

Lutheran Tidings

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The Rev. Alfred Jensen, President of the Danish Ev. Lutheran Church of America, breaks ground for the new Chapel Springs Sunday School of the St. Stephen's Danish Lutheran Church in Perth Amboy, N. J., during the 75th anniversary observance of the congregation.—The little boy is Arthur McClellan, one of the boys from Raritan Township who will attend the Chapel Springs Sunday School.

It is on the Faith of Many That We Must Build

By Ove R. Nielsen

We know what faith is but we don't know how much there is of it. That is why we hesitate to respond favorably when it has been suggested that we establish some new thing for the extension of the church, or for its more effective service to mankind through hitherto untried channels.

Most of us know that we have some faith but feel that it is not enough for any great undertaking. Hence we get up and express our reluctance. We are quite certain that others have no more faith than we have.

We are very probably right in our assumptions. It is entirely probable that the quantity of faith of any one person does not vary too much from that of any other given person in our churches. But we are overlooking something very vital. We fail to take into account that very little has ever been built on the faith of only one person. It always has and always will require the faith of many. And a little faith by each of many persons may well prove to be a great quantity of faith.

Bishop Monrad once expressed the thought that each mother has a quantity of love for her child. Pitting the love of one mother against the world and its hate would make that love seem little indeed. But when we combine all the love of all the mothers in the world, the result is a great quantity of love.

The same holds true in faith. Whereas the quantity of faith by any one person may not be enough to accomplish any great thing, the combined faith of

many may even exceed the amount of faith required for the proposed undertaking.

When Jesus was awakened by trembling disciples on a rough sea, he cried out to them: "Oh ye of little faith!" Yet these same disciples of **little faith** had enough faith to establish the church of God. Through their fellowship in the Holy Spirit they had a very great combined faith.

The reason we feel humble and our faith seems inadequate when we are called upon to be the instruments for the extension of the church, whether through synodical effort, or by our own local church, may well be that we have not learned to appreciate and to evaluate the combined faith of many believers, even though each one's faith may be little enough.

Humanity has always sought men and women of great faith. Often it has waited for some such prophet to come forth to lead it out of darkness and despair. But very often humanity has had to wait too long for such men and women. The price it has paid for waiting has been tremendous. It has not understood that the combined faith of many might have served its cause even better than the great faith of any one person.

Just as the apostles built through fellowship and combined faith, so we can build today. Even if each one of us has only a little faith, together we have a great deal. We shall have enough faith to extend the Church of God, and to carry out His great purpose.

Lutheran World Convention, Lund, Sweden

JUNE 30-JULY 6, 1947

By A. E. Farstrup

This past summer, from June 30th to July 6th to be exact, delegates from nearly all of the Lutheran Church bodies in the world, gathered at Lund, Sweden, for a meeting to discuss their common problems and to set up an effective agency for their solution. The only large Synodical body not present was the Synodical Conference (Missouri Synod) from the United States. Inasmuch as the undersigned was in Denmark for the summer he was asked to attend the meeting on behalf of the Danish Lutheran Church in America. His report is hereby presented to the membership of the Synod, in the hope that it may still have interest and value though several months have passed since the end of the conference.

Lund In Its Historical Setting

Lund is an ideal city for a gathering such as met there this past summer upon the invitation of the Executive Committee of The Lutheran World Convention. Being a University town, slightly larger than Cedar Falls, Ia., it has good facilities to house the delegates as well as excellent auditorium space for the meetings. In addition to this it has historic background. In 1103

it became the seat of the first Bishopric of the North, including Greenland and Iceland. Its imposing cathedral is over 800 years old. The interesting thing about Lund is that even today it has a position of leadership within the circles of Christian theology, being the home of the much discussed Lundersian school with such great names as Anders Nygren and Gustav Aulén in the vanguard. In addition to all this it has the advantage of being located in a country that in no way had felt the ravages of the war. One might almost call it, or all of Sweden, an oasis in the desert of ruin and hopelessness that much of present-day Europe is.

Lutheran World Federation

In a sense, this meeting has been given the wrong name. It was not really a meeting of The Lutheran World Federation. It was a meeting of The Lutheran World Convention in which had centered the movement to promote greater unity and cooperation among the Lutheran Churches of the World. The first Lutheran World Convention met in Eisenach, Germany, in 1923, the second in Copenhagen in 1929 and the third in Paris in 1935. A fourth meeting had been scheduled

for Philadelphia in 1940, but the outbreak of World War II postponed this meeting indefinitely. During the interval between 1935 and 1940 the Executive Committee had been working toward the establishment of a more closely-knit organization to co-ordinate Lutheran efforts throughout the world. After the cessation of hostilities in 1945, the Executive Committee met in July, 1946, in Lund, Sweden. Dr. Ralph Long has described this meeting in these words: "Looking squarely at the staggering problems which confront the Lutheran Churches along with all Christendom, the Executive Committee agreed that it was absolutely necessary to strengthen the ties that bind it together and develop the world organization to a greater degree of efficiency." In this manner it came about that a new constitution was adopted at the meeting this past summer and the Luth. World Convention became officially a Federation of The Lutheran Churches represented at the meeting. For the information of those who read this I should perhaps, at this point, insert Article III of the constitution, which deals with the nature and purpose of the L. W. F.

1. The L. W. F. shall be a free association of Lutheran Churches. It shall have no power to legislate for the Churches belonging to it or to interfere with their complete autonomy, but shall act as their agent in such matters as they assign to it.
2. The purposes of the L. W. F. are: (a) To bear united witness before the world to the Gospel of Jesus Christ as the power of God for salvation. (b) To cultivate unity of faith and confession among Lutheran Churches of the World. (c) To promote fellowship and cooperation in study among Lutherans. (d) To achieve a united Lutheran approach to ecumenical Christian movements and to common responsibilities in missions and education. (e) To support Lutheran groups in need of spiritual or material aid.

It will be seen from the above quotation that the basic purpose is one of **coordination**. This can not be too strongly emphasized in view of the fact that fears have been expressed that the step taken at Lund might lead in the direction of the establishment of an organization that might have authority beyond that of the various Synods, a sort of new "Rome" shall we say! But I must get back to my task of reporting the meeting!

Communion Service

The meeting began with an impressive Communion Service in the cathedral. The hymns were printed in three different languages; Swedish, German and English (which was the official language of the convention). The sermon was preached by the Chairman of the Executive Committee, Archbishop Erling Eidem of Upsala, who had taken as his text the words of Paul to the Christians in Colossae in which he admonishes them to "put on, as God's elect, holy and beloved, a heart of compassion, kindness, lowliness, meekness, long-suffering; forbearing one another and forgiving one another . . . and above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfectness." It was a greeting especially adapted for a gathering such as the delegates to the meeting in Lund comprised. Here were gathered people from 33 different countries, some of whom had been bitter enemies, nationally speaking, not very many months before. The poison of hatred

and suspicion had filled the air about these people. Now we were gathered in the atmosphere of love and forgiveness. I believe we all went to the Lord's table. As we left the altar we went away with the greeting: "Our Lord Jesus Christ, whose body and blood ye have received, preserve you unto everlasting life! Go in the peace of the Lord!"

Immediately following the Communion Service we went to the Assembly Hall of the Students Building at the University of Lund, where the business meeting (Plenary Session) was called to order by Bishop Eidem, who displayed an outstanding ability to lead the meetings in such a manner that all of us felt at ease and free to express our opinions. His sense of humor and gracious tact eased many a tense situation and helped us to remember who we were and what we were gathered for. Some time was consumed by the report of the Credentials Committee (the usual rigmarole of getting such meetings underway) whereupon the delegates were assigned to one or another of three Study Sections who were to work under the general theme: "The Lutheran Church in The World Today." The assignments had been made in advance of a special Committee, to avoid the flocking of all the delegates to one or two of the sections. Three problems were to be discussed by the Study Sections. Preparatory work had been done, and a report submitted in advance by a committee that had been at work for over a year. Commission Nr. 1 (preparatory work done by a Scandinavian Committee) was to consider the topic: "Confessing The Truth In A Confused World," (a) The Word of God. (b) The Sacraments (c) The Church; its nature and function; Relations to Ecumenical Movements, other Churches and the State.

Commission Nr. 2. (Preparatory work by an American Committee) was to consider: "The Luth. Church Performing Her Mission in a Devastated World" (a) Evangelism and Stewardship through Education Publications, Organizations and Lay Institutes. (b) Foreign Missions (c) Helping One Another (Inner Missions, Samaritan Institutions, Reconstruction work, etc.).

Commission Nr. III dealt with the Church "Facing the Problems in a Troubled World." (a) Materialism, secularism, nihilism, the decline of morals. (b) Race relations. (c) Refugees and displaced persons.

The Study Sections appointed to consider the report of the above named Commissions, met for two hours every afternoon, and sometimes in the evenings. Changes were made in all the reports before they were submitted to the Plenary Sessions for final adoption. The final report will appear in the official report from the meeting and it is impossible in a relatively short report to bring a complete analysis of

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them. As your delegate I was assigned to Study Section Nr. III and took part in all its meetings. Since the reports of Commissions I and II were reported with but minor change, I shall first give a short resume of what happened in Section III where the original report was replaced by an entirely new document which was adopted by the Convention. The thinking which led to this is indicative of the spirit which prevailed at the whole meeting and therefore has more than passing interest.

Findings of Study Section Nr. III

Commission Nr. III, made up of German scholars and leading churchmen under the chairmanship of Bishop Lilje of Hannover, presented a very thoroughgoing report which set forth the reasons for, and the development of secularism, materialism, etc. After the report had been read it soon developed however, that the Study Group which had the report under consideration had expected more than an analysis of the situation. Several delegates, most of them from the United States, expressed the opinion that at a time when the world is groping its way toward a new day, the Church ought not merely to point to the reasons for the darkness, but ought rather to set forth a clear and positive statement that would act as a guide and directive for a bewildered age. This point was most effectively pressed home by Prof. Nolde of Gettysburg Seminary in Philadelphia, who proved of inestimable value to the meeting with his intimate knowledge of the reconstructive efforts of the United Nations organizations and The World Council of Churches. Several others joined with him in an attempt to break the traditional Lutheran tendency to be neutral with regard to matters political. The ensuing discussion brought to light an interesting fact with regard to the German delegation. While the older delegates seemed very reluctant to move in the direction of a more activist attitude toward the problems of the day, it was evident that the younger leaders did not agree with them. They were keenly aware of the Lutheran Church's tendency to support the state, almost to the point of subordination to the state, and felt the urgency of proclaiming that, to use the words of the report later adopted: "The solution of the complex problems of society requires a refinement of human relations to which the Christian message is directly relevant. The benefit of Christian insights for a world society of order, justice and brotherhood, can be placed at man's disposal. If the Churches want to speak effectively in this area they must speak concretely."

The result of the criticism of the report was that Bishop Rohde of Lund, who was our chairman, appointed a committee of five to work out a new statement. An entirely new document was the result. It met with the approval of the Study Section, and with minor changes and after much criticism by older German delegates, was adopted by the Plenary Session. This does not mean that there was a break with the German delegation for Bishop Lilje in a very moving speech thanked the special committee, and especially the American members, for saving the meeting from a charge of negativism. A few sentences from the report will give the gist of the final statement.

Two truths are emphasized as basic to any Christian approach to the problems of an ailing world:

1. Through repentance and faith in Jesus Christ, man is restored to his rightful relationship with God. In this relationship he becomes convinced of an individual responsibility which no person or party can assume for him. His dignity as a man is secured. A true fellowship is established which will survive every adversity of life or death and open the way to a joy which passes human understanding.
2. From the vantage point of this fellowship with God, man sees himself and his relations with his fellow men in a new perspective. His illusions vanish. He is impelled to struggle for a fuller expression of God's will. He knows that he does not fight alone. God will ultimately prevail.

In extension to these truths follow eight principles which must be brought to bear upon society through the witness and work of the Church. They are worth listing for they answer the question: What does the Lutheran Church say about the problems of the day?

1. The rights and freedoms of man must be recognized and observed in society. (cfr. Nr. 4)
2. Men and nations live under the law of God.
3. Racial discrimination and persecution must give way to brotherhood on the basis of mutual understanding, respect and helpfulness.
4. Every person has the responsibility to contribute to the highest standard of community life.
5. Every nation must yield a measure of national sovereignty in the interest of a common good.
6. The processes of international collaboration must be strengthened.
7. More effective measures must be taken to remedy impartially the devastation and dislocation resulting from the war.
8. Reconciliation must become a consistently operating principal in human relations.

Findings of Study Section Nr. II

I have mentioned the findings of Study Section Nr. III more extensively than I shall mention those of Sections I and II because they express to my mind, the one point, aside from the urgent and important problems of reconstruction and refugee aid, the one point at which this Lutheran World Convention diverged most sharply from the previous meetings of a similar nature. But let me go on now to a summary of the findings of the other two Study Sections.

Section II, concerned with the practical problems of the Church, addressed itself to four questions: (1) How should the Church equip herself for her special task in the world of today? (2) How should the church continue today to carry the Gospel to the unevangelized nations? (3) How should the Church minister today in serving love to people who are in special human need? (4) How should the Church as a whole extend help today to her weakened parts?—The final report should be read by all our church people, but let me state briefly the results of their work in the form of the resolutions adopted by the Plenary Session on the basis of their report:

"Resolved, that the Executive Committee be authorized to promote the widest possible cooperation of Lutheran Churches throughout the world in rendering assistance to mission fields whose normal support is temporarily interrupted, to the end that all Lutheran mission fields may be preserved during the present emergency period, and returned to the agencies formerly supporting them as soon as they are again able to assume their support and control.

Resolved, that The Lutheran World Federation request its member churches to encourage, as soon as practicable, the formation of united Lutheran Churches in the various mission fields.

Resolved, that the L. W. F. encourage all member churches to give earnest consideration to measures intended to develop a larger measure of activity on the part of the laymen of the church.

Resolved, that we call upon all our churches to give continued and increasing attention to their youth programs."

With respect to the suffering of refugees and expelled persons, in various parts of the world the following was adopted:

Resolved, that we call upon all our churches to intercede before the throne of God on behalf of these our brethren and to give generous support to all efforts of our church to bring them spiritual and material help; and that we request the Executive Committee of the L. W. F. to aid as far as possible in alleviating their sufferings, in devising emigration and resettlement plans, and in safeguarding the religious life of those displaced persons who belong to the household of our faith.

To implement these resolutions, for the situation calls for more than words, the meeting created the following departments and Commissions to be directed by the Executive Secretary of the L. W. F.:

1. A Dept. of Missions. 2. Dept. of Work on Behalf of Displaced Persons and Refugees. 3. Dept. of Relief. 4. Dept. of Youth Activities. 5. Dept. of Social Welfare.

This is an ambitious program and many may wonder if it is not too cumbersome a machinery for the Lutheran Church to establish. It is my opinion that we cannot conscientiously do less in view of the conditions that exist for so many of our fellow Lutherans in various parts of the world. Not only in Lund, but from time to time in Denmark I met people who had been in the Mission fields during the war years. Their gratitude to American Christians for the help they had given during those years, in a material way, was boundless. I mention this because we, who are so far away from the ravages of war, can so easily forget or grow tired of the appeal for help. The cries for need are not spun out of thin air. They are based on the terrible predicaments of thousands of people like ourselves. Remember this when you are asked to give to Lutheran World Action!

Findings of Study Section Nr. I

Let me also report the findings of Study Section Nr. I, which dealt with the topic "The Truth In A Confused World." Its report was prefaced with the words from Luther's 62nd thesis against indulgences (1517). "The true treasure of the Church is the most holy Gospel of God's glory and grace." Theologically speaking the report was a restatement of traditional Lutheran doctrine with two exceptions. One, a greater emphasis on the Gospel than upon the Law; the other, an emphasis on the necessity of relating the Gospel more concretely to the situation of modern man. A quotation will illustrate this:

For the New Testament, as for the Reformation, the message of Christ and the Kingdom of God that came through Him, was the true treasure of the Church and that which gave Christian preaching its power. If we ask what has rendered Christian preaching in our time so impotent, the answer lies chiefly in the progressive secularization in recent centuries, which

has increasingly obscured the thought of the New Age. This has meant in fact an extraordinary limitation of vision. Step by step human life has been compressed within the confines of this present world. THIS world, THIS age, has become the only reality men reckon with. This secularized outlook has established itself so that even theology and preaching have been unable to escape its paralyzing influence.

When men cease to reckon with the reality of the age to come, two fateful consequences ensue: First, the Christian message is distorted and reduced to a purely this-worldly affair; and secondly, life in this world is regarded as something with which God has nothing to do. In consequence the Word of God, both as Gospel and Law, loses its meaning. The Gospel is conceived simply in terms of achieving psychological harmony. The Law is conceived as a means for the attainment of this harmony, or as containing certain this-worldly principles for personal and social living. Whereas for primitive Christianity and for Luther, God was concerned with the whole of human life, so that there was strictly speaking, no secular sphere, men have today widely accepted the secular view. They have lost the perception that God intervenes and carries out His work in the very midst of human life. It is as if God were concerned only with the religious facilities of man. Religion has become one department of life among others. This false conception has given rise to distorted notions of the Lutheran view of Life in this world. It underlies, for example, the theory of the autonomy of secular life and the secular idea of vocation; and it is responsible not least for the misinterpretation of the doctrine of the "ordinances" given in God's creation and also of Luther's doctrine of the two Realms, which is alleged to sanction the self-glorification of the State.

The great merit of the Reformation is that it took seriously the message of the gospel that God in Christ has really intervened in our human life and that through Him a New Age has been begun. The task of the Lutheran Church at the present time amid the confusion caused by the secularization of thought and life, is seriously to reconsider this message and present it in all its fullness.

The Business Sessions

In closing let me say a few things about the actual business sessions of the meeting. We met for two or three hours every day to consider the matters reported by the Study Sections and to pass upon the matters brought up by the Executive Committee for our decision. As I have stated the most important piece of work done at the meeting was the adoption of the new constitution, which I, as your delegate signed on behalf of the Synod. This constitution joins together the churches represented in a Federation. (The signing of the constitution was accompanied by the disturbance of Movie Cameras and News Reel companies, much to the disgust of some of our European friends, who look with critical eyes to the American weakness of wanting to utilize everything for publicity purposes). What will come out of this step remains to be seen. It is at least a beginning and experience may prove that much was left undone and some things could just as well have been left undone. But the motives of those who gathered were not, I believe, those of a desire for more power and influence. Rather a desire to be more effective in carrying out the tasks that lie at our door today.

Election of Officers

The election of officers took up the greater part of one period. It led to the election of the following:

From the **United States**, Dr. Aasgaard of the E. L. C., Dr. Ralph Long, Nat'l. Luth. Council, Dr. R. A. Wentz, Gettysburg Seminary and Dr. Franklin C. Fry of the U. L. C. **From Scandinavia**, Dr. Anders Nygrén, University of Lund; Archbishop Aleski Lehtonen, Finland; Dr. A. Th. Jorgensen, Denmark; and Prof. Smemu of Norway. **From Germany**, Bishop Hans Meisser of Munchen; Prof. Sommerlath; Bishop Beste, Schwerin; Bishop Hanns Lilje of Hannover. **Other countries**, Dr. Charles Delbruck, France; Bishop Lajos Ordass of Hungary; Pastor J. Lakra of India; Archbishop T. Grinbergs of Latvia representing the Baltic Exiled Churches.

As President of the Lutheran World Federation for the next five years we elected Dr. Anders Nygrén of Lund inasmuch as Bishop Eidem did not wish to continue as President. These men will direct the activities of The L. W. F. during the next five years. It will be their task to organize the work which the meeting this summer decided must be done by the Lutheran Churches of the world. They will undoubtedly make mistakes but I came away from the meeting with a great deal of confidence in these men and though there might be details to criticize about the manner in which the meeting was organized, it is my belief that we of The Danish Lutheran Church in America should support this work to the utmost of our ability. Not because we have created an organization, but because the needs which we minister to are real. Again and again missionaries have asked me to thank the members of our Synod for the great help they have received through Lutheran World Action. It was a matter of life and death for many of them that we sent our gifts, and after having talked to the representatives of the exiled and refugee churches—esp. those from the Baltic States—I realize what a tremendous challenge the Churches of America have been given. "A certain man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho . . ." In a sense the Church in America is that man. God pity us if we emulate the priest and the Levite and leave our smitten brothers in the ditch alongside the road travelled by the hosts of mars!

Across The Editor's Desk

A Lutheran World Action Bulletin came today direct from the New York office to the editor's desk. It had an abundance of information in regard to the present conditions in Europe, and also a report on the two-year Lutheran World Action drive, which all our congregations have had a part in and which will come to a close on December 31.—93.8 per cent of the proposed goal has been reached by the combined forces of the eight participating Lutheran bodies. However, our synod is still lowest on the list, having reached only 75 per cent of our quota.

The comparatively small sum of less than 4 cents per week from each confirmed member of our synod, or a total of \$4 for the two year period, is the "supreme sacrifice" we have been asked to make in order that

thousands and thousands in the war-stricken countries of Europe might have at least some help in the midst of the tragedy and chaos into which they have been thrust. When we stop to consider to what an extent the American people live in luxury, and in careless manners spend dollar upon dollar for non-essentials, then we can not permit this appeal to go by without answering with at least the minimum help asked from us.

We know that many individuals and also some congregations have given more than their share. But we challenge the attention of all our readers with this plea: No individual, nor any congregation has the moral right, and far less the Christian right to come to the end of this calendar year "without having met the full quota. If the pastor or church board of a congregation have not been able to carry out the program, we believe there are individuals in every congregation that can give the needed boost by offering their service in contacting each individual in said congregation, that has not yet given to the Lutheran World Action Drive the meagre sum of 4 cents per week for the 1946-47 period.

You have undoubtedly read in the Nov. 5th issue of L. T. the "Letter from a Pastor's daughter in Germany." This letter reveals the tragic conditions of a family deprived of home, brother and son, separated from father and husband, and trying to exist on the most meagre food rations, hoping for a faint possibility of a brighter future someday.—One case of thousands.

We hope that you also read the article in the same issue entitled "Pray Send Me Something To Eat," telling of the little boy who came home from school highly elated because he had had a bowl of porridge in school, this provided through funds that had come from your Lutheran World Action contributions.

Permit me to quote briefly from this last Bulletin in which Dr. S. C. Michelfelder, one of America's leading and best known Lutheran pastors, who is giving his time in the Relief work in Europe writes:—"It was the same everywhere. One could sum up the observations with one remark: It can't get any worse. It is remarkable that the human body can stand so much. One Australian officer from Berlin said: 'I have seen donkeys and horses break down under conditions where men and women continue to survive.'—Seeing the people of a bombed city disappear into cellars and ruins and climb out again the next morning seemingly rested and refreshed is more than I can explain—." Dr. Michelfelder concludes his report in this October Bulletin with this appeal: "I write this appeal, not with tear jerking sentimental appeal but as a Christian pastor who wants to minister in the name of the world's only Saviour, Jesus Christ. I send these words as a preacher who pleads with America for mercy and justice and a still greater demonstration of Christian love. Believe me, won't you, the hour is late. The crisis may soon come, and then it will be too late."

We have the faith that Christians of America will not fail.

District II Convention, Ludington, Michigan

SEPT. 26-28, 1947

The pastors and delegates and guests were given a warm welcome as they gathered at Bethany Lutheran Church in Ludington for the 1947 district convention which opened Friday evening, September 26. While the activity of the convention actually began with an informal meeting of the district pastors Friday afternoon, the opening meeting was held in the church Friday evening with Rev. Svend Holm of Grayling in charge of the regular worship service. The messages during the meeting followed the convention theme—"A Living Church in Christ." Rev. Holm's subject was "A Living Church in Christ is Sustained through Worship." The meetings on Saturday began with a Bible Hour led by Rev. Holger Jorgensen using the subject, "A Living Church in Christ is on Guard."

The annual business session of the convention was called to order by Rev. Holger P. Jorgensen, district president, at 9:45 a. m. The enrollment of delegates was the first order of business. This original enrollment together with subsequent enrollment during the business session found the following present and eligible to vote:

DETROIT: Mr. and Mrs. John Emanuelson, Peter A. Schmidt, Mr. and Mrs. Chris Jensen, Miss Dora Sorensen

GRANT: None

GRAYLING: Mrs. Leo Jorgensen, Mrs. Laura McCleod

GREENVILLE: Carl Petersen, Milo A. Johnson, Mrs. A. P. Hansen, Mrs. Leroy Jorgensen, Mrs. Olga Carlsen, Emma Larsen, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Miller, and Mrs. Maren Madson

JUHL: B. P. Christensen, Holger Rasmussen, Cecil McWilliams

LUDINGTON: Robert Matthews, N. J. Christensen, Mrs. Shoemaker, and Geo. Christopherson

MANISTEE: Thora Hansen, Reeta Norden

VICTORY: Carl Petersen

MUSKEGON: Mrs. Wm. Nielsen, Mr. and Mrs. Mortensen, Mrs. Eklund, Mrs. Ellen George.

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Wm. Nielsen, Thos. Knudstrup

PASTORS: Svend Jorgensen, Svend Holm, Holger Jorgensen, C. A. Stub, Richard Sorensen, John Christensen.

The secretary's report of the 1946 meeting was read by the convention secretary, Rev. Richard Sorensen, and approved. Rev. Holger Jorgensen read his report as president of the district with the various items in his report being considered in their respective places on the agenda.

A letter from the president of the pension fund, Rev. Arthur Frost, was read and filed. A lengthy report from the president of the synod, Rev. Alfred Jensen, was now read by the convention secretary. Items in this report were also discussed as they appeared on the convention agenda.

At this point Rev. Jorgensen asked for discussion on the synodical budget of which District II's share is \$3950. Very little discussion ensued, so further consideration of the matter and distribution of the amount amongst the congregations was left to the allocations committee. Consideration of Lutheran World Action contributions followed. Reports to the convention indicated that two congregations (Grayling and Juhl) had already met their 1946-47 quota while others had met their quota in varying degrees, ranging from 10 per cent in the case of Detroit to about

96 per cent in the case of Muskegon. The Detroit pastor explained that their congregation had only met 10 per cent of its quota because local members had given generously to the support of Danish War Relief. It was announced that the 1948 Lutheran World Action quota would be figured at \$1.50 per confirmed member. The district president urged all delegates to push sincere efforts in their home congregations so that all 1946-47 LWA quotas can be met by December 31.

The detailed report from the work of the campsite committee with supporting documents from the State Health Department was read by the committee chairman, B. P. Christensen. Following this reading a general discussion followed with many expressing views pro and con in the matter of purchasing a district campsite. The discussion was closed when a motion was made, seconded, and passed "That the district president continue in existence by his appointment a 5-man committee to investigate the possibilities of purchasing a central site for district activities and to arrange and put into effect a plan for financing same." The motion was also passed that \$100 be taken from the district treasury as a starting campsite fund. Later in the meeting this motion was reconsidered when it was discovered that the district funds were limited. The substitute motion was then passed voting \$50 from the district treasury to the campsite fund.

In the absence of Miss Helen Stub, district representative at the International Sunday School Convention at Des Moines, Iowa, last July, her written report was read by Rev. Stub. In recognition of the excellence of this report it was voted that the district should have copies of the report mimeographed and distributed to Sunday School workers in the district and to any others who might be interested. The convention voted to pay Helen Stub all her expenses in connection with her Des Moines trip, including travel, board, room, registration, and incidental. In order that consideration to problems in the realm of religious education might be considered further by the district in convention and throughout the year, it was voted to "create a standing Committee of Religious Education of three members—two laymen and one pastor—to be elected in alternate years for a three year term. This board shall work to find ways and means of giving assistance in the field of religious education to local work and to the district as a whole."

At this point the business session adjourned for noon luncheon. The afternoon session began with reports from the delegates of the work in the local congregations.

Mr. John Emanuelson from Detroit reported that local work there was rather quiet. Regular worship services were being held, but little activity in connection with the proposed building project in a new area, or with collection of quota shortages for G. V. C. Jubilee Drive and Lutheran World Action.

Mrs. Leo Jorgensen from Grayling reported steady progress in local work. Sunday School is growing; Ladies' Aid and other groups are active. During the year the name of the congregation was changed to the Grayling Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Mrs. Olga Carlson gave a detailed report of many active organizations within the five congregations of the Greenville parish. She also explained the problems encountered by a parish of this size. She reported that the congregation in the city of Greenville had received permission from the Regional Home Mission Council to build a new church in Greenville. Ingathering of funds for this purpose has begun.

The report from Juhl was read by Mr. Holger Rasmussen. The report indicated a steady growth in the size of the Juhl congregation and the scope of its program. Several major property improvements were reported along with plans for elaborate remodeling in preparation for the 50th anniversary of the congregation in 1948. The Juhl congregation was the only one able to report that it had met its quota in all current drives.

The report from Ludington by Mr. Geo. Christofersen indicated that the congregation is active, making steady progress and cherishing dreams and visions for the future. Convention guests could see evidence of several property improvements on church and parsonage.

Miss Thora Hansen reported struggles of the Manistee congregation to maintain life and worship despite the fact that it has no minister. Accomplishments and future plans were cited for the Sunday School, Ladies' Aid, and choir. The Manistee group was very much saddened to receive news of the illness of the prospective pastor, Rev. A. C. Kildegaard, Sr.

The Muskegon report was given by Mrs. Eklund. The Muskegon congregation could report a year of activity with regular worship in their fine basement church. Regular groups are active and flourishing with the exception of the young people. They reported growing plans and continuous ingathering of funds to complete the church sanctuary in the near future. They expressed sorrow at the thought of losing their present pastor in late November.

Carl Petersen reported the limited activities of the little congregation in Victory. He gave praise to the Ladies' Aid for its continued support of this congregation.

In the absence of the district treasurer, Chris Loding, the audited treasurer's report was read by W. C. Nielsen. He had been assisted in the auditing by Mr. Holger Rasmussen, appointed to substitute for Mr. Thos. Knudstrup.

Resolution One as submitted by the Resolutions Committee of the First Lutheran Congregation, Montcolm County, Michigan, was adopted as submitted with little comment. The resolution follows:

WHEREAS, the District Board now consists of three members, a President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer, two of which must be pastors; and

WHEREAS there is sentiment that there should be more laymen on the District Board:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board consist of

five men, namely, a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and one Trustee; and that the President and Vice-President be pastors and the secretary and the Treasurer and the Trustee be laymen; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the constitution be changed to conform with the above resolution.

Following passage of this motion Rev. Holger Jorgensen declared it to be the task of the new district board to prepare the detailed amendments to the constitution necessitated by the passage of this resolution.

Resolution Two recommending that the district by-laws be changed so that the chairman of the district convention shall be elected by the convention was rejected by the convention after several individuals had spoken in opposition to this motion.

The resolution from Grayling on which action had been postponed from last year's convention, requesting a change in the constitution in order to assess district dues on a contributing member basis, was lost.

Final resolution to be considered at the convention had been submitted by Mr. B. P. Christensen and Rev. Sorensen to create a District Activity Committee. The resolution was amended and adopted as follows:

WHEREAS, there has been felt and expressed an urgent need for additional district activities which may serve to strengthen the fellowship and inspire the membership with District II;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the District Board together with one representative from each congregation not already represented on the board by a layman serve as a standing committee to promote such activities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that each congregation elect its representative before each annual district meeting so that he or she can be prepared, if necessary, to meet with the entire committee during the convention, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the standing committee as a whole elect a three-man executive committee from its membership to execute the details of its planned program of district activities.

Several suggestions were given for the use of the Sunday offering. It was finally decided to give the entire offering to Lutheran World Action.

The chairman of the Sunday School Institute Committee, Rev. John Christensen, now gave a report of the committee's plans to hold an institute at Juhl, November 1 and 2, with Rev. E. Farstrup of Grand View College as the principal speaker. It was announced that this meeting would be open to all interested persons even though the matters under discussion might be of particular interest to the Sunday School workers.

At this time the convention voted to send a sympathetic greeting and flowers to Rev. A. C. Kildegaard, Sr. It was also moved to send telegraphic greetings to other district conventions in session this week-end.

At this point Mr. B. P. Christensen sought to express the opinion of several laymen that it was unwise and unnecessary to congregate so many of the ministers in Des Moines at the time when the ministerial shortage in local congregations is so acute. Several laymen and pastors took part in the discussion that followed. It was generally agreed that the situation was undesirable but unavoidable at the moment and a reflection of earlier shortcomings in homes, congregations, and schools of the synod.

The convention proceeded to election of district officers. Rev. C. A. Stub of Greenville was unani-

mously elected president when the convention assured him that the constitution does not prevent a layman and a pastor from the same congregation holding office in the district. Rev. Richard Sorensen was unanimously elected vice-president. In the vote for secretary B. P. Christensen defeated Chris Jensen of Muskegon, but the latter was then elected as trustee. It was moved that the president and secretary serve two year terms while the vice-president and trustee serve for one year in keeping with the resolution changing the status of the district board. The incumbent treasurer has an additional year to serve. In other elections Thos. Knudstrup was reelected a member of the Finance Committee for two years and Mrs. Olga Carlsen (3 years), Mrs. Delford Henderson (1 year), and Rev. John Christensen (2 years) were elected to the Committee of Religious Education.

A letter from the national president of DAYPL was read but discussion was very limited by a shortage of time. The hope was expressed that these matters receive more attention in future meetings.

A rising vote of thanks and expression of best wishes for the future were extended to Rev. Holger Jorgensen, who would soon be leaving the Michigan District which he has served as president for several terms.

An invitation from the Grayling congregation to hold the 1948 convention in that city was received and accepted with thanks. The meeting was then adjourned as the supper bell rang.

The Saturday afternoon business sessions were interrupted for two special events. During the early part of the afternoon a Laymen's Discussion Hour was led by Mr. B. P. Christensen with many layfolk expressing themselves on the subject: "The Layman's Part in Active Congregational Work." At the close of the discussion the group expressed a desire to make such discussions a regular part of the convention program annually.

Following afternoon coffee the convention guests formed an auto caravan for a delightful trip to visit the Epworth Camp Grounds and Ludington State Park.

Following supper Saturday evening the ladies of the district met for their mission meeting. Representatives from the various congregations reported on local work. Ladies were encouraged to give additional support to the Dormitory Furnishing Fund for Grand View College. Mrs. W. C. Nielsen of Muskegon was re-elected district chairman.

At eight o'clock Saturday evening the Ludington people presented a delightful program of choir, vocal and piano music as well as readings. This program was followed by Rev. Stub's challenging message on the subject, "A Living Church in Christ is Mission-minded."

The Sunday program began with Sunday School at 9:30 o'clock followed by the morning worship service with communion. The sermon was preached by Rev. Richard Sorensen on the subject, "A Living Church in Christ Calls for Decision." Rev. John Christensen had charge of the communion service which was well attended.

Sunday noon the Ludington ladies served another of their delightful meals which was enjoyed by a large number of guests. At 2:30 o'clock Sunday afternoon the group gathered for the final meeting at which Rev. Svend Jorgensen was the speaker using the subject, "A Living Church is Victorious." As this meeting came to an end the guests moved once again toward the coffee table for final greetings and good-byes. Shortly thereafter the last guests left Ludington a little tired but very much inspired and challenged by another successful meeting in District II.

Richard H. Sorensen,
District Secretary

District VI Convention, Diamond Lake, Minn.

OCT. 17-19, 1947

The annual convention of District VI was held at Diamond Lake, Minn., October 17-19, 1947.

The meeting opened Friday evening. Rev. Eilert Nielsen, the local pastor, welcomed all the guests that had arrived, and Rev. Marius Krog spoke to us, on the topic "Beauty in Life." After the meeting we shared in an hour of fellowship at the coffee table in the parish hall.

Miss Dagmar Miller spoke at the Saturday morning devotional period. She had chosen as her text the scripture lesson from John 5, 1-17. Following this service the president of District VI, Rev. Enok Mortensen, opened the business meeting with the roll call of delegates. The following delegates were present:

Gayville, South Dakota: Mr. and Mrs. Hans Miller; **Viborg, South Dakota:** Mrs. Niels Hansen; **Hetland, South Dakota:** Mr. and Mrs. K. V. Andersen; **Tyler, Minn:** Mr. and Mrs. Albert Jorgensen, Mr. and Mrs. H. P. Norgaard, Mr. and Mrs. Peter A. Nielsen, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Nielsen; **Ruthton, Minn:** Mrs. Andrew Petersen, Mrs. Alfred Petersen; **Diamond Lake:** Hen-

Black, Mrs. Carl Carlsen. Present were three pastors, Enok Mortensen, Marius Krog, Eilert Nielsen and missionary Dagmar Miller.

Rev. Mortensen was elected chairman of the meeting. In the absence of the District secretary the minutes of last year's meeting was read by Rev. Mortensen, and he also read the treasurer's report. Both were approved as read.

A greeting from our synodical president, Rev. Alfred Jensen, was read, as he was unable to be present at our meeting.

Rev. Mortensen reported on the work in the district. He extended a special welcome to Rev. Marius Krog who has moved to the Badger-Lake Norden congregation this past year. He expressed his concern over the shortage of pastors which has left the Viborg and Gayville churches without a pastor now for some time. Rev. Nyholm of the UELC, our sister synod, had served these congregations several

times this summer as well as the church of their own synod also in Viborg. — Statistics revealed an increase in membership in the district as a whole.

The chairman called upon the delegates for a report from each of the congregations. The following was reported: **Gayville:** Have re-decorated church basement and church pews; **Viborg:** Made some improvements; **Hetland:** Things going at a steady gait; **Diamond Lake:** Increase in membership, "Lord's Acre" plan used, and some improvements made; **Ruthton:** Considerable improvements made on church property; **Tyler:** Planning to move the church and to make certain improvements inside. The young people of the church are gathering funds for a new pipe organ; **White, So. Dak:** There was no delegate from White. Rev. Nielsen is now serving the White congregation twice a month and the church attendance has greatly increased. He had recently had a confirmation service there, the first in many years.

The chairman read from the synodical report and informed us that our district has a membership of 685 contributing members. For the coming year our portion of the synodical budget will be \$3,750.00.

A letter from the president of the Pension Fund, Rev. Arthur E. Frost, concerning the Pension Fund was read, and our congregations were asked to give their support to same.

The Home Mission work was discussed. A shortage of pastors makes it difficult for us to take up new fields of work, and also to help small congregations in expanding their work. We were urged to do our part in raising the new proposed Home Mission and Church Extension Fund, of which our district has as its quota for the coming year the sum of \$1,027 or \$1.50 per member.

The chairman appointed the following for the allocation committee: Rev. Marius Krog, Mrs. Niels Hansen, Albert Jorgensen, Mrs. Andrew Petersen, Hans Miller and Henry Black. And Albert Jorgensen and Henry Black were appointed to audit the Treasurer's report. Later the allocation committee reported that the sum from the synodical budget allocated to District VI had now been re-allocated to the congregations at the rate of \$5.47 per contributing member. It was at this time called to our attention that we had not as a district reached our quota to the Grand View College Jubilee Fund. The chairman urged all congregations to make a special effort in reaching same.

For the Lutheran World Action drive we had collected 81 per cent for the district. Several congregations were over the 100 per cent. Three congregations were still lagging behind. Our chairman urged all to have their quota collected before Dec. 31.

Rev. Marius Krog reported on the Young People's work. He spoke of a new enthusiasm that had been evident at a meeting he attended at New Ulm, Minn. The young people present had discussed vital topics and had asked many questions about the better and more worth while things in life.

The election of officers followed. The election results were: President: Rev. Enok Mortensen; Vice-Pres: Rev. Marius Krog; Secretary-Treasurer: Mrs. Carl Carlsen. This concluded the business meeting.

After a brief recess we gathered again at 3 o'clock to hear an address by Rev. Eilert Nielsen. He spoke on the topic "Tangents In Our Christian Heritage." He stressed that we had much to learn from other church denominations. He pointed out that what the Danish Church was in need of at the time when Grundtvig gave his contribution, we are in need of now.

After another recess where coffee was served Rev. Enok Mortensen spoke. He centered his address on the topic: "Our Christian Social Relations." As Christians we cannot evade the issues, and in several ways he pointed out the responsibilities we have as Christians in our present day world.—Supper was served to all our guests.

Sunday morning many gathered for the worship services. An English service was held in the church with Rev. Marius Krog delivering the sermon, and Rev. Eilert Nielsen conducting the communion service. Rev. Enok Mortensen was in charge of the Danish service held in the parish hall.

Sunday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock the W. M. S. held a short business meeting. Mrs. Eilert Nielsen, District Representative, was in charge of the meeting. Mrs. Alma Meyer and Miss Edith Sorensen sang two number for us. We were happy to have so many women present that we almost filled the church.

At 3 p. m. we gathered again and Dr. Erling Ostergaard was the speaker for the afternoon. He pointed out that it is now 80 years since Skrefsrud and Borensen started out as missionaries among the Santals in the jungles of India. It was interesting to hear about the difference in character of these two men, and the characteristics of the Santals as compared to other people of India. He also told about how the Santals have not only become Christians, but many have in turn become missionaries and have gone into regions where other white people are not allowed to enter.

This was the last meeting of the convention. In closing Rev. E. Mortensen thanked the speakers, the guests that had come, and the host congregation. It had been a good meeting. He expressed the hope that from inspiration received here we might go home more desirous of living "The Good Life." We sang another hymn and Rev. Mortensen offered a closing prayer.

Coffee was now served to about 200 people. Beautiful fall weather had prevailed throughout the convention and many had joined us for the Sunday which as usual made it the very festive day.

The Ruthton congregation had extended invitation for next year's meeting, and we hope to meet there for another good meeting.

Ane Carlsen, Sec'y

District III Convention

MARINETTE, WISCONSIN — MENOMINEE, MICH.

SEPT. 26, 27, 28, 1947

The District meeting opened on Friday evening with a regular worship service. Rev. Harris A. Jespersen preached the sermon on the text of Luke 16:6-11, "A lesson in humility and forgiveness." Rev. Viggo Hansen was the liturgist, assisted by the church choir. There was a capacity crowd at this service which was held in Marinette church. Many guests had arrived.

Saturday morning the devotional period was conducted by Rev. Edwin Hansen. He took for his text Rom. 1:14, 13:8, and John 10:16 and dwelt upon thoughts related to duty and love unto the oneness of the flock.

This meeting was followed by a discussion period under the leadership of Rev. Alfred Sorensen,—on the topic, "What Christian Stewardship Means Today." It would be interesting to set down as many of the ideas expressed as one can remember from this discussion. However, it goes beyond the scope of this report. I do want to emphasize the importance of such an exchange of opinion. It had the effect of setting thoughts in motion.

After lunch the business meeting was called to order by the District president, Rev. Edwin Hansen, who presided. Rev. Harris Jespersen was elected to serve as convention secretary. Roll call gave the following results. Dwight, Ill., ten delegates; Racine, Wis., nine; Marinette, Wis., two; Menominee, Mich., two; Trinity, Chicago, Ill., ten; St. Stephens, Chicago, Ill., three; Clinton, Iowa, one. All six pastors of the District were present making a total of forty-three votes.

The minutes of the 1946 convention were read by the secretary.

There was one correction to last year's minutes. It reads as follows: While it is perfectly legitimate, for the sake of the records, that the Dist. President calls attention to probable relocation of churches on the part of certain congregations within the District, be it understood that Trinity congregation of Chicago has made no formal decision to relocate.

The minutes were approved with the above correction.

Mr. Charles Lauritzen, the Dist. treasurer, submitted his report. It was accepted and placed on file.—The treasury showed a balance of \$204.63.

The report of the Dist. president followed.

Excerpts: (1) All the congregations of the District have paid their synodical dues in full. (2) Most of the congregations have completed or nearly completed their Lutheran World Action quotas. A few are woefully in arrears. The same is true for the Grand View College Jubilee fund. (3) Remarks about Sheffield, Ill., as a mission field for the District. (4) Remarks about the current synodical budget. (5) Remarks about youth work.

A previously appointed committee to examine the president's report submitted two points for discussion.

(1) The Sheffield mission problem. (2) The synodical

budget. Other items from the president's report were introduced from the floor of the convention and by the president.

After a brief discussion about the work at Sheffield the following decision was made: Because of lack of response from the Sheffield, Ill., congregation, it was moved, seconded and carried,—that District III relinquish the field as a home mission project of the District, and recommends that the Synod makes itself responsible for the future of the work there.

A rather lengthy discussion about the synodical budget took place at this time. Explanations were made for the fact that the budget is considerably higher than last year. Increased cost of publishing Lutheran Tidings, the religious education program at Grand View College and the pension fund are among the reasons. It was moved, seconded and carried that we gracefully accept the allocation of \$5250.00 for District III plus an additional sum of \$1338.00 for the Church Extension Fund.

At this time two points of discussion relative to the budget were introduced by Rev. Ernest Nielsen. (1) Budget must be presented to the national convention at or near the beginning of the meeting. (2) The fiscal year of Grand View College should correspond to the fiscal year of the synod. The synodical president informed us that next year the proposed budget would appear with the reports sent to delegates prior to the convention. After some discussion it was moved, seconded and carried that District III recommend that the fiscal year of GVC be changed to conform to the fiscal year of the Synod, and that this become a matter for discussion at the next annual convention.

Lutheran World Action was the next item considered. A great deal was said, especially by Rev. Alfred Jensen. The need of starving millions is beyond description. 71.6% has been collected to date of the synodical quota. Several congregations in District III are over the top, some near the top, others very low.

In the consideration of The Grand View College Jubilee Fund we learned that 87.5% of the synodical quota had been paid by the district, and that the standing of the congregations in this respect was the same, as to L. W. A.

A letter of greeting had been received from the pension board with remarks about the reason for more money being necessary for pensions. The answer is very simple—there are more pensioners. The board seeks our cooperation and good will in carrying out its purpose.

There was also a letter from the president of The Danish American Young Peoples' League, Rev. Richard Sorensen, asking for good will and a renewed realization of the fact that we are all working toward the same end.

At this time short reports from the congregations

were presented by the delegates. A summary of these reports, I believe, can be stated as follows: In general the work in the various congregations is proceeding very satisfactorily. Improvement is being made upon church property, and there is even some talk of building new churches. The many affiliate organizations of the congregations are supporting the work by both material and spiritual aid. This means that a large number of individual members are actively participating in the life of the church. The future is hopeful and bright.

At the end of the day some time was given to exchange of ideas about Sunday School work.

One man expressed his desire to see the Pastor become more comradly with the children and youth.

There was some discussion about the possibility of conducting workshops where you learn how to teach, and what to teach—and to become familiar with new types of materials for use in class work. The Chicago area of Sunday School Institutes was mentioned in this connection.

It was decided that the Sunday morning offering was to be given to Lutheran World Action, and credited to the district.

Dwight, Ill., is to be host to the convention next year.

Rev. Edwin Hansen was re-elected president of the district for a two year term.

The worship and communion services on Sunday were well attended. Rev. Holger Strandskov preached in the Marinette church, Rev. Alfred Sorensen spoke in the Menominee church. On Sunday afternoon Rev. Alfred Jensen spoke on a topic entitled, "Some Implications of Christian Stewardship." In the evening Rev. Ernest Nielsen's lecture was on the topic of "The Christian Hope." Both stirring messages.

Harris A. Jespersen, Convention Sec.

Square Heads on A Round Trip

By Ellen Nielsen

VI

We stayed in Göteborg a night and a day for the freighter with our car would be due any moment, and how nice wouldn't it be to drive our own car into Denmark? But not in Sweden. . . . In Sweden they have left-hand driving, and many cars . . . spanking new glittering cars. Dozens of times that day we plunged right to avoid oncoming cars and were brought face to face with irate drivers who said things in Swedish. . . .

The hotel was swank and new but with a lobby like a struggling dentist's waiting room, chill and bare and unimaginative. One took the "lift" oneself, a procedure which fills me with terror. Once I was locked into it with three well dressed Swedes who guessed my terror and told me I need not fear,

everything in Sweden was of the best, of the very best, one of the men said, hooking his cane over his arm and patting the knot of his tie. He didn't look like any of My Boys.

During the day we got word that the freighter had arrived but would not be able to dock that day, maybe for several days, no space being available. So, after negotiations with the Kongelig Automobile Club which promised to put our car on the ferry to Fresderikshavn as soon as possible, we began assembling our luggage for Denmark. From our hotel window we could see the trains coming and going, funny junkety little coaches pulled by a child's locomotive showing its pants. Out of the coach windows hung people thick as flies. Ah, I thought, refugees. . . .

Not so. For in due time we too became "refugees" and hung or stood or leaned and sometimes (ah, bliss!) sat in these dreadful trains in both Sweden and Denmark.

We had a lot of luggage. The taxi spilled us out at the depot. No porters, no "drage." My Man, suddenly American to the bone and tired of waiting seized an express wagon and took matters into his own hands. "Next time" begged Karla "get a wagon with an engine then we can go along."

Into the depot, down corridors, through the toll, through the baggage rooms we followed Niels like women at a wake. Once the corridor proved too narrow and we had to retreat while Niels backed and turned. It was very warm. Headlines assured us that on the morrow the heat would "kuliminere."

The train was an hour and a half late. When it finally pulled in we were to experience for the first time what seemed like a stampede; the hundreds of people waiting there all wanted to get on at once. We waited politely, while whole battalions got wedged in the narrow doorways, but suddenly Karla began heaving and pushing us. "This way!" she gasped, "Run!" We ran wondering why. "Follow me!" she cried and we tried, but far ahead of us she vanished into a coach. "What are we running for?" I asked Niels. "Because the others are, I suppose" he said crossly, his Jydsk *sindighed* already upset by the express-wagon ordeal.

But that, dear reader, is the way one travels in Sweden and Denmark. You run, you push, you burrow into coaches and then an hour before your stop you get up, haul down all your luggage and stand in the aisle ready to leap the moment the train stops. The trains in both countries are horrible. You sit three or four in a seat with knees touching and stare at one another. The trains, the depots, the waiting rooms are filthy beyond words. "C'est la guerre."

That isn't the worst. But just as you have become used to your coach and rather attached to the old battle-axe a loud voice coming out of the vestibule wall asks you to vacate said coach and take the next one or the fourth or fifth (apparently according to the mood of the speaker). You gather up your luggage again, your coat and hat (I bought a new hat in Fresno and have now carried it in my hand across the Atlantic Ocean and through Sweden and Denmark)

and either stagger through the narrow corridors through the coaches (meeting people who have been transferred to your coach) or wait until the train stops and run madly down the "perron" to the coach designated.

After the train and the ferry we were already so adept that we fell upon our luggage like well trained soldiers, each grabbing his allotment. We grabbed and ran through Sweden and Denmark.

At Helsingør we found, to our dismay, that the Swedes had forgotten to send our checked baggage along on the ferry. The train for Copenhagen was about to leave, it puffed and churned fussily and noisily. Should we go on, or wait and make sure our baggage would come? We were the only ones abroad in the delapidated depot. A man in uniform leaned over the balcony, watch in hand, and asked the crazy Americans to please make up their mind, the train could wait no longer. We decided to wait, it is dangerous to let baggage go careening around by itself these days.

It was after midnight. We were dead tired, dirty and hungry: refugees. We got a night-watchman to open up the waiting room for us so we could sit down and wait until the next ferry and train at 2 o'clock. But the waiting room was so indescribably filthy and reeking with such a horrible stench that we vacated it at once. In our wanderings we came upon the uniform with the watch again in his ticket office. Karla burst out about the waiting room. "Our Denmark!" she cried. "These Amerikaner have come thousands of miles, through great perils and expense to see our beloved Denmark and this (pointing to the waiting room and holding her nose) is their first impression of our country!"

The uniform now became a man, a Danish gentleman. With tears in his eyes he apologized for his depot, for twelve years he had begged the authorities for a new one, for **reparationer** . . . but no; only the other day they had celebrated their (I forget the date, 50 or 75) year jubilee and did anyone remember it? No, only that bouquet of flowers (pointing to a basket) had arrived, but please, we were now to make ourselves at home there in his lowly office, here, he said running and coming back, is a chair, and here and here, please to sit down; alas that he had no spirit lamp or he would make us a cup of coffee, be so kind, my friends, sit down. . . . He was a darling with his red full cheeks and distressed blue eyes. There in the dingy, horrible depot we had our first meeting with Danish kindness and "hjertelighed," instantly the building became swept and garnished and rejuvenated by his concern for our well being. Cushions were brought, my feet must rest on a "skammel" and if the young (!) Frue wished she could have the flowers too. . . .

Through the windows a brief night fell for a moment and was pushed aside, the next moment, by the pink blush of day. I was all mixed up; what had become of the night? Or had it been night some other place? Or had I slept through a night and not known it? No, it was the long northern day, all day and no night. . . . We rocked and talked. The depot

agent let me feel the sleeve of his uniform "That is the stuff we have now for uniforms, it is to cry, it does not hold a press, one cannot look **ordentlig**." No, one could not, that much I could see, the thin sleazy stuff was neither wool nor cotton. In Hammel I saw a depot agent in his shirt sleeves (though they dearly love a uniform) and his shirt was patch on patch; I stared at the intricate design wondering which was shirt and which was patch and came to the conclusion that nothing of the original shirt was left, it was like Jacob's many colored robe. . . . That ticket-agent touched my heart, he was so clean and handsome and proud and had long ago forgotten the state of his poor shirt, his very being denied that he wore patches, his very being dared me to notice it; **it does not exist, really**, his eyes said. And that, dear reader, dear American traveler with your trunks, your luggage full of your **nice** clothes; your pretty dresses (this one for afternoons, this one for evening, etc.) that is why you never unpack, that is why you never wear anything but the same blouse and skirt, that is why you try not to look well-dressed or to speak loudly or with too much assurance, because in a country where the national character does seem to have suffered some loss, some change, and where a peculiar "lige-gyldighed" seems to prevail there exists, too, the proud and kingly man in the patched shirt.

At two we boarded the train for Copenhagen. It screamed and tore through the night (I hope never to get on anything faster than the Danish Express); by mistake we got into a first class coach but no one cared, we were the only ones in it. It had upholstered settees, little tables and chairs and curtains. I wanted to set up housekeeping and dust and re-arrange the furniture but we were all so tired that we fell into the nearest thing at hand and slept and didn't sleep. After a while Niels and Karla began singing Danish songs; I lay thinking **you are in Denmark now**.

I didn't see anyone else get off the train but I was so weary and be-fuddled that I had double vision and either saw too much or too little. White clouds kept running across my path. It was after 3 o'clock in the morning.

Came almost an hour of battle with the customs man and the one remaining "drage" abroad. We had to have one of the suitcases for a change of clothing, for our night-clothes, for Niels' medicine. But it must **all** go through the customs at once and the man with the power of final O. K. was not there, would not be there until 6 that morning. Where was our luggage? It was on the **perron**. Then why not bring it here and we could take the suitcase needed and leave the rest? No, that could not be done, there was only one "drage" etc, etc. Much discussion. Could it be done? What was the procedure? Never before had anyone come in that time of the night wanting one suitcase out of all his other baggage. We all talked, we all urged. Finally, when the egg had boiled five minutes, Niels siezed an express trolley again and again took matters into his own hands. A cross porter and an astonished customs officer ran after him explaining that it could not be done. **By then it was done**. By then Niels had opened our suitcase, turned

it upside down and told the customs man where to put his seal. . . . Sheer hypnotism. Like a dazed sleep-walker the customs man slapped on his seal of O. K. and we staggered out through the empty, echoing station into the cool, early light of Copenhagen.

The city was sound asleep, there was not a person, a taxi in sight. Yes there was a person . . . a drunk, asleep on the steps. He woke up and gave us all sorts of inspired advice. A taxi? Ha! No such thing. A porter? Ha! Nobody works anymore.—Karla vanished down the street, Niels and the drunk had a spirited conversation and I sat down on my suitcase and fell asleep with my eyes wide open. This is Copenhagen, I said to myself, this is Denmark, you're

here, this is it. . . . But oh I was tired! Oh I was confused! Oh, how I longed for the superior emptiness of the ocean.

"The wind was in another country, and the day had gathered to its heart of noon the sum of silence, heat, and stricken time. Not a ripple spread. The sea mirrored perfectly all the nothing of the sky. We had to walk about to keep our eyes from seeing nothing, and our hearts from stopping at nothing. Then most suddenly we saw horizon on horizon lifting up out of the sea's edge a shining mountain sun-yellow and sea-green; against it surf flung spray and spume into the miles of sky. Somebody said *mirage* and it was gone, but there I have been living ever since."

(Blackmur)

Grand View College And Our Youth

GRAND VIEW SEMINARY

The cornerstone on the east half of Grand View college reads 1895. Since that time many Danish Lutheran ministers have received their education within these walls, for the purpose of the College was primarily to prepare men for the ministry in the Danish Church.

Perhaps a few changes have taken place since the days when the early Danes found a welcome home in this school. Fine fellowship and high standards are still encouraged, but the Seminary feels envious of the publicity given the rapidly expanding brother, the Junior College.

In that respect let me tell you about the Grand View Seminary.

The enrollment is small, as Gordon Miller of Gayville, S. Dakota, Arnie Knudsen of Cozad, Nebraska, and Walter Brown from Seattle, Wash., are the present three theology students. Gordon is completing his third year, the latter two are beginning the first year of Seminary work.

Three professors for three students is conducive to informal class hours of active discussion and teaching. Dr. Knudsen who attended Grand View College, University of Copenhagen and Hartford Theological Seminary teaches Church History. Reverend V. S. Jensen who also graduated from the Grand View Seminary, attended the Chicago Theological Seminary for his Bachelor of Divinity Degree and Drake University for his Master of Religious Education degree. The teacher who has taught the longest is Reverend S. D. Rodholm. He also graduated from this Seminary and then studied at the University at Copenhagen. His record shows that he taught here thirty years with the exception of a short period spent as chaplain during the first World War and a period of seven years as pastor in Askov, Minn.

To supplement the teachings of these men the use of Seminars held by the Lutheran church and other organized groups are attended by the seminary students. One was recently held in Des Moines and the faculty dismissed classes that we might listen to other capable speakers on present day religious problems. At the time this issue reaches your home we will be in Chicago attending a three day conference of seminary students from throughout the Mid-West.

Although greatly outnumbered among the Jr. College Students the Seminary men try to be as active in College activities as possible. One member serves on the U. K. board, others are interested in the International Relations Club and they attend the newly formed Science Club. All "theologs" work for harmony in the dormitory life and even suffer the humility of being put under the water pump at the school picnic for the closer fellowship and harmony that such an event can create among the students.

Recent intra-school competition was made when the Seminary students and faculty trounced the Jr. College in a lively baseball game. Pegasus, the weekly scandal sheet, was edited by "the theologs" one week-end. And the seminary students conduct "Andagt" services each Friday, Saturday and Sunday evening. The seminary students also try to add consolation to some of those who occasionally need help in depressing moments.

Although the condition of the seminary is not too strong, the future looks very hopeful. Next year, Rev. Axel Kildegaard, Jr., of Bridgeport, Connecticut, has been obtained as a new instructor. He has received his Master of Sacred Theology Degree at Yale Divinity School.

Several pre-seminary students are studying at other colleges while there are several interested pre-seminary students now in the Jr. College.

The seminary library is composed of over 1,000 volumes plus many current religious periodicals. With the easy access to the Jr. College library we have a great store of literature close at hand. New theological books are being added each semester, as funds are obtained.

As the busy world dashes on its way the seminary tries diligently to grapple

with the everyday problems which confront mankind. Through a liberal education, the teachings of past masters, the sage advice of competent instructors, and a faith in God the seminary students hope to someday take their place in society as active workers in the service of God and for the good of mankind. "One World" in which people can live free independent lives that will be happy and progressive is the aim of the fellows who study in the Seminary room on the second floor of Grand View College.

With the following words of Mr. Østergaard in our hearts, we go FORWARD.

"Shed on young hearts the light of inspiration,
That all good seed strike root,
Grow up and bear much fruit
Worthy of Thee, our homes, our church, our nation."

The Seminary,
Walter Brown,
Seattle, Wash.

OUR CHURCH

THANK YOU

The Nysted Congregation and Ladies' Aid wishes to express a sincere Thank You to all who attended the District Convention here, and a special Thank You to all who came to help during our work-fellowship week.

We all enjoyed working together, and the singing together in the evening and listening to the lectures by our pastor.

Your Co-workers.

Several articles, including a report from the Board of education are on hand, but will have to wait until next issue due to lack of space.

Omaha, Nebr.—Rev. A. E. Farstrup, Director of the Parish Education Course at Grand View College, was scheduled to be the guest speaker in the Omaha church Sunday, Nov. 9th.

Dr. Johannes Knudsen, president of Grand View College spoke at the Omaha Men's Club meeting Wednesday evening, Nov. 12th.

Trinity, Chicago.—The annual Lecture series was opened for the coming season on Wednesday evening, Nov.

19th, in the church parlors of the church with an illustrated lecture by Grant Halladay.

Hay Springs, Nebr.—The new church building was dedicated on Sunday, November 9th. The members of the various congregations in the Nebraska District were invited to attend the dedication and the fellowship throughout the day.

Salinas, Calif.—The annual Harvest Festival and Thanksgiving program will be observed on Sunday, Nov. 23rd, in the Salinas church. This program is held in connection with monthly Family Night beginning with a pot-luck dinner at 6 o'clock.

The Synodical Board met on Friday, Nov. 14th, in Des Moines for one of its regular meetings.

The Annual Home Mission Meeting was held in Des Moines, Iowa, Wednesday and Thursday, Nov. 19 and 20. The members attending this meeting consist of the District Presidents and the members of the Synodical Board.

Germania, Mich.—The Germania church basement has recently been redecorated. A special project by the ladies of the church at the present time is the collecting of layettes and used clothing for European Relief.

Hartford, Conn.—Rev. Kristian Tromborg, returned missionary from Santalistan, was the guest speaker in the Hartford church Tuesday, November 11th. Rev. Tromborg is visiting most of our congregations in the Eastern District.

Granly, Miss.—Rev. Verner Hansen who is taking post-graduate work at the University of Chicago was scheduled as the guest speaker in the Granly congregation on Sunday, October 26th. Rev. L. C. Bundgaard of Withee, Wis., served the congregation on Sunday, Nov. 16th.

Juhl, Mich.—The District Sunday School Institute was held in the Juhl church November 1 and 2 with Rev. Edwin Hansen of Racine, Wis., as the guest speaker. Rev. John Christensen of Ludington, Mich. and the local pastor, Richard Sorensen, assisted Rev. Hansen in the speaking program.

Seattle, Wash.—A Choir Concert was given in the Seattle church on Sunday day evening, Nov. 9th. The choir is under the direction of Mr. John R. Jardine.

A Men's Club has recently been organized, and the first meeting was held Tuesday evening, Nov. 11th.

The pastor's salary was raised at a recent congregational meeting to \$200 per month.

Pastor Rudolph Arendt of Vancouver, B. C., was the guest speaker in our Seattle, Wash., church on Sunday, Nov. 16th. On the same day the pastor of the Seattle church, Rev. Jens Kjaer, served the Vancouver church.

Ringsted, Iowa.—At a recent quarterly meeting the congregation voted to have English services regular every Sunday to be held 10:45 a. m.

The Danish services will then be held at the most convenient time according to the wishes of those who plan to attend.

At the annual Harvest Festival the congregation also gave evidence to the pastor, Leif A. Kirkegaard, of sharing a good harvest with a faithful worker by giving him and his wife a sum of \$1545.00 for a new automobile.

Dwight, Ill.—A Reformation Festival was observed Sunday, Nov. 9th. Rev. Alfred Sorensen, pastor of St. Stephen's Church in Chicago, was the guest speaker in the afternoon. Several guests from the two Chicago churches were present and also shared with their Dwight friends during the Fellowship supper served by the ladies after Rev. Sorensen had spoken.

Rev. Harris Jespersen served the Viborg, S. D. church Sunday, October 12. This being his former parish charge he was also called upon for a wedding and other pastoral duties during a three-day visit amongst many friends.

Dr. Erling Ostergaard, returned missionary from Santalistan, India, has accepted a position as physician at the Glen Lake Sanatorium near Minneapolis, Minn. He will consequently not be able to accept any further speaking engagements in behalf of the Santal Mission, except an occasional one in the vicinity of Minneapolis.

The Children's Home in Chicago had "Open House" on Sunday, October 12, and many friends called at the Home throughout the day. A total of \$1885.00 was given to the Home in gifts throughout the day. Two individual gifts were of \$500.00 each.

Denmark, Kansas — New gas furnaces installed in the floor of the church and the parish hall have been donated to the church by Mrs. C. C. Nielsen in memory of her husband, Mr. C. C. Nielsen, who with his family have been active and faithful members of the Denmark Church through many years.

Rev. L. C. Bundgaard, Withee, Wis., will conduct the Danish Radio service over Station WCAL, Minneapolis, Sunday, Nov. 23, 9:30 a. m.

GIFTS RECEIVED FOR THE TYLER CHILDREN'S AND OLD PEOPLE'S HOME

Mrs. Toby Christensen, Cedar Falls, Iowa	\$ 5.00
In Memory of Chris Hynding, Tyler, Minn. from friends in Tyler and Ruthton, Minn.	5.50
In Memory of C. A. Keller, Viborg, So. Dak. from friends	10.00
In Memory of Niels C. Christensen, Lake Wilson, Minn., from the Lars and Mike Larsen families, Lake Wilson	4.00
In Memory of Mrs. C. C. Sorensen, Tyler, Minn. from friends in Tyler, Minn.	5.00
Gift from Rasmus Nielsen, Tyler, Minn.	5.00
	<hr/> \$34.50

Gift from Harald Sinding, Ruthton, Minn. 50 bales of straw
Thank you for these gifts!

JOHANNES P. JOHANSEN,
Tyler, Minn.
Treasurer for the Home.

Acknowledgement Of Receipts from The Synod Treasurer

For the month of October, 1947

Towards the Budget:	
Previously acknowledged	\$3,932.15
Congregation,	
Perth Amboy, N. J.	169.06
Muskegon, Mich.	33.00
Manistee, Mich.	106.50
Menominee, Mich.	36.05
St. Stephan's, Chicago, Ill.	173.00
Racine, Wis.	247.94
Des Moines, Ia.	70.00
Askov, Minn.	185.36
Minneapolis, Minn.	83.85
Omaha, Nebr.	70.00
Los Angeles, Calif.	48.95
Seattle, Wash.	80.15

Earmarked Pension Fund:

Congregation,	
Detroit, Mich.	11.00
Wilbur, Wash.	25.00

HELP WANTED

Position open for Danish linotypist and composition floorman. If interested, write Lutheran Publishing House, 200 South Fifth St., Blair, Nebr., Attention: P. A. Magnussen, Mgr.

SUBSCRIBE TO

"THE UPWARD TRAIL"

New Publication of Danish American Young People's League
Written by Young People for Young People.

Send subscription price of \$1.00

(monthly paper from January, 1948) a year to:
Business Manager, Pastor Willard Garred,
170 Russ St., Hartford 6, Conn.

Mrs. Kathrine Nissen, Eben- Ezer Home, Brush, Colo. ---	1.00
Miss Alice Jensen, Minneapolis, Minn. ---	5.00
Earmarked Home Missions:	
Congregation, Dwight, Ill. ---	108.70
Sheffield, Ill. ---	5.00
Wilbur, Wash., ---	20.00
"In Memory of Rev. A. C. Kil- gaard." From the Confirma- tion class of Mrs. Kilde- gaard; Soren Hansen, Anna Green, Elsie Lauritzen, Jen- sen Andersen, Anna Chris- tensen, Frank Sondergaard, Hans Andersen, Jessina Lar- sen, all of Dwight, Ill. ---	15.00
"In Memory of Rev. A. C. Kil- degard." Mr. and Mrs. Harry Von Qualen \$5.00, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Lauritzen, \$3.00, Mr. and Mrs. Ehms Eskildsen, \$5.00, Mrs. Anna Green, \$1.00, Dwight, Ill. ---	14.00
Congregation, Dagmar, Mont. (Pres. Tra- vel) ---	15.00
Kimballton, Ia. ---	20.00
Misc. Sub. to Luth. Tidings ---	5.00
For Annual Reports:	
Congregation, Perth Amboy, N. J. ---	6.25
Grayling, Mich. ---	1.50
St. Stephan's, Chicago, Ill. ---	5.00
Marinette, Wis. ---	3.50
Racine, Wis. ---	2.25
Waterloo, Ia. ---	1.50
Cedar Falls, Ia. ---	2.25
Minneapolis, Minn. ---	3.90
Alden, Minn. ---	2.50
Askov, Minn. ---	5.00
Withee, Wis. ---	8.00
Diamond Lake, Minn. ---	2.00
Marquette, Nebr., ---	5.00
Earmarked Chicago Children's Home:	
Ladies' Aid, Argo-White, S. D. ---	15.00

Total to budget to date -----\$5,544.36

**Received for Items Outside the
Budget**

To Church Extension Fund:	
District IV Annual Meeting, ---	100.00
To Danish Seaman's Mission, New York, New York.	
Willing Workers of St. Peters Church, Dwight, Ill. ---	510.00
Annex Club, Seattle, Wash. ---	15.00
To Norwegian Seamen's Mis- sion, San Francisco, Cal.	
Willing Workers of St. Peters Dwight, Ill. ---	5.00

**Eben-Ezer Home, Brush, Col.
Congregation,**

Racine, Wis. ---	21.98
Oak Hill, Ia. ---	32.82
Alden, Minn. ---	13.40
Seattle, Wash. ---	35.95

Lutheran World Action:Previously received, (1946-
1947) -----\$42,813.31

Congregation,	
Hartford, Conn. ---	40.35
Montcalm, Co., Mich. ---	190.05
Detroit, Mich. ---	2.76
Menominee, Mich. ---	12.00
Marinette, Wis. ---	100.00
Racine, Wis. ---	152.50
Oak Hill, Ia. ---	35.60
Waterloo, Ia. ---	290.25
Denmark, Kan. ---	157.25
Dagmar, Mont. ---	65.00
Dalum, Alta., Canada ---	152.73
Salinas, Cal. ---	103.00
Junction City, Ore. ---	150.00
Seattle, Wash. ---	8.25
District II Annual Meeting --	87.00
District III Annual meeting --	88.11
District VI Annual meeting --	50.00
"Neighborhood Fellowship Service", Askov, Minn. ---	86.00
"In Memory of Mother: Mrs. Peter Buhl", Mrs. Cena Si- monsens, and Mrs. Gertrude Zach, Waterloo, Ia. ---	5.00

Total towards 1946-1947 bud-
get -----\$44,589.16**G. V. C. Dormitory Room Fur-
nishing:**Previously acknowledged ---- 1,109.59
Ladies' Aid, Argo-White, S. D. 10.00

Total ----- 1,119.59

**G. V. C. Jubilee Fund, cash
contributions:**Previously acknowledged ----\$71,285.56
Mr. and Mrs. A. Steffensen,
Detroit, Mich. ----- 6.25
Interest earned on bonds -- 263.16
From St. Stephan's Congrega-
tion, Chicago, Ill:

S. P. Bjerregaard -----	5.00
Miss Laura Boose -----	5.00
Dr. W. D. Dale -----	2.00
Thorvald D. Hansen -----	5.00
Mr. and Mrs. Peter Iversen ---	5.00
Mrs. J. C. Jacobsen -----	5.00
Mr. and Mrs. Aage Jensen ---	5.00
Andrew Jensen -----	20.00
Mr. and Mrs. Jens P. Jensen ---	5.00
Mr. and Mrs. John Jensen ---	2.00
Mrs. Thomas Nielsen -----	1.00
Miss Margrethe Ostrup ----	25.00
Miss Mildred Paagaard ----	10.00
George Petersen -----	2.00
Peter Sorensen -----	20.00

Total to date -----\$71,671.97

**G. V. C. Jubilee Fund, con-
tributions in bonds:--(matur-
ity value)**Contributions to date -----\$31,800.00
Correction to the August receipt list:
Under G.V.C. Jubilee Fund, cash contri-
butions:The entry, Mrs. Carl Olsen
and Mrs. S. P. Magnussen,
Clinton, Ia. "In Memory of
Herluf Hansen" ----- 100.00
Should be, From Friends in
Clinton, Ia., "In Memory of
Herluf Hansen" ----- 100.00
Respectfully submitted,Olaf R. Juhl,
4752 Oakland Ave.,
Minneapolis 7, Minn.

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 LUTHERAN TIDINGS, Askov, Minn.

November 20, 1947

I am a member of
the congregation at -----

Name -----

New Address -----

City ----- State -----

CLAYTON NIELSEN 6-1
DENMARK, KANS.

1948

DANSK ALMANAK

Redaktør Pastor Victor R. Staby, Kimballton, Iowa.

- Den eneste danske Aarbog
- Den sædvanlige Kalendar med Søndagstekstangivelserne
- Addresselist paa de dansk-lutherske Kirkesamfunds Præster
- Læsestoffet er af baade opbyggeligt, underholdende og historisk Art i kristelig Aand,

Indholdsfortegnelsen er delvis som følger:

Julie Saabye: Kom til Julefest—et Digt.
H. Skov Nielsen: Et Tilbageblik—paa Aaret, som svandt.
Dr. J. M. T. Winther: Min Far—til Erindring.
Theo. P. Beck: Paa Rejse—Oplevelse
C. M. Videbeck: Et Billede i Ramme—Fortælling fra Danmark

Pris, 60 CENTS i smukt Omslag

LUTHERAN PUBLISHING HOUSE

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Blair, Nebraska