

Lutheran Tidings

Volume XI

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Number 22

CHURCH CONVENTION

Medicine Lake, Minnesota, June 5-10, 1945



Lake Scene.



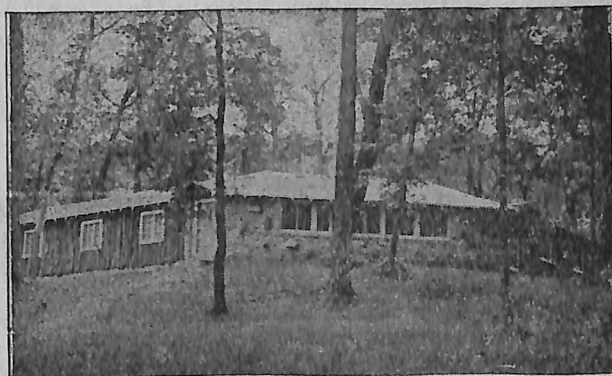
A Teepee.



Youth Chapel.



A Group of Cottages.



Log Cabin Lodge.

REPORT TO THE ANNUAL CHURCH CONVENTION BY THE SYNODICAL PRESIDENT

At Medicine Lake, Minn., June 5-10, 1945

To the sixty-eighth annual convention of the Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Medicine Lake, Minnesota, June 5-10, 1945.

As a consequence of the participation in the present world conflict by our country the accustomed independence and freedom of judgment and action on the part of individuals and of social units as well have been bypassed to a degree unthinkable even a few years ago. Almost any act and hour in the life of service men as well as civilians seem in some way determined or at least guided by the government and its agencies. We are all marching. The very few who refuse or attempt to escape are not leading happy and contented lives. The churches and their activities are no exceptions. Even this convention is held by the grace of a government bureau.

I am not mentioning this critically, but in order to establish the correct background for our state of mind as we gather for this convention. In innumerable ways we are bereft of self-mastery. We are chiefly ignorant concerning even the immediate unfolding of events within and without the borders

of our own country. Without warning changes can be ordered that would influence the circumstances, even the plans we are here making, vitally and basically. One of the most disturbing thoughts concerning the entire situation is what effect all the control and direction exercised by the government may have upon our mental and moral make-up. No one seriously disputes the inevitability of the present situation. But neither should anyone ignore the crisis involved when controls are removed and responsibility for attitudes and actions are restored to the many millions now directly or indirectly under command.

Christian Democracy.

The events that have taken place recently bringing to a victorious conclusion the European phase of the war and the World Peace Security Conference at San Francisco have not moved very many to jubilation and exultation. The gravity of the problem of the winning of the peace weighs heavily upon the mind of all sincere persons. It surpasses by far the serious problem of winning the war in the Pacific and the joy over victory in Europe.

But the mind of the individual person is not only busy with the larger aspects of the change over from war to peace as evidenced by these critical tasks to be carried out. The magnitude of the moral and mental reconversion to peacetime conditions and the winning of the peace by the establishment of some effective form of world cooperation among the nations exceeds the capacity of most persons to think and to evaluate.

Nevertheless, there is in the minds of most of us, bewildered and confused as they may be, a growing conviction that the real issue involved in all the turmoil and struggle about future events in world politics, colonial and territorial agreements, monetary plans, relief and rehabilitation, and a score of other problems, is that of true democracy. Without further arguing the point I assume that there is only one kind of true democracy and that is Christian democracy. It is also safe to assume that this is not for sale, nor is it in particular strong demand, in the capitals of the nations of the world, nor at San Francisco today. Perhaps the dawning of this fact upon the consciousness of the people in this country greatly reduced the size of victory celebrations on V-E day. We are beginning to realize that Christian Democracy cannot be established on any world wide basis by the winning of wars nor can it be expected to flourish in the wake of bombing obliteration of cities, concentration camps, and under any form of oppression and military control.

We are furthermore determined that there must be no substitutions in our minds for the ideals of Christian Democracy. We may never realize the day when that is recognized everywhere as the only true way of peace among men and nations, but we will not falter in preaching and proclaiming such Christian Democracy.

The task before us, then, is to make Christian Democracy world wide. A staggering task, indeed. It will not be finished by tomorrow. It has been on its way these two thousand years. Often we think that the Church has failed in being true to Christian Democracy. Some go as far as saying that there is little of it today in Christian Churches. The way of authority and law often dominates, where the gospel love of the Savior should serve. We do know that the change-over from the covenant of law to the covenant of grace has been slow and is far from accomplished. Is not this at the bottom of the struggle of autocracy and fascism on the one hand and of democracy on the other? And will there be any cessation of that conflict till Christian Democracy has been established in the hearts and minds of people everywhere? When that day comes people will take full responsibility for their conduct, privately and publicly, in the light of the revelation of Jesus Christ as Savior of mankind and their characters and consciences as well as their behavior will reflect the mercy and justice, the love and kindness He practised.

Our share in bringing Christian Democracy about is primarily a personal responsibility. It is one of confessing the Faith in God as Creator, Redeemer and Sanctifier. It is the personal acceptance of forgiveness of sin. It is the exercising of all the privileges we enjoy as children of God, as baptized and communing members of His church. The active, living inspiring faith of Christians is needed to bring Christian Democracy, and world peace and brotherhood among nations about. It is a task we cannot delegate to statesmen and politicians. Christ has laid it at our doors. We will have to be content perhaps, that the persons mentioned, carry out the task. But it does not relieve us of responsibility. We contribute as we worship together in our churches and offer prayers in our homes, as we listen to the words of Scripture and accept the blessings of God on His church. The questions placed before us, then, from time to time, will challenge us to thinking and acting and will cause us to live and behave as citizens of a Christian Democracy.

I realize that in all this there is nothing new or startling. I am only bringing it forward that it shall not be forgotten. And I especially want to offer it as a solution and a comfort to the many people that are confused and bewildered by the rapidity of events and the complexity and magnitude of the problems. No one among us needs to feel unimportant or neglected and for that reason perhaps becoming bitter and resentful. Anyone of us is important in the eyes of God

and we all have a service to fulfill both as citizens of this country as well as members of the household of God. And if we will but take our stand within that household we will be given the light by which to see and understand and serve.

It is true, that it is not easy to explain, even then, why a son should give his life on a far off island in the Pacific, or be dreadfully maimed fighting in Europe. In spite of the fact that I cannot trace the will of God in all such happenings, I am still unwilling to surrender to a chaotic and aimless existence by leaving God's will undone in such instances. I remember with humiliation how Jesus Christ prayed in Gethsemane to let the will of His Father and not His own be done, even though it was impossible for His disciples to understand the how and the why thereof. We cannot trace the wisdom of God's providence. We do know that that wages of sin are death and the gift of God's grace is everlasting life in Christ Jesus. We do feel with the poet, Tennyson, that:

"Oh yet we trust that somehow good
Shall be the final goal of ill
To pangs of nature, sins of will,
Defects of doubt, and taints of blood

That nothing walks with aimless feet,
That not one life shall be destroyed
Or cast as rubbish to the void
When God has made the pile complete."

Our sympathy goes to the many homes in our midst which have lost a dear son or relative in the war during the past year. May they be given faith and courage to bear the loss.

May I suggest as action by the convention concerning this section of my report that it reaffirm its stand upon the 13 Guiding Principles as passed by the Delaware Conference of Churches on a Just and Durable Peace and at the same time approve the conclusions reached at the Cleveland Conference held in January of this year for the same purpose. The findings of that conference accompany this report.

Denmark Again Free.

It is unnecessary that I go into detail concerning the liberation of Denmark. Neither is it necessary that I enlarge upon the important place this event has in our thoughts. We are to gather this coming Sunday to celebrate in speech and song and prayer the happy event, which was brought about after five years and one month of occupation by Germany.

The news scarcity still prevents us from knowing very much for certain about conditions in Denmark or how its people have fared during the dark years. Communications are still not restored. I expect, however, that when this is being read to the convention, Rev. A. T. Dorf will already have been in Denmark a week. The Synod Board in accordance with a resolution passed at last year's convention providing that the Synod Board appoint someone to visit Denmark upon the close of hostilities, asked Rev. Dorf to accept that position and to bring our greetings of gratitude and sympathy to the people of Denmark. It is being planned that Rev. Dorf, John Hansen, Davenport, Iowa, and Jean Hersholt of Los Angeles, Calif., journey to Denmark by plane upon arrangement made by the Danish legation in Washington. The last two named gentlemen represent America-Denmark Relief, Inc. It can be expected that when they return to this country we will get authentic information concerning conditions in Denmark. Preparations can then be completed for transfer to Denmark of the large supplies of clothing, new and old, which have been collected through the efforts of above mentioned organization. More than 160 units of Danish War Relief have helped in preparing that supply of clothing. An estimated value of \$100,000 is placed upon the used clothing, while there are 100,000 garments of new clothing ready to be shipped besides a lot of material, which is cut and ready to be shipped, for the relief of an expected wearing apparel shortage in Denmark. It has been in the spirit of brotherliness and sympathy that the women of many of our churches have cooperated and worked in order to have this relief material and clothing ready. It is a worthwhile contribution made possible particularly through the participation in last year's National War Fund drive on the part of America-Denmark Relief, Inc. People of Danish descent all over the country have shared. May I ask that the convention express

A MESSAGE FROM G. V. C.

Plans are now well under way for future events and developments. In order to facilitate them, the work of the summer has been divided and delegated. I shall use practically all my time traveling for the college and the Jubilee Fund, and Dean Alfred Nielsen has been placed in charge of the administration until September 1. All correspondence concerning Junior Camp, scholarships, and enrollment for the coming term should be sent to him at Grand View College. The Junior Camp will this year be divided into two sections, one for a younger group will start July 30, and one for an older group will start August 6. Harald Knudsen will lead the camps. Further notice will be forthcoming soon, and camp folders will have been sent to all congregations in the middle west when this is read. Inquire of your local pastor.

When the new school year starts a change will have been made at the college insofar as I will be located in my own home. The four-fold work of administration, management, teaching, and public relations, places too great demands on one person. My address will be 907 Morton Ave., one block removed from the college. The management and household will be in charge of Mrs. Margaret Frederiksen from Enumclaw, Wash. Mrs. Frederiksen comes to us well recommended, and I am confident that the homelike character of life at Grand View College will continue.

Scholarships.

Grand View College will again this year offer

fifteen scholarships of fifty dollars each. A change has been made, however, and five of the scholarships will go to sophomores. Eligible for the scholarships are students who come from homes of the Danish Church. Applications must be accompanied by two recommendations and evidence of good grades in high school or college. Particulars will be given upon inquiry with Dean Alfred Nielsen who will forward the application banks. An application must be postmarked not later than August first. The scholarship committee consists of Dean Alfred Nielsen, Professor Peter Jorgensen, and Professor Harald Knudsen. Pastors are encouraged to bring this information to the young people of their congregation.

Gifts etc.

When I last receipted for gifts to Grand View College I forgot to mention the fact that the congregation at Viborg, S. D., had sent a valuable shipment of gymnastic equipment. This gift is greatly appreciated and we are grateful to the good people at Viborg. May I again remind the congregations of the middle west, that donations of food and canned goods will be of great assistance, this year perhaps more than ever.

A folder, advertising Grand View College to the service men, was recently sent to all homes of the Synod. Should anyone desire extra copies, they may be had by writing to Dean Alfred Nielsen. It would probably be a good idea to enclose such a folder in bulletins that are sent to the service men.

Johannes Knudsen.

Grand View College
June 13, 1945.

its appreciation for this work and also urge people to support the National War Fund drive this fall.

The report from Rev. Dorf upon his return will cover the entire situation in Denmark, of that I am sure. I hope that he will consent to pay a visit to a great many of our churches upon his return. I feel that he will be wanted to do so. It will undoubtedly take a long time before civilian travel to Denmark will be allowed. Rev. Dorf will also be able to tell us how we specifically can help our brethren in the Church of Denmark. Perhaps it may turn out so that they will be able to help us. Man does not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God, said Christ. It would not be unexpected if the Danish people and especially the Church of Denmark, having been in the foreground of the resistance movement, will have a message of great value to us. We join in thanksgiving for the liberation of our mother country, its people and its Church from the cruel oppression and destruction by the most barbaric foe known to modern times.

National Lutheran Council and Lutheran World Action.

This report on the activities of the National Lutheran Council and the Lutheran World Action during the past year should be read with a backwards glance over the report I submitted on the same subject last year. The reason for this is that a comprehensive picture of the entire setup as provided for in the new constitution was given in that report. This report stands on the shoulders of last year's report.

During the year the reorganization of the Council has been completed. There are now three main divisions of the work centered under the general guidance of the Executive Director of the Council, Dr. Ralph H. Long. They are: Division of Welfare, Division of Public Relations and Division of American Missions. Besides these there are several other important activities such as the Service Commission, the Prisoner of War ministry, Student Service and the cooperation with the Lutheran World Convention resulting in the support rendered to orphaned missions and relief and rehabilitation to Lutheran Churches in devastated areas.

The Division of Welfare is supported from Lutheran World

Action funds in the amount of \$25,000, due to the extra load war time demands place upon it. The other activities with the exception of Student Service are all supported almost entirely from Lutheran World Action Funds.

1. The Service Commission, with 50 full time service centers in operation and an additional 37 part time centers and a total attendance of 3,486,108, distributing to these and through 800 Lutheran army and navy chaplains millions of pieces of literature in the form of service prayer books, Bibles and Testaments besides tons of stationery and several hundred Communion Kits, received \$600,000 of the 1944 L. W. A.

2. The Division of American Missions with work of a missionary nature in some thirty defense areas under the direction of 20 full time pastors and 33 defense area visitors gathering children in Sunday school, people for worship services and youth in Luther Leagues, besides a host of other religious activities, received \$150,000 from Lutheran World Action Funds.

3. The Church Abroad received for the support mostly of orphaned missions \$400,000 in 1944 and will require perhaps as much as \$600,000 in 1945. The increased demands are due to the fact that replacement and reinforcement of missionary personnel has been necessary as the war lasted longer than anticipated. The cost of living for hundreds of homeless refugee missionaries in countries like China is very high.

This year's need for Lutheran World Action has now been placed at \$2,500,000. The visit of Dr. Long, Dr. Bersell and Dr. Lawrence Meyer of the Missouri Synod to Europe early this spring revealed an almost bottomless need in some of the worst devastated countries. The stress has especially been laid upon providing printed material in the form of periodicals, Bibles, hymn books, also upon furnishing educated leaders and pastors. I refer you for more detailed information to the May 5th issue of Lutheran Tidings. The need is so great that anything we do will be inadequate. But that does not release us from the obligation to help those so sorely in need and distress. For that reason I ask that the convention vote a special appeal to all the congregations of the synod to raise

(Continued on page 10)

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Across the Editor's Desk

Convention Notes: The annual convention of the Danish Lutheran church was held again this year at the Mission Farm on Medicine Lake, Minnesota, during the week June 5-10. Although the attendance was somewhat smaller than that of former years, the fellowship shared and the spirit of the meeting was in no manner curtailed.

The convention grounds at Medicine Lake are in many respects ideal. Although there existed, theoretically speaking, a distinction this year due to government regulations between the actual members of the convention (pastors and delegates) and the "vacation campers", no one at any time, we are sure, was aware of any differentiation. Thus one large happy family lived together during the five day period. In spite of rather cool weather the camp provided well for all concerned.

The story of Mission Farms is very interesting. Rev. William E. Paul, D.D., the founder and the general superintendent, tells an interesting account of the beginning and the development of this camp, one of the largest "conference grounds in America." The Sioux Indians named the lake "Mde-Wakan" (The Lake of the Spirit). And to the Sioux Indians the Great Spirit was an unknown God, medicine for the souls tired and wounded in the struggle for existence. Later the name of the lake

was changed to "Medicine Lake." With the building of four Mission Farms and a large convention grounds that can accommodate up to approximately one thousand people at one time in cabins, dining rooms and convention auditoriums, the lake and its surroundings has become, in a special sense, the place of the Spirit, a place where Christians receive a renewed strength and the assurance that "God is not far from each of us."

In 1895 thirteen Minneapolis churches united in organizing the Union City Mission of Minneapolis. The main purpose of the Mission was to minister to the numerous transients that gathered often in great numbers at the "Gateway" to this metropolitan city. A chapel and the St. James Hotel was built. At this modest hotel building the Mission offered clean beds, wholesome surroundings and nourishing food, all at a price well within the means of the average transient. In addition were rooms for recreation, books and magazines for reading. In short the place was a workman's Y. M. C. A. In the chapel services were held regularly and also other inspiring meetings.

The Rev. William E. Paul was at that time a young pastor of the Riverside Chapel in the Seven Corners district of Minneapolis. In working with the transients at the "Gateway" and seeing the inadequate facilities of the modest chapel and hotel provided for these men, he with others visioned the plan of a Mission Farm. The plan materialized in 1927, when 135 acres of woodland and farmland, with 3000 feet of waterfront on Medicine Lake, only ten miles from Minneapolis, was rented for the first year and purchased the second year. An empty farmhouse, a barn and a shed were ready for occupancy and use. Dr. Paul, with the help of others, moved in and began the work of creating a home for the unfortunate transients. The story of the building of the present camp includes the gradual erection of the many large and small buildings; a blacksmith, wagon and machine shop; a mattress factory in which over a thousand mattresses were made from discarded material, thoroughly renovated; old stoves and ranges, long out of use, were repaired and rebuilt; junk was gathered and with it wagons were put together, and old plows, cultivators and mowers were fixed up and put in working order; rustic seats, benches and tables were made from trees and saplings; rustic beds were made from discarded springs and discarded hospital cots; an old portable saw-mill was remodeled, and after the branches of the dead trees were trimmed off for firewood, the trunks were sawed into lumber, etc.; a hog herd was begun, the start being made with seven little pigs whose mother had been a prize winner at the Minnesota State Fair; Dr. Paul and helpers borrowed a herd of cows and raised the calves, thus the beginning of a good dairy herd.

The greatest project, however, at the Mission Farm was always "the rebuild-

ing of men" as Dr. Paul speaks of his daily task. The number of men at the Mission Farm was small at the beginning, only 15 to 35 the first year. This number increased as the depression in the 1930s grew upon city and farm alike, until at one time 776 men were housed and fed at the four Mission Farms, and among them were lawyers, doctors, ministers, mechanics, in fact almost every profession and trade. By far the largest percentage were honest, dependable and worthwhile men. To these men Mission Farm offered two ideals which Dr. Paul believed God intended all men everywhere to have:

- 1) "An interest in life—something interesting to do. Mission Farms offered a wide variety of tasks, and generally the man selected the work of his interest, and
- 2) "An opportunity to make life useful—to do something to make others happy. This ideal found expression in building recreation fields, fireplaces, chapels, and halls. Many men who had lost work habits, due to long periods of unemployment, were built up in work habits to again become self-supporting."

Various Bible camps and conferences meet at the Mission Farms during the entire summer season.

The opening service of the convention was held Tuesday evening, June 5, in the beautiful and spacious chapel on the camp grounds. Rev. Enok Mortensen of Tyler, Minn., preached the sermon, using as his text Philippians 3, 13-14, "Brethren, I count not myself yet to have laid hold: but one thing I do, forgetting the things which are behind, and stretching forward to the things which are before, I press on toward the goal unto the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." The speaker stressed the spiritual challenge of forgetting and with it to forgive.

Rev. J. C. Aaberg, pastor of St. Peder's Lutheran church in Minneapolis, and Mr. Paul Steenberg, president of the congregation, each spoke words of welcome in behalf of St. Peder's congregation as the official host. Three years in succession the St. Peder's church has had the privilege and the honor to be host to the annual convention of the synod.

Wednesday, June 6th. Rev. A. W. Andersen, Tacoma, Wash., was in charge of the morning devotion and Bible hour. Rev. Andersen chose as his text John 3, 1-15 and centered his meditation on the words of Jesus to Nicodemus: "Except one be born anew, he cannot see the Kingdom of God." Rev. J. C. Aaberg again at this time spoke words of welcome, stressing that the task of reconstruction is laid before the Christian church today more than possibly ever before in the history of the church. Cities are in ruin. The world at large is in ruin. We have gathered here at our convention to help reconstruct, knowing that above everything else it is man that needs to be reconstructed,

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GRAND VIEW COLLEGE



Daily Life At Grand View College

Friday evening, June 1, came all too soon for most of us, for it marked the closing of the school year 1944-45, a year that has enlarged the Grand View family, a year that has made Grand View College a second home for all who attended.

Closing meeting began with the audience singing "My Country, 'Tis of Thee." The Grand View College Chorus, directed by Oluf Lund, then sang "Cherubim Song" by Bortnyansky, followed by "Land of Hope and Glory" by Elgar, in which the solo parts were sung by Ellen Andersen of Chicago and Ingrid Christensen of Kimballton. Pearl Plambeck of Vancouver, B. C., then sang the solo "The Lamp Lit Hour," followed by Dora Krog of Chicago singing "Klokke, ring Fred."

The address of the evening was by Dr. J. Hamilton Dawson, of the seminary faculty. Speaking to all, but especially to those who were completing their work at Grand View, Dr. Dawson prefaced his talk with the idea that "We spend our years as a tale that is told," mentioning that the students were opening a new chapter in their lives, just as a brook meets a stream. Tests of character will come unexpectedly, because we live in that kind of world; the crises we meet will show what we have absorbed of the good we have met. Crises don't make men, they reveal them; and this war shows that we have forgotten God. As was said to Victoria when she became Queen of the British Empire at the age of seventeen, "Who knoweth whither thou art come to a kingdom for such a time as this." Never was the world so small, never was the challenge so great. He reminded us that not only young people have a desire to do things, but that the older ones have often been discouraged.

Using the words of David, "Oh, that I had wings like a dove! Then would I fly away, and be at rest," (Ps.55), Dr. Dawson went on to speak of three wings that we have to give us rest. The first thing is the wing of books, in which the wealth of the ages is crystallized. With the admonition that if one doesn't learn how to study in college, he never will, Dr. Dawson reminded us that we do not need encouragement to take the easy way. A view of the whole, through

books, gives peace to the soul; we must learn from an ancient people, the people of our Old and New Testaments. The second wing is the wing of friends, for a real friend means something, and real friends can share the finest of thoughts.

The third wing is the wing of religion; and it is astonishing how many people seem to get along without it. We are not the captains of our souls. We were reminded that there is no such thing as being your own boss in this world, "unless you are a tramp, and then there is the policeman." Until a man finds religion, he will not be able to find himself; and when a man comes to himself he comes home to God—and thus he finds himself. "Fear God and know no other fear."

Einar Anderson then played a piano solo, "New England Idyls," Op. 62, by Edward Macdowell, "In Midsummer," and "A House of Dreams Untold." Dean Alfred C. Nielsen then presented the class who had completed two years of junior college work—Ellen Andersen, Alma Bollesen, Ellen Bollesen, Dagmar Jensen, Evelyn Lerager, Ouf Lund, Gordon Miller, and Harold Olsen. Before the singing of the Grand View College song which marked the end of the program, Dr. Johs. Knudsen made the announcements that the students had given a sum of money to the Grand View Jubilee fund in memory of Wayne Andersen, and that ten freshman and five sophomore scholarships of \$50 each would be offered for the school year 1945-46. He also mentioned the fact that Grand View had been fortunate in many ways, with nearly normal activity, the backing of the church, and the fellowship experienced, both within the school and with friends of the college everywhere.

At the coffee table, several persons expressed words of thanks and appreciation for the year just passed. The highlight of the meeting in the dining room was the awarding of the letter "G" to the "Vikingettes" of the Grand View College basketball team, Ellen Bollesen, Elsie Baadsgaard, Kathrine Utoft, Ingrid Christensen, Jean Crosson, Bertha Rix, Esther Jensen, and Alice Christensen. It was also a fellowship at which three nations were represented, Canada, Panama, and the U. S. A. With the singing of "Altid Frejdig" the school year 1944-45 at Grand View College officially ended, a year which will not be forgotten by anyone who was privileged to attend. Words cannot express the feelings that were shown and felt as farewells were said, and many a hope was expressed that "I'll see you next fall."

From many homes they came,

To make one family;

To many homes return'd

One Christian fellowship.

—Clayton Nielsen.

BRAND

To understand Ibsen's plays is to understand the main character. Ibsen had a philosophy of life that began to appear very early in his plays. From

Brand and on it developed into a clearer and more distinct idea.

In the character of Brand, Ibsen, I believe, has tried to point out how a man can be bound by the very things which would push him on toward greater goals. His wife's love for him, the love he felt for his only child, the knowledge that he finally had the church, the majority behind him were the very things that were to tie the man's mind and soul.

Your mind must be free from material obligations if you are to come to the actual realization of the truth. Brand begins his life up in the mountains with Agnes, his wife, and seems to be very much a part of this our human existence though he already at this time has a picture of God as a being a slave driver who would demand man's all.

Brand's philosophy was "Intet eller alt" (Nothing or all). This Brand believes to be God's demand of us, and confronted by this thought all else must vanish. If anything or anyone will make him compromise this thought or belief, then that idea or thought must be destroyed.

When the time comes for Brand to choose between his son's life and his work as God's messenger to these desolate people then he sacrifices the boy's life. When his wife would weep for the boy, Brand with brutal cruelty tells her that all must be sacrificed for the cause and it must be sacrificed in the right spirit or it is worth nothing. When his own mother begs him to give her Holy Communion before she dies he refuses to go to her because she has not given up all her riches to the church. When the big church which he helps the congregation to build is completed Brand refuses to let anyone in the church for he says that it is bringing honor unto the people who built it and not to the one for whom it was built. The people follow Brand into the mountains to start anew and give up all earthly possessions but when they realize that he is unable to give them food and shelter they turn against him and none remain with him despite the fact that he again reminds them that it must be "Intet eller alt."

To me Brand's ultimate end in the ice church seems to be a symbol showing how Brand had frozen up everything warm and beautiful in his heart and that he must eventually be crushed under the hardness he himself has built up. Over and above all comes those wonderful lines almost as if in answer to Brand's question if it was all in vain, "Han er deus caritatis." (He is a God of love).

Brand's picture of God is a cruel one. God is a hard task-master and one must give his all for his God.

Brand would not be tied down because of obligations toward his own or his family's or his church's well-being. All of these must be sacrificed if they are in the way of his beliefs.

Ibsen shows signs of having been influenced by Søren Kierkegaard's writing (Continued on page 16)

OUR WOMEN'S WORK

W. M. S. Officers:

MRS. INGEBORG NESS, President,
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MRS. ESTHER PETERSEN, Secretary,
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2351 Chilcombe Ave., St. Paul 8, Minn.

WOMEN'S MISSION MEETING

MEDICINE LAKE, MINNESOTA

June 8, 1945.

This year the W. M. S. business meeting convened Friday evening at 6:30 in the convention chapel. In the absence of the president, Mrs. Elmer Ness of Manistee, Mich., our vice-president, Mrs. A. Engelbreth of Racine, Wis., presided. After bidding the women present welcome, she read a letter of greeting from Mrs. Ness. Following are main excerpts from this letter:

"Another year has passed by in the annals of our Women's Missionary Society, and again we have been called upon to lend a helping hand, and have responded whenever and wherever that call came to as great a degree as we have been able.

"We have a page in Lutheran Tidings. Share your ideas and ways of doing things with others. To you it may not seem as though your efforts are outstanding, but to some other organizations it may be a suggestion. We are interested in what each one of you is doing and we can help one another by this exchange of ideas.

At this time I want to thank the editor of our page for her fine work. Thanks to all officers for their help and cooperation, and a "thank you" to the district presidents of W.M.S. and to each and every member for the work they have done. Without your financial aid and spiritual support we could do nothing. Greetings and best wishes to all.

"The war has knit the world together. We have come to know our neighbors across the sea better. Our mission field in India is no longer an unknown realm. Let us not relax in our home missionary work; it is a very important field. Keep our church and all its connections alive. It is important. So let us not:

'Stand idly waiting
For some greater work to do,
Fortune is a lazy goddess,
She will never come to you;
Go and toil in every vineyard,
Do not fear to do or dare;
If you want a field of labor,
You can find it anywhere.' "

Our W. M. S. secretary Mrs. C. Petersen of Maywood, Ill., was also unable to be present, so the assistant secretary, Mrs. Holger Strandskov of Dwight, Ill., read the minutes of last year's meeting and a letter of greeting from Mrs. Petersen. After a few minor corrections, minutes were approved as read.

The treasurer, Mrs. C. B. Jensen, Cedar Falls, Iowa, then read her report which follows this report.

She also read several thank you letters from grateful recipients. Her report was accepted. At this time, upon Mrs. H. Nielsen's (Diamond Lake, Minn.) motion, it was decided to give the offering of the evening to the Home Mission Fund of our synod. After some discussion, Mrs. R. Sears (Cedar Falls, Iowa) moved that

we give \$50 to "Child's Friend" to be used for "cuts". Carried. We then proceeded to election of officers. The term of office is two years. Our rules state that the president and the assistant secretary shall be elected the one year and in the alternate year the secretary and treasurer. Some time during the past years, due to resignations, we were out of this order, since not only president's term expired this year, but also secretary's and treasurer's. In order to partially rectify this, it was decided to elect president for a two year term, a secretary for a one year term, and to ask our present treasurer to stay on for one more year. Nominations were in order. In order to facilitate matters, the three members of the executive board present had constituted themselves as a nominating committee and nominated the following: for president, Mrs. E. Ness and Mrs. Hans Egede (Hampton, Iowa); for secretary, Mrs. C. Petersen and Miss Yrsa Hansen (Aurora, Nebr.) Since there were no further nominations from the floor we went on to balloting. Four young pastor's wives, Mrs. H. Christensen (Cozad, Nebr.), Mrs. R. Sorensen (Juhl, Mich.), Mrs. V. Hansen (Ludington, Mich.) and Mrs. H. Andersen (Viborg, S. D.) constituted the balloting committee. Results were: Mrs. H. Egede, president; Miss Yrsa Hansen, secretary. By unanimous ballot Mrs. C. B. Jensen was re-elected treasurer for one year and Mrs. V. S. Petersen was re-elected editor of Women's Page, Lutheran Tidings.

After elections the duties and problems of the district representatives were briefly discussed. Their names and addresses were read and a few corrections made. Mrs. Engelbreth stated that it was the hope and ambition of the executive board to come in closer contact with these representatives, but since it must be done pr. correspondence, it will require cooperation from all sides.

Fylla Petersen, our editor, hoped that the voluntary contributions of the women of our synod would fill the Women's Page, so that it would not merely be a "Fylla Petersen page."

It was now 7:30, and after Mrs. Engelbreth's gracious "thank-yous" were spoken, we adjourned the business meeting to proceed to the program.

Marietta Strandskov.

Financial Statement of Women's Mission Society

June 8, 1944 to June 1, 1945

RECEIPTS:

Cash on hand June 8, 1944	\$ 580.30
Gifts received from missions, individuals and collections	1,240.47

Total	\$1,820.77
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DISBURSEMENTS:

Gifts, Missions	\$361.23
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Dr. Erling Ostergaard and family	200.00
Grand View College (will be used for books)	100.00
Lutheran Tidings	50.00
Seminary Students	120.00
Rev. Enok Mortensen (Historian)	100.00
John Campbell Folk School	15.00
Fylla Petersen (Editor)	15.00
Flowers (Mrs. Hostrup)	5.78
Dagmar Miller (Christmas gift)	3.00

Total gifts\$970.01

EXPENSE:

Bank charges, exchange and insurance on bonds..\$	5.72
Mrs. Edwin Hansen (1944 expense)	3.00
Mrs. C. B. Jensen, expense	3.45
Mrs. Elmer Ness (stationery)	5.15
Dagmar Miller (cut for Lutheran Tidings)	4.50

Total expense\$ 21.82

Total disbursements 991.83

Cash on hand June 1, 1945 828.94

Total\$1,820.77

Mrs. C. B. Jensen, Treasurer.

Audited by Margrethe Michaelsen, Cedar Falls, Iowa.

Contributions to Women's Mission Society

Study group, Cedar Falls, Iowa, \$14.75; Danebod Danish Ladies' Aid, Tyler, Minn., \$10; Mrs. P. J. Sorensen, Tyler, Minn., \$1; Mrs. Chris. M. Johansen, Tyler, Minn., \$1; Mrs. Michael Jorgensen, Tyler, Minn., \$1; Mrs. Herluf Utoft, Tyler, Minn., \$1; Mrs. Andrew Jensen, Tyler, Minn., 50c; Mrs. H. J. Grau, Newell, Iowa, \$15; Annex club, Seattle, Wash., \$5; Danish Ladies' Aid, Cedar Falls, Iowa, \$12.31; in memory of Mrs. Knud J. Lund, Tyler, Minn., Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Larsen, Mr. and Mrs. August Sorensen and Mr. and Mrs. Herluf Utoft, \$3; Mrs. J. D. Rix, Tyler, Minn., \$1; Mrs. Laura Jorgensen, Tyler, Minn., \$1; Danish Ladies' Aid, Gayville, S. D., \$11.75; Alice Jensen, Minneapolis Minn., \$4; in memory of Jens Sinding, Tyler, Minn., Hope Ladies' Aid, Ruthton, Minn., \$2; Danish Ladies' Aid, Dwight Ill., \$30; Mission Group, Greenville, Mich., and vicinity, \$25; St. John's English Ladies' Aid, Hampton, Iowa, \$10; D. K. M. Group, Des Moines, Iowa, \$10.25; Trinity Ladies' Aid, Chicago, Ill., \$10; St. John's Danish Ladies' Aid, Hampton, Iowa, \$16.25; Ladies' Aid, Clinton, Iowa, \$35; Mrs. Ellen Andersen, Seattle Wash., \$1.

Mrs. Betty Hansen, Seattle, Wash., \$1; Mrs. A. Lauritsen, Seattle, Wash., 50c; Mrs. Gertrude Mortensen, Seattle, Wash., \$1; Mrs. Henriette Andersen, Seattle, Wash., \$1; Mrs. Gertrude Sorensen, Seattle, Wash., \$1; Mrs. Jenny Jorgensen, Seattle, Wash., \$1; Mrs. Martha Falck, Seattle, Wash., \$1; Mrs. L. C. Larsen, Seattle, Wash., 50c; Mrs. Carl Grove, Seattle, Wash., \$1; Mrs. Einar Nielsen, Seattle, Wash., \$1; Miss A. Krogh, Seattle, Wash., 50c; Miss Mary Matsen, Seattle, Wash., \$1; Miss Mertice Gronlund, Seattle, Wash., \$1; Mission Study Group, Bridgeport, Conn., \$20; Danebod English Ladies' Aid, Tyler, Minn., \$25; Mrs. Chris Utoft, Tyler, Minn., \$1; Mrs. Kristian Ostergaard, Tyler, Minn., 50c; Mrs. Dagmar Lund Petersen, Tyler, Minn., \$1; Mrs. Andreas Sorensen, Tyler, Minn., 50c; Mrs. Harold A. Petersen, Tyler, Minn., \$1; Mrs. Rasmus Sorensen, Tyler, Minn., \$1; previously acknowledged, \$957.16; total to date \$1,240.47.

Sincere thanks,

Mrs. C. B. Jensen,
Treasurer, W. M. S.

Vacationing in the South

By Nanna Goodhope

XV

Homeward Bound

Though I had been hesitant in my decision to visit the John C. Campbell Folk School, it was with a sense of real gratitude that I took my departure one morning early for the day's journey back to Kingsport, Tenn., where I would spend another week or two with my daughter before again boarding the train for the north and home.

My observations at the Folk School had taught me a number of things, among them that tenancy of land stifles progress in a community. It was because nearly ninety per cent of the people in the Brasstown area owned their own lands that Mr. and Mrs. Campbell chose to launch the Folk School experiment there rather than in the Cumberland of southeastern Kentucky, where the people had sold most of their valuable lands to large industries and corporations.

I do not know how it will be possible ever to lift the low economic level of the people there. Perhaps the T.V.A. will find the answer where that great humanitarian enterprise is extended into that area.

However, my experience at the Folk School in North Carolina, at the Christian Service Camp in Kentucky, and my observations of the benefits derived by the millions of common folks from the Government launched T.V.A. gave me added faith in the possibility of achieving democracy and a more abundant life for all.

It seemed to me, as I later talked it over with a young priest who was my traveling companion toward home, that education and Christian discipline from self-centeredness to Christ-centeredness, with a will for the common good; or as E. Stanley Jones puts it, "a working faith in the Kingdom of God Way," is the only solution to the world's present dilemma.

The padre, whose friendly manner invited conversation, challenged my inference that education might be a solution to the world's ills. He said that secular education is a doubtful good; that the present world situation shows it has been very bad for Germany and Japan, and that the church alone (meaning, of course, the Catholic Church) is able to solve the world's ills.

I told him that although there was some truth in his reference to education as a possible evil, I nevertheless, believe that even secular enlightenment is to be preferred to illiteracy and superstition; that only through the enlightenment of the common people is progress possible.

"—Or retrogression and complete annihilation," he interposed, his intelligent features cloudy as with foreboding.

"Your incredulous view on secular education, if that is the view generally accepted by the Catholic clergy," I ventured, "explains to me the reason that illiteracy and superstition are still prevalent in Catholic controlled countries."

(To be Continued)



HARRIS JESPERSEN, Editor
405 N. 4th Street, Clinton, Iowa

To Our Youth

JUNE 20, 1945

VOLUME XXXVI, NO. 21

Because of what has happened within the last weeks, in the freeing of Denmark, it seems appropriate that we young people of the Danish church should also stop a minute and send a thought to this country of our forefathers, with appreciation for all the good things we have received from that country and people. We will add our prayers to that of the good "Bishop" that a new and even better Denmark will be built out of the future.

Harris A. Jespersen.

King Christian Thanks The U. S. And Allies.

King Christian has transmitted the following message to President Harry S. Truman:

"On behalf of a free Denmark I express to your Excellency the Danish Nation's and my own feelings of profound gratitude in deep admiration for the magnificent effort of the United States and the other Allied Nations which at such heavy sacrifices has now also led to the liberation of Denmark. The Danish people deeply admire the iron will and the unfailing power of endurance of the Allied Nations which has now so gloriously achieved its goal."

President Truman replied:

"I have received Your Majesty's gracious message sent me upon the liberation of Denmark from the evil forces of oppression.

"The part played by Americans in the restoration of liberty to the freedom-loving people of Denmark is and will forever remain a proud achievement of the American people."

King Christian Greets The Danes.

May 5, Denmark's day of liberation, King Christian greeted the Danish people with the following message:

"Danish men and women? The oppressive years of German occupation are over. With deep gratitude we greet today our liberators, the Allied Powers. We can again hoist our ancient flag and control our own affairs. The Danish people have held together unshakably during these years, and on this day I wish to express my thanks for this unity which has given us strength to face all our hardships.

"I wish to thank especially the leaders and all ranks of the freedom movement for their intrepid efforts in the common struggle for freedom which has led to Denmark's liberation today. I wish to recall all those who during these years gave their lives for Denmark's freedom; their memory

will forever be revered by our people. With sorrow I think of all the victims of the disasters the war brought to our country and the chaos which followed in the wake of occupation. In carrying out their tasks many Danes sacrificed their lives as a result of the war, not least our sailors who have honored our country in foreign ports. I sympathize with all those who today are deprived of their relatives; my thoughts go out to all those fellow-countrymen who have been parted from us by the occupation for so long, to the peoples of the Faroes and Greenland, and to our compatriots in foreign countries. The wartime years of separation have been hard to bear, but the joy of reunion will now be so much greater.

"During these years of oppression it has been my most earnest prayer that we might experience the hour of liberation together. This has been granted. I pray today that we may show ourselves worthy of the mercy God has shown our native land and that, in continued unity, we may lay the foundation for a free and secure Denmark. God bless our ancient native land."

A Message From Joseph C. Grew.

The complete text of the statement issued by Acting Secretary of State, Joseph C. Grew, May 5, only part of which appeared in the Danish Listening Post May 20, is as follows:

"The surrender in the field of the German forces in Denmark heralds the restoration of freedom to a gallant and heroic people. Despite the total occupation of their country by the Nazi forces, the Danish patriots both at home and abroad never ceased to resist with every means at their disposal. Danish saboteurs successfully carried out hundreds of perilous missions. Scores of Danish vessels manned by Danish seamen carried vitally needed cargoes to the war zones. Through the provision of bases in Greenland, the Danes materially aided in keeping open the North Atlantic sea lanes.

"Today, the Dannebrog, the ancient flag of Denmark, again flies freely over a free people. The American people rejoice in the restoration of Denmark's independence."

In appreciation of this tribute, John Christmas Møller, foreign minister of Denmark, has transmitted the following statement to Mr. Grew:

"The Danish government begs to express its thanks for your beautiful and appreciative statement on the liberation of Denmark. When during five years of German occupation Denmark still kept up her hope, it was due to a never

failing belief in the victory of the arms of the Allied Powers in this gigantic struggle. The inspiring energy of the United States of America and their prodigious achievements in this fight will always be kept in grateful memory by the Danes."

Kauffmann Remains At Washington.

King Christian, May 12, appointed Henrik Kauffmann Minister without portfolio in the Vilhelm Buhl cabinet, at the same time retaining him as his envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary to the United States. May 20, Minister Kauffmann returned to Washington.

Premier Vilhelm Buhl Speaks.

First among the measures taken by the new free Danish government as announced by Premier Buhl at the opening of the Rigsdag, May 9, were:

"The Danish people feel themselves strongly bound to the United Nations whose long hard fight against the brutal Nazi power has resulted in glorious victories which also have helped Denmark to regain her freedom and independence. For a long time Denmark has regarded itself an Allied Nation, and the government shares the people's desire that our country, as a free and independent state, be now admitted to the United Nations. The necessary steps to attain this recognition have already been taken by the government."

"The Act known as the Anti-Comintern Pact is regarded by the government as no longer existing. It is hereby solemnly stated that this Pact was signed only under the strongest pressure and is therefore null and void."

A Tribute By General Eisenhower.

To the resistance forces of France, Belgium, Holland and Denmark, General Eisenhower addressed the following message:

"The Germans who invaded, occupied and plundered your homelands have been finally defeated by the forces of the United Nations, and your countries have now been liberated by the combined efforts of all the forces under my command," the Supreme Commander was quoted as saying.

"Not least among these forces I count the members of the resistance, who for so long have devoted themselves unflinchingly to the task of overthrowing the common enemy. Constantly informed of your activity, I have watched your efforts with admiration. I know how hard your task has been. I know how many of you have been imprisoned, tortured and murdered.

"Inadequately armed and in the midst of a savage and ruthless enemy, you have fought on, month after month, year after year, regardless of the disappointments you suffered and of the danger you have undergone.

"In this great hour of victory, as your Supreme Commander, I thank you, forces of resistance, for your discipline, for your great courage and for inestimable service to the Allied cause and to the future of all freedom-loving peoples."

A Tribute By Montgomery.

"You have here in Denmark a very fine underground army, which fought the Germans here in your homeland as we fought them in the field. Tell your wonderful underground army that they have been second to none in all Europe."

After his triumphal entry into Copenhagen, Field Marshal Montgomery called on the King and Queen at Amalienborg Castle, then met the members of the Danish Freedom Council, the secret, non-political body which coordinated the activities of the freedom movement with Allied war efforts and stepped aside upon the opening of the Danish parliament and the formation of a new government.

Montgomery thereupon made to the press the statement quoted above.

The Danish Test Of Naziism,

Joseph C. Harsch writing from Copenhagen May 21, to the Christian Science Monitor, on returning to Denmark after having seen it during the first week of German occupation, sums up his impressions:

"I am convinced that Denmark has played a unique and extremely important role in ending the Nazi concept.

"In every other country overrun by the Nazis there were many material reasons why the people finally rose and turned against their oppressors. Had there been no Denmark it would have been possible for future Nazi apologists to argue that the people of other countries rose against Naziism only because during the course of the war they suffered physical hardships and mass physical injuries.

"But the Danes turned against it without any such reasons. Only in Denmark had Naziism been disavowed solely because it represented a denial of freedom."

Danish Bishops Greet Liberation,

Bishop Fuglsang-Damgaard, Primate

of the Danish Lutheran Church, read the following pastoral letter composed by the Bishops of Denmark on the day of Denmark's liberation.

"We praise God and those who sacrificed their lives for our country and, by their death, expressed the nation's will to survive. The blood shed during the reign of force prepared the future, happy Denmark. We pray that the Forces of Good will build a better Denmark. We must not hate nor be vindictive. The men of evil shall be judged but the spirit of truth and justice must guide those who have to pass judgment. Let us stand up for everyone's right to a decent life; let us end fear and destitution.

"May God help us share each other's burdens and respect the opinions of others. Let us remain united. We must not put to shame the Christian Brotherhood to which we all belong. Let all peoples hear the peace message of the gospel; let it become a reality through peace and reconciliation. May our people heed the word of God; may all good forces come to the fore and guide our lives in all eternity. God is our Lord. He created us; we are His people; He is our shepherd. Enter His gates with thanksgiving and songs of praise."

WHY HE DIDN'T REPROVE THEM

At a service conducted by a well-known minister a pewful of young people behaved badly during the first part of the proceedings, whispering, fidgeting and giggling. The minister did not reprove them directly, but during the notices he said, "You will, I hope, excuse an interpolation at this point. While I have been standing in this pulpit tonight I have been reminded of some words of advice one of the professors gave to the students when I was in college. 'Be very chary of reprovng people publicly for behaving badly in church,' he said. 'Once when I was in a pastorate I paused in my sermon and administered a severe rebuke to a young man who was constantly talking and giggling and shuffling about. After I descended from the pulpit at the end of the service one of the officials of the church came to me and said, 'I think you were ill-advised in speaking severely to that young man, because the poor fellow is an idiot.' I was much

chagrined to know that unwittingly I had added affliction to one who was already too sorely afflicted; and ever since then I have always refrained from reprovng those who behave badly in church, lest I should be reprovng another idiot."

"I will not say why I have recalled these words of my dear tutor and will only add that they impressed me so much that I have never yet publicly reprovng bad behavior in church. The offertory will now be taken."

For the rest of the service the young offenders behaved perfectly.

—Youth's Companion.

Summer Services

Owing to the increasing difficulty in getting people to attend church twice on Sunday during the summer months, it is suggested that neighboring churches combine their resources for the evening service. Sometimes the public park can be used for a union meeting. If outdoor services are to be held, have a near-by church in readiness for use should the weather prove inclement. Also, the matter of pulpit supplies during the vacation period should be attended to without delay.

Vacation Bible School

The daily vacation Bible school is quite worth while. In many places there are a great many boys and girls who do not work and the leisure time problem is a great one. Get these young people into the Bible school. An elaborate plan is not necessary. The length of the term will vary from three to five or six weeks. Many seminary students will be glad to avail themselves of the opportunity for a little practical experience, and wherever possible they should be used. Young women who have attended normal schools are glad to help with the teaching for a small remuneration, or often without compensation. Where possible the churches should unite for a union school. Courses of study and texts can be easily secured.

Presidents' Report

(Continued from page 3)

at least \$1 per confirmed member. Last year we totalled for Lutheran World Action \$7,188.49 or 92 per cent of our quota of \$7,817.70, the only synod of the eight affiliated with the National Lutheran Council to fail in reaching its quota 100 per cent. There is no good reason for that failure. The only good reason is that some ministers and some laymen decided that they did not care to believe that there was sufficient reasons for the need to support as requested by the leadership of Lutheran World Action. Consequently they did not sufficiently encourage people to give their contribution. With the goal raised almost 100 per cent this year we will have to double our contribution. But there is no Christian conscience that can find the slightest valid excuse for not contributing at least \$1 out of the surplus of good things, pleasant environments, peace and plenty. Those who share the results of our giving are service men and women in far-away-from-home conditions, on furlough, in hospitals or in the front line wherever our service pastors and chaplains may find them and give them spiritual or physical relief. Our gifts to Lutheran World Action help bring the Word of God and Salvation to those who are in defense areas without churches, to those who are without funds and provisions in foreign lands, perhaps driven away from their mission compounds by a relentless foe. Is it not possible that we in the Danish Lutheran Church can shake the lethargy off and rise up and give as other Lutherans are giving for the sake of those who are our own brethren and sisters of the faith, even our own spiritual and physical kin? I refer to the article in Lutheran Tidings, February 5th issue in which can be found the detailed sums needed under the budget for the Lutheran World Action 1945 appeal. A copy of it is accompanying this report for the benefit of the committee studying it.

It is worth while noting that Dr. Long reports that the Missouri Synod is cooperating in the efforts established under the leadership of Lutheran World Convention for the benefit of relief and reconstruction of European Lutheranism. A commission of five, three of them from the National Lutheran Council and two of them from the Missouri Synod will supervise the distribution of the funds. It should be remembered that the Missouri Synod is raising \$5,000,000 for this purpose. Other Protestant denominations, the Methodists and Presbyterians are raising sums that are five times as large again for a similar purpose.

New undertakings are constantly being brought under the Council's influence and supervision. A department of mission among the Jews is in the process of formation to belong with the Division of American Missions. The efforts to evangelize people in South America carried on by several Lutheran bodies including the United Danish and the Norwegian Lutheran Churches will most likely come under the sponsorship of the National Lutheran Council. The Prisoner of War Commission, which is also under joint control with the Missouri Synod is a vast undertaking with large quantities of German hymn books and devotional booklets being printed and distributed by the many chaplains responsible for the spiritual welfare of those unfortunate beings.

There is also reason to mention the cooperation afforded by the regional Home Mission Councils functioning under the Division on American Missions. These Councils provide a means by which new congregations may be started only after an investigation shows that the area in which they are going to be located does not lie too close to the Churches of other Lutheran bodies. The U. L. C. A. committee for the Common Service Book has sent out an invitation to representatives of all Lutheran bodies for a meeting June 19 in Pittsburgh in order to investigate the feasibility of a Common Lutheran Hymnal.

The Lutheran Home Mission Council Conference last fall in Minneapolis was very inspiring and instructive. Rev. J. C. Aaberg, Rev. M. Mikkelsen, Rev. L. C. Bundgaard, and Mrs. Fylla S. Petersen, besides the president and secretary of the synod, attended. Failure of the conference officials to carry out a promise to furnish delegates with written transcripts of the three main papers read and discussed at the

conference has prevented a detailed report from appearing in our synodical papers.

There is a possibility that the Conference of National Lutheran Council churches provided for in the N. L. C. constitution and for which a proposed plan can be found in the 1944 Annual Report, Page 97, will be held this fall in Columbus, Ohio. Unless banned by the ODT more than 300 delegates from the eight participating Lutheran bodies will gather November 13-16. Our synod is entitled to 6 delegates. These should be chosen at this convention.

It is obvious that in order to keep abreast of National Lutheran Council affairs a lot of time is required. A person could spend half of his time reading and answering communications concerning these matters. At that I am not so sure but what the average pastor and layman would just as well skip the whole thing. We have become accustomed to get along pretty well in comparative isolation. It seems that it takes a war to bring us into contact and fellowship with other Lutherans. Naturally the churches and pastors located in the larger centers of population are not tempted to favor such isolationism. The fact cannot be ignored, however, that as our Danish Lutheran Church becomes more integrally a part of the American Church community and as the younger generation grows up, the demand for closer cooperation and fellowship with other Lutheran churches increases.

Such a demand must be recognized as legitimate and natural. Furthermore, it is well for us to ponder the effects of stressing the fact that we are different and peculiar in many respects as compared to other Lutheran churches. I am thankful for many inherited blessings and will want to cherish them in the future. However, these must not be used as a shield with which we keep the virtues and perhaps superior qualities of other Lutherans from reaching and influencing us. Certainly, in the main we must recognize that we share the same faith and doctrines of other Lutherans, even though we have been given special light and blessing. Fundamentally, we are sharing in the same truths. Would it not therefore be desirable that we enter wholeheartedly into the co-operative endeavors such as those mentioned above and regard ourselves as a full fledged member of the Lutheran Household of Faith? If we do, perhaps we shall find that there will not be so much room for a lot of pettiness and so much peculiarity, but much more use for the eternal verities God has given us as well as our fellow Lutherans. It is fine that we lift our heritage for use in the Kingdom of God. What I last year emphasized as being useful in our elementary religious schools and for which I hope some day to see Grand View College an efficient Teacher's training center, I believe in just as firmly today. But we will benefit by being willing to learn, to exchange views and methods and to share with others.

The State Of The Synod.

Again this year I submit the reports of the district presidents as a part of this report. I believe it of greater benefit to the discussion of the convention if the findings committee would study the district presidents' reports and include possible items from these for discussion at this point. The reports of the district presidents deal with the state of the synod more in detail than I can hope to do. I want to point out that some of our older ministers have reached important milestones on their life's highway in the past year. As reported Rev. N. P. Gravengaard and Rev. A. J. Tarpgaard have celebrated their 80th birthday anniversary, while Rev. Dorf early this spring reached the age of 70. The 25th of May is the 75th anniversary of Rev. N. P. Hald. It will not be too late to remember these anniversaries at our convention. We thank God that they are still with us and wish them joy and happiness in their continued old age.

The transgression on the part of former Rev. Sven Baden, Perth Amboy, in the form of immoral acts with boys as well as overindulgence in alcoholic beverages referred to in the district president's report was dealt with in a manner more expressly described in a letter I sent to all ministers of the synod. Rev. Baden was suspended and resigned the ministry turning his ordination certificate over to me. It is now in my possession as well as all the communications pertaining to this sad affair. St. Stephen's congregation at Perth Amboy is to be commended for its conduct during those trying days in

December and January. It is to be hoped that the wounds left by the unfaithful servant of the Lord may in time be healed and that he who caused it all may see his sin and repent it, finding forgiveness and mercy from God.

As I have read the district presidents' reports I have been moved to give thanks for the devotion and faithfulness of the many servants of the Lord's at work among our congregations. It is impossible to measure the value of this sufficiently. It is encouraging to read of the new church edifice erected and dedicated at Muskegon in spite of great difficulties, of the progress being made in the face of severe handicaps at Grayling. It is inspiring to read the story of the 70 years of happy church life of St. Stephen's Church in Chicago, although it makes for regret that Sheffield seems to be lost as a prospective home mission field to our synod. I would like to point to the remarks in the report from district 4 concerning communion attendance also to the value connected with making a church truly a community church as pointed out by district 5 president. Encouragement can be found in the report from Saskatchewan mission fields, not least in the situation of Canwood Zion Lutheran congregation. The report from district 7 deals constructively with home mission problems and relationships with other Lutheran bodies. Home Mission problems are also important considerations in the reports from districts 8 and 9 and will be taken up under Home Missions.

May I at this time take the opportunity to express appreciation on the part of the synod for the efforts and ability put forth in the interest of the synod as well as of local affairs on the part of the district presidents. I have attended district meetings in six districts during the last year and I understand very well why the attendance at the district meetings is on the increase everywhere. The quality of leadership and of the work done there interests people and in turn helps to inspire the speakers and raise the spiritual and mental level of the fellowship experienced.

The Character Of Our Work.

During the year I have visited 33 congregations and on nearly all of those occasions have been invited to speak either at a church service or some other gathering. As a whole I can truthfully say that the work commonly expected to be done by a church belonging to our synod has been done to the best of the capacity of the people and its pastor of such church. The character and quality varies greatly according to the ability of the pastor and particular local church involved. It is no secret that there are to be found among our pastors men of a great variety of theological views as well as being different with respect to language qualifications and preferences. It characterizes our Danish Church that its pastors have retained to a high degree their human endowments as over against a uniformed and stereotyped ministry. I have found all shades of theological opinion prevalent which can be found in this country among our pastors. The ties of a common background nationally and religiously form the tie-in and make for a fair degree of understanding and cooperation. There is lacking, I am bound to confess, a strong trend, a dominant strain, so to speak, among our pastors with respect to what emphasis — and where to apply it — is to be sought. Someone else has said that we need a leader and a prophet that would create a following by the impression his views would make upon the minds and hearts of people. True as that may be we all realize that such a leader would have to be born and cannot be made upon demand. Meanwhile, we, that are working as pastors and laymen, must accept responsibility for the work being done, its character and value.

Perhaps it will not be out of the way to point out that we have the main fundamentals of the Danish Lutheran Church, the Confession of Faith, the Sacraments of the Lord and the Holy Scriptures intact and they are being used as the foundation for our Christian fellowship everywhere and are being as zealously adhered to today as ever. The type and quality of men, pastors and laymen, may differ. They may differ in what they emphasize, the material they choose to work with, methods and the like, but I feel that it is time to say that the Way of Salvation through faith in Jesus Christ, the Son of God and the Son of Man, our Savior, is being preached and taught in all our church and Sunday schools according to the foundation pointed to above, nor is our work in vain or without the blessing of God. On the contrary, I

know from experience gained through visits to many parts of our synod that God's blessing has been present in abundance with our work in churches, homes and in the individual. For this I am everlastingly thankful. We do have many failings and sins to confess, we are weak as are all human beings, but it has pleased God to accomplish His good and gracious purpose even though such weak vessels as we are. And I pray continually that He will let His light shine in our midst for the everlasting benefit of young and old in our churches.

It is in the light of the above that I want to state that there can be no question as to the means we are to employ in the service of God. The means are those best suited to gain admittance for His kingdom into the hearts and minds, the homes and communities, which we serve. The question of language can only gain a hearing in so far as it serves that purpose. In themselves the questions of language and culture do not concern the church. They have their relative merits and their places as concerns the welfare of God's church and I know that we are aware of and willing to admit the use of language and culture to the extent that these will speed the entrance into and the conquest of the human heart and thus help build the Kingdom of God in our midst. It was inevitable that this country should become our country, even to those among us who are immigrants. Its language is the language, even the mother tongue, of our children. As we increasingly realize this and as the second and third generations look back into their family history they will be more and more willing to accept whatever values come their way from the country of their forefathers. It is useless to maintain that such an appreciation and acceptance should chiefly depend upon the use of Danish. I feel confident that English will be the language, as it already is, chiefly used under all circumstances by the children and young people of the Danish Church and if we want them to share in the riches of our Danish religious and cultural values we must translate these into English in order to make it available for their use. Exceptions prove the rule, I want to add. I am much concerned about our apparent lack of able men and women who can accomplish that transfer of spiritual values. But as I remember with deep-feeling and conviction the rich experiences and the never-to-be-forgotten moments lived in sharing the Danish heritage, I am convinced that there will be found those who will and can do the job. And I have among our pastors and laymen met those who are working with that task and who in time, perhaps through the help of our publication's committee, will let us share in the results of their work.

It is remarkable that the language of the children in nearly all instances comes to be loved by the parents. It is not nearly as often that the children love the language of their parents. Naturally, the children have some strong allies on their side: friends, the schools, etc. But this observation about parents loving the language of their children moves me to think that so many of the older generation attending English services and meetings are not as unhappy as they sometimes are pictured. They rejoice with their children, that these have found the same source of peace and salvation and everlasting joy as they have. It is true that language has been used as a means of division among us, but more and more it unites. It is the objective for which the language is a tool and an instrument that unites us, the building of the Kingdom of God.

Home Missions.

It is unnecessary to review the activities of the Home Mission Council during the past year. The meeting at Des Moines last November was reported in our papers and the minutes from that meeting as well as a report from a meeting called for Tuesday, June 5, at 10 a. m., Medicine Lake, are available to the findings committee. I expect that the secretary of the Home Mission Council, Rev. Edwin Hansen, will report directly to the convention from the last named meeting, placing before the convention proposed rules for the Home Mission activities of the synod. I may also call to the attention of this convention what I wrote in last year's report on Home Missions, and for that reason I do not expect here to cover the ground again.

According to the decisions of the Home Mission Council, Granly, Miss., was offered and has accepted the services of a pastor monthly. Expenses are paid 50-50 by the congrega-

tion and the Home Mission account of our synod. Likewise, the Los Angeles church accepted the services of Candidate Theologian Peter Thomsen, in order that Home Mission activities might be carried on by its Pastor, Rev. Farstrup. Peter Thomsen is paid \$35 monthly by the Home Mission account. Rev. Farstrup is exploring the possibilities of opening up the San Diego field to our synod as well as having services in Long Beach and in the San Fernando valley. I think we should be appreciative of the efforts thus put into the realization of home missions by both Peter Thomsen and Rev. Farstrup and the Emanuel's Danish Lutheran Church. I had the impression from talking to Rev. Farstrup, that he has hopes of establishing the work in all of the three places mentioned. Oakland, Calif., and Hay Springs, Nebr., have not as yet been supplied with a resident home mission pastor. But the Council is working toward that end. Rev. Frost writes about the efforts to encourage the Moorhead church in re-establishing their work in the city of Moorhead. Negotiations are now in progress which may, if successful, see the joining of the two Danish churches in that vicinity into one church in the new location mentioned. District 9 is interested in placing a resident pastor at Wilbur, Wash., and perhaps expanding the work in Seattle. Nysted, Nebr., according to the words of its resident pastor, is ready to have a resident pastor of its own, the same is true of Newark, N. Y., and perhaps of other places, like Diamond Lake-White, Gardner, Ill., Grant Mich. It seems to me that there is reason to be thankful that these rather small and, in some respects, neglected churches, express such demands.

The problem before us is a two-fold problem. First it is one of pastoral supply. The churches of Hetland-Badger and the church at Alden, Minn., are the only two calls that have applied to me for a list of available pastors. Rev. Holst, although still serving Alden, will be at least temporarily relieved through the service of Thorvald Hansen, student of theology at G. V. C., this summer. As has already been publicized, the Church at Brooklyn has sent a call to Chaplain J. C. Kjaer. At the seminary are at present a total of 8 students preparing themselves for the service. Altogether a total of twelve additional pastors may be available whenever the war comes to a close. There will, however, be a number of replacements to be made. Pastors, like all other people, eventually reach the time when they retire from active service. But even so, there should be, with other pastors not now in active service, added, about ten pastors available for home mission purposes.

This is not stating the problem as it should be stated. The Home Mission Council has adopted the policy of not accepting pastors for home mission service recently graduated from the seminary. Experience is prerequisite for home mission work. The real problem will resolve itself into this: Will the pastors, who are qualified through experience, ability, training and more or less intangible endowments, offer themselves to do the home mission work, that we may look forward to as being our responsibility and opportunity? I believe some discussion on that subject should be had at our convention. It should also be made clear, that all the sacrifices to be made should not be borne by the pastors. They should be well paid and supported by the synod. I know that money will not and should not move any pastor into a home mission field. Nevertheless, there are obligations, which a family man has that must be regarded as important and this should be recognized. The real crux of the problem will perhaps prove to be this: will churches that can well afford to pay pastors high salaries and who expect to have the best there is, be willing and content in seeing these accept home mission projects and in turn help raise the added support necessary to carry such projects through?

This brings us naturally to consider the problem of raising the funds for home missions. Somewhere in the other reports it seems to me I have seen a proposal that will be presented to this convention to the effect that the Church Extension Fund be turned over to the Home Mission Council for use. I think this is a necessary first step. But it will not be enough. We will have to place on the budget every year a substantial amount for that purpose and perhaps we will decide to collect a permanent fund for home mission purposes, the income from which will support the program. I am sure

that whatever be the outcome the inclusion of a real home mission program will constitute a means of re-vitalization for our synod, a challenge to all prospective workers in and out of the ministry and a proclamation of faith in the future of our synod.

Before leaving the above subject I should add, that according to the report I made last year, the church at Big Rapids, Mich., has left our synod to join with two other and larger churches of the same community to form a new church belonging to the Augustana synod. Although it is sad to say good-bye, it is nevertheless a great comfort to know that it is in a sense an advance of the Kingdom of God, which results from our leave-taking. We are thankful to the Big Rapids people for their fine support and fellowship and wish them Godspeed in the future.

As it will be noticed from the district president's reports, two of the members of last winter's graduating class, Richard H. Sorensen and Marvin E. Nygaard, upon ordination February 4 at Des Moines, took up work as pastors respectively for Juhl-Germania, Mich., and Fredsville, Iowa. Harold Riber is preparing himself for service with the Santal Mission at Minneapolis, Minn. Peter Thomsen, as has already been told, is in Los Angeles, Calif.

At this time I would like to extend a most cordial welcome to Dr. and Mrs. Erling Østergaard. I am in hopes that they will be with us during the entire convention and that they will enjoy the fellowship and be able to further also at this convention the work of God among the Santals. It is encouraging to know that besides Mr. and Mrs. Harold Riber, Miss Mildred Due, Cordova, Nebr., is getting ready to enter the service of the Santal Mission. Thus, while some of the servants of the Mission may be forced, either temporarily or permanently, for various reasons to stay out of the Santal Mission work in the field, others are ready to take up the torch and carry on. For this we are grateful to God. We wish them all God's blessing in their future work and preparations.

Various Items.

This report is going to differ from all former reports I have made to the conventions of the synod, in this, that I shall not try to improve upon or add to the reports made by the synodical institutions and the committees and activities reporting to this convention. It is in a sense an experiment. My purpose is to avoid duplication and to lighten the burden of the findings committee dealing with this report. I have already tried to do the last by pointing out directly, what I thought that committee should call to the attention of the convention. I hope his new method finds favor with the convention.

Finance Advisory Committee.

According to the wishes expressed by last year's convention, the Synod board has appointed E. A. Kramme, Des Moines, Iowa, as the third member of the Finance Advisory Committee. It has also held two meetings with this committee present. I know that I express the sentiment of the entire Board when I express its sincere appreciation for the help and advice given by that committee during the year. Such help and advice have been extended to the Board by that committee or its individual members on many more occasions than the two meetings mentioned.

Bequests Received.

The John Hansen estate, Clinton, Iowa, which I reported at last convention would be given to the Pension Endowment Fund in part, was given its final hearing in court this spring. Our share was a house, which has been sold on contract. The proceeds will eventually prove to be \$2,500. The effect of said bequest on the income of the Pension Endowment Fund and the size of its capital investment can easily be seen, when its account is studied as reported by Olaf Juhl.

Notice has been had during the year of a bequest from the estate of Mads Peter Nielsen, Manistee, Mich. The estate is as yet in court. The Santal Mission will eventually get 8/20ths of the residue of the estate, the Old People's Home 2/20ths and the Pension Fund 2/20ths. Since there is no telling as yet how much the expense and value of the estate will amount to, it is impossible to gain any accurate estimate of the proceeds to be expected.

Rev. James N. Lund notified me last winter that Mrs. Katherine Eriksen of Troy, New York, had passed away, leav-

ing the bulk of her estate to the synod according to her will, which Rev. Lund had helped her draw, and of which he is the administrator. There may be in the neighborhood of \$2,000, which in the course of the summer will come to the synod. It is my recommendation that this amount be turned over to the Pension Endowment Fund. This Fund, will before long be able to realize the goal originally set for it, when the synod took over the Fund from the ministers who had organized it, that of \$50,000.

No report has been received during the year about the progress of closing the estate of Jens Jensen, Holland, Mich., according to whose will \$2,000 is to go to each of the following institutions: The Grand View College Endowment Fund, the Pension Endowment Fund, the Old People's Home Endowment Fund.

It is not possible for us to thank those who remember the synod in the form of bequests. But we can show our thankfulness by using the funds thus reaching us through their acts of gratitude, in the best interest of the work of the synod and God's kingdom. Peace be with their memories.

Synodical Budget Allocation.

The treasurer's report will show that the budget has been collected about 111 per cent. For this result we are thankful to God and all the donors and not least, to those who have had the actual work in collecting it. In spite of the change, and to some extent improvement, accomplished last year by the adoption of the change in the by-laws, Paragraph 31, regarding the way the district meetings allocated the quotas to the individual congregations, there is still a good deal of dissatisfaction prevalent. To some extent this is due to the fact that some congregations do not seem to comprehend the purposes for which these sums are collected, and look upon them as a sort of taxation. This being the case, naturally there is some irritation and resentment. The Synod Board has tried in various ways to spread intelligent understanding of this matter, but has only succeeded to a moderate degree in spite of very able assistance by district presidents and many local workers.

One way in which the distrust of the fairness of the method used shows itself is the way congregations will try to reduce the number of contributing members, thus effecting a lowering of the sum to be contributed to the synodical budget. How widespread such reduction of numbers is based on the theory that there ought not to be paid several dollars to the synod for a member that contributes perhaps \$5 or less, I do not know, but I have met enough of it so that it disturbs me. In order to avoid entirely using the contributing membership as a compulsory basis for such allocation, I would recommend that we do away entirely with such a basis. This can be done by removing from our by-laws the requirement that the district meeting committee assigned to do this job use such a basis. We could do this by deleting entirely from the record as found in the Annual Report from last year, page 114, the two last paragraphs beginning with: "This allocation shall be made, etc., and ending with "... as the case may be."

The allocation as to districts is made by a committee at the annual convention found in the same paragraph 31 of our by-laws. No contributing membership basis is used in this. Still we get along fairly well. Why, then, could the churches gathered at a district convention not just as well divide up among themselves the amounts to be collected. Some congregations are better off than others, even though smaller in size. I know of districts that did exactly this last year in spite of the regulations adopted. I also know of congregations

that volunteered to help out others less fortunate financially. I feel that we could well afford to entrust the district meetings with this further responsibility and in a sense, privilege.

Incorporation of Synod.

It is just fifty years ago in July of this year since the synod was first incorporated. That incorporation proved to be a mistake in that it was made under the ordinary corporation rules, and not according to those governing religious or non-profit corporations. Consequently an amendment to that effect was adopted in 1900. Several amendments have been adopted since then. According to Iowa law, a corporation must renew its incorporation every fifty years. Since a re-writing and condensation of the existing rules and amendments making up the present incorporation papers would seem desirable and reasonable, I expect to have completed a set of incorporation papers for the approval and ratification of the convention.

Miscellaneous

Several committees appointed according to decisions made at last year's conventions will report to the convention. They are:

1. Committee to investigate possible uses of Danebod Folk high school building.
2. Committee to report on a new or revised set of rules for the Publication Committee.
3. Committee to report on proposals for pooling of delegates expenses to the annual convention.
4. Committee to report on voting privileges at the convention.
5. Synod Board to report on possibilities of getting a publication House for the synod.

In Closing.

May I extend my heartiest thanks for the opportunity to serve the synod in my present capacity. I am conscious of a great many shortcomings and lost opportunities and it often makes me very humble and sad. The responsibility is not only to the Danish Lutheran Church, but especially to the Lord and Master of the Church. I am thankful, however, for a lot of patience by many friends and fellow workers, for their help and support, without which I could have done nothing.

Especially do I wish to thank the members of the Synod Board. It undoubtedly has its shortcomings, shared by all its members, but I know that it is wholeheartedly devoted to the best interests of the synod. It is always with much joy that I look forward to board meetings, to the opportunity to share information and council with its members. I may also add, that many times I have been offered cooperation by the various institution leaders and council members.

May God prosper the Danish Church and shower His blessings upon its churches, and homes, and upon individual members. May this convention be aware of its responsibilities and respond to the opportunities that lie before it. As we gather at Medicine Lake, our thoughts instinctively yearn for the companionship of our youth, who would want nothing more than to be with us there. We are hoping and praying that, if it so be God's will, we may have peace among the nations of the earth in the course of next year, and we will comfort each other by trusting to God for the opportunity to gather for a complete peace thanksgiving next year. We will be praying and working for the Peace of God that passeth all understanding, and which is able to keep our hearts and thoughts in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

Alfred Jensen.

Des Moines, Iowa, May 23, 1945.

CONVENTION NOTES

(Continued from page 4)

regenerated in the Spirit of Christ.

Rev. Alfred Jensen, president of the synod, then spoke briefly and quoting from the Apostle Paul's first letter to the Corinthians 4:2: "Here, moreover, it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful." Rev. Jensen said: Thus we have gathered here, a smaller group than in former years, but con-

scious of our task as stewards, not only to do the bidding of our congregations, but we are here responsible to God. And unless we can lift up our eyes and gain a new vision of our task as a synod, we will be found lost. We have a great opportunity, let us be conscious of it as a privilege. He then declared the 68th annual convention of the Danish Evangelical Lutheran church opened in the name of the Triune God.

The names of the pastors and delegates registered were now read by the synodical secretary:

Pastors: J. C. Aaberg, A. C. Ammentorp, A. W. Andersen, Holger Andersen, J. P. Andreasen, L. C. Bundgaard, Howard Christensen, J. L. J. Dixon, A. E. Frost, Verner H. Hansen, Viggo M. Hansen, Harald Ibsen, Alfred Jensen, J. Kr. Jensen, Harris Jespersen, Ronald Jespersen, Ottar Jorgensen, Hakon Jorgen-

sen, Hans Juhl, A. C. Kildegaard, Sr., A. C. Kildegaard, Jr., Johannes Knudsen, J. J. Lerager, F. O. Lund, M. Mikkelsen, Erik K. Moller, Enok Mortensen, Eilert C. Nielsen, Ernest D. Nielsen, Holger O. Nielsen, Niels Nielsen, P. Rasmussen, S. D. Rodholm, Richard Sorensen, Holger Strandskov, C. A. Stub, A. J. Tarpgaard.

Present were two laymen board members: Olaf R. Juhl, Dr. F. N. Thomsen.

DELEGATES

By Districts and Congregations

DISTRICT ONE

Bridgeport: Viggo Nielsen, (district delegate), Mrs. A. C. Kildegaard, Jr., E. Vendelboe Nielsen, Andrew Nielsen.

Bronx: Chr. Madsen.

Perth Amboy: W. S. Jensen.

DISTRICT TWO

Juhl: Mrs. Richard Sorensen.

Montcalm County: Miss Helen Stub, Miss Alice Hansen, Mads Madsen, Mrs. Mads Madsen, Mrs. C. A. Stub.

Ludington: Mrs. Ferdinand Christoffersen, Ferdinand Christoffersen.

DISTRICT THREE

Menominee, Mich.: A. H. Jurgens.

Racine, Wis.: Einer Fischer, Mrs. Thorvald Andersen, Mrs. Bert Vium, Mrs. Aage Engelbreth.

Chicago: (St. Stephens) Mrs. Chr. Petersen.

Chicago: (Trinity) S. N. Nielsen, Walter Andersen, J. K. Jensen, Miss Nanna Strandskov, Mrs. Kathrine Jessen.

Dwight: Charles Lauritzen, Mrs. Ehmes Eskildsen, Ehmes Eskildsen, Mrs. S. Dixen Sorensen, Mrs. Marietta Strandskov.

Clinton: Mrs. Soren Juhl, P. J. Kair.

DISTRICT FOUR

Hampton: Mrs. Hans Egede, Marius Hansen.

Des Moines: Erling V. Jensen, Erling Jensen, Mrs. Elmer Gravengaard, Otto Bendixen.

Kimballton: Mrs. N. Christoffersen, Niels B. Bennedsen.

Ringsted: Mrs. William Nielsen, Mrs. Alfred Petersen.

Fredsville: Mrs. Louie Oleson, Mrs. Jens Thuesen, Chris Sloth, Harry Thuesen.

Cedar Falls: Richard Sears, Mrs. Richard Sears, Mrs. C. B. Jensen.

Waterloo: Mrs. L. P. Larsen, Mrs. Andrew Simonsen.

Newell: Mrs. Helen A. Jensen, James Andersen.

DISTRICT FIVE

Withee: Mrs. Marie Ammentorp, Mrs. V. A. Hansen, Mrs. Alfred Frost.

West Denmark: Mrs. Aage Grumstrup, Mrs. Jenny Utoft.

Askov: Mrs. Gudrun Hansen, Mrs. B. Fisher, Mrs. Esther Sorensen.

Minneapolis: Miss Sigrid Ostergaard, Miss Sene R. Mortensen, Mrs. Dagmar Pedersen, Hermod Strandskov, Mrs. Dagmar Steenberg.

Dagmar: Mrs. Fred Winther.

Alden: Mrs. Ella Jespersen

DISTRICT SIX

Diamond Lake: Mrs. Alma Nielsen.

Ruthton: Mrs. Wm. T. Petersen.

Tyler: Mrs. Herluf Utoft, Jens Jorgensen, Rasmus Hansen, Herluf Utoft.

Gayville: Mrs. Soren Sorensen, Mrs. Hattie Jensen.

Viborg: Mrs. Niels Hansen, Mrs. Harry Jensen.

DISTRICT SEVEN

Omaha: Herbert Lang, Mrs. Chris Fredericksen.

Kronborg, Marquette: Miss Yrsa Hansen, Miss Emilie Stockholm.

Cozad: Mrs. Howard Christensen, Miss Sylvia Pedersen.

DISTRICT EIGHT

Los Angeles: Mrs. Anna Rasmussen.

Easton: Mrs. Ellen Nielsen (district delegate).

DISTRICT NINE

Seattle: Mrs. Gertrude D. Sorensen.

Wilbur: V. E. Jurgensen (district delegate).

Special votes granted by convention: P. Steenberg, Martin Nielsen, Jens Thuesen, Miss Dagmar Miller, Dr. Erling Østergaard.

The convention elected the following convention officers: Prof. Erling Jensen, chairman, Rev. Enok Mortensen, assistant chairman, Rev. Ernest D. Nielsen, secretary, and Rev. Holger Strandskov, assistant secretary.

The secretary of the synod, Rev. Viggo M. Hansen, was called upon to read the agenda prepared for the convention. Same was accepted.

During the noon recess the pastors and delegates from the respective districts gathered to select their representatives on the Nomination committee. The following were chosen:

District I: Rev. Axel Kildegaard, Jr., Christian Madsen, Bronx, N. Y.

District II: Rev. Richard Sorensen, Mrs. C. A. Stub, Greenville, Mich.

District III: Rev. Harris Jespersen, Einer Fischer, Racine, Wis.

District IV: Rev. Harald Ibsen, Richard Sears, Cedar Falls, Iowa.

District V: Rev. M. Mikkelsen, Mrs. Kamma Grumstrup, West Denmark, Wis.

District VI: Rev. Holger Andersen, Mrs. Alma Nielsen, Diamond Lake, Minn.

District VII: Rev. Howard Christensen, Miss Yrsa Hansen, Kronborg, Marquette, Nebr.

District VIII: Rev. N. Nielsen, Mrs. Ellen Nielsen, Easton, Calif.

District IX: Rev. A. W. Andersen, V. E. Jurgensen, Wilbur, Wash.

The afternoon meeting was resumed by the singing of the hymn, "Lord speak to me that I may speak." The president of the synod at this time read his report to the convention. This report is found reprinted in this issue.

The synod treasurer, Olaf R. Juhl after presenting his report gave some comments on same. He pointed out that the synodical budget had been reached 111%, and that all districts with the exception of one had met their respective quotas.

In connection with the Santal mission report Rev. J. C. Aaberg informed the convention that three young people from our synod had been accepted as workers in the Santal Mission at the recent annual Santal Mission meeting. These are Mr. and Mrs. Harald Riber of Dwight,

Ill. (Mrs. Riber is from the Des Moines congregation) and Miss Mildred Due of Cordova, Nebr.

(To be Continued)

CHURCH and HOME

By REV. M. MIKKELSEN

Progress involves sacrifice, and sacrifice is the only road toward perfection. It is an eternal necessity, the sacrifice of the parent for the child, of the teacher for his pupils, of the seed for the sake of the harvest.

We must assume responsibility for others born in the same age as ourselves, for society as a whole.

The relation of the body to its members is used by Paul in 1 Cor. ch. 12 to illustrate the mutual responsibility of people for one another. If there was nothing to hold the members of the body together it could not function; so with society. If we are truly concerned about its progress we must take responsibility for society as a whole.

"Who of you," said Jesus, "having a hundred sheep, and having lost one of them, doth not leave the ninety and nine in the wilderness, and go after that which is lost, until he find it?"

This is placing great confidence in man. Jesus looks into the hearts of men and is convinced that not one is cruel enough not to take upon himself the sacrifice which the task of going out to find and restore the lost would involve. He knows that the human heart is that way. Where sorrow strikes the pain naturally is greater in the closest relationship, but the instinct in man to exert himself in time of need for his fellowmen is not determined by relationship alone. There would be few real acts of mercy if that was the case. The nursing of the sick is one of the noblest professions; it is an expression of the spirit of the cross.

Nurses, doctors and grade school teachers do not go on strike in order to obtain higher wages. They never refuse to serve. The true Red Cross means that one cares for the sick whether one receives a salary or not. The love of the cross is expressed in practical terms in their effort to ease the pain of man and comfort him in his suffering. This is their way of assuming the responsibility for others. Because of their sacrifice the world today is a so much better place than it was when a priest and a levite would leave a dying man by the roadside caring little what became of him.

There was a time when the language of the immigrant served him well in his church; it was sufficient as an instrument in expressing the meaning of Christ's message of salvation; it is not so any longer. In order to reach out to everyone with the message the language of his adopted country must be used. Also this is a sacrifice. The gospel requests that the sacrifice be made: "Go after that which is lost, until you find it."

When Joseph had been sold to Egypt, his father said: "Where is Joseph?" Later he had occasion to ask also: "Where is Benjamin?" Language is but an instrument; the salvation of a human soul is more than language.

It is a common mistake of most of us that no matter where we go and what we do, as a rule we think of ourselves first. In determining our course of action personal safety is first considered.

OUR CHURCH

Perth Amboy, N. J. Dr. A. Th. Dorf has been invited as the guest speaker at the "Danish Evening" in the church parlors of the St. Stephen's church on Wednesday evening, June 20th.

Rev. Verner Hansen, Ludington, Mich., has been commissioned as a chaplain as he on June 13 took the oath of office. He at the same time received orders to proceed on June 25th to Brooklyn, point of embarkation. We wish to express our greetings and best wishes to Chaplain Verner Hansen as he goes out to serve the youth of our nation as a chaplain. This leaves, however, the Ludington and Victory, Mich., congregations without a pastor, and the shortage of pastors will be felt even more now.

Des Moines, Iowa. On Sunday, June 10th a "Folkefest" recognizing the liberation of Denmark, was observed on the Grand View College campus sponsored by the Danish Brotherhood of Des Moines and Luther Memorial church. Dean Alfred Nielsen of Grand View College was the speaker of the day. Vacation Bible school is being conducted in the Luther Memorial church under the direction of Gudmund Petersen, student of theology from Grand View college.

Dalum, Canada. The congregation of Dalum, Alberta, Canada, gathered in the Dalum church on Sunday, May 27th, to honor Rev. and Mrs. P. Rasmussen upon the 25th anniversary of Rev. and Mrs. Rasmussen's service in the Dalum congregation and community. Rev. M. Jorgensen of Standard, Alberta, had been invited as guest speaker. Following the service in the church a fellowship was shared in the church parlors where many voiced their sincere appreciation of the faithful service of their pastor and his family during the many years. A gift of money was presented to the honored guests from their many friends.

Dr. Joseph T. Simon who before the war visited many of our churches as a refugee from the Nazi terror in Europe, and who later joined the U. S. armed forces has had the privilege of visiting in Denmark shortly after the liberation of Denmark. "Dannevirke" recently printed a letter, written by Dr. Simon from Denmark with greetings to all his friends in America.

The Board of Publications is scheduled to meet at Ames, Iowa, on Monday, June 25th. Members of the board are: Rev.

Harris Jespersen, Rev. Enok Mortensen, Prof. Erling Jensen, Dean Alfred C. Nielsen and Rev. Alfred Jensen.

The United Danish Lutheran Church is meeting in Albert Lea, Minn., for the annual convention during the week, June 19-24. The editor of "Ansgar Lutheran" predicts that the convention will vote in favor of the change of name submitted last year which will eliminate the word "Danish" from the official name of the synod. The church building and parsonage of the Albert Lea congregation where the convention will be held recently suffered damages from a wind storm amounting to about \$3500, and according to an "Ansgar Lutheran" correspondent it would be impossible to make the major repairs before the convention. However, the most necessary repairs could be made. Rev. J. M. Girtz, former missionary to Santalistan, is pastor of the Albert Lea church.

Elections at Our Convention: As we are not able to bring a complete report of our convention in this issue, we shall mention briefly some of the election results from the last day of the business session: Rev. Holger O. Nielsen, Cedar Falls, Iowa, was elected synodical secretary; Olaf Juhl was re-elected as treasurer and Dr. F. N. Thomsen as trustee; Jens Thuesen was re-elected as a member of the board of education for Grand View College; Rev. Arthur E. Frost was re-elected as chairman of the board of pensions.

The 1946 Convention of our synod will be held in Des Moines upon a joint invitation from the Luther Memorial congregation and Grand View College.

Dr. Johannes Knudsen's Itinerary

In District VIII (The California District) Dr. Johannes Knudsen, President of Grand View College, will visit the congregations in District VIII according to the following schedule:

Salinas-Watsonville, June 23, 24, 25th
 Parlier-Easton, June 26, 27, 28th
 Pasadena, June 29, 30th
 Los Angeles, July 1, 2, 3rd
 Solvang, July 4, 5, 6th
 Oakland, July 8th

Watch your local announcements for the definite time of meetings in your congregation. Bring your young people to the meetings.

A. E. Farstrup,
 California Chairman for
 G.V.C. Jubilee Drive.

A V-E DAY SERVICE

Dalum, Alberta, Canada. Another memorable service has been held in the Dalum church. This was on Monday evening, May 7, the day that the news of Germany's surrender came through. Next day was announced as V-E Day but we did not let the first day slip by without gathering in the House of God in humble gratitude that we have conquered half the battle.

As we entered the church a solemn atmosphere prevailed. Our hearts re-

SYNODICAL OFFICERS, ETC.

Rev. Alfred Jensen, President,
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 4752 Oakland Ave., Minneapolis, Minn.
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 Tyler, Minn.

Miss Dagmar Miller,
 Santal Mission, Treasurer,
 Tyler, Minnesota.
 Dr. A. T. Dorf,
 Danish Seamen's Mission,
 193 Ninth St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

(All contributions and gifts to be sent to the synodical treasurer, Olaf R. Juhl, with the exception of gifts to the Santal Mission and the Danish Seamen's Mission).

joined because we are about to enter into a world of Peace, but we could not forget the struggle still ahead nor the hearts weighed down by sorrow through these long years of war.

The candle lit church scented with spring flowers added to the solemnity. The altar especially drew our attention. The message for this Thanksgiving service was taken from the 122nd and 124th Psalms. How significant are these verses—"Let us go into the house of the Lord." "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem." "Peace be within thy walls." "If it had not been the Lord who was on our side, etc." Lastly, "Our help is in the name of the Lord who made heaven and earth." The message was full of hope and exultation.

Dusk had fallen as the service drew to a close. The candles sent out their soft light and a feeling of Peace rested upon us. As the candle has to give itself in order to spread light, so have thousands of men given their lives that light might be brought into a world of darkness and we may live in Peace.

Inger Rasmussen Holmen.

From Muskegon, Mich.

The months of April and May have seen several splendid gatherings with good attendance at our new church.

April 18 our Ladies' Aid entertained the Ladies' Aid of Samuel Lutheran Church as an expression of our gratitude for their kind invitation shortly after our church burned as well as all the hospitality Samuel Lutheran has extended to us during the two years we were without a church. About 94 ladies enjoyed a splendid program, a talk by Dr. H. Swanson as well as refreshments daintily served by our ladies.

Likewise on May 16, our Ladies' Aid entertained the Ladies of the Swedish Mission Covenant Church who also, shortly after the fire, had invited us to their church and turned over the collection to our building fund. Their Ladies presented a fine program and a talk by Rev. Wellender. Tasty refresh-

ments were served by our ladies.

Once or twice a year the Luther Leagues of the Muskegon Churches have a get-to-gether. On May 15 our Y. P. S. was host to nearly 100 young people for the 6 Lutheran churches of the city.

Each year during lent our members use pence cans. May 9 was the ingathering evening when a social gathering was held and the results announced. First a fine program was enjoyed. Then the results of the pence cans: about \$225.00 with many cans yet to come in.

Our church attendance has been gratifying. On V-E Day, Mother's Day and Confirmation Day the church was filled. In fact, on Mother's Day we ran out of chairs. Twenty-five more have now been purchased.

On Sunday, May 27, we completed a drive among our members for pledges for the building fund to complete our church when conditions permit. Quite a number gathered for a pot-luck supper at 6:30. After supper and a hymn sing, we heard the results which made us all happy. About \$9,700.00 had been pledged of which \$1,000.00 had been paid in cash. Since there are still a team or two to be heard from, we feel assured of at least \$10,000.00. Thus once again our members through their giving have shown their loyalty and love for their church.

The first unit is paid for with \$5,000.00 in cash left over towards the upper structure. With about \$10,000.00 now pledged, we have a good start towards completing our church.

SANTAL MISSION General Budget

Mrs. Christ Olsen, Tyler, Minn., \$1; Mrs. M. S. Rasmussen, Minneapolis, \$5; Dennis and Jean Petersen, Ruthton, Minn., 60c; Mrs. Past. Ostergaard, Tyler, Minn., \$5; Bertha Andersen, Withee, Wis., \$2; Nazareth Church, Withee, Wis., \$31.55; Mrs. Anna Christensen, Tacoma,

Wash., \$5; Rev. John Christensen, Hartford, Conn., \$20; Mission friends, Brooklyn, \$150; Fredsville Ladies' Aid, Fredsville, Iowa, \$25; Dalum Ladies' Aid, Dalum, Canada, \$10; St. John's Ladies' Aid Mission meeting, Hampton, Iowa, \$10.50; St. John's Sunday school, Cozad, Nebr., \$10.05; Our Savior's Church, Bridgeport, Conn., \$18.65; Lutheran Guild, Salinas, Calif., \$25; Danish Ladies' Aid Sewing club, Salinas, Calif., \$10; Ladies' of St. Ansgar's, Salinas, Calif., \$39; St. Peder's Ladies' Aid, Minneapolis, \$34.89; Alice Jensen, Minneapolis, \$5; Mrs. Sam Andersen, Withee, Wis., \$2; Jens Becks, Withee, \$1; Mrs. A. P. Andersen, Withee, \$2; Bethany Lutheran Sunday school, Ludington, Mich., \$25; Danebod Sunday school, Tyler, Minn., \$25; West Denmark Church, Luck, Wis., \$9; Sale of Mrs. Schmidt's pins by Alice Thomsen and Mrs. Hansen, Marinette, Wis., \$10.70.

Marinette and Menominee joint Mission meeting, \$29.70; in memory of Jens Sinding, Tyler, Minn., Marie Olsen, Ruthton, Minn., \$5, Agnes and Chr. Nelson, Exeter, Nebr., \$1; in memory of grandmother, Mrs. Peter Nielsen, Sonny, Joan, John, and Mary, \$5; in memory of Howard Madsen and Holger Christensen overseas, Hans Madsen and Clarence, Ruthton, Minn., \$5; in memory of Mrs. Willis Ibsen, Wolf's Point, Mont., friends at Viborg, S. D., \$8; in memory of Pfc. Viggo S. Hansen, Luck, Wis., Mrs. C. C. Andersen, Mrs. Julia Hoppengstad and David, \$2; in memory of Karl Laursen, overseas, Jensine and Chr. Frost, Withee, Wis., \$1; in memory of Peter C. Nielsen, Hetland, S. D., Hetland-Badger community relatives and friends, \$20.50.

St. Mary's Sunday school, Kenosha, Wis., \$15; St. Mary's Mission Society, Kenosha, Wis., \$42.25; St. Mary's Church Kenosha, Wis., \$100; Thank offering for V-E Day, Tyler, Minn., \$3.75; Bethania Church, Racine, Wis., \$14.50; in memory of Bernice Klinkly, Del Rey, Calif., Dagmar Miller, Tyler, Minn., \$3; in memory of Mr. and Mrs. N. E. Nielsen, Newell, Iowa, Agna and Ezra Miller, Hampton, Iowa, \$10; total for May,

\$742.89. Total since January 1, \$3133.02. Thank you.

Dagmar Miller.
Tyler, Minn.

BRAND

(Continued from page 5)

ings. In Brand we find the theories of Kirkegaard carried out in the fullest. But again Ibsen failed for he had not actually performed a deed but merely written a drama. Again he was an outsider looking in on a scene. It was this that was to plague Ibsen through his whole life.

Ibsen, in Brand, really sets up the criterion upon which he bases all his future criticisms of society, of literature, of life. All must be perfection. Brand's philosophy of "Intet eller alt" is more a moral than a religious one. So also is Ibsen's. Ibsen, however, in applying his theory looked at it from an aesthetic point of view, the very thing he had condemned in "Paa vidderne." A man, even though he be a poet, was not to pick himself out of this life and look on this world's strife as an outsider but this Ibsen was trying to do.

Dagmar Jensen.

Lutheran Clergyman To Establish Service Center in Paris.—By Religious News Service. (6-8-45)

Moline Ill.—Dr. Otto H. Bostrom, pastor of Gustavus Adolphus Church in New York City, has been named by the National Lutheran Council to establish a Lutheran service center in Paris, and to serve as liaison for Lutheran relief and reconstruction activities in Europe.

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