral Counseling. In lecturing on this subject, Dr. Brown will take into consideration the place of psychology and psychiatry. Dean S. D. Rodholm will preach the Institute sermon Tuesday evening. President A. C. Nielsen will welcome the assembled pastors Wednesday morning. The undersigned will lecture on the subject: Grundtvig's Philosophy of the History of the Christian Church.

During the afternoon sessions we shall hear the following men: Rev. V. S. Jensen: The Desire to Know and the Craving to Believe; Rev. F. O. Lund: Church Music; and Rev. J. C. Kjaer: The Pastor and His Work. Rev. F. O. Lund will also be in charge of a *Sangaften*.

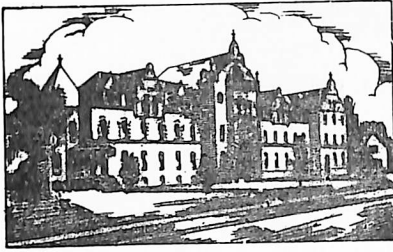
This program is considerably different from our first plan for this year's institute. However, we have made every effort to get the very best men obtainable for a group such as ours. Some of the men who, due to unforeseen circumstances, were unable to accept our invitation, have promised that we may contact them next year.

Hoping that many pastors will return for this Pastors' Institute, and that other pastors who have not been able to attend in the past may find it possible this year, we remain

Sincerely Yours,

Ernest D. Nielsen

for the Committee on Pastors' Institute.



Grand View College

Spring has again descended upon Grand View. With all its beauty and warmth, it seems to evaporate our troubles and bind us closer to the out-of-doors. Despite the temptation that is found there, our school life never-the-less must go on.

Studenterfest is over and left in its wake varied but longing reflections in the students. Then, as if to ease us from our preparations gradually, the Junior Basketball Tournament was held here the following weekend. With teams from Kimballton, Newell, Fredsville, Cedar Falls, Des Moines, Tyler and Askov present, it was evident we were in for a brisk tournament. The preliminary games lived up to and in some cases exceeded expectations and they left for the finals Askov and Kimballton. In a hard-fought tussle Askov defeated Kimballton, 37-25.

Thursday night, March 27, Grand View sent a large representation to the "Town Meeting of the Air," held in Des Moines' Shrine Auditorium. Following the speeches and during the question period, Clayton Nielsen, Grand Viewite plus, asked one of the questions and incidentally his was the only question which merited the remarks and answers of two of the speakers.

"Lest we forget", down in the store room adjacent to the outer dining room, the "Viking" staff is hard at work preparing this year's annual. Advance reports speak highly of this year's publication as it embodies numerous new ideas.

With but a short time remaining before Easter vacation, many have expressed their intention of spending the holiday home or visiting their friends. It will be a strange weekend for those that remain.

And now, with only two months of school remaining, we begin to hear observations referring to our final weeks here. The undefinable Grand View spirit is evident here in more ways than one.

Gene Buck,
Askov, Minnesota.

Missionary Dagmar Miller's Itinerary in Iowa, District 4

Des Moines, April 15.
Kimballton, April 18.
Oak Hill and Exira, April 20.
Waterloo, May 6.
Fredsville, May 7.
Cedar Falls, May 8.

Svend Kjær, Dist. Pres.

DWIGHT ANNIVERSARY...

(Continued from page 131)

eternal love, that shelters us in the hour of trial and sustains us in the hour of need, so we never feel alone.

What a testimonial! Given to the many friends, whose sympathy was being extended to him, and whose thoughts went back in loving remembrance to the happy hours spent in that home.

It is always a pleasure to extend a welcome to Rev. Kjær and his family as they smilingly come to meet



Rev. F. O. Lund

you. Their home has given us many happy hours of fellowship.

At the morning service we enjoyed Oluf Lund's lovely organ music as well as the choir singing, under Mrs. Lund's direction, "Send Out Thy Light."

Our pastor and his family seem ever ready to put out all their efforts, to make perfect, a time of celebration; and we do owe them our sincere gratitude at this time.

Many of our people met at the Communion table, and we closed our morning devotion with:—

"God's word is our great heritage,
And shall be ours forever;
To spread its light from age to age
Shall be our chief endeavor;
Through life it guides our way,
In death it is our stay;
Lord grant, while world's endure,
We keep its teachings pure,
Throughout all generations."

The Ladies Aid served a delicious dinner at pretty tables decorated with red carnations.

Many telegrams came during the day from friends who could not be present, and a lovely poem, written by one of our younger members, was read.

At 2:30 we gathered for a Danish church service. We had the pleasure of hearing Rev. Lund's violin solo, "Largo", by Handel. After that his vocal solo, "Den store hvide Flok vi se," by Grieg, and again a violin solo.

"Maaske kan der gaa baade Vinter og Vaar," by Grieg.

Rev. Svend Kjær preached the sermon, and reminded us of the need of "Bowing in Humility" before God, that His will might be done.

Many guests had arrived from neighboring congregations; and it was with great pleasure that we bade them welcome.

At the supper table we had a chance to mingle with these guests and a happy spirit prevailed.

Both our guest speakers spoke in English at the evening service, which also was very well attended. We were again reminded of the gratitude we owed to God for his many blessings, in being partakers in Christian fellowship, and never to be afraid to "Lift high His royal banner." We enjoyed Rev. Lund's beautiful violin solos once more in "Ave Maria" and "Berceuse."

As the service came to a close, a prayer of thanks was sent to God for this beautiful day spent in His sanctuary and the benediction was pronounced.

"Once more we bless Thee,
ere our worship cease;
Then, lowly bending,
wait Thy word of peace."

The "Willing Workers" served refreshments in the church dining room after the service and many were given an opportunity there to express their gratitude for the happy day.

It is indeed a great privilege to share in such a festive occasion.

Anne Beyer.

From Porto Novo Mission

Santi Pavat
30/9/40
Kodai Kanal
S. India

Dear Friends!

I wonder, how much you really know about Miss Anne Marie Petersen and her school-work, which has been going on for the last twenty years in an obscure little village on the east coast of South India.

Early Portuguese settlers named this village "Porto Novo", which is a Latin name meaning "The New Harbour".

Miss A. M. Petersen likes the country better than the crowded, big cities, herself coming from a little hamlet on Fyn. And she built her big, beautiful school right in the jungle. Here she has laboured and worked during the last twenty years; in order to give poor Indian girls a sound, healthy education laying equal stress upon the education of the head, the hand and the heart, or as she puts it herself: "I want to make the children happy, healthy and helpful."

Many girls have left her school, not

with a certificate in the pocket for having passed any high examination, but with a better grasp and understanding of life and a capacity for building a small home, where she herself is a good and wise wife and mother, thus helping to build a purer, happier and better India, because it is true also in India that "The hand that rocks the cradle rules the world."

She has given herself, life and soul, to this work, and she has understood how to create a real, Indian home for all these girls; yes, her school resembles a big home more than a school. There are no strict, hard rules; love only rules supreme, and they are trying to serve one another in love.

They work and sing and play. All day long you will hear the music of the spinning wheel or the sweet tones of the Indian string-instrument, the veena.

They learn to love their own country, its age-long culture, its history and art. They are taught to act her old, beautiful dramas and to sing with Indian voices—not western.

Early morning—at daybreak, when the shining Venus stands on the eastern sky, the girls will rise from their mats and having finished their morning toilet, the music lovers amongst them will creep on tiptoe down to their beautiful music room, and you will hear the soothing though monotonous Indian music fill the air and rooms.

The rest of the girls work in the big home like busy bees, sweep the floors, dust the rooms, put fresh flowers everywhere and prepare the morning meal.

One fine, big girl called Rajamal brings hot, Danish, strong coffee up to Anne Marie's bedroom, but soon will you find her dressed in the coarse handwoven "sari". She moves amongst her girls with a motherly smile and a kind word to everybody, big and small. She loves them all; she serves them in every act of hers, all day long.

When they are sick and down with fever, who will nurse them and bathe their burning foreheads and cool their lips? Their Danish mother. Many a time she will have a sleepless night because she will tend the sick and comfort them.

And if they come to the school for the first time full of sores lice, etc. she herself will comb them and wash their ill-smelling sores and scabies! Yes, she is indeed a mother for the motherless and a friend or elder sister to her two young teachers. She feeds or looks after their bodies as well as their minds and souls.

She can tell the gospel stories in a delightful living and simple language. She will take the children out in to nature, in the garden and jungles and down to the mighty ocean and show them the wonders in nature. She knows all the names of the Indian

birds and flowers, and she makes them wonder and admire nature.

Yes, friends, this work has been going on for soon twenty years. How and why? Because A. M. P. loves India and her children, and she has been able to transmit this love to many friends in the Danish, Grundtvigian church.

She has worked and prayed, loved and wept—and from Denmark came the gifts in money.

Then the war came. Our beloved little Denmark is at the present in bondage. They cannot send Anne M. money, so she can carry on her work. Shall she close her school? Shall she send her many children away, because she can't feed and clothe them? Or will you, her Danish-American friends, step in now in right earnest, because you have heard the Master's voice call you to work for him? Because you have yourselves received much and so you wish to give still more.

If you have something to be grateful for, show it in deeds and not in words. Let it be your sacred duty to keep Anne Marie's school going. Let her and her children not starve, send your gifts freely so you may find joy in giving and in the knowledge of being co-workers in a great and wonderful work in building up God's kingdom in India.

Did not Christ himself say "Let the little ones come unto me, for unto them belongs the kingdom of heaven."

With best wishes to you all,

Esther Menon



A Lenten Mission Conference was held in our Seattle, Wash. Church March 28-30. The visiting speakers were: Rev. Holger Nielsen, Rev. John Enselmann and Rev. Jørgen Nielsen, all of the Ninth District. And from the city of Seattle: Rev. E. R. Pfeleger of Bethlehem Lutheran Church who spoke on: "The part our Lutheran Catechism has played in the history of our church and country"; Rev. Carl Bengston of Emaus Lutheran Church, speaking on the topic: "The Lutheran Church vs Other Church Organizations in Home Mission Work"; Mr. Wesley Rennie, General Secretary Y.M.C.A. on the subject: "Youth and the Church."

Rev. V. S. Jensen of Oak Hill, Iowa, preached in the Kimballton church on Sunday, March 30th.

The St. John's Junior League of Seattle, Wash., will serve a 9 a. m. breakfast on Easter Sunday in the church dining room.

Rev. Arthur E. Frost and family have arrived in their new charge at Waterloo, Iowa. Rev. Frost will preach his first sermon there on Sunday,

April 6th, and will be installed by the district president, Rev. Svend Kjær of Fredsville.

Ronald Jespersen, theological student from G.V.C. preached the sermon at the Fellowship Service in St. John's Church in Marquette, Nebr., on Sunday, March 30th. He also lectured there in the evening.

Rev. Harald Ibsen of Diamond Lake, Minn., spoke this last week in the churches in Askov, West Denmark and Withee.

Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Bridgeport, Conn., had arranged for a series of Lenten services. The speakers were: Rev. V. C. Mengers, formerly of the United Danish Lutheran Church, now filling the vacancy at our church in Perth Amboy; Rev. J. Hamilton Dawson, formerly part time professor at Grand View College, now pastor of Advent in New York City; Rev. C. S. Kirkegaard, formerly of the United Danish Church, now a pastor of the U.L.C. Church at Lynbrook, L. I.; Rev. C. M. Videbeck of Salem Danish Lutheran Church, Brooklyn, N. Y. and Rev. John Kaecher, pastor of Christ-Redeemer Lutheran Church, Reading, Pa.

A Junior League has recently been organized in our church in Brooklyn, N. Y.

Rev. A. Th. Dorf of Brooklyn, N. Y. recently donated to the church he has served nearly twelve years a beautiful new pulpit.

Rev. Holger Strandskov spoke in Flaxton, N. Dak. on Friday, March 28th, and served in the church at Dagmar, Montana, on Sunday, March 30th.

Our Church in Greenville, Mich. of which Rev. C. A. Stub is pastor recently adopted the following laws: **Baptized members** are all persons who are baptized and whose parents or wards are members of the congregation. At the age of 21 their membership lapses unless they begin to contribute to the church on their own account. **Confirmed members** are all persons who have been confirmed in this church, also persons who have been confirmed in another church if their parents or wards have become members of this church. (If membership lapses they may be reinstated simply by beginning to contribute to the support of the church, unless they have joined some other church not Lutheran. In that case they must be admitted as an outsider.)

The New Organ in the Clinton Church was dedicated on Sunday, March 16th. A special Organ Recital was given. The organ was secured recently through gifts from members and friends on the occasion of the

65th anniversary of the Clinton church.

A class of 33 boys and girls will be confirmed in the St. Peter's Church in Detroit, Mich., on Palm Sunday, April 6th. It is the largest class in the history of the church.

* * *

The Porto Novo Mission in India in charge of Anne Marie Petersen has through many years been supported from quite a number of the Grundtvigian church groups in Denmark. The article from Mrs. Esther Menon reveals the need of this mission at the present time. Gifts may be sent to Mrs. Caroline Jørgensen, Kimballton, Iowa, who gladly represents this mission field in our synod.

NEWS BRIEFS

Japan.—According to a report in "The Japan Christian Quarterly" of January, 1941, it was expected at that time that by June, 1941, between 200 and 250 of the missionaries in Japan will have left the country.

Great Britain.—The Archbishop of York speaking recently on the Economic Reconstruction of Europe after the war made this statement: "... We have had a long experience of high tariff walls and exclusion of goods when their admission would be advantageous, and that has led people into this deliberate preference against other people and enabled them to develop an intense national consciousness, a perilous situation. Our aim in peace must primarily make the resources of our world available to all the peoples of it. To secure the use and distribution of these resources in economic troubles have arisen from the emphasis which the last century has been placed on production, and the little attention paid to distribution and consumption."

A Significant Ordination.—During a recent notable ordination service in Minneapolis the Rev. Johan A. Aasgaard, president of the Norwegian Lutheran Church of America, ordained a candidate of theology from the Independent Faculty of Norway into the ministry of the Church of Norway. This marks the first time that an official of an American church has acted upon the direct request and authorization of the King of Norway.

The Rev. O. G. Malmin, editor of The Lutheran Herald, noted significant implications in the service: "The Lutheran Church is ecumenical in character. When one of its members is unable to function in a certain capacity, another stands ready to take its place ... Because (the Christian Church) is universal it transcends and overcomes barriers of language and locality. Because it is eternal, it outlives and finally defeats both persecution and dictatorship. Because it is divine it reaches into human hearts and es-

tablishes bonds which surpass all other on earth."

"Raise Good Crops, Or Else . . ." Norwegian farmers are the latest class to be favored with Nazi threats. An article in the ironically-titled German mouthpiece, *Free People*, fulminates against peasants who are not putting—or who do not seem to intend to put—their land to the best use. The solution proposed by the paper is this: "Send the farmers to concentration camps, along with the Jews!"

News of Norway.—The Nazis, having already stifled the radio and press with censorship, are now reportedly planning to "clean up" Norwegian literature and to list those undesirable books which will join in banishment the works of Sigrid Undset.

The anniversary date of the German Invasion of Denmark, April 9th, will be observed in many Danish groups throughout the United States. "National America Denmark Association" and "American Friends of Danish Freedom and Democracy" are sponsoring a number of meetings in several cities and communities.

The article, "Invaded Denmark," in our last issue was reprinted from and with the permission of the "Commercial and Financial Chronicle" of March 8, 1941. Our printer had omitted this statement of credit. The article was submitted to us by "American Friends of Danish Freedom and Democracy."

News of Norway.—We are happy to announce that we have secured the regular press releases issued by the Royal Norwegian Government's Press Representative in the United States, located in Washington, D. C. Having also the splendid service from the office of "American Friends of Danish Freedom and Democracy," in New York City we will in the future be able to bring important news items from the Scandinavian countries.

The St. Olaf Choir returned February 10 from their annual tour. They sang in Carnegie Hall in New York, in Symphony Hall in Boston, in the Academy of Music in Philadelphia. The highlight of the tour was the concert in Constitution Hall in Washington, with Crown Prince Olav and Crown Princess Martha of Norway present. The royal pair had written the director, Dr. Christensen, that they would appreciate hearing one anthem in Norwegian, a request that the singers were only too happy to obey.

Where Antichrist Rules. Dr. Hans Hirschberg defended Pastor Martin Niemöller and other German pastors when they were tried in Nazi courts. This eminent German lawyer is now in this country. In a recent address at Rochester, New York, he stated that between 2,000 and 4,000 Protestant and Catholic clergymen are now in concentration camps in Germany.

How pitiful a thing it is that the land once hailed as the defender of the open Bible should now become the prison of all those who have had the courage to call their rulers to account before the bar of God. But antichrist is marching with relentless force through Europe now. We learned recently that when Soviet Russia took over Eastern Poland many Christians were transported to Siberia. Whole communities have been broken up, churches destroyed, and pastors arrested. We have Christ's promise that the gates of hell shall not prevail against the church. We must continue to believe that "behind the dim unknown, standeth God within the shadows, keeping watch above his own." Certainly these are sobering times, and we dare not cease to be fervent in our prayers for the suffering heroes of the faith.—Watchman-Examiner.

The Rev. C. S. Franzen of Manchester, Conn., the oldest pastor of the Augustana Synod, died March 10, at the age of 95 years. He had been a Lutheran minister for 55 years. Born in Sweden he came to America in 1868. Here he enlisted in the United States army and served for a number of years on the Northwest frontier. He knew the Indian chieftain, Sitting Bull, leader of the Sioux nation.

Conscientious Objectors.—The Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America and the American Friends Service Committee are to be joint sponsors of one or more work camps for religious conscientious objectors. The camps will be financed by religious organizations, while the Government will supervise and direct them. The men will be assigned to reforestation and soil conservation work.

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Acknowledgment of Receipts From Synod Treasurer

General Budget

Previously acknowledged	-----\$2,427.38
Grayling, Mich., Congr.	----- 30.00
Danewang, Texas, Congr.	----- 46.50
St. Stephan's, Chicago, Congr.	----- 86.25
First Luth. Church, Montcalm County, Mich., Congr.	----- 200.00
Omaha, Nebraska, Congr.	----- 75.00
Racine, Wisconsin, Congr.	----- 90.16
Dalum, Wayne, Alta., Congr.	----- 25.00
Juhl, Michigan, Congr.	----- 85.00
Menominee, Mich., Congr.	----- 28.40
West Denmark, Wis., Congr.	----- 100.00
Watsonville, Calif., Congr.	----- 50.00
Hartford, Conn., Congr.	----- 255.00
Muskegon, Mich., Congr.	----- 32.10
Fredsville, Iowa, Congr.	----- 200.00
Viborg, S. Dak., Congr.	----- 50.00
Solvang, Calif., Congr.	----- 134.50
Portland, Me., Congr.	----- 20.00
Tyler, Minn., Congr.	----- 789.00
Oakland, Calif., Congr.	----- 40.00
Parlier, Calif., Congr.	----- 53.00
Bone Lake, Wis., Congr.	----- 25.50
Argo-White, S. Dak., Congr.	----- 25.00
Moorhead, Iowa, Congr.	----- 35.00
Des Moines, Iowa, Congr.	----- 140.00
Ruthton, Minn., Congr.	----- 106.00
Detroit, Mich., Congr.	----- 100.00

Junction City, Ore., Congr. ---	57.60
Dagmar, Mont., Congr. -----	101.50
Manistee, Mich., Congr. -----	90.00

Total ----- \$5,497.89

Missionwork, Home Mission

Previously acknowledged -----	\$ 865.31
Trinity, Chicago, 10 annual reports -----	2.50
2nd District, by C. W. Lodging, Treas. -----	30.00

Total ----- \$ 897.81

Mission to Lutheran World Action

Previously acknowledged -----	\$1,216.49
Bel Canto Ladies, Detroit ---	5.00
Omaha, Nebr., additional ---	1.50
Trinity, Chicago, -----	106.56
Emergency Relief Group, Brush, Col. -----	27.00
Askov, Minn., Congr. -----	17.75
Hartford, Conn., Congr. -----	21.85
Salinas, Calif., Congr. -----	20.50
Grayling, Mich., Congr. -----	14.35
First Luth. Church, Mont-calm County, Mich. -----	57.60
Racine, Wis., Bethania Congr. -----	71.40
Racine, Wis., Bethania Sunday School -----	7.90
Karen Jeppe's Mission, by Rev. Frost -----	31.00
St. John's Ladies Aid, Hampton, Iowa -----	5.00
Des Moines, Ia., Congr. -----	65.63
Brooklyn, N. Y., additional ---	5.00
Pastor & Mrs. Clemens Sorensen -----	25.00

Total ----- \$1,699.53

G. V. College Student Loan Fund

Previously acknowledged -----	\$1,110.00
A Friend, Marinette, Wis. ---	300.00
A Friend, Menominee, Mich. ---	60.00
Axel Olsen, Perth Amboy, N. J. ---	25.00
Sale of Basketball Tickets, G.V.C. -----	90.00
Mrs. Chas. W. Olsen, Cedar Falls, Ia. -----	250.00

Total ----- \$1,835.00

To Payment of Current Debt

Previously acknowledged -----	\$ 99.00
Portland, Maine, Congr. -----	34.00
Manistee, Mich., Congr. -----	15.00

Total ----- \$ 148.00

To Pension Fund

Previously acknowledged -----	\$ 5.00
Trinity, Chicago, Congr. -----	87.50

Total ----- \$ 92.50

To Canada Mission

Previously acknowledged -----	\$ 68.10
St. Stephan's, Chicago -----	11.50
Mr. & Mrs. C. W. Ridstrup, Ft. Dodge -----	5.00
Manistee, Mich., Congr. -----	11.75

Total ----- \$ 96.35

Friends of The Danish Church!

Only six weeks remain in closing of our books. The above receipts speaks for itself. A little less than 33% of the Budget passed by the convention in Cedar Falls, Iowa has been received.

Our civil government encourages its citizens to give generously to all religious, educational and charitable institutions, by allowing 15% deductions of your annual income. Statistics show that of all income tax returns only 2% has been deducted from all returns.

Recently your treasurer enjoyed the privilege to attend a service in Grace Lutheran Church, St. Petersburg, Fla. A visiting pastor, being an Institutional Missionary, made the following statement from the pulpit: "A good many people will some day get a terrible shock, if they have not shown their faith by works and deeds."

Most of us are citizens of this, our adopted country, either by choice or by the choice of our forebearers. All of us like to claim citizenship of Heaven. Let us not be shirkers, but let us be loyal to our responsibility. Let us exercise a stewardship that will not some day have a terrible shock in store for us, but let us be faithful with a glad and willing heart to show our faith by doing the Will of God, so that His Kingdom may

come, and His work may be furthered among us.

Almost everywhere we can see an emblem displayed "God Bless America." We hear it sung carelessly over popular radio programs. What a misuse?

Would it not be better, if we got down on our knees and asked God to save America? Let us by the faith in which we are baptized, be reawakened to our duties and responsibilities and let us show our faith, by doing the works and deeds according to the stewardship, that has been entrusted to us. It is up to us to do our part, then we know GOD WILL BLESS AMERICA.

Thanks to all contributors.

Axel Thomsen, Treasurer.

Menominee, Mich., April 1, 1941.

SPECIAL INTRODUCTORY OFFER

In order to accomplish our goal of "A Church Paper in Every Home" we are sponsoring a spring drive for new subscriptions to Lutheran Tidings.

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