

Lutheran Tidings

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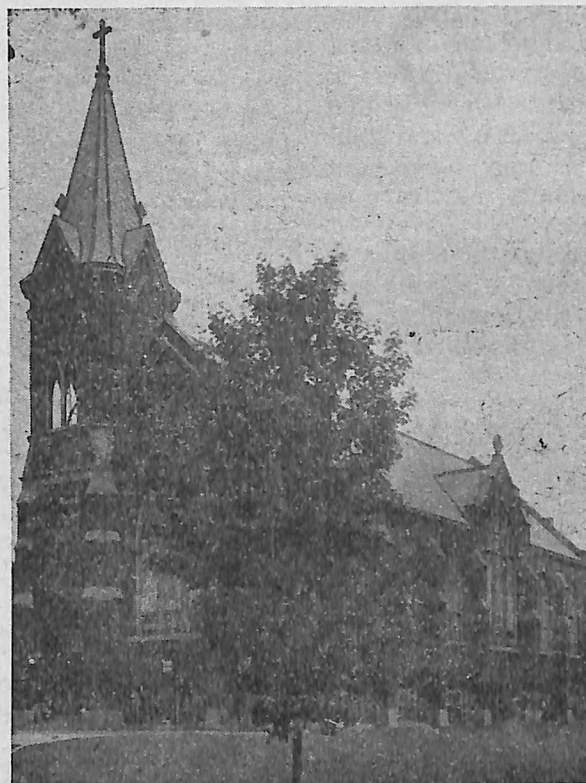
Number 23

Annual Convention

Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

June 18 — 23,
1946

Des Moines,
Iowa



Luther Memorial Church

ORDINATION SERMON

By Rev. A. W. Andersen, Ordinator.
Luther Memorial Church, Des Moines Iowa,
June 23, 1946.

"If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you will, and it shall be done for you. By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be my disciples. As the Father loved me, so have I loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full."

—John 15, 7—11.

Ordination is not a sacrament but it is a holy act administered by the Church of Christ to induct men into the service in his kingdom here on earth. It is the greatest calling man can accept. It requires a humble Christian spirit and a great love for souls. There may come moments in your life, when the responsibility seems too heavy and when you feel your total in-

efficiency to do justice to your calling. At such moments pray, remembering the promise of Jesus: "If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you will, and it shall be done for you." My dear friends, what a glorious promise! If you abide in Jesus he will abide in you and you can pray for strength and wisdom, guidance and blessing, and it shall be given to you. A humble servant of the Lord can become most efficient when he abides in Jesus and his word, living his life close to God and in daily communion with Christ.

He who abides in the Lord, he who lives in his love and for his kingdom as did the apostle Paul who says: "I live; yet not I, but Christ lives in me;"—he is the one who can pray in the name of Jesus. This

is a mercy beyond measure, and gives most precious peace to the soul. When we have that we take part in Christ's work for the salvation of men and the perfecting of his kingdom in glory; we taste his own joy, the joy of divine love, in the salvation of sinners. Do not think that this is given to only a favored few of exceptional piety and learning. The Lord has not spoken these words for the benefit of his apostles only but for all of us who believe in him.

You are going into the ministry as the Lord's servants, but you can only be a true servant when you abide in him in daily communion, prayerfully living in close fellowship with God and your Savior, Jesus Christ. Only then will you be able to serve his flock as a good shepherd. With loving kindness guide the little ones, telling them the old, old story of the love of Jesus. Instruct the youth in the teaching of the Master; in your sermons picture the life of Christ so vividly that your listeners may say: we have seen Jesus and glorify God. Pray that the good Lord may bless your message so that the hearts and minds may turn to God and their souls be saved.

You may at times become discouraged seeing so little fruit of your endeavors, but keep on sowing and praying, and God will give increase. Remember you are not alone about the work. The Lord's spirit works

with you as long as you abide in him and his words abide in you. Jesus says: "As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you; abide in my love." You know, love is the greatest power in the world. If the love of Christ abides in you, you will love the souls he has intrusted in your care. If your congregation realizes that you love your members, your work will not be in vain. If there are strifes and disagreements you will overcome them and win souls for the kingdom, and God's name will be glorified. Jesus says: "If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love." You know Christ has only given us one commandment, the great commandment of love.

Pray that his love may be increased in your hearts and you shall experience the greatest love and joy in your life. Missionary Børresen prayed on his death-bed for warm hearts, hearts filled with love for God and his kingdom. That is what we above all need today. Hearts have grown cold in the world; hatred has made men's hearts cold and even in the Christian Church the love for God and Christ is only lukewarm in many places. Preach the gospel of love; let your life be an example of loving kindness to all and the joy of Christ shall be in you in full measure. May God's love abide with you now and forevermore!

VITAE

I.

I, Thorvald Charles Hansen, was born in Troy, N. Y., on January 22, 1917, the only child of Peter T. and Jenny Hansen (nee Gary). My mother being of the Roman Catholic faith, I was baptized on the following day by Rev. Fr. Hyland of St. Francis' church in Troy.

Before I was two years old my mother passed away and from then on my father and I made our home with my paternal grandparents, both of whom were natives of Denmark. It was thus that I fell under the influence of the Danish Church. For many years I attended Sunday School, "Lørdagsskole" and "Ferieskole" at the Immanuel Danish Lutheran Church in Troy. My contacts in those early years with the late Rev. Ole Jacobsen, of whom I was a great admirer, are undoubtedly among those influences which have had the greatest effect in later years. I was confirmed in the church in Troy by Rev. Holger P. Jorgensen, who was then pastor there, on March 29, 1931.

My father married again in 1924. No children were born of this union. My step-mother, Mabel Hansen (nee Smith), was a Presbyterian and while she never formally became a member of the Danish church she found herself at home there. She was exceedingly kind to me and could not have done more for me had I been her own child. I will always be deeply indebted to both her and my father for the support and encouragement of which they have given freely through many years. My stepmother passed away in January of 1945.

From the standpoint of religious influence I perhaps owe more to my paternal grandmother than to anyone else. She was a devoted church member and regularly found her place in the church. Though it took some years for her influence to manifest itself I believe it is in a large measure that influence which has now led me to seek out the Christian ministry as my life work. It is to my grandmother also that I owe whatever little command of the Danish language I may have.

Like so many young people, in the years following my confirmation, I had little to do with the church. I am afraid that I too looked upon my confirmation largely as being a graduation from Sunday School and then neglected to take my place in the church. This trend was further accentuated following the death of my grandmother in 1934.



Thorvald Hansen



Gudmund Petersen

In 1935 I graduated from high school. It was in the midst of the depression years and a college education was out of the question. Nor, had I fully decided upon what I wanted in life. After some search I finally found work as a day laborer in a knitting mill. Later I advanced to become a knitting machine operator. Meanwhile I took a correspondence course in Diesel engines and did some night school work in a machine shop course. I worked in the mill for six years. I am now grateful for those years. I consider them a vital part of my education. There I feel I learned to know people, their hopes, their fears, their problems and their thoughts better than I could have in any other way.

Those years were years of unrest and dissatisfaction. There was something definitely lacking in life for me. This feeling grew with each passing day. But, along with this growth there was another growth. Faintly at first, but gradually growing to the point where it could no longer be brushed aside grew the desire to enter the Christian ministry.

I said nothing about it until, on the occasion of an illness in 1940, Rev. L. C. Bundgaard, then pastor in Troy, visited me. I mentioned the matter to him. His words of encouragement and his helpfulness, for which I shall always be grateful, led me to enroll at Grand View College in the fall of 1941, as a pre-seminary student.

The years that followed at Grand View served not only to confirm my desire to enter the ministry but to transform that desire to a conviction that it was the thing I must do.

I am tempted to single out and thank individually those professors and others at Grand View who, perhaps unconsciously, have helped me find my way but the list would be too long and I might inadvertently omit someone. Suffice it to say that for what I have experienced at Grand View, not only the formal education, but the life of fellowship, I am everlastingly indebted. Grand View has proved to me that Christian fellowship is more than mere terminology; it is a reality.

During the summer of 1945 I served the Carlston-Alden congregation of the Danish Lutheran Church at Alden, Minn., as student pastor. In the fall of that year I received and accepted a call to serve that congregation. I was graduated from the seminary at Grand View on January 25, 1946, and took up my work at Alden on February 15.

In accordance with the regulations governing such procedure I have applied to the Board of Ordination of the Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church of America for ordination as a pastor in that body in order that I might serve the above named congregation at Alden, Minn.

Thorvald Hansen.

II.

I, Gudmund Edward Petersen, was born at Cordova, Nebr., December 24, 1912, the youngest of four children born to Edward Petersen and Ingeborg, nee Olsen. I was baptized in the United Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church in Cordova by the Rev. Rosenberg.

My childhood was not unusual except that I was fortunate enough to have parents who took a great deal of interest in their children, devoting a great deal of time to religious training. This training was not from books alone but also in true Christian love. My grandparents, my mother's parents, also lived with us in our home. Never have I seen any person who was so totally dependent on the Lord as my grandmother was. Her faith opened my eyes and later when I left home and things seemed to darken for me I often thought of my grandmother. Her faith strengthened my faith.

I was confirmed at the age of fourteen by the Rev. Bue Bennike. I had received two years of catechetical instruction, one year with the Rev. Karl Nielsen and the second with the Rev. Bue Bennike. I owe much to these men. Rev. Nielsen could make the Bible living and certainly created an interest in the Christian world. Rev. Bennike in his quiet way continued the work much in the same way.

Two years after graduation from high school I entered the University of Nebraska. The winter between my high school days and my college days was spent at Danebod "Høj-skole" in Tyler. It was here I first was urged by the Rev. C. P. Højbjerg to go into the ministry but I did not feel the call. I had a desire to be a doctor. It was the pre-medic course I attempted at the University.

For various reasons I could not continue my medical work and I now feel that I was guided from that field into the ministry by divine help. I could not understand why I was not allowed to continue in medical work but since then I have felt that God needed me in His work as a servant. Several peculiar events have confirmed that belief for me, which I believe have happened to keep me from falling into doubt.

However, I did not enter the seminary at once. I married Gladys Eley of Lincoln, Nebr., in 1937. This woman by my side gave me added strength. Without her, I might never have entered the ministry. We talked over the matter and finally she told me she was convinced that God had spoken to me and had called me. A few days later I made application to enter the seminary at Grand View College, Des Moines, Iowa.

That work is now over and I have been called by the Bethlehem Congregation at Davey, Nebr., to serve as their pastor. I have accepted the call and have acted as a licensed minister there since February 1, 1946.

I now pray that God will continue to guide me in the future as He has in the past. I also ask that I may not fail Him because of temptations and selfish threats.

Gudmund Edward Petersen.

God Gives Us Sustenance Along The Way

Communion Sermon

Luther Memorial Church Convention, Sunday, June 23, 1946
By Holger P. Jorgensen.

To help prepare our hearts for communion today let us bring to our minds two precious words of our Lord. "And this is eternal life that they should know Thee, the only true God and Him whom thou didst send." John 17:3. And "He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day." John 6, 54.

An ancient allegory pictures life as a giant ferris-wheel in perpetual motion. A child enters the chair at the bottom. As the chair rises, the child in glee and keene expectation claps his hands and cries: "I'm going to be king." By the time the chair has reached the top, the child has reached maturity and the man with pride shouts: "I am king." However, the ever moving wheel now begins its descent and the king loses his crown and the scepter breaks. At the bottom he is thrown out and he sighs: "I have been king."

Indeed, the lost crown, the broken scepter, the sighs and despair over it is sure enough. How well we remember the keene expectation with which we looked forward to the task for which we were preparing ourselves! We were: "To be." Finally, we reached our goal and stood in our manhood task: "We are." But before long the descent began and in all

too short a time we had to sigh: "We were."

A wise man of old has said: "Vanity of vanities, all is vanity."

But we do not preach such despair. We, as Christians, know that there is more to life than time's passing parade. In the midst of this world where the never resting wheel of time moves on, we know there is one point that is secure, one abiding truth. We know that there is eternal life in finding, loving and knowing God and Him whom He did send.

In our baptism we were made God's children. We were given the gift of the Holy Spirit which shall call, enlighten and guide us to the whole truth. We were grafted unto Jesus Christ our Savior. Through Him we get to know God, for as He is, so God is.

When we get to know God life has meaning. We see life as a planned whole from God and not as a short flight through a lighted room, coming from nowhere and going into nowhere. And life gets fullness and quality, for eternal life is not only length of life but depth of life. Also, life becomes lasting. The few years spent here is but a part of eternity. "For as God raised up His Son, so also all those that know God, love Him and abide in Him".

You know and I know that we are not always

strong in our faith. There are times when we are low down, at other times high up and strong. I am sure God knew our needs. Therefore he provided sustenance along the way that we should not faint but be strengthened so that we can complete our journey. In his love and mercy he spread his table for us. Here we can get sustenance along the way.

As a humble servant of God, it is my great privi-

lege to invite you to His table today where he amply provides for you. Remember: "He that eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life and I will raise him up, on the last day".

Come, therefore, all you who feel the need to be sustained along the way in your faith and in your Christian life.

Amen.

The 69th Annual Convention Of The Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church Of America

Luther Memorial Church, Des Moines, Iowa, June 18—23, 1946

Members and friends of our synod gathered throughout the day and evening of Tuesday, June 18th, at Grand View College to register for the annual convention of our synod and for the 50th anniversary of the opening of Grand View College. The registration of the convention from the very first day gave evidence of an attendance well over 500.—Later report revealed that more than 1,000 people were present on Sunday throughout the day.

The opening service was held Tuesday evening in Luther Memorial Church. Rev. C. A. Stub of Greenville, Mich., delivered the sermon, using as his text Matthew 28, 18-20. This text was used at the dedication service of Grand View College on September 27, 1896. Rev. Stub gave a forceful and challenging message as he vividly presented the invitation of Christ to "make disciples of all nations" as the central theme of the dedication, and the implementation of this vision has been the driving force in the spirit and life of Grand View College and Seminary through the 50 years that have now passed.

Rev. M. Mikkelsen, Askov, Minn., was in charge of the Communion service and many accepted the invitation to come to the Lord's table.

Words of welcome were spoken by Rev. A. C. Ammentorp, pastor of Luther Memorial Church, and Rev. Alfred Jensen, synodical president.

Wednesday, June 19—Rev. Harris Jespersen of Clinton, Iowa, was in charge of the opening Devotion and Bible Hour Wednesday morning. After the singing of the hymn, "Oh, Worship the King," Rev. Jespersen read from Matthew 27, 38—46, and used this as his text for the morning meditation.

Rev. A. C. Ammentorp, pastor of Luther Memorial Church, and Dr. Johannes Knudsen, president of Grand View College, welcomed all guests to the convention. The Luther Memorial Church and Grand View College were joint hosts and as such extended a welcome to all.

Rev. Alfred Jensen, in behalf of the synod, responded to this welcome, and reading from 1 Corinthians 9, 19-23, he spoke briefly of the apostle Paul who could say: "I have become all things to all men, that I may by all means save some. I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share in its blessings." Said Rev. Jensen: "Let us thus witness and in that spirit approach our discussion and our problems during these days." He then declared the 69th Annual

Convention opened in the name of the Triune God.

Roll call of pastors and delegates was taken by the synodical secretary, Rev. Holger Nielsen. Present at the opening of the meeting were 43 pastors, 135 delegate votes and 3 board members, a total of 181 votes.

The meeting was organized by electing Mr. Erling Jensen as chairman, Rev. A. E. Farstrup, assistant chairman, Rev. Edwin E. Hansen, secretary, and Rev. Richard Sorensen, assistant secretary.

American Bible Society—Dr. Harvey Clark, representative of the American Bible Society was introduced at this time and he spoke briefly presenting the cause of the Bible Society. Dr. Clark informed us that the appeals for Bibles is greater than at any time in the history of the Bible Societies in all parts of the world. He mentioned as an example that from China a call has come for three times as many Bibles as the number produced by all the three large Bible Societies in any one year before the war. He also told us that one of the first shipments made after the war was one of 93,000 Bibles presented from the American Bible Society to the Norwegian people (printed in Norwegian). The Danish Bible Society has appealed to the American Bible Society for a supply of German Bibles for the German refugees in Denmark. The appeal from Denmark stated: "The Germans gave us five years of tragedy, we wish to give them in return the message of the Bible." Dr. Clark also related that 2½ million Japanese New Testaments have been ordered and will soon be sent to Japan.—Rev. Alfred Jensen thanked Dr. Harvey for his message, and encouraged all our congregations to contribute regularly to the American Bible Society.

The Agenda for the convention was now adopted. This agenda departed in some respects from previous years inasmuch as it endeavored to allot a certain period of time for the various reports, discussions of same, etc.

The various reports from synodical president, etc., were now presented one by one. Opportunity was given for oral remarks from each of the members reporting.

Nomination Committee.

The following Nomination Committee was appointed during the noon hour: District I: Rev. James Lund, Mrs. Niels A. Nielsen; District II: Rev. C. A. Stub, Mr. N. P. Christensen; District III: Rev. Harris

Jespersen, Mr. S. Diken Sorensen; District IV: Rev. A. E. Frost, Mr. Hartvig Madsen; District V: Rev. L. C. Bundgaard, Mr. Adolf Jensen; District VI: Rev. Holger Andersen, Mr. N. C. Nielsen; District VII: Rev. Ronald Jespersen, Mr. Martin Groebeck; District VIII: Rev. Johannes Mortensen, Mr. Marcus Lund; District IX: Rev. Charles Terrell, Mr. Viggo Jurgensen.

Greeting From Denmark.

Rev. Alfred Jensen read a greeting from the Committee ("Udvalget i Danmark") in Denmark which through many years has been the channel of good will and support indirectly from the people and Church of Denmark. The greeting was sent in Danish and rendered here in translation:

To the Danish Church Convention in Des Moines, June, 1946: Greetings from your committee in Denmark to all members of your convention. May God give you guidance and strength to go forward in your work at your convention and through the coming year in the spirit of our Lord and Master, Jesus Christ.

The people of Denmark rejoice because of the day of liberation which came for us a year ago. May the spirit of Peace find its place in all nations as we gradually find our way forward toward that goal. Sincere greetings from all members of the committee, M. F. Blichfeld. (Rev. Blichfeld was formerly a pastor of our synod before returning to Denmark).

Grand View College Jubilee Fund.

The chairman of the G. V. C. Jubilee Fund, Mr. Erling Jensen, reported that total contributions as of June 1, amounted to \$73,129.89. The following report was given:

Percentages of Quotas by Districts.

| | | |
|------------|-------|-------|
| District 9 | ----- | 97.8% |
| District 8 | ----- | 90.1% |
| District 4 | ----- | 87.4% |
| District 3 | ----- | 63.7% |
| District 6 | ----- | 60.6% |
| District 5 | ----- | 59.1% |
| District 7 | ----- | 56.7% |
| District 1 | ----- | 50.5% |
| District 2 | ----- | 32.0% |

Number of Congregations and Percentages.

| | | |
|------------------|-------|---------|
| 20 congregations | ----- | 100% |
| 3 congregations | ----- | 80— 95% |
| 8 congregations | ----- | 60— 79% |
| 15 congregations | ----- | 40— 59% |
| 20 congregations | ----- | 20— 39% |
| 8 congregations | ----- | 10— 19% |
| 6 congregations | ----- | 0— 9% |

Proposed Changes for Convention Procedure.

The Proposed Changes for Convention Procedure as prepared by a committee consisting of Jens G. Thuesen, Walter Andersen and Holger Strandskov were adopted with a few amendments offered from the floor of the convention. We mention some of the changes that thus will go into effect: The convention officers will now be elected a year in advance giving them ample opportunity to make preparations for their respective duties. Delegates are to be elected in all congregations and reported to the Credentials committee (in the congregation where convention will be held) and to the Convention chairman by June 1. The convention chairman has the privilege of appointing some of the more important convention committees in advance. A convention editor will be appointed by

the chairman, said editor will be responsible for the printing (mimeographing) of the daily "Convention Bulletin."

Traveling Aid for Delegates and Pastors (From Outlying Districts).

The proposal presented to the convention by the three pastors, Erik Møller, Holger Nielsen and Alfred Jensen as presented in "Lutheran Tidings" of June 5, page 4, was adopted with some minor amendments. Thus reimbursement will be paid from the synodical treasurer for delegate traveling expenses to the annual convention; such financial aid to be paid for one delegate from each of the congregations in District 1, 8 and 9, also for delegates from Dalum, Alta., and Canwood, Sask., Danevang, Texas and Granly, Miss. Likewise financial aid will be paid "each year for two pastors in rotation from District 1, 8 and 9 respectively, as well as one pastor each year from the congregation at Dalum, Alta., and Canwood, Sask., Danevang, Texas, and Granly, Miss., in rotation to attend the annual convention." The stipulated distances for which reimbursement will be paid is found in the complete proposal as presented in the June 5th issue of Lutheran Tidings.

The above was unanimously adopted and replaces all previous arrangements for the sending of District delegates, and also the refunding of over-subscriptions from Districts for the synodical budget. The maximum cost of the above traveling aid was estimated at \$1,100. It was the contention that such financial aid would encourage a larger representation from the outlying districts of our synod, and in time promote more interest and further the growth of our synod in these areas.

Lutheran World Action

The president reported that we in our synod collected for Lutheran World Action the sum of \$10,583.88. All churches except two donated, while forty-three reached their full quota or over. Three districts failed to reach their quotas.

We have been asked to contribute for the two-year period 1946-1947 a sum of \$56,463.62. This amounts to \$4.00 per confirmed member. It can be collected in one year or both. Some churches have already collected their full share. The convention voted to reaffirm the pledge made by the Synod Board that this sum be gathered for the Lutheran World Action program of relief and rehabilitation.

Dr. Franklin Clark Fry Addresses the Convention

Dr. Franklin Clark Fry, president of the United Lutheran Church in America spoke to the convention Friday afternoon. Dr. Fry began his address by stating: "The peaceful atmosphere of Iowa may be delusive. It is a troubled world we live in". He made a stirring appeal for Lutheran unity "to meet the challenge of a world nigh destroyed".

Dr. Fry, who spent several weeks in Europe last winter and will leave soon on another trip abroad, asserted that "these are the days when all of us together are scarcely enough to help rebuild the Christian Church".

"Europe is suffering from an ailment from which it may never recover," he declared. Much that has

been built up over the past 400 years lies in ruins today. A good half of Lutheranism has been seriously crippled."

Discussing the plight of some fifty-four million Lutherans in Europe and other parts of the world, most of whom were affected by the ravages of war, Dr. Fry said "that the Lutheran Church in several regions has been utterly obliterated" and that millions are in dire need of help from Lutherans in America.

Dr. Fry concluded with a plea that common interests and tasks "may bind us closer together as Christians shoulder to shoulder."

Synod's Relation To And Cooperation With Other Lutheran Groups.

The following resolutions were adopted as recommended in the president's report:

"That the Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church of America approves the National Lutheran Council's resolution that it be incorporated under Section 15 of Article II of the Religious Corporation Law of the State of New York".

"That our synod assumes its proportionate share of expenses in carrying on the work of the Student's Service Commission of the National Lutheran Council.

"That the Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church of America through the National Lutheran Council takes whatever steps may be necessary towards a closer cooperation with the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America".

The "Report From The Committee On Lutheran Church Relations" as found in "Lutheran Tidings" of June 20th page 10 created considerable discussion. Several amendments and substitute motions were presented. It was apparent throughout the entire discussion that the members of the convention wished to emphasize that the object of the committees work must be viewed not in the light of a possible merger of the two synods, but as a step toward closer cooperation.

After Point II of the Findings on the Committee's report had been voted down, the entire matter was taken up for reconsideration on Saturday afternoon and the following substitute motion for Point II was presented by the three laymen; Jens. G. Thuesen, Hart F. Madsen and H. Vendelboe Nielsen, and was adopted by the convention:

"Whereas, the National Lutheran Council is the recognized channel through which Lutheran Church groups cooperate in their activities: and

Whereas, the Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church of America and the United Evangelical Lutheran Church synods are both members of this group: and

Whereas, it is necessary to maintain two bases for cooperation between these two church groups:

Be it therefore resolved that: the committee on Church relations replace the statement of faith referred to in Point II of the Findings Committee report with the following, taken from the preamble to the constitution of National Lutheran Council as the basis for their cooperation.

Whereas, in their respective constitutions, the participating Lutheran Church Bodies accept the Holy Scriptures as the Word of God and the only source, norm and guide of Christian faith and life; and

Whereas, in their respective constitutions, the Participating Bodies accept the Unaltered Augsburg Confession and Luther's Catechism as the true exposition and presentation of the doctrine of the Holy Scriptures; and

Whereas, the Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church of America has been accepted into membership on the basis of its confessional position on Holy Scripture as stated in Chapter 2 of its Constitution, and

Whereas, the Participating Bodies are of the conviction that they can and should serve the Lutheran Church at large:

Be it therefore resolved that the United Evangelical Lutheran Church and the Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church of America cooperate in matters of common interest and responsibility, cooperation in which does not affect their distinctive principles".

The following resolution was also adopted: "The committee concurs with our president in that we must preserve our distinctive characteristics as a Synod; yet, to avoid isolation we move that the Committee on Lutheran Church Relations be instructed to investigate and study further cooperation with other Lutheran bodies".

Dr. Daniel Nelson From China Speaks

Dr. Daniel Nelson who has spent more than 30 years in China as missionary spoke to the convention Wednesday afternoon. Dr. Nelson has for the past three years served as relief director in China for the Lutheran World Convention. The speaker voiced disapproval of the U. S. State Department's policy of sending military leaders to China "who do not know the Chinese psychology or mind".

Dr. Nelson stated further that the Chinese resent American interference in their affairs. "They want to run their own country" he said. "They believe a poor local government is better than any foreign government".

Turning to the future of missionary work in China, Dr. Nelson asserted that the opportunities for evangelism in the postwar period are unlimited as the Chinese "are asking to be taken into the Christian Church." To meet this challenge, he said, missionary personnel is sorely needed. "There are now 600 Lutheran missionaries in China but we need a thousand," he added.

Dr. Nelson was sent to China in 1943 to assist missions that had been cut off from their European headquarters by the war. Through his efforts nearly 300 missionaries of several nationalities were brought to safety in India from danger zones in China.

Prof. Frode Hasseriis Brings Greeting From Denmark

As special guests from the Askov Folk School in Denmark Prof. and Mrs. Frode Hasseriis were welcomed on the first day of the convention by Dr. Johs. Knudsen, president of Grand View College. Prof. Hasseriis was a professor and physical education director at Grand View College during the period 1908-12. He has through many years been connected with the Askov Folk School, the largest of the Folk Schools in Denmark. His special fields are physical education, music and English.

Prof. Hasseriis spoke to the entire convention Sat-

urday afternoon. He brought a special greeting from the Askov Folk School. Throughout his lecture he related numerous challenging incidents revealing the active part of the Folk School in the Resistance movement during the five years of German occupation of Denmark.

He also brought greeting from the Askov Folk School because of the close relationship it had with the early period of the Danish Church in America, as many of the early pastors of our synod received their training for the ministry in this school.

Prof. Hasseriis and his wife favored the convention several times with several duets. During July, August and September Prof. and Mrs. Hasseriis will be available to our congregations for a varied program of lecture and song.

Other Speakers From Denmark

Bishop Hans Fuglsang-Damgaard of Copenhagen, Primate of the Lutheran Church of Denmark, has accepted an invitation to visit the United States next year. He will speak at the annual convention and to the congregations of the Danish Lutheran Church and the United Evangelical Lutheran Church, co-sponsors of his visit. Bishop Fuglsang-Damgaard is regarded as one of the outstanding churchmen in Europe.

Upon recommendation of Rev. Alfred Jensen, synodical president, the convention voted to have the synodical president arrange a speaking tour for Rev. M. F. Blichfield of Copenhagen provided a sufficient number of congregations extend invitations.

Tour To Denmark In 1948

The convention voted to arrange for a tour to Denmark, and that the synodical president appoint a committee of three to arrange for same. However, the tour is to be arranged on the basis that the synod assumes no financial responsibility.

Grand View College and the Building Program

Building plans were brought before the convention by Rev. O. S. Jorgensen, president of the G. V. C. Board of Education. The following plan was adopted: "That the Synodical Board upon the recommendation of the Board of Education be given authority to build a dormitory and a Science wing as soon as they deem it advisable".

It was announced that the Board of Education have a bid on the dormitory for approximately \$120,000 with a flat roof, \$125,000 with a pitched roof, which they are practically ready to accept.

It was further announced that \$73,721.00 was on hand in the G.V.C. Jubilee Fund as of June 1st. \$8,000 of this is ear-marked for the Science wing. If the synod can raise \$100,000, we have, said the committee, an additional \$13,500 promised, ear-marked for the Science building.

During the discussion of the Jubilee Drive Rev. Alfred Sorensen of Seattle, Wash., suggested the possibility of raising an amount during the convention to boost the total closer to the final goal. A number of delegates voiced the opinion that their respective congregations would make further efforts toward reaching their quota or more.

Rev. Holger O. Nielsen was called upon to relate the procedure of the local committee in his congregation in order to contact all in the congregation and

thus to reach the quota designated for said congregation.

A motion was made at this time by Mrs. Elsie Bertelsen of Brooklyn, N. Y., to the effect: "That Rev. Alfred Sorensen be made chairman of a committee to gather funds for G.V.C. as additional subscriptions to the Jubilee fund from the members of the convention". The motion was adopted.

Rev. Sorensen soon after during the lunch hour organized a force of sixty workers. And soon we saw some wearing a small red and white ribbon and a tag saying "I Gave Here". Sunday noon a large thermometer on white cardboard was made, nearly six foot high. Miss Doris Fredericksen, G.V.C. student from Seattle, was the artist. This man-sized thermometer was placed on the porch of the girl's dormitory where everyone on the campus could see it. As the sixty workers, and additional volunteers, were busy asking convention members for "that additional gift" to the G.V.C. Jubilee Fund, the thermometer was gradually rising and we noted the following tabulations: \$2200; later \$3650; Then a report from one worker came in and it soared to \$4000. This was more than had been anticipated from the beginning, as we knew that undoubtedly all convention members had contributed liberally in their local congregations. The result, however, seemed to stimulate interest, and during the supper hour (supper was served cafeteria style on the College campus in the most ideal summer climate) the excitement was climaxed. The thermometer rose to \$4460; then to \$4590; and then the fun began. Would it be possible to lift it to \$5000? There were now probably more than 100 workers. Up went the red mark on the thermometer, reaching the \$4870. Then a speech from Rev. Alfred Sorensen, one by the convention chairman, Erling Jensen, and as most everyone had contributed the suggestion was made that we now each add another \$1. bill. During the next half hour these came in to Erling Jensen and Alfred Sorensen standing on the steps, and the total was called out until the sum of \$5,000.00 as additional gifts from convention guests had been reached. But the climax had not yet been reached. As we were rejoicing over the fine response a quiet and unassuming man from Hutchinson, Minnesota, well known at many of our Church conventions, Mr. Hans Jensen, walked up and said to the committee: "I have been thinking about giving my part to the G.V.C. Jubilee Fund, I should like to add \$5000 to the amounts given. The fine gift was announced, and Mr. Hans Jensen was greeted with applause. Mr. Jensen was asked to give a speech, and he spoke in his quiet manner of his love for Grand View College and for the Danish Lutheran Church that has meant so much to him.

Further reports came in from Jubilee workers, and the final total Sunday evening for additional gifts from convention members were \$10,167.00.

Grand View College 50th Anniversary

Sunday afternoon of the convention was set aside for the Grand View College Golden Anniversary Celebration. Due to the large number of people that had gathered for the occasion and taking advantage of the ideal summer weather, the program for the afternoon was given on the terrace between the Luther Mem-

orial Church and the Old People's Home. More than 1,000 people listened to the several speakers and took part in the singing of songs, one of these written for the occasion by Mr. August Bang, editor of "Dannevirke." Rev. O. S. Jorgensen, president of the G.V.C. Board of Education, presided as chairman and as such opened the meeting with words of welcome. "Grand View College stands in our midst young as ever on this 50th anniversary date," said Rev. Jorgensen. "And today we not only look back, but we also look forward," he added.

Rev. Alfred Jensen, synodical president, also spoke words of welcome. With his words of welcome Rev. Jensen added: "I believe it was a happy choice when we decided to locate our College and Seminary in this fine midwestern city. We wish to express on this anniversary day our sincere appreciation to the citizens of Des Moines for the support given the College in various respects. Rev. Jensen mentioned the Gardner Cowles family, owners of the two daily papers of Des Moines for loyal support also financially of Grand View College. He bid a special welcome to Mr. Erik Lindhart of Des Moines, who recently had made a tour of Denmark, and who brought back with him a special greeting to the G. V. C. Golden Jubilee. Mr. Lindhart, who is of Danish descent and who for many years has been a leading citizen of Des Moines, has revealed his love for the work of Grand View College and has promised to direct a special drive among business men of the city for the Grand View College Jubilee Fund.

Mr. Erik Lindhart was then introduced to the audience by Rev. Jensen. Mr. Lindhart told about his trip to Denmark, and read to us in the Danish language a letter of Greeting from the Primate of Denmark, Bishop Fuglsang Damgaard. (This greeting appears in another part of this issue in a translation by the editor.)

Rev. S. D. Rodholm was the next speaker. In his unique way he gave us an interesting account of the early history of Grand View College, told us about the convention in 1894 where only 19 pastors and 17 delegates were present, but small in number this group voted to build a University of the Danish people in America". He spoke of the dedication day of the first part of this "University" on Sept. 27, 1896, as possibly "the happiest moment in the history of our synod". He spoke of the contributions given by the members of the various congregations, that "we gave until it made us happy." And added Rev. Rodholm, "if we can do that again, we will rejoice as the new building will be erected".

Dean Alfred C. Nielsen was the next speaker. He gave a brief but challenging message. Dean Nielsen pointed out how the American system of education has failed all too often, and he said, "It is hard to fight 'Main Street', but Grand View College will continue to offer the very best, in order that we may develop better young people, better educated in heart and soul, so that they may learn to love their work and find joy in giving themselves in service. We want to help our young people to live abundantly, to live richly and to live virtually".

Professor Frode Hasseriis was called upon for a

greeting. He related briefly the close relationship between the Askov Folk School in Denmark from which he again brought greetings and Grand View College and the people of the Danish Church in America.

Dr. Johannes Knudsen, president of Grand View College, was the last speaker of the afternoon. He voiced words of appreciation from Grand View College to all who had helped to build and sustain the work of the school. He pointed out further, that the challenge was constantly before us: "Have we fulfilled the dreams and hopes of those who gathered here 50 years ago for the dedication of our school?" He concluded his address by saying: "I hope we may go forward and fulfill the dream of those who laid the first stones in the foundation of Grand View College".

Greetings To The G.V.C. Golden Anniversary

As we had the privilege of listening to two of the former presidents of Grand View College, Rev. S. D. Rodholm and Dean Alfred C. Nielsen, and the present president of the College, Dr. Johannes Knudsen, so we also had greetings from several of those who had served previously in that capacity.

Rev. N. P. Gravengaard, Pastor Emeritus, Los Angeles, Calif., who served as the first temporary president of our school during the period June 18, 1896, to October 7th, 1897, has sent a letter of greeting which was read by the chairman, Rev. O. S. Jorgensen. Rev. Gravengaard who conducted the dedication service 50 years ago could not be present, but three of his children, active members of our synod were present on this festive day.

Pastor C. P. Højbjerg, who served through many years as a member of the faculty and as president of the College and Seminary sent the following characteristic greeting which we shall not endeavor to translate, lest it should lose some of its profound content: **"Alt for vor Ungdom! Ogsaa Skolen, den Danske Kirkes Datter! Brnene kan ikke glemme deres Mor. Gud er god!"**

A greeting from Dr. C. Arild Olsen, also former president of G.V.C., was read by the chairman. This greeting will appear in its entirety in L. T.

The afternoon program was concluded by the singing of the Grand View College song written by the late Rev. Kr. Østergaard in 1904 at the dedication of the last section of the present building.

Sunday Evening Closing Meeting

The Sunday evening closing meeting was held in the Luther Memorial Church. Rev. A. E. Farstrup of Los Angeles and Rev. Alfred E. Sorensen were the speakers of the evening. Several expressed words of greeting to the Des Moines congregation and to the members of the College for the hospitality and for the fine spirit of fellowship which had been shared during these days of convention. Rev. Alfred Jensen closed the 69th annual convention by leading us in the confession of our faith and in prayer and thanksgiving to God for his many blessings. Standing we closed our convention by singing:

"And now we must bid one another farewell;
The peace of our God keep you ever!"

This hymn was written by the first Danish pastor's wife in America, Martha Clausen, and has traditionally been used at the closing of our conventions through many, many years.

We closed our convention with a feeling of gratefulness to God and man for many rich blessings, but also with a consciousness in our hearts to go forward with renewed strength to still greater heights.

Holger Strandskov, Editor.

A Greeting From The Primate Bishop Of Denmark

Dear Countrymen!

Friends and Brothers!

We extend heartiest congratulations and best wishes today across the vast ocean with greetings from your old country and your father's church.

We are with you during the jubilee days in prayer and thanksgiving. We have just observed the first anniversary of the liberation of Denmark. Then you were with us in prayer and thanksgiving.

We belong together. Great distances separate us; but we are united in that which is stronger than any boundary; we are children of Mother Denmark and we are baptized to belong to the same heavenly Father.

Wonderful are His ways with us. You or your fathers emigrated from the childhood home and fatherland to seek a new homestead, and now many of you returned to fight for the freedom of this childhood home and country. Together with your countrymen in your new fatherland, you have done your old fatherland as great a service as any of its sons could have done. You helped save it from defeat. The Danish people extend their heartfelt thanks.

You have helped to tie the bonds of love between Denmark and the great and mighty country of which you are so justly proud; but we also believe that you have helped to form this great and mighty peoples ideals and cultural spirit, and that you have helped to create those eternal values which bound us in a common struggle and for which we were ready to sacrifice all. President Roosevelt's spirit and ideals, which also for us was an exceptional inspiration in our battle for freedom and righteousness we recognized as our own, carried as they were by the deepest human and Christian understanding. We thank and honor America for its fight for freedom and its contribution towards peace.

It is our wish that you may succeed in making your Scandinavian heritage fruitful for the future of your nation. And there is no doubt in my mind that you will succeed in this to the same degree as you are true to the faith of your fathers. It is the spiritual power which determines the fate of a people and the future of the world.

Our Lord, Jesus Christ, once said: "The spirit quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing." There must come a new spirit into the world; not a man-created spirit; that only results in fresh disasters. No, the Holy Spirit must rule; the spirit of Pentecost must enter our hearts, a spirit which acts with God's creativeness for constant renewal.

May the Grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the Love of God and the Fellowship of the Holy Spirit abide with you all.

Sincere greetings,

H. Fuglsang Damgaard.

Copenhagen, June 7, 1946.

Greeting From C. Arild Olsen

Berlin, 2 June 1946.

To Friends of Grand View College Assembled to Commemorate Its Fiftieth Anniversary.

Dear Friends:

It would have been a source of great pleasure to me if I could have had the privilege of being with you today and of sharing with you the commemoration of Grand View College's

50th anniversary. As I could not do so, I take this opportunity to send a word of greeting.

There is much I would like to say and to share with you, many thoughts and feelings arising from the problems we face throughout the world today: of people starving, of great hunger for spiritual fellowship, of homes and communities to be rehabilitated, of churches and schools in dire need, of plain men and women, as well as truly great leaders from all parts of the world, who are fighting for the great cause of justice and peace, or of our own manifold struggles here in the midst of ruined cities and defeated people. I regret that because of the work in which I am currently engaged I can not write fully and freely, critically and constructively, on many of these matters at this time. I know, however, that my friends back home are significantly aware of and actively participating in the constructive efforts of heart and mind and hand which are so desperately needed. It is out of our fellowship in this common task that I greet you.

I am mindful in so many, many ways of the years I spent at Grand View College, the four years as student, the five years as teacher, and the six years as president. I am ever deeply indebted to my former teacher and fellow students, to my former colleagues on the faculty, as well as to every member of the national church board serving during my incumbency, for the innumerable contributions they have made to the enrichment of my life. It is out of this appreciation for what Grand View College has meant to me, and for the opportunity I had to serve our church and its young people, that I extend my congratulations and offer my prayers on this the 50th anniversary of Grand View College. It is in the spirit of this fellowship of understanding which we share, and from my sensing of what we as a people and as one world face today, that I humbly express my hopes for the future of Grand View College.

As we move into the fateful years ahead, may Grand View College gain a new sense of oneness with the American people, with the common people of all nations, and out of this new awareness share significantly in the efforts of our common tasks. At the heart of these common tasks lies, as never before, the need of proclaiming and preparing the way for the Kingdom of God. Our great task is the salvation of men, the rebuilding of Christendom, the liberation of the souls of people and nations, the establishment of a just and peaceful world order.

To accomplish this task, education is not enough. It will take "more than you can expect of human nature". I write from the capital of a shattered and forlorn nation, once the proud possessor of an impressive system of education. Only a new way of **school living** will serve the future here as elsewhere and contribute effectively to the accomplishment of this task. Education for the new life will fail unless it stems from and draws upon the sources of Life itself. Laboratories and libraries are secondary. The youth of the world must grow in love for people and, through this growth, in understanding of people and their varied, intricate relations. We know how barren mere knowledge can be and too often is. To provide school experiences which lead to faith in people and to the development of mutual confidence is the fundamental educational task of the school that would serve the new day.

School living which seeks to be functionally effective must establish experientially the worth and vitality of spiritual truth; such truth can not be dictated doctrinally. New affirmation to old truths is essential; but the inculcation of moral principles does not suffice. More than "religious motivation" is required. Living education must inspire personal dedication, to God and to vocational calling. Lives so dedicated will neither produce nor use means of destruction, either on the field of battle or in the development of a new social order. To stimulate and nurture such consecration is of the purpose of schools of education for life. May Grand View College help the youth of America to seek and find personal significance in religion, so that love of God and of fellow man becomes central in their hearts and minds. We must come to realize that love can live and function in the practical everyday life of personal, social and economic ways of being.

It is my hope for Grand View College that the school-community which it has always been may inspire young men and women with a new and profound sense of "community."

May that which creates community become the core of their school curriculum and of their school experience. Among the greatest casualties of the war are the life-forces and -factors which create community. They must be given new opportunity, new spirit. The brotherhood of all people is an easy phrase to use; it is a difficult fellowship to build. The United Nations will not be built by coalition of cabinets; it must be built at the "level of human living", where common people live and gather in homes and in communities. The problems which become so critically acute between peoples at the international level have their significant counterpart in every community. Unless they are solved at this community level, they will not be solved at the international. It is at this point of community living that individuals personally become active members of the United Nations. Unless one becomes an integrated, participating member of his neighborhood and community, at what point does he become a part of the nation? The school which leads young people to group experience in creative community living is building the new world and building it at the basic point of its construction. To do so the life-needs of youth and the life-needs of communities, rather than the administrative and pedagogical requirements of school boards and academic institutions, must become the all-important factors in determining the nature of the school's educational philosophy and administrative organization. May Grand View College, as it grows into the years ahead, dedicate itself anew in its educational philosophy, administrative organization, curriculum pattern, and teaching practices to the fundamental life-needs of young people and communities.

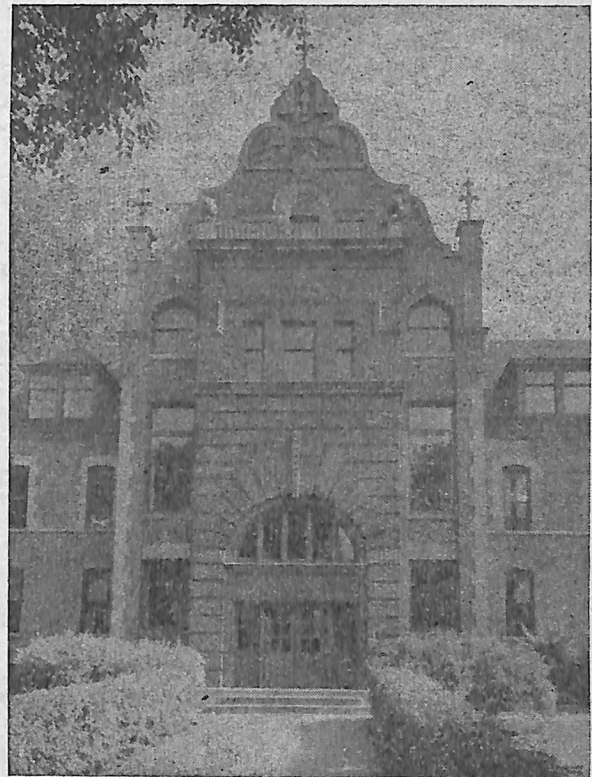
Ideas and ideals must have hands and feet. An urgent, vital task which confronts us is to find and use practical ways and means of building faith and philosophy into the everyday life of our social and economic patterns, as well as into our personal behavior patterns. The communion of saints must have social and economic consequences. We must acquire not only the will but also the skill to make religion vital at the point of human relations. The school which would serve life must commit itself to socio-economic ways of being, as well as to patterns of personal living. It must seek not only to inspire its students to cherish noble purposes and high principles, but also equip them with the skills necessary to build this new world. Love, justice, and fellowship will live only in the community which has found ways of living that give body and shape to these ideals and purposes, implementing them technically and practically. May Grand View College not only inspire its students to a personal dedication to high ideals, but may it share also in the urgent task of building a new world in which these ideals can live, by equipping its students with the skills essential to this task.

I do not know what the shape of things to come will be; but I do know that our methods must be similar in nature and in spirit to the ends and purposes we seek. We can not simultaneously use methods that enslave, and educate for freedom; nor can we serve life by using methods which structurally and functionally can neither convey life nor lead to organic life experiences. We must find significant ways of releasing creative instincts and stimulating the desire to engage in creative life work. Our educational approaches must fashion a way of **school living** which encourages and equips young people to give a strong, affirmative "yes" to life. Into a world which has seemingly no vital sense of direction must come young people who know not only where they are going and why, but whose destination and determinations are spiritually motivated and directed. The routines of traditional classroom and laboratory procedures will not achieve this purpose. "Classroom" words will not build a new world. The dynamic must be new experiences which spring from words that beget action, words that create community.

May Grand View College be blessed in its life and work from day to day, in a service dedicated to the lives of young people, to their homes and communities, and to the glory of God.

Sincerely yours, C. Arild Olsen.

A Message From Grand View College



The convention is now history and the campus of Grand View College is again quiet. We have the memories left, however, of many friends and of a great friendship. For this we are very grateful, and we send our greetings to one and all. Thank you for the grand spirit you brought to the convention.

The campus will not be quiet very long. We are getting ready for the first of several camps, and before we know it, fall will be here and a new school year will have started. We confidently expect that the arriving students will be greeted by a new, partially completed dormitory.

The new building cannot possibly be completed before school starts and we will have to start the year by crowding the old building to the rafters. The enrollment is well over a hundred now, and judging by the content of our mail, the end is not yet in sight. This gives us a problem of lodging, but it also gives us serious problems of teaching schedules and class room space. For these reasons it may be necessary before long to close the enrollment. We have not done so yet, but we are already being besieged by mail from people who are rather frantically writing around to find a college with room for them. It would not be fair to accept these and to exclude the young people from our own homes, and we are therefore asking all who intend to enroll at Grand View College this fall to do so within the next two weeks. Will you kindly remember this and will you remind your friends?

I am anxious to engage someone to be in charge of the kitchen for us next year, and I would appreciate helpful suggestions and applications.

Johannes Knudsen.

Grand View College
June 28, 1946.

Convention Opposes Universal Military Training

I. While words and resolutions are inadequate, the convention of the Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church of America assembled in Des Moines, Iowa, wants those who have lost loved ones in the war to know that our sympathy goes out to them. May God give them spiritual strength to bear the loss.

II. Resolved that the convention of the Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church of America assembled in Des Moines, Iowa, June 18-23, 1946, condemns universal military training

in our nation and other nations; and we believe that drastic reductions in arms must come by all the great powers, and that all efforts should be directed toward this end. We believe that this can best be done through the United Nations and urge untiring efforts in that direction.

III. The convention of the Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church of America views with satisfaction the active part many of our returned servicemen are taking as leaders of our congregations.

"A Source Of Strength"



Some months ago the Rev. Marius Krog of the St. Stephen's Church, Chicago, was approached by the G. V. C. Jubilee Fund Committee about the possibility of a play to stimulate interest in the Jubilee Drive. The result was a dramatization of the daily life at Grand View College in a play called: "A Source of Strength." This play was very ably presented to the convention guests Saturday evening, June 22, at Des Moines' East High School by the Young People of the St. Stephen's Church. The large audience welcomed this "out-of-the-ordinary" way of spending an evening during convention.

Just as the dull rooms and halls of G. V. C. need the students to make the College a thing of beauty and inspiration, so this play. As one person expressed it: "The play itself makes rather dull reading—but,

when it is interpreted as the St. Stephen Young People did, then it comes alive."

The settings were superb. The "ahs" from the audience as the curtains parted on the scenes of the front entrance and the bay window attested to this. Splendid artistry and craftsmanship!

Since the purpose of this play is to stimulate interest in the G. V. C. Jubilee Drive, it was so written and the scenery so constructed that any of our church communities can present it. We urge you to contact the Rev. Marius Krog, 8500 Maryland Ave., Chicago 19, Ill., for particulars. A resume of the play was presented in the last issue of Lutheran Tidings, therefore we shall not repeat it here.

Thank you Chicago-ites for this inspirational evening.

Our Women's Work

W. M. S. Business Meeting

June 21, 1946

Luther Memorial Church

Friday evening at seven o'clock quite a large group of women met at the church for a short business meeting.

Mrs. H. Egede, the chairman of our W.M.S. executive board, presided. After the hymn: "Take my life and let it be" she welcomed the group of convention guests present and in a few words expressed her forward-looking faith in our cause.

The minutes of the previous convention business meeting were read by Mrs. H. Strandkov, assistant secretary. Miss Yrsa Hansen, our secretary, was unable to be present due to a recent hospitalization. The minutes were approved as read. Mrs. C. B. Jensen, our treasurer, then read an itemized report. Our treasury is in very fine shape. Almost \$3,000 have passed through the treasury the past year and we begin the new year with a balance of over \$800. A thank you was expressed to the women for their generosity and devoted efforts.

After the reading of the W.M.S. constitution, Mrs. Egede called upon our editor, Mrs. Petersen and the district representatives for a few remarks. Six of the representatives were present, namely Mrs. A. Kildegaard Jr., District I, Mrs. Svend Holm, District II, Mrs. H. Strandkov, District III, Mrs. Caroline Jorgensen, District V, Mrs. J. Lerager, District VII, Mrs. A. V. Andersen, District IX. Each responded with a few words about their activities. While none boasted of any achievements there was no feeling of discouragement, and most of us wished there might have been more time for general discussion.

We proceeded to elections. The vice-president, secretary and treasurer were to be elected for two year terms. Mrs. Aage Engelbreth and Miss Yrsa Hansen, the present vice-president and secretary respectively, were re-elected by acclamation. Mrs. C. B. Jensen, incumbent, and Mrs. Alma Nielsen, were nominees for treasurer. Mrs. Jensen was elected. Mrs. V. S. Petersen was re-elected editor by acclamation. Several of the incumbents expressed a desire for a change. As they said: By holding office, you are not only serving a cause; you discover a joy and an interest that is a wonderful stimulant; more women should enjoy this opportunity.

After a few remarks regarding program material, we were forced to rather abruptly conclude our meet-

ing as the bell was calling people to the evening meeting.

Saturday noon, after dinner, the executive board, the district representatives and other interested parties assembled for a short business session. Here it was decided that the offering received at the formal W.M.S. program Thursday evening, would be sent to Lutheran World Action. It was also decided to give \$100 to the Santal Mission and \$100 to the new parsonage in Pasadena. Several suggestions were made for future projects. We were aware of many needs. May our hearts be ever ready to spread cheer and comfort. Let us walk with the Master

"in lowly paths of service free"

"in work that keeps faith sweet and strong".

Marietta Strandkov.

Financial Statement Of W. M. S., June 1, 1945, to May 5, 1946

Receipts:

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| Cash on hand June 1st, 1945 | \$ 828.94 |
| Gifts from Mission Societies, individuals and collections to General Fund | 1,004.41 |
| Contributions to Danevang Altar Fund | 1,251.76 |
| Total Receipts | \$ 3,085.11 |

Disbursements:

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Gifts to Missions, institutions and individuals | \$ 976.07 |
| Danevang, Tex. Cong. (altar fund) | 1,251.76 |
| Fylla Petersen (Women's Page) | 15.00 |
| Postage (Mrs. C. B. Jensen) | 6.13 |
| Bank Check Exchange | 5.60 |
| Journal | 2.81 |
| Stationery | 15.95 |

| | |
|----------------------------|--------------------|
| Total Disbursements | \$ 2,273.32 |
| Cash on hand May 5th, 1946 | 811.79 |
| | \$ 3,085.11 |

W. M. S. Evening At Our 69th Annual Church Convention

Thursday evening had this year been set aside for the annual W. M. S. meeting. When the bell in the church tower called, a large group gathered while Anna Christensen, the organist for the Des Moines Congregation, played for us. This prelude was followed by two songs sung by Dora Krog of Chicago. We were happy to have these young women open our meeting. They and many more of our girls will some day have to carry on the work of W. M. S.

After this music and a hymn by the audience Mrs. Hans Egede of Hampton, Ia., our W. M. S. President, bid us all welcome. As Ida Egede stood before us, I was thinking to myself "She is a Miller both in looks and in words". The Peter Miller family was a large one. Members from the third generation of this old

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Hampton home are now active in our church work. From homes such as theirs come the pillars of our missionary efforts.

We listened to two good talks during the evening. Rev. Holger Strandskov spoke first on "Missionary Vision and Our Women". Rev. Ove Nielsen later centered his talk on the modern phrase: "They are expendable". Both talks had been well prepared and we were thankful to the speakers for not only an interesting but a profitable and helpful hour's good listening.

Our pioneer W. M. S. worker, Mrs. Knudstrup from Manistee, greeted us between the two above mentioned talks. I think Mrs. Knudstrup's cup runneth over with joy as she notes the progress of the work which she and her friends started almost forty years ago. Mrs. Knudstrup is still one of W. M. S.' best workers, and we were so happy to have her with us again at this convention.

Before closing, the usual offering was taken at this meeting as well as at the one held in the college auditorium. This gift amounted to \$191.00 and some cents and the W. M. S. Board later decided to give it to L. W. A.

Rev. Alfred Sorensen said a closing prayer, and we sang Kr. Østergaard's song, "Lord We Want to be Thy Servant", which has always been a W. M. S. favorite.

The meeting was almost closed, when our convention guests from Denmark, Mrs. and Mr. Frode Hasseris, came forward and very beautifully sang for us two of Ingemann's morning and evening songs. I am sure that the lovely old tunes and words brought forth memories of our childhood or maybe of happy hours spent with our own children.

F. S. P.

W. M. S. OFFICERS:

MRS. IDA EGEDE, President,
Hampton, Iowa

MISS YRSA HANSEN, Secretary,
Aurora, Nebraska

MRS. AGNETA JENSEN, Treas.,
1604 Washington St.,
Cedar Falls, Iowa

MRS. FYLLA PETERSEN, Editor,
2351 Chilcombe Ave.,
St. Paul 8, Minn.

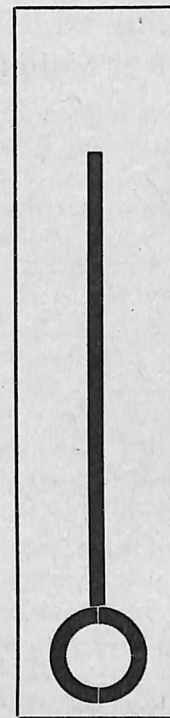
VALBORGSMINDE



Our Old People's Home, Des Moines, Iowa

Grand View College Jubilee Fund Thermometer

GOAL
\$100,000.00



Receipts
To
July 1: \$77,886.13

(Received and
pledged at the
Convention
\$10,117.00).

This Is God's World

This is God's world, and I am
Only tenant here;
All I have and all I see
Are mine to love,
And to revere.

This is God's world, and I
Cautiously must dwell;
Grateful for the joys I find,
Must cherish them,
And guard them well.

Thus, today is God's day
Loaned that I may use
Hours of sunshine for my toil,
That joy and cheer
May ripen and diffuse.

And I must prove worthy,
Grateful for these hours
Filled with happiness and joy,
With song of birds,
And scent of flowers.

Dare I not to harbor
One unhappy thought;
Dare I not to waste or lose
One moment here
His mighty plan has wrought!

Eva Tifft Yeager-Wilson,
Estherville, Iowa.



HAROLD PETERSEN, Editor
Ringsted, Iowa

VOLUME XXXVIII

July 5, 1946

No. 6

TO OUR YOUTH

The Beginning Of The "More Perfect Union"

The Fourth of July is a good day on which to recall the twelve years of dissension, compromise and adjustment that intervened between the Declaration of Independence and the day when the Constitution of the United States was finally ratified. Recalling these difficulties in forming a government of, by and for the people, Americans may feel less impatient with the disputes currently besetting the United Nations. For those thirteen states in the new world, united in war, held together their union in peace and after a long and bitter debate created a government to which all its people could subscribe. They could do this because what united these former English colonies was stronger than the forces which tended to divide them.

Even at that early date, these peoples, though overwhelmingly British in origin, were in fact American—as we understand the term today. Dutch, French, Germans, Swedes, Negroes—like the British—had already begun to weave their cultures, their folkways into a new pattern of life—an American pattern that conflicts of sectional or economic interests could not destroy. And colonists and adventurers of other origins—Finnish, Danish, Norwegian, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, Swiss, Ukrainian—were here as advance guards of some of the immigrations that were later to unite in one nation men and women of all national origins, races and creeds.

There was even a foreign language press in existence in those days, and the story of the eminent German printer who announced the ratification of the Declaration of Independence in his *Staatsbote* a day ahead of the other Philadelphia newspapers will always bear repeating.

The Declaration of Independence itself bears witness that the present pattern of American life had begun to develop in the 18th century. Two of the signers were of non-British origin. The name of John Morton, descendant of a settler from Sweden, stands out with special prominence. (He is claimed also by the Norwegians and the Finns). John Paca, another signer, is believed to be of Czech descent. (The Italians also claim him). Four signers were actually "new" Americans—that is, they were not born in America but in England or Scotland.

Hastening the victory that made independence a reality were such brave and distinguished men as Lafayette, Rochambeau, De Kalb, Von Steuben, Pulaski, Kosciuszko, Kovats, Febiger, who came from France, Bavaria, Prussia, Poland, Hungary, Denmark to fight for the ideal of the equality of man, and, on the home front, Robert Morris and his aide, Haym Solo-

mon, a Jew from Poland, raised the money desperately needed by the Continental Congress for prosecution of the war. All these men spent their lives and their fortunes, sometimes both, for the new nation.

While the Revolutionary War was still going on, the thirteen colonies, like the United Nations, formed what they hoped would be a firmer union. They wrote out a set of principles—the Articles of Confederation—under which a central government was set up. But this government had no executive to enforce the laws made by Congress, no judicial power by which it could settle disputes between states, and one state could veto a law favored by all other twelve.

At last it became clear that a new set of principles must be drawn up, and in 1787 a convention was called to write a Constitution that would live. Ratification by nine states was required to put it into effect, and though ratification from states that feared a strong central government came slowly, this epochal instrument for "a more perfect union" was ratified in the next year. Even then the people were not satisfied until they received a written pledge of their personal liberties—a pledge that was written into the Constitution of the United States three years later, in the form of ten amendments known to all Americans as the Bill of Rights.

Since then the American government on every level—town, county, state and national—has been constantly adjusting conflicting interests. But Americans have learned that the way they built—and are building—their federal Union is the only way by which free men can hope to build a free nation, with liberty and justice for all. This way is the democratic way, the way of the town meeting, the committee room, the legislative hall. It is the way of understanding, of continued slow but steady adjustment by those whose higher interests unite them more firmly than their lesser interests divide them.

This is the way the United Nations have begun to follow—the democratic way that Americans have made work for themselves. The United Nations also can learn to make the democratic way work—because in this atomic age every member of the United Nations has a compelling reason to see that it does work—a reason that in time must override every other national interest.

—Common Council.

Every human soul has the germ of some flowers within; and they would open, if they could only find sunshine and free air to expand in. I always told you that not having enough of sunshine was what ailed the world. Make people happy, and there will not be half the quarreling, or a tenth part of the wickedness there is.—Mrs. Child.

OUR CHURCH

Rev. O. S. Jorgensen who the past three years has served Trinity Church in Chicago was installed as pastor of St. Peder's Church, Minneapolis, Minn., on Sunday, June 30th. As Rev. Jorgensen begins his pastorate in Minneapolis at this time he can in the very near future observe the 25th anniversary of his first pastorate in the same church beginning there in the summer of 1921.

Rev. Alfred E. Sorensen spoke Tuesday evening, June 25th, in the Bethlehem's Church in Cedar Falls, Iowa, on his way from the convention in Des Moines to Seattle.

Mrs. H. P. Schmidt, Menominee, Mich., died Sunday morning, June 9, in her daughter's home in Muskegon, Mich. Mrs. Schmidt had been failing in health for some time, and it had been her wish that she might be permitted to leave this earthly home on the day of Pentecost, as did her husband, Mr. H. P. Schmidt 20 years ago. Some of her children had been home to visit her a few days before, and apparently her condition was improving. But on the early morning of Pentecost day she passed on into the great beyond.—Funeral services were held on Wednesday, June 12th, from the Menominee, Mich., church of which Mr. and Mrs. Schmidt had been faithful members through many years. Rev. Viggo Hansen, pastor of the church, officiated, assisted by the two pastors, Alfred Jensen and Marius Krog, who through many years have been members of the Schmidt family.

Dalum, Alta., Canada—The annual "Sommerfest" will be held in the Dalum church Sunday and Monday, July 21 and 22. Rev. Alfred Sorensen of Seattle, Wash., and Rev. M. Jorgensen of Standard, Alberta, will be the guest speakers.

"Midsommerfest" in Dagmar, and Volmer, Mont., was well attended again this year during Friday, Saturday and Sunday, June 28-30. Rev. Ove R. Nielsen, Perth Amboy, N. J., and Rev. Holger Strandskov, Dwight, Ill., were the guest speakers.—Mr. Arnold Knudsen of Cozad, Nebr., student at Grand View college this past year, is teaching vacation school in Volmer and Dagmar during the summer.

Rev. Marius Krog and family motored to Marquette, Nebr., after the convention in Des Moines. Rev. Krog was scheduled to speak in the Kronborg church on Tuesday evening, June 25. He was scheduled to serve the church in Badger-Hetland, S. D., on Sunday, June 30. Rev. Krog formerly served both the Kronborg, Nebr., church and the Badger-Hetland, S. D., churches.

Rev. Svend Kjaer, Salinas, Calif., and his family visited in the Fredsville, Iowa, congregation and in the Dwight, Ill., congregation immediately after the convention in Des Moines. Rev. Kjaer

preached in the Fredsville church on Sunday, June 30, and in the Dwight church on Sunday, July 7. Rev. Kjaer formerly served both these churches.

Davey, Nebr.—The Bethlehem's Church of Davey, Nebr., was destroyed by fire Monday night, June 17, after being struck by lightning. By the time the fire was discovered it had gained such headway that there was no chance to save the building.—The Davey congregation had recently called Rev. Gudmund Petersen who was ordained during the convention in Des Moines and for the first time in many years, the congregation was looking forward to having a resident pastor with regular services in their church.—It is the wish of many that the Davey congregation may soon be able to rebuild its church, and as expressed in a greeting by the synodical president from the convention in Des Moines, we hope that there will be many fellow congregations in the Danish church that will be anxious and willing to extend a gift toward the rebuilding of this church.

Prof. Frode Hasseriis will be available through the months of July, August and September as a guest speaker from Denmark. Prof. Hasseriis spoke several times during the convention in Des Moines and those who heard him can heartily recommend him. Prof. Hasseriis also speaks the English language fluently and as such is able to give his lecture in English where this may be preferred.—Mrs. Hasseriis will accompany her husband, and in addition to the address Mr. and Mrs. Hasseriis will offer a program of music and song. Write to Dr. Johannes Knudsen, Grand View College, who will arrange the itinerary for Prof. Hasseriis.

Convention Notes

Dr. Christopher Hagen, member of the Lutheran Free Church, will soon be leaving for the Santal Mission field to take up the work in the hospital where Dr. Erling Ostergaard served through many years while he was in Santalistan. Dr. Hagen, who is a medical doctor, attended the convention in Des Moines and spoke at the Santal meeting Wednesday evening in Luther Memorial church. Dr. Hagen gave a challenging address on the need of the Mission field.—Rev. B. A. Helland, who also soon will be going back to the Santal Mission field, was also scheduled to speak, but was prevented from being present. Rev. Helland experienced the tragedy of the Chicago La Salle Hotel fire, but he escaped with only minor effects from same.

Pastor Ingstrup Mikkelsen, secretary for Danish Seamen's Mission in Foreign Ports from Denmark, spoke to the convention on Saturday afternoon. He related some of the history and the problems connected with the extensive field work of this Seamen's Mission. He made an appeal for continued support of the Danish church toward the Seamen's Mission in New York City.

It is the plan of his office in Denmark to work toward the placing of a full-time pastor in the Seamen's Mission in New York.

Rev. Ingvard M. Andersen, superintendent of Eben-Ezer Mercy Institute, Brush, Colo., arrived Friday, June 21, at the convention. Rev. Andersen brought greetings from the Eben-Ezer Institute and gave a brief presentation of the extensive field of work of the Institute. He brought greetings from Dr. N. C. Carlsen, and the convention of the United Evangelical Lutheran Church in Blair which he had also attended.

Pastor Riis Højgaard from Denmark spoke Thursday evening during the convention in the Grand View College auditorium. He related many and varied experiences from his activities in the resistance movement during the German occupation of Denmark, and his trials during the weeks and months spent in a concentration camp.

Rev. Enok Mortensen, synodical Historian, had arranged a very interesting exhibit, consisting mostly of pictures of the pastors that have served in the Danish church since the 1870's. The work of Rev. Enok Mortensen was recognized by the convention in the passing of the following resolution: "The work of the Historian is a work of love which is deeply appreciated. The committee encourages Pastor Enok Mortensen to continue his research and collecting." The following was also recommended: "that suitable space at Grand View College be allocated for the Historian's collection of books, papers and other historical material, when mutually satisfactory arrangements can be made."

Erik W. Modean of the Department of Information, National Lutheran Council, New York City, was present during the entire convention. He reported from the convention to the daily papers of Des Moines, and our convention was given a fine publicity, a total of more than 100 column inches in the two Des Moines papers throughout the week, as well as shorter items in other papers throughout the state. Mr. Modean also reported to Religious News Service which in turn serves most church papers throughout the nation.

Election Results: Rev. Alfred Jensen was re-elected as president; Viggo Nielsen, Bridgeport, Conn., was elected as trustee (Herluf Hansen, Clinton, Iowa, who has served through a number of years declined re-nomination); Rev. Edwin E. Hansen, Racine, Wis., and Mrs. Axel Holst, Cedar Falls, Iowa, were elected as members of the Council of Elementary Religious Education; Rev. Harris Jespersen, Clinton, Iowa, was re-elected as member of Committee on Publications; Rev. Ernest D. Nielsen was elected as superintendent of Children's Home in Chicago; Board of Education, Rev. C. A. Stub; Greenville, Mich., (re-elected); Treasurer of Pension Board, J. K. Jensen, Chicago, (re-elected). On the Committee on Church

Relations Rev. A. E. Sorensen, Seattle, and S. Dixen Sorensen, Dwight, Ill., (both re-elected); Santal Mission Committee, Mrs. Ernest Nielsen (re-elected); Superintendent of Old People's Home in Des Moines, Peter Lund, Des Moines, (Alfred C. Nielsen, former superintendent, declined re-nomination); convention chairman for 1947, Erling Jensen, Ames, Iowa; assistant convention chairman, Rev. A. E. Frost, Waterloo, Iowa; convention secretary, Rev. Ernest D. Nielsen, Chicago; and assistant convention secretary, Ellen H. Andersen, Chicago.

The Daily Bible Hour and Devotions held each morning were in charge of various pastors. (The complete program appeared in the last issue of Lutheran Tidings). Evening meetings were held each evening both in the Luther Memorial church and in the College auditorium, and on Sunday morning worship services were conducted both in the church and the auditorium. We have not been able to report on these numerous messages. We hope to be able to bring throughout the summer some of the sermons and Bible Hour meditations in the columns of Lutheran Tidings.

Salaries—The convention adopted the following resolution: "This convention urges the congregations of our Synod to raise the salary of their pastors commensurate with the financial ability to pay."

The salary of the synodical president was raised to \$3,000 annually.

Many Greetings came to the convention by letter, telegram, orally, etc. We are unable to mention all of these. The convention secretaries were instructed to answer each written greeting.

Invitations For 1947 Convention were extended from the Solvang, Calif., congregation and from Bethania Church, Racine, Wis. Although there were but a few votes difference, Racine, Wis., received the majority vote and consequently the 19.

Meals Were Served during the entire convention in the large gymnasium and in the College dining rooms. We congratulate the Des Moines people on the very good meals served, and on the efficient arrangement in housing the several hundred guests.

Troy Couple Married Sixty Years

The ordinary wedding jubilee celebration has been more than surpassed by Mr. and Mrs. Hans H. Frederiksen who celebrated their sixtieth wedding anniversary recently. Both are in good health and spirits after a full life together which began back in 1886 in Denmark.

Mr. Frederiksen first came to this country in 1883 to earn enough money to return to his native land to marry his sweetheart, whose maiden name was Anine Pedersen.

His return to Denmark enabled the couple to be married April 26th, 1886 in Skjeby, on the Island of Fyn. Two days after the wedding, the couple sailed to America and arrived in New York May 14th and in Lansingburgh (Troy), May 16, where they have since resided.

Mr. Frederiksen was employed by the Rensselaer Valve Company for 38 years until his retirement about four years ago.

Active throughout their lives, Mr. Frederiksen, whose long-standing hobby is chess, finds the game as engrossing as ever and his wife keeps busy with Danish foods and pastries, for which she is well known. Mr. Frederiksen's summer-time hobby is chopping wood at their summer home in Petersburg, about 21 miles from Troy. For many years he has also kept a diary in Danish.

The Congregation of Immanuel

Danish Lutheran Church, of which Mr. Frederiksen is the oldest member, gave the couple an anniversary party in the church parlors. They were also guests two nights before at an open house party at the home of their only son, Hans H. Frederiksen, in commemoration of their diamond anniversary. They have two grandchildren, Mrs. Burton Mosher of Johnsonville and Mrs. Donald C. Mealy of Ithica, N. Y.

In addition to bringing his wife to America he also aided other members of his family to reach the United States.

A Friend.

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For the younger group (age 12-14½) July 29th-August 3rd. For the older group (age 14½-16) August 5th-11th

Write For Program

Scholarships

As previously announced Grand View College will offer ten freshman and five sophomore scholarships of \$50.00 each for the next school year. They are available for young people from our church who are at or near the top of their class. Applications accompanied by two recommendations must be returned before July 15th. Write for application blank.

J. Knudsen

Grand View College
Des Moines 16, Iowa.

NEW ADDRESS—If you move, then write your name and new address in the space provided. Be sure to state what congregation you belong to. Clip this out so that the old address is included and mail to AMERICAN PUBLISHING CO., Akov, Minn.

I am a member of the congregation at _____

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Write for Catalog — Johannes Knudsen