

Lutheran Tidings

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Religious Education Week, Sept. 26-Oct. 3

(Note: This statement was written at the request of the International Council of Religious Education, Chicago, endorsing the 18th annual continent-wide observance of Religious Education Week Sept. 26-Oct. 3, in the United States and Canada).

Someone has said, "Christianity is always within one generation of extinction." This is not the statement of a pessimist but of a realist who recognizes the importance of winning the next generation to Christ and teaching our children the basic principles of the Christian faith. Surely this fact gives added significance to the celebration of Religious Education Week, September 26 to October 3.

In this day when so much that is basic in our Christian faith is challenged by an unbelieving world, our churches must redouble their individual and cooperative efforts to win our boys and girls and young people and train them in the principles that alone can maintain the faith and freedom that have made America great.

Theodore F. Adams, Pastor,
Richmond, Va.

I am pleased to know that the Protestants of this country will celebrate Religious Education Week again this year from September 26 through October 3.

In this period of the disintegration of many of our most stable institutions and ideas there is the greatest opportunity for the organized churches to take over the responsibility for the protection and perpetuation of those standards of conduct so clearly emphasized in the history of the churches, and so needed at the present time. There must come a revival of wholesome community and family life along the lines that have been the rule in our past history in the United States, or we will have lost for the world the greatest of human opportunities.

Ray Lyman Wilbur, Chancellor,
Stanford University California.

Greeting From Amsterdam

The First Assembly

The First Assembly of the World Council of Churches has now completed the first of the two weeks meeting begun August 22. The Council has been provisionally organized for ten years. It was permanently organized Monday forenoon when the Assembly passed a resolution adopting the proposed Constitution and Rules and Regulations. Thus was formed for the first time in history a cooperative association embracing 150 churches of 42 countries. There are only a few Protestant churches outside. But the Roman Catholic and the Russian Orthodox churches remain aloof also.

The significance of this unique development is not that it is a step toward obliterating or even ignoring differences among the member churches in doctrines and practices. Far less is it meant to imply the setting up of a super church to regulate these. The name: World Council of Churches means what it says: A meeting place, a forum, where representatives of member churches can meet once every four years to counsel together, to understand the thinking of

each other, to benefit from such understanding, to find a common basis for attitudes and action in concrete situations, to furnish through studies and information knowledge of and initiative toward solving some of the perplexing problems of the times. All this to many spell the word: ecumenicity, or the underlying unity of Christian churches appearing in various parts of the world as widely different in doctrines and practices. It can also be said to mean the emphasis upon the Gospel of Jesus Christ over and above the emphasis churches individually place upon their interpretation of the Gospel.

The Opening Session

One of the most spiritually and emotionally charged moments I have ever experienced was when the Archbishop of Canterbury opened the Assembly in the Nieuwe Kerk, the Cathedral of Amsterdam, Sunday afternoon by leading the 1,400 delegates, alternates, consultants and visitors plus a greater number of local people in the Confession of Faith, every one in his own tongue. I believe all felt and experienced at

that moment the oneness in Christ, and besides this the discords of traditions, division of organization, race, nationality seemed to lose their dominant note. John R. Mott, 83 years old, but representing a link with the distant roots of the movements bringing us together here, spoke movingly of his collaborators of the past, now gone to their reward. Two giants of former years, Archbishops Temple of Canterbury and Soderblom of Upsala, are always mentioned with greatest credit. Their widows are both here to share the culmination of the dreams of their husbands.

An Ecumenical Group

Another great experience was the address, one of four, delivered in the evening meeting in the Concert Hall (Concertgebouw) where all the meetings attended by all the members of the Assembly are held by Dr. Mackay, president of Princeton University. He spoke of the part played by the missionary movement in all parts of the world, leaving its leadership in the International Missionary Council. We found in the message of Dr. Mackay that aggressive missionary outlook toward action in winning individuals and countries for Christ, which has resulted in bringing the gospel of salvation to the ends of the earth and also brought representatives from the ends of the earth to this meeting. These so-called younger churches of China, India, Indonesia, Australasia, Japan, Philippine Islands, Ceylon, Siam, Korea, Abyssinia, Brazil, Egypt, East Africa, Rhodesia, West Africa and West Indies are in nearly all instances represented by native born bishops and leaders. When it is remembered that there are many subdivisions inside China, India, etc., and especially among the Orthodox churches of the Russian Refugee churches as well as Greece and the Near East and that all of these wear their colorful garbs and robes at all times, it will be understood that there is a certain glamour attracting people's attention to the Council's gatherings. But more than this, it must be said, the contributions to our discussions are enriched and often guided by these profound minds and hearts.

East Meets West

If anyone is still thinking that Christianity is a white man's religion, this experience should soon disillusion him. Miss Sarah Chakko from Lucknow, India, a Methodist from Isabella Thoburn College, both delighted and impressed the Assembly Thursday evening, when she addressed it, with her keen analysis of the India of today, skeptical of Christianity, prostrated by Western Imperialism, courted by Communism and awed by its newfound freedom. Rev. D. T. Niles from Ceylon preached the opening sermon Sunday and gave us all a thrill of inspiration and vision. In the sectional meeting as well as in the committee meeting, I am assigned to, the representatives of these far spread churches are listened to with as much benefit and respect as such intellectual giants as Karl Barth, Emil Brunner, Rheinold Niebuhr and such practical minds as Charles Taft and Ernest Brown.

One of the great moments of the Assembly came Tuesday afternoon when it was addressed by John Foster Dulles and Prof. Hromadka of Prague, Czechoslovakia. It gave us all an insight into the minds of the West and the East as far as the international

situation appears to two prominent Christian laymen. Hromadka defended the political situation in his country from the point of view of a Christian layman. Mr. Dulles had been emphatic in making it clear how utterly impossible was a bridge between Christianity and Communism. However, there was handshaking afterwards on the platform and cordial relations.

Gods Design and Man's Disorder

The general theme of the Assembly is: God's Design and Man's Disorder. This is again divided for study purposes into four sections dealing with each of the following topics in its relation to the main topic: The Church, Evangelization, Social Problems and International Problems. These meet in the forenoon. I am in the third section. To say that the discussion is interesting is an understatement. The questions of social disorders are analyzed and the task now is to come to some common mind on the subject. There is hardly a part of the world and of the Protestant and Orthodox churches not represented.

The afternoon is devoted to the study of the ongoing work of the World Council of four committees. These deal with perfecting the constitution and working regulations, administration, policies and concerns of the churches. This last topic is divided into four sections, dealing with the Church and the Jews, Women and the Church, Laymen in the Church and the last one which I attend: Reconstruction, Interchurch Aid and the Refugee Problem. The information and insight gained has been of tremendous importance, it seems to me. Practically all European countries are represented outside Russia and also some Asiatic countries. It now remains for each of the above sections and committees to write their reports and recommendations that is, find a common ground, then to present it to meetings of the whole Assembly beginning Wednesday for final general discussion and acceptance. I am sorry about two things: That I cannot participate in all the sections' and committees' meetings and that not many more of our synod's pastors and members can be here too.

There are at least two important committees besides the above. They are the Nomination's Committee and the Budget Committee. As finally completed the constitution of the World Council will call for a Central Committee of 90 members meeting once every year with the membership coming on a proportionate basis from all over the world. The officers to be chosen here with the help of a small executive committee will direct the day to day program of the Council.

Dutch Government Welcomes Assembly

The Assembly has been well received by the Dutch government at a reception held in the Rigismuseum, the place where much of the best Dutch art is displayed. Rembrandt, Van Gogh, Rubens and others. It was a well spent evening. The city of Amsterdam received us at another affair at the Royal Palace (where royalty resides only occasionally). Another much appreciated entertainment was an evening tour of the canals. These are in most instances lined by both streets, houses and trees decorated with bright electric lights in outline. There are innumerable

bridges and many were likewise lighted. The Assembly membership was the first to enjoy this tour with the lights burning since the war. The whole city is in the process of being dressed up for the celebration of the "crowning" of Princess Juliane when she takes over the reins of the government after her mother, Queen Wilhelmina. The streets are being decorated with red, white and blue streamers on a background of orange. Stores and public buildings are presenting extra displays of their wares or of the functions they promote. This week there will be processions through all the streets, Jubilee plays and various sports events in honor of the celebration of the golden anniversary of Queen Wilhelmina's accession to the throne.

A Tour of the Countryside

Holland is chiefly a country of farmers and cities carrying on trade and industry. Today, Sunday afternoon, Rev. Nyholm, Dr. Bernhard Christensen, Augsburg College, and myself had the pleasure of driving to several towns and through much countryside upon invitation of Arild Olsen, who is here with Mrs. Olsen and son Erik. It is superfluous for me to describe the thriftiness of the Dutch or the well tended herds of Holstein cattle, which simply seems to flood the green

fields and marshes. Everywhere also in Amsterdam the well balanced and even tempered Dutch disposition is in evidence. In anticipation of the coming celebration the people flock to the down town areas in the evening, walking up and down the streets filling these completely. Yet somehow, when bicycles and cars want to pass they are permitted to go through without any fuss or accident. It is simply amazing how people can adapt themselves to have these vehicles make their way through dense throngs.

Beyond All Expectations

The Assembly exceeds by far my expectations. I feel I will never have the opportunity of any experience equalling this. It is worth all the dullness of an ocean trip, the nuisance of traveling in Europe today with its idiotic customs and passport regulations, the perils involved in flying back to America, (even the absence of Middle West summer temperatures) and of being away from home for two months more than ordinary. My prayer is that I will be able to bring back to the people and churches of our synod a sense of what is transpiring here these days.

Alfred Jensen.

Amsterdam, August 29, 1948.

A Bible Story, A Picture, And A Hymn

It is John, the Apostle, who tells the story.—The name of the artist is unknown to me, but I have seen his picture, and it illustrates the story in a fine way: Jesus standing at the seashore, the five disciples sitting at his feet.—Harriet Beecher Stowe has written the hymn.

The story in its full length is recorded in the Gospel of John, the 21st chapter.—It was after the resurrection of Jesus that Peter and six other disciples went out fishing one night. Some Bible scholars find that Peter at this time had become so disappointed that he was ready to give up his apostleship. We do not know if this may have been the situation. But we do know that on this fishing trip nothing had been caught.—This had happened once before. At that time Peter explained: "Master, we have toiled all the night, and have taken nothing." This time we do not hear him say anything. When Jesus asked them: "Children, have ye any meat?" They answered him: "No."

The first time Jesus asked the favor of Peter to let him have his boat; this time he asked for his heart and love.

It was at the dawn of day that the disciples returned to shore and we may imagine that it was a beautiful morning. Suddenly as they were coming close to shore they saw someone standing on the shore and a coal fire burning at his feet. They did not at first know it was Jesus. He then advised them to throw out their net, and for the second time in their life they experienced a miraculous draught of fishes, this time 153 large ones.

As they saw this miracle taking place, it suddenly dawned on John that it must be Jesus standing there on the shore, and he said: "It is the Lord."—After bringing in the boat and the fish they had breakfast

with Jesus. Yes, he was then still with them, and cared about them. What a wonderful morning it must have been for the disciples, as they again shared food and fellowship with him.—In fact it was him who was giving to them. And now in that connection I want to mention the hymn I referred to:

"Still, still with thee, when purple morning breaketh,
When the bird waketh, and the shadows flee,
Fairer than morning, lovelier than daylight,
Dawns the sweet consciousness, I am with thee."

To be with Jesus and he with me. What a blessing!
The last stanza of the hymn voices that hope and prayer:

"So shall it be at last, in that bright morning,
When the soul waketh, and life's shadows flee;
O! in that hour, fairer than daylight dawning,
Shall rise the glorious thought, I am with Thee."

"When the soul waketh." That was what happened to John and Peter that morning by the seashore. For now we hear this personal question come to Peter: "Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these?"—In a meek and humble way Peter could reaffirm that he did: "Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee!" Jesus accepted his humble answer. And he reinstated Peter in his apostleship, commissioned him to feed the lamb and

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tend the sheep. He was told that he would be an old man, that he would suffer for Jesus, but last and not least that he should glorify Christ.—Again I say: What a wonderful morning.

Christ at the breakfast table, or Christ in the morning fellowship in a home; in some homes—few or many, I do not know, it is customary to gather for morning devotion, either at the breakfast table or right after breakfast has ended. That time is well spent, and of great value.

I have once made the statement—and although I have been criticized for it—it is still true that if parents who speak the Danish language would sing one or two Danish hymns every morning, then would

not only the language question be solved in an easy way, but the children's life would be enriched in a wonderful way. It would mean: Christ in the children's life's morning—and all day long. Then we could go out to our daily work with the assurance that God would be with us and bless us; that He would keep us as it is stated in another hymn:

"Then I should find the strength with joy,
To labor in my Lord's employ
And walk in His blest spirit;
The love within my heart would grow
And anthems from my lips would flow
To praise His grace and merit."

P. Rasmussen.

Annual District 1 Convention

Perth Amboy, N. J.

(Reported by Bennett Jorgensen)

District I of the Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church held its annual convention at Perth Amboy, N. J., September 10-12. The event was highlighted by the presence of Rev. Alfred Jensen, synod president, who had just returned from Amsterdam, Holland where he had participated in the assembly of the World Council of Churches.

The Ladies' Aid Society of the Perth Amboy congregation served sandwiches to the delegates as they arrived Friday evening. Rev. Povl Baagøe of the Danish Seamen's Mission conducted the Danish service after which Rev. Einar Andersen of the Brooklyn Ninth St. Church officiated at the English service. Rev. Andersen warned of a series of world wars "unless all peoples experience an awakening of Christianity." Coffee and cake were served in the church basement after the services and the pastors extended words of welcome. The District Secretary was instructed to send greetings via a night letter to the District IX Convention in Enumclaw, Wash.

Rev. P. Chr. Stockholm of Portland, Me., opened the Saturday morning business session with devotions and a short address. The delegates elected Pastor Ove Nielsen of Perth Amboy as convention chairman and Pastor Willard Garred of Hartford, Conn., as secretary, and Pastor James Lund of Troy, N. Y., as assistant chairman. After dispensing with the reading of the minutes, the district president, Rev. Lund, read his report followed by the report of Rev. Nielsen, delegate to the Solvang convention. Rev. Jensen gave his synodical report and brought greetings from Grand View College and Dr. Knudsen.

Following the treasurer's report, Rev. Baagøe discussed the Seamen's Mission work. After lunch, Axel Olsen of Perth Amboy reported on the Children's Home Fund. Then the president of the Newark congregation explained why that church had relocated and presented a formal request to have Pastor Nielsen install Pastor Verner Hansen as minister in the new church. The new district president was asked to relinquish his duty of installing the new minister in favor of Rev. Nielsen. During the afternoon session, the delegates were instructed to request the

individual congregations to procure used clothing for Luther World Relief. Reconvening after coffee, the delegates discussed the Sunday School problem and a committee was appointed to investigate the matter and report on its findings. A letter of approval is on its way to the D.A.Y.P.L. of the district for its fine work in its camp this past summer with the suggestion that they continue with possible financial aid from the district. It was also decided to continue sending a junior delegate to the National convention has has been the practice the preceding years. The convention established a \$50 scholarship fund which shall benefit some needy Grand View College student. The details are to be worked out by a special committee. Balloting then took place and the following officers were elected: Rev. Garred, district president; Rev. Andersen, secretary; Marius Andersen of Bay Ridge, N. Y., treasurer, a post he has held for 30 years. Miss Marie Nielsen of Perth Amboy, N. J., was chosen to be the representative to the Women's Missionary Society.

Rev. Alfred Jensen reported on the international convention in Amsterdam after supper. He considered the WCC meeting a success and its accomplishments more "than could be expected." Rev. Jensen stated that all were not in agreement but that all had "agreed to disagree, which is quite an accomplishment." A stirring motion picture, "Salt of the Earth," concerning stewardship, terminated the day's session.

Pastor Garred led the Sunday morning Danish service and Pastor Lund officiated at the English service with Pastor Nielsen administering holy communion. A laymen's discussion was held in the afternoon with Theodore Brown of Perth Amboy acting as chairman. The topic for discussion was the relocation of churches with members of each congregation presenting the individual problem and possible solution. At this meeting, the new district president, Rev. Garred, expressed the wish that next year's topic shall be presented well in advance of convention time with ministers absent from the meeting in order to have a more enlightening and smoother discussion. Rev. Garred also hoped that laymen would be selected for the

post of convention chairmen* in the future.

The convention adjourned until next fall when it will meet in Portland, Maine, and each delegate is returning home inspired to bring an important message of unity to his congregation with faith and trust the watchwords for the future.

President Jensen Reports On Amsterdam

Emphasizing the plight of the refugees and their dire need for assistance, Rev. Alfred Jensen, synod president, delivered to the District I Convention a moving report on the meeting of the World Council of Churches in Amsterdam, Holland, at which he was a delegate from the Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church of America.

Rev. Jensen stated that there are eight million more refugees in Europe today than there were at the close of the recent war. He went on to say that these homeless unfortunates constitute the core of the international problem that exists today, and only after these people are housed and reunited with their families can we expect the Word of God to flourish. "Lutheran World Action can not, does not, and should not benefit only Lutherans," the synod president continued. "For it is the duty of the Christian to help his fellow man regardless of race, color, or creed and Lutheran World Action aids the most needy first with those principles in mind." Rev. Jensen said that only 250,000 of the eight million refugees are Jews and they are being aided by Jewish relief funds. The money contributed to date to LWA has been far from adequate to substantially aid the others and he called for greater contributions in the interest of humanity and the love of God. He said that the World Council of Churches would bring the refugee problem to the attention of the United Nations.

Stating statistics, Rev. Jensen said that over 1,400 persons assembled in Amsterdam, representing 147 different churches from 44 countries. The meeting was covered by 200 members of the press. When the delegates met in their clerical gowns, there were quite a variety including some very colorful ones. The problem of understanding the various tongues was solved by the International Business Machine Co. of New York which provided each delegate with an instrument that gave running translations in English German and French of the orations. Rev. Jensen declared that the WCC selected Holland as the site for its assembly because the "strongest desire to unite lies in the reform group and the Dutch Protestants are of the reform group."

Rev. Jensen called the assembly a "success beyond my expectations" because the feeling of unity was predominant. The theme of the assembly was "Man's disorder and God's design." Problems of the Church, of Society, and the World were discussed and analyzed. The WCC resolved to attempt to avert another world crisis.

"A chorus of churches not always too harmonious, but always in peaceful conclusion" were Rev. Jensen's words to describe the Council. He stated that they did not meet to form one church, but to establish unity of faith in all churches. "We agreed to disagree," he continued, "and although we had different thoughts, we had the same faith." Rev. Jensen also explained that the Council is an advisory, not legislative body and that its decisions are not binding upon the churches represented. The Council will reconvene every five years and its central committee will be the acting body meanwhile.

In closing his address, Rev. Jensen reiterated that the best aid for European recovery is to find homes for refugees. For the future he lauded "the prospect of closer unity among churches" as the prime result of the World Council of Churches Assembly.

IN THE WIDE, WIDE WORLD

By Alfred C. Nielsen

THE RAILROADS AND DREAMS

Since this is still the vacation season, I am taking the liberty (with the editor's permission) of writing a piece about the railroads. Surely, there must be men and women of my age-group who were and still are as fascinated by railroads and trains as I am.

The world in which I was born and grew up was a small world. There were no radios, no telephones, no automobiles, and thank goodness, no airplanes. In fact it was not till about 1905 that we received a daily paper. There was no sense in that before the coming of rural free delivery. Really, our chief contact with the outside world was the railroad.

So far as I know the railroad came to our town in the 1880's. That town was about four miles from my home, and the railroad that came to it was an unimportant branch of the Union Pacific System.

To the north of us, about five miles, was a branch of the Burlington, which the farmers called the B. and M. When the atmosphere and wind were right

we could easily hear the whistles of the trains on this line.

About six miles to the south of us was a main line of the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy. It runs to Billings, Montana, a city far beyond my horizon in those days. When conditions were right, we could hear the whistles of the trains on this line too. We could hear the chug, chug of the heavy freights as they pulled up steep grades. When I was alone in the fields, herding cattle, I listened wistfully to the sound of trains going out into the far world which I longed to see, and it seemed that I never would. I must have been sixteen years of age before I even saw this railroad of my dreams.

It was the fond hope of many of us boys that a railroad would reach our quiet inland town Nysted. We discussed the possibilities endlessly. We planned routes for it. One day I told my father that I hoped that it would come soon, and run right through our farm. He looked at me in astonishment and said

with a frown that he surely hoped that no such disaster would come to his dear farm. This convinced me further that the older people lacked imagination and an understanding of the more interesting things in life.

To be permitted to go along with father and mother to our railroad town was a rare event. There were times when it must have been months that I was not there. But if a train came when we were there, I begged my parents for permission to go up to see this miracle of transportation. Occasionally I was allowed to go, and I stood there pop-eyed, with fast beating heart, and watched this wonder, the locomotive. It snorted like a spirited horse ready for the race. All the trainmen were my heroes, especially the engineer who sat in the cab with hand on the throttle. Early in life I decided that when I grew up, if I ever did, I would be an engineer. Little did I know then that the trains on this little line were antiquated things, and that the trainmen were probably second-raters.

After I should have known better, it was nearly impossible for me to stay away from and off trains. When I was eighteen years of age, I climbed onto a moving freight train. Somehow I slipped and my long legs were nearly caught under the wheels. I think this was my last experience on a moving freight car.

So far as I remember, my first train trip was to Omaha. My father was shipper for the local cooperative association, and in that capacity received free transportation to the meat-packing center. Once when he went to Omaha with stock, he told me that I could go with him. The train we went on was a freight and we rode the caboose. I can still feel the first movement of that train. I had been told that trains traveled so fast that one could not count the telegraph poles. Finding that I could easily do that was quite a disappointment to me. Father, however, told me that passenger trains were capable of such fantastic speed. To this day I have not seen one.

We left our town in the evening and pulled into Omaha the next morning. I don't think I slept all night. If it was too dark to see passing things, it was interesting to listen to the tall tales of the stockmen. In Omaha I saw my first street car, tall buildings (so I thought), and went through the Armour Packing plant. There was death, blood and meat all about me in that place.

My father was shipper before we had the telephone. It was my task to ride to town on my pony and ask the station agent to order the freight cars for the next shipment of stock. I frequently stood around and waited for the agent to telegraph the order. That occupation really had charm and prestige. I decided to become a telegraph operator. With my accumulated capital I bought a small telegraph outfit from Sears Roebuck and set out to learn the Morse code. I soon found the work dull and sold the outfit for a safety razor—long before I really needed it.

During my boyhood I never heard of a dining car. It would never have occurred to my parents to go into one. Like most common people they carried a lunch with them if and when they traveled.

My first visit to a dining car came about this way. In the fall of 1912 I set out to attend Grand View College. Rev. Th. Knudsen had become president and my father urged me to go. In Omaha I met Christian Madsen, now living in Dalum, Alberta; and Hans Gravengaard now of Cincinnati. They were also going to Grand View. After we had boarded the Des Moines train, the porter came through and called for dinner. One of us suggested, in the most matter of fact way, that we go and eat. We did. We received menu cards and each studied it carefully trying to impress the others with the idea that this was an every day experience. I was puzzled and confused. I did not know what the terms meant. The prices were outrageous. I assured them that I was not hungry at all, and they said the same. After much study and meditation I ordered milk, combination salad, bread and butter. We ate potato salad at home and I guessed this was it. I can't remember what the others ordered, but when the waiter brought the food, we were unmasked. It was all too funny for dignity and reserve. My combination salad was a huge bowl of greens which farmers fed cows. I guess it was served people who suffered from overweight, and that was surely not my trouble. We all looked at the food, then at each other. We burst into laughter, and laughed as only the young and care free can laugh. Our laughter and our strange assortment of food attracted considerable attention, and aroused much mirth.

Since my time is up and my allotted space used, I must bring this to a close; but before I do, let me mention a most delightful book about railroads. I am certain that there are many who will enjoy reading it. The name of the book is: **The Story of the American Railroads**. It was written by S. H. Holbrook.

“Guilt” Again

If I understand the Danish theologian, Otto Møller, correctly, he maintained that the historical life of the church is a reiteration of the life of Jesus Christ in the world. The church, “the body of Christ,” broke into the world by the force of God just like Jesus did. It immediately started to manifest the redemptive love-power of God. So did Jesus. Sinners knew that the message of the church was reliable. Therefore they could lose themselves and join the church, which was in the true sense a folk church, “the body of Christ.” Jesus won acclaim; so did the church.

Time came when people started to withdraw from Jesus, they would not go the second mile with Him. That also happened in the church. The church required a full relinquishment of sin, and sin in self-centeredness. That was going too far, and so instead of submitting to “the body of Christ,” they commenced to make Christianity in their own image, in which their selves could be preserved.

God then commenced to prepare his child, the church of pentecost, for a manifestation of God on the scaffold. He permits the world to blame the church without giving it power to justify itself. “It is the opiate of the people,” said Lenin, and the church could not give him an answer, which he could

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Our Women's Work

Mrs. Johanne Lillehøj, Kimballton, Iowa
Editor

Young Kristine

She was just a little girl, only nine years old, when her parents brought her to America. They were seeking release from the oppression of a conqueror nation before it, with its iron heel, should crush their spirit.

She had a funny little nose and clear blue eyes. Wisps of unruly, yellow hair framed her face. No, she wasn't a pretty child but there was something that made people notice her. She possessed a shining spirit, her cradle-gift ("vuggegave") from her creator. No matter what happened, little Kristine always smiled.

She grew up on the prairie and became almost as one with it. She knew hard work, as only our pioneers knew it—but she also knew the pleasure of dashing miles on the back of her pony. She loved to pick wild flowers and berries in the hills near her home, or to stretch out on the grass beneath a clear summer sky while her imagination (what a wonderful treasure it can be) took her to distant lands, or into the world of make believe. She loved nature and often was classified as a child of nature ("naturbarn").

She treasured long winter evenings, when chores and dishes were done and the family gathered around the table. The kerosene lamp cast long shadows into the far corners of the room. "Far," who was a very good reader, then took his family on a journey with Ingemann into his "Romaner." Many an evening was spent in song. There was truly "sangbund" in the home, and the songs came from their hearts. Young Kristine never set about her daily tasks without filling the atmosphere with singing. Hers was not a beautiful voice, but it rang with everything she felt. Oft times through the words of the song came the answer to the problem which at the moment was hers.

It was difficult for her to grow up and to become adult in her ways and thinking. She far underrated her own abilities. "Who am I, just anobody."

Her only sister was brilliant and very talented, so she was the one to be educated. Young Kristine stayed by the fireside and helped her mother. She yearned to go to school, but she always belittled herself and stifled her innermost desires by thinking, "after all, who am I?"

Her parents sent her to folk high school when she was twenty-two. Oh, how she tingled with joy and

anticipation. She was a little afraid. After all they had had only four months of grammar school each year and the teachers weren't too brilliant. Each year they would start where they had started the year before, consequently, their learning wasn't too profound.

At the folk school an entire new world opened to young Kristine and she absorbed it hungrily.

One of the first Sundays while attending church near the school, her heart was overflowing with gratitude for this new, rich world that had suddenly become hers. A more fervent and sincere prayer had never passed her lips, and it came from the depths of her soul. "Dear heavenly Father, do with my life what Thou wilt just so I may always belong to Thee." God heard her prayer—and as young Kristine grew older she often remarked: "God has found me unworthy. He has many times had to speak harshly so that I might hear."

Her stay at the folk school brought her life's great experience. Here she found the young man to whom she pledged her troth. Her cup was running over, but their happiness was shortlived. He died after but a brief year of untold bliss. Did young Kristine despair? No, she held her head high, put her hand in that of her Lord and walked with light step into the unknown days ahead. For several years she labored keeping up a home for herself, her aged mother and only child. In spite of struggles theirs was a happy life. The child has fond memories of a carefree and very happy childhood.

The path of young Kristine crossed that of a lonely man. They joined hands and hearts and life took on a new aspect. Young Kristine was happy, but a very busy mother. The first eight years saw the arrival of five children. In those days a young mother did all her own work, sewing, baking, keeping a large home, canning hundreds of jars of fruits and preserves every summer, besides all the other duties which the busy homemaker of yesterday knows only too well.

Young Kristine's daily tasks became so heavy that she found, to her dismay, that she wasn't able always to share the worthwhile things in life with her children as she would have wished.

In the community, in which they lived, all social life centered around the church. This church had a pastor whom young Kristine admired very much. She grew more and more to rely upon the church life to give her children that which was of spiritual worth.

Her beloved pastor wounded her very deeply one day when he chided her and said: "You are the busy Martha!" It kept ringing in her ears, and it could at times bend low her otherwise high-held head.

Life went on and became a struggle economically, and as such brought many hardships. Other burdens became hers. She lost her only sister who had, through the many years been her advisor and con-

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fidante. Her first-born son also went down "into the valley of shadows." Even then she could sing, and a man passing her one morning shortly after her son's death, found her singing at her weekly washing. He remarked, "Are you always happy?" Young Kristine wrote to one of her children, "Could he have seen my heart he would not have spoken so."

One day serious illness came knocking at the door of young Kristine. For the first time she had to learn how to be careful of herself. It wasn't easy. I might as well say it was impossible. Happy, strong and buoyant Kristine who had always helped others now was dependant upon those others for so much.

Eight long years illness was her guest. In spite of it she still smiled, and when you asked her how she felt, "Oh, I feel great!" was her quick reply. You wondered as each breath she drew was labored and she was but a shadow of her former self. The last year and one-half young Kristine lived (I still call her **young** Kristine because her spirit remained so admirably young in spite of advancing years and ravaging disease) her hands became almost completely idle. Her sight was impaired and the pain, although she refused to admit it, was at times almost unbearable.

In the new community to which, she due to her helplessness, necessarily had been moved, her presence was making itself felt. Her wonderful spirit, her beautiful child-like faith, her sincere and earnest prayer-life was embracing a circle of new made friends, who came to love young Kristine dearly.

One day her child spoke, "Mor, now I know why our pastor called you the busy Martha. He wasn't reprimanding you, he saw what you were, but knew too that your many daily tasks kept the real you in the background." Tears came to young Kristine's eyes, but she was happy.

Then came the day when we laid young Kristine to rest on Cedar Hill. Her children gathered with a group of friends after the service and sang all her beloved songs and they knew her spirit was among them.

One of young Kristine's friends wrote, "Upon these whose gratitude rises to God, His blessings shall surely descend." Young Kristine's children **are** grateful! One child sings with the Norwegian poet Bjornson, "Mig fulgte een med en sjæl saa stor."

A Friend.

"Guilt" Again

(Continued from page 6)

understand. In the western world the church is constantly being scored for not improving and saving the civilization of sin. What can the church say?

Mr. Jens Kruse is saying that communism is but a sequence in the development of the rationalistic concept of life. I feel in my bones that the culmination will come in a world order. In spite of all the war clouds there is a destiny in the formation of such an order. It will be so loose that it cannot tolerate the paradox of the Christian faith. It will proscribe its very existence, and the church will have no other defense than the God of spirit. There will be no alternative to that of assuming the guilt, bearing the sin of the world, and trusting God in a defeat. Then comes the resurrection.

Aage Moller.

From New York to Denmark Via London

By J. C. Aaberg

IV

It is a peculiar feeling which grips one when, after living in another country for nearly half a century, one again sets foot on his native soil. No matter how much of a foreigner one may have become there is something which, on returning to the land of one's birth, makes the heart beat faster and engenders a sense of belonging which one seldom, if ever, experiences at any other place. It is the feeling expressed, I suppose, in the words: "In Denmark I am born, there I am at home, there are my roots and there my world begins."

I left Denmark in the spring of 1901. In the intervening years, I had returned only once for a brief visit in 1929. By far the greater part of my life has thus been spent in America. And I have always loved the land of my adoption. It has been good to me and afforded me opportunities which I could not have expected to find in Denmark. Yet as I stepped down from the plane and looked out over the airport, the green, slightly rolling fields beyond and the blue waters of the Sound on which the port is located, a feeling akin to that of entering a beloved former home stole over me. The home may appear quite different, the walls may have been repainted and the furniture changed, but it is still the old home with its memories, its experiences and reminders of a part of one's life, perhaps the most important part, one's childhood and early youth.

This feeling of homecoming was immediately strengthened by hearing the soft accents of my mother's tongue all around me, by seeing the Danish flag wave from the terminal buildings of the airport and, most of all, by observing a sizeable group of people waving and calling to me from the gate of the port. I could scarcely recognize any of them but concluded that whoever they were they must be waiting for me. And so in a few moments I found myself in the embrace of my family. Of them all I hardly knew more than two, my two only living sisters. The others belonged to the younger generation of whom I had met only a few. But young or old, they all seemed eager to welcome uncle from America, and they all did their utmost throughout my stay to make my visit pleasant. It was peculiar enough, too, that I found myself fully as much at home with the young people that I had never seen as with the older people I knew—or had known.

It is a great experience after many years of separation to be reunited with one's family and friends and even with the people from which one has come. There are many especially old things to talk about. But when old things and present family affairs have been talked over and one has to become reacquainted with people, both the family and others, not as they were many years ago, but as they and oneself are today,

one is likely to experience some difficulty. Their life and one's own has been lived under such different conditions and shaped by such varying experiences that important differences in views, attitude, and ways of life are likely to have developed. They are Danes, yet not the same as they were fifty years ago, and we are Danes but also Americans. And so on returning to the old homeland after a long absence, one may discover that there is a problem of adjustment to be made before one feels really at home again. For my own part, I will frankly say that after a short stay I felt so lonely in Denmark and so homesick for America that I went down to the office of the airline and arranged for my return flight considerably earlier than I had planned, something which I very much regretted when the time came. For Denmark is still a fine country to visit, but it takes time after a long absence to become readjusted to her ways.

During the four months I remained in Denmark, I visited nearly every part of the country, became acquainted with people from nearly all walks of life, and did my best to obtain information concerning the political, economic and social conditions of the people. I shall not weary readers, however, by giving a detailed description of my travels and experiences but endeavor only to present a general picture of the country and conditions as I saw them.

Many friends had warned me that travel in Denmark would be difficult unless one had his own car. And I did miss my car. Yet it was not really difficult to get around. The trains were not as good as they had been. In 1929 I thought they were as good if not better than ours. But while our railroads have improved immensely in speed and comfort since then, the railroads of Denmark, due largely to the war and their present inability to get material, have deteriorated. Their material was old and their speed held down in order to save coal. Yet they were no worse than many branch and local trains in this country. The wonder was really not that they were not good but that they were able to give as good service as they did after four years of war, the theft of much of their material and the near impossibility to obtain anything new, even for repairs.

While most of the trains were slow and far inferior in equipment to the best of ours, they did run a few trains on most of the main lines which were quite good and fairly fast. These trains were called "lightning" trains (Lyntog) and their average speed was probably from 45 to 50 miles an hour, not exactly a record. They were generally so crowded, however, that it was well nigh impossible to get a seat on them. It was considered something of a social distinction, I believe, to ride on them, and I was told that people would wait at the station for hours in order to get on them, even when all the time they could save by taking them to their destination might be only an hour or so.

The main railroads of the country are all state owned and operated. But besides these, there are quite a number of privately owned lines to various cities which operate something like feeder lines to the main system. Their material and service is generally quite inferior to that of the state owned roads,

and most of them have a hard struggle to make ends meet, facts which the socialists frequently point to as proof of the advantage of state ownership. But, of course, branches are usually not a paying proposition in this country either except as feeders to the main lines.

Regular train fares are quite high, about the same as in this country. If one intends to travel extensively for a period, however, one may buy a ticket which is good on all the state roads for a month, two weeks or a week. The cost of a monthly ticket is a hundred and twenty-five crowns and the cost of the others proportionately a little higher. Although one has to travel quite consistently, considering the smallness of the country, to make the cost of these tickets cheaper than the regular fare, they are a great convenience in that one does not have to stand in line at a ticket window every time one wants to take a train.

With their modest equipment, heavy traffic and quite high fares, one might expect the state railroads to be a fairly profitable enterprise. But they are usually unable to pay even the expenses of operation. One reason for this is, no doubt, that they are grossly overstaffed. At any station, even the smallest, one may see from half a dozen to a dozen railroad workers and more standing around with apparently nothing to do. Theirs are government jobs and—oh well! we have politicians in this country too who like to exchange jobs for votes. The Danes themselves are well aware of the situation and grumble or joke about it just as we do. A story was told me of a pastor who, happening to meet one of his parishioners whom he had not seen for some time, asked him how his son was getting along. "My son, Hr. Pastor," the man answered, "has gone into the eternal rest." "Oh," the pastor exclaimed, "did he die?" "No, no!" the man said, "he got a job with the railroads."

In conjunction with the railroads, the state also operates a large number of ferries and passenger boats to connect the many islands of the country or provide a shorter route between various points of the widely spread island kingdom. Some of these ferries have lately been replaced by impressive bridges such as the bridge over the Little Belt which connects Fyn and Jylland, and an equally impressive bridge which connects Sjælland and Falster and is said to be the longest bridge in Europe. Plans for a number of other bridges are still in the preliminary state but will very likely be a reality in the not too distant future. Among these are a bridge across the Sound to connect Denmark and Sweden and one across the Great Belt, connecting Sjælland and Fyen. Seeing the tremendous traffic across that Belt, one can understand that such a bridge would prove of incalculable advantage. But the Belt is sixteen miles wide and a bridge that long would not only be immensely costly but difficult to build, and the fact alone that they have the courage even to plan so costly a work speaks well for the people of a county as small as Denmark.

Besides the railroads and ferries there are also extensive bus lines which connect almost every city, town and village in the country. Their equipment is modern and their service reasonably fast.

Thus while it would have been a convenience to have had a car, one could with reasonable comfort get almost everywhere in the country without one.

But now that I have described the means of transportation, let us pretend to take a train for a quick tour and glance around the country as it rolls by our car window.

We start from the main station in Copenhagen, a large and impressive but not very beautiful building which is located behind a wide, open court fronting on Vesterbrogade, one of the main arteries of the city. A large number of automobiles are coming, going or parked around the court, showing that the station is a busy center of travel. But that which is most likely to attract the attention of an American is a bicycle park in a corner of the court where hundreds and hundreds of bicycles are parked. People taking a short trip somewhere ride to the station on their bicycle and park it there until they return. Many others, however, check them like other baggage and take them with them on the train so that they can use them when arriving at their destination. Trains often carry whole cars filled with bikes, the most common and popular means of conveyance in Denmark.

The station is large and almost jammed with people. It is the height of the vacation season, and it appears like all the people of Denmark are on the move. Every train is crowded to capacity. It is difficult to move about, to get up to the ticket window and out to the train. And travelers in Denmark are far from considerate to others. They crowd and push, snatch one's place or seat if they can, and give one a nasty look and even a tongue lashing if they think that one has committed the least break of some unknown rule of conduct or that it may gain them an advantage. Knowing how polite and considerate most Danes normally are, I wondered about this and was told that it was largely an aftermath of the war when trains were few and always so crowded that only the pusher could hope to get a seat. The explanation sounded reasonable but did not make the fact any more pleasant.



IN DENMARK I WAS BORN, A Little Book of Danish Verse,
by R. P. Keigwin (Copenhagen: Andr. Fred. Høst & Son,
1948).

In this splendid little volume, just received from England, R. P. Keigwin, remembered for such previous works as *The Jutland Wind*, combines the work of the poet-translator—*Gendigter*—with that of the anthologist. In addition to his own translations, he has included the works of other translators and has arranged all the works with the original Danish version on opposite pages from the masterful English lines.

In reading this book I felt a certain sadness: We who are of Danish ancestry should have been doing this work, but, for some strange reason, we have too often turned our backs on

this heritage of songs of the North and have left it to an English poet to discover and make available for us our own treasure. He states in his introduction that the collection is intended "for the refreshment of Danes living abroad and for their children, who often do not understand Danish well enough to appreciate the finer points of a poem in that language." For this we owe him a debt of gratitude.

Mr. Keigwin in almost every case seems to have achieved what is considered a near impossibility. He has captured the mood as well as the meaning of the original. This he achieves often through the use of beautifully picturesque words and word-combinations.

There is variety in the forty poems that were selected. Included are Hillyer's translation of the tenderly melancholy, "Aladdin at His Mother's Grave," the lilting "Our Mother-Tongue" by Lembecke, a fine new translation of Chr. Richardt's "Altid Frejdig," and Munk's "The Blue Anemone." Grundtvig's "Kirkeklokken," which was translated by Mr. Keigwin especially for the Dana College Choir last spring and sung by that group, is included in the anthology. Here, for the first time, a translator has caught the simile of the last line, "Like an autumn sunset so he passed."

Two stanzas of Larsen's "The Danish Summer" should prove that in Mr. Keigwin we, whose roots and soil are Danish, have found a bard who sings for us the songs of the Old Country in the language that we understand best:

Denmark, the pale night's half awake
over your bed as you slumber.
Cuckoo is calling in copse and brake,
North Sea; too, and Cattegat make
music, where mists are creeping,
soft as a song for sleeping.

Denmark, you're stirring with lakes of blue
languid as mothers' eyes are;
all that has lain so close to you,
now you let sunshine clasp it too,
proud of the rich life blended
here with an age that's ended.

—Review by Norman C. Bensen,
Dana College, Blair, Nebr.

INTRODUCTION TO THE CHRISTIAN RELIGION, by Ernst Kaper; Translated and adapted by Lawrence C. Bundgaard. Published by Lutheran Publishing House, Blair, Nebr. 147 pages. Paper 60 cents.

This book came on the market a couple of years ago. It has been reviewed by others and undoubtedly many of our pastors are using it especially in confirmation classes.

However, at this time of the year, as our pastors again are seeking their material for the confirmation class, we should like to recommend the use of Pastor Bundgaard's book.

Permit us to quote from another review: "Among the many religious manuals which have appeared on the market here and in Denmark 'Kort Lærebog til Indførelse i Kristendom' is one of the outstanding. There can be no question that Kaper's approach is much closer to the child's mind than that of Luther who only made a half-hearted attempt to reach the children. Kaper's book has been ably translated by Rev. Bundgaard. 'I dare say it is just as good and in many ways better than most similar material to which we have access in America.' (Rev. Marius Krog).

The book is not only a very fine help in the children's confirmation classes, but we believe that it would also be a valuable help in adult classes.

H. S.

Greetings and Comments From Our Readers

Fellow Countrymen:

Among my souvenirs of pleasant memories is my association with the Danish gymnasts while they toured the American continent last year. By an odd coincidence of circumstances, a lot of cooperation from fellow countrymen, and some plain luck, I became known to them as a person who could really do things when things had to be done. The happy smiles on their faces and the thankfulness with which they met and greeted me was worth something to me that money cannot buy, something that I would not have had if I had been paid in money.

Now I almost wish that the role I played in the venture had been of less importance, and that is why I am writing to the paper.

One month ago I received a letter from Erik Flensted-Jensen, the leader of the group. He states that the film they took on the tour has been a formidable success, been shown in every town in Denmark and in the large auditoriums a number of times. He states further that he plans to come to the United States as soon as possible to prepare for another tour . . . Between the lines is a long story. Abbreviated it reads: "We figure that you will do it again what you did the first time."

While they were on the go, Flensted-Jensen repeatedly asked me to go to bat for him. So I did, repeatedly and each time I advised him more strongly not to take undue advantage of our good will and hospitality not to repeat the venture for another two years at least. I am writing to the paper that is read by hosts who took these youngsters into their homes and treated them like princes and princesses. I believe they should be informed before another group of 40 to 50 persons descend on us and literally become our responsibility for a year or more. I don't believe Flensted-Jensen is justified in using Danish gymnasts as a means with which to make a business out of traveling and depend on us to make the business pay. Because if Americans of Danish birth and descent do not take the heavy end of the responsibility, the Flensted-Jensen ventures will soon take on the appearance of gypsy life, and that is bound to defeat the very purpose he purports to represent.

Danish gymnastics, as it is known by Americans, is rather highly respected, but if presented as a mere means for tourist purposes, it will soon become just another show and the show cannot hold its own in competition with other shows. The prestige of what we like to call Danish physical culture will suffer, or it may be lost.

I believe the recent tour served a useful purpose. It was important that Denmark became thus advertised in America at that particular time and, as it turned out, in a fairly respectable manner. It was far from unimportant that America likewise was advertised in Denmark and also in an appealing manner. But I am sorry to see the "success" misinterpreted. I know members of the group went home convinced that they "Kunde have tjent styrtende Summer, hvis Turen havde været ordentlig organiseret," as they put it. (There's where I was fitted into the picture). I know that that conviction was conveyed through the showing of the film, and I can imagine how it lit candles of hope and fanned the ambition in the minds of thousands of boys and girls in Denmark. I can figure it out—in dollars and Kroner—that a terrific pressure has been put on Flensted-Jensen to make it a tourist traveling business unlimited.

My dear friends—on both sides of the ocean—I think this is an illusion. There is no more of a market for Danish gymnastics in America than there is a market for baseball in Denmark. There was a pent-up feeling of sympathy with the old country on the part of us immigrants, and it amounted to a force that permitted the gymnasts to travel in style for

over a year. By the end of that year that feeling of sympathy was still there—but not the force—because it was no longer pent-up.

I beg Flensted-Jensen: Let us on this side keep our souvenirs. Let members of your group keep theirs. They (the souvenirs) should not be pawned for dollars and Kroner, nor substituted for stamps of professionals and lost for tourist purposes. We cannot capitalize on a cultural issue.

What we want, what American physical education wants (believe it or not) is improved methods of physical education—rather than the shows. We want, we need, the patient but persistent teaching that has been going on in the D.A.A.C. for 26 years. I can produce evidence to the effect that it is wanted too by American youth outside of the D.A.A.C. They are not satisfied by merely looking at the show. They want to try. But they don't want American ideas of physical education substituted by Danish ideas. They want the Danish ideas incorporated into American ideas. A Danish physical educator who would bow down to that demand, rather than try to pitch his performances against American dittos, would have a chance to accomplish great things. I believe an invitation with that purpose in mind could be organized, and with all expenses paid. That job, however, is too big for me, but I will be glad to help. That is why I am writing to the paper. May I have your reaction?

N. B. Madsen.

P. S.: I would appreciate to have other Danish papers copy this letter because I think it concerns Danes everywhere.

As we have discussed this matter personally with Mr. Madsen we gladly print his article as it appeared in "Dansk Tidende" in Chicago. We believe Mr. Madsen has expressed in his article a much needed warning to the plans of making the Danish gymnast exhibitions a permanent business venture.

Editor.

"THY WORD GIVETH LIGHT" New Sound Motion Picture

The American Bible Society announces a new 16MM kodachrome sound motion picture entitled "Thy Word Giveth Light." It was made primarily to be shown in churches and tells the story of the Society's program of supplying embossed Scriptures to the blind. The father of a serviceman blinded during the war tells the simple yet dramatic story of how his son found his way back to a useful life through reading the Braille Bible and asks the audience to help the Society extend its program.

The boy takes his father through the Bible House in New York City where they are shown the processes involved in the Society's service to the blind.

The color photography was done in New York at the Mannon Studios. The major part of the sound track was made by the Byron Laboratory in Washington, D. C., who also made the prints. Whenever possible, authentic scenes and people were used.

This picture has been enthusiastically received by its preview audiences. It runs for 20 minutes and may be secured through American Bible Society offices by any group agreeing to take up an offering for the Society at the time of showing. It makes a direct appeal for gifts to assist in the Society's work. A \$5.00 service fee plus transportation may be substituted for the offering if preferred. Address inquiries to any American Bible Society office or American Bible Society, Visual Materials Department, 45 Astor Place, New York 3, N. Y.

Grand View College And Our Youth

Jose Esmeralda Sangor

The steamship Joseph Feuer was an ordinary "Liberty" freighter, built sometime during the war, and is now tramping in the Atlantic and Mediterranean for a small East Coast shipping company. She had just returned from Anthwerp and Rotterdam, loaded 9,000 tons of coal and signed on three new crew members; I was one of the three.

I first boarded the SS Joseph Feuer while loading at the Chesapeake Bay Coal Pier in Baltimore. Her rust red hull settled deep in the water as the conveyors poured coal in her cargo holes. By evening the loading ended, our lines were cast off, and with the deep throb of the engines we moved slowly along the harbor and out into the bay. By morning we had rounded Cape Charles and headed east towards Gibraltar and Italy, our port of destination.

Our crew consisted of 38 men. The majority of them were veterans of the sea; a number had fought in the Spanish Civil War; a few had been deported from their home lands and the sea was their only home. Outstanding among this crew was our chief engineer, Jose Esmeralda Sangor, a small dark-skinned man with gray hair and heavily lined face. His deep brown eyes signified sorrow and longing, and I sensed a note of sadness in his tone as he spoke. The chief was slightly over sixty. The Madeiras, a small group of Portuguese Islands lying off the coast of Africa, was his homeland.

I first met Esmeralda a few days out of Baltimore as he stopped by my quarters one evening to talk. From our first meeting I sensed that all was not right with him, as though he harbored a deep sorrow or loss within him. During the voyage Esmeralda often stopped by, and from our little visits I learned that he had left the Madeira Islands during his late twenties. His entire life was centered around these islands, for they meant a great deal to him. He lived poorly because most of his money went to his people, who owned a beautiful villa in Funchal, the largest village in the Madeira group. He often told of his childhood, how his mother, who was still alive, was so kind to him, and how he and his sisters played on the rocky coasts and watched the ships sail by. One evening I ventured to ask him why he had never returned. Although he never answered, I knew there was some serious, perhaps tragic reason why Esmeralda could never return to the Madeiras. And as I asked, he bowed his head as though in shame and obviously I never asked again.

Soon we arrived in Italy and unloaded our cargo. Esmeralda stayed very much to himself and I saw little of him until a few days before sailing when he came to my room and excitedly explained that the captain had promised to pass through the Madeiras on our return trip as we were to follow a southerly route. I assumed that our captain had received much the same impression of Esmeralda as I had and being a benevolent soul, decided to do this for the chief.

In the early morning of the second day out of Gibraltar, Esmeralda knocked on my door and asked me to come out on deck, for along the western horizon was a thin pencil line, the Madeira Islands—and an old man's dream come true. As we neared Funchal, Esmeralda waited tensely on the bridge. His people knew he was to pass by this morning, for we had radioed ahead. Then shortly after ten and as we rounded the island, we saw the harbor of Funchal. Little white houses with red roofs lined the shores, and in the harbor was a small boat and there were his sisters waving frantically. I noticed the chief look up on the hillside and there was a beautiful but small villa surrounded by green olive trees, and on the terrace was his old mother feebly waving to her only son, who had been gone so long. And as I turned to the chief to ask a question, I saw the sun glisten on a tear as it dropped from his eye lid.

As quickly as we arrived, we passed through and out of the harbor. But Esmeralda was glad for he had once again seen his home, his people and his old mother.

Harlan H. Pedersen.

OUR CHURCH

Ringsted, Iowa—The annual Harvest Festival was observed in the St. John's Church Sunday, Sept. 19. Dean Alfred C. Nielsen from Grand View College was invited as the guest speaker.

A Young People's Camp was held in the Eastern District during the week August 8-15. The camp was held at the Bridgeport YMCA's Bear Rock Camp in southwestern Massachusetts. Twenty-two young people in the age group 14-17, under the leadership of Pastor and Mrs. Axel C. Kildegaard, Pastor W. R. Garred, and others enjoyed a rich fellowship of Bible study, discussions, camp fires, swimming, boating, hiking, singing, folk games, etc.

Prof. Johannes Terkelsen, Director of the Ry Folk School in Denmark, who has been guest speaker in several of our congregations the past month, spoke Sunday evening, Sept. 12, in the St. Stephen's Church in Chicago. Prof. Terkelsen came to this country upon an invitation from the Columbia University in New York to be guest speaker at this large institution.

Kimballton, Iowa—Rev. Clayton Nielsen, who was elected National President of D.A.Y.P.L. at the recent annual meeting at Grand Rapids, Mich., was the guest speaker in the Kimballton church Thursday evening, Sept. 9.

Tyler, Minn.—The annual Harvest Festival was observed Sunday, Sept. 5. Prof. Johannes Terkelsen from Denmark was the guest speaker.

Copies of "Lutheran Tidings," April 20 and May 20, 1942, are wanted. If someone has these two copies on hand, and are willing to dispose of same, please mail them to Mr. Sigurd Pedersen, Ruthton, Minn.

Juhl, Mich.—Plans are in the making for the 50th anniversary of the Juhl congregation during the week-end, November 25-28. An anniversary book is being planned for the occasion.

More than 500 pounds of good used clothing was recently shipped from the Juhl congregation for European Relief.

Mr. and Mrs. Christian Warthoe left Chicago Tuesday, Sept. 7, in order to sail later that week from New York for Denmark where Mr. Warthoe will enter the Royal Academy of Fine Arts for post-graduate work in sculpture. Mr. Warthoe has been employed while in Chicago by Studios of Daprato. A few months ago we carried on the front of "Lutheran Tidings" a picture of the statue, "Christ Preaching," one of the last creations from the hand of Mr. Warthoe.—He plans to spend at least a year in Denmark.

Rev. and Mrs. Viggo M. Hansen, Marinette, Wis., spent a week's vacation at Stager Lake, near Marinette. Their two sons, Rev. Verner and Prof. Alfred and families accompanied them and spent the week at the same place.

Rev. Einar Anderson, Brooklyn, N. Y., enjoyed a vacation from his pastorate during the month of August. Pastor Paul Baagøe of the Seamen's Mission and Pastor Oscar Johnson, assistant pastor of Salem Danish Lutheran Church, preached in Our Savior's Church during the absence of the pastor.

Withee, Wis.—Harvest Festival was observed Sunday, Sept. 12. Rev. Harold Petersen of Askov, Minn., was the guest speaker.

Pastor C. P. Højbjerg from Denmark spoke in the Withee church Tuesday evening, Sept. 7.

Public Forum meetings are held each fall and winter season in the Withee congregation. Dr. W. E. Wileden, University of Wisconsin, School of Agriculture, Extension Department, was scheduled to be the guest speaker on Sunday evening, Sept. 19.

From Davey, Nebr.

The Ladies' Aid Society of Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Davey, Nebr., wishes to take this means of thanking the Ladies' Aid Societies of our Synod for the generous donations towards the church building fund.

As most of you probably know, the Ansagar Ladies' Aid of Danevang, Texas, won our quilt at the recent convention.

Acknowledgement Of Receipts From The Synod Treasurer

For the Month of August, 1948

Towards the Budget:

Previously acknowledged ----\$ 3,025.43

Unassigned Receipts to the Budget:

Congregations—
Muskegon, Mich. -----\$ 107.60
Clinton, Iowa ----- 50.00
Omaha, Nebr. ----- 40.00

To Pension Fund:

Rev. Richard Sorensen, Mar-
lette, Mich. -----\$ 29.18

Home Missions:

"In memory of Christian Mad-
sen, Mr. and Mrs. Niels Han-
sen, Arthur Hansen, Mrs.
Fredriksen, Lerager, and
Theodor Andersen, Dane-
vang, Texas," from Mr. and
Mrs. Hans O. Jensen, Galves-
ton, Texas -----\$ 5.00

"In memory of Nels C. Thomp-
son, Arlington, S. D.":

Mr. and Mrs. Chris Stens-
gaard ----- 1.00

Mr. and Mrs. Chris Holm ----- 1.00

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence John-
son ----- 1.00

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew A.
Jensen ----- 1.00

Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Josephson ----- 2.00

Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Stens-
gaard ----- 2.00

Congregations—

Clinton, Iowa, (annual re-
ports) ----- 3.25

Withee, Wis., (annual re-
ports) ----- 9.00

Total to date for budget ----\$ 3,277.46

To Church Extension Fund:

Congregation—
Muskegon, Mich. -----\$ 11.00

To GVC Jubilee Fund, Cash and Bond Contributions:

Previously acknowledged ----\$99,701.84

Interest earned ----- 6.25

Dr. J. Knudsen, Des Moines,
Iowa ----- 5.00

Mr. and Mrs. Olaf R. Juhl,
Minneapolis, Minn. ----- 15.00

"In memory of H. P. Jensen,
Solvang, Calif.":

Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Kramer,
Santa Maria, Calif. ----- 3.00

Erma Steketee, Santa Bar-
bara, Calif. ----- 5.00

Total to date -----\$99,736.09

To Children's Home, Chicago, Ill.:

"In memory of Mrs. Anna K.
Petersen, Mrs. Carl Jensen,
S. Svendsen and Hans Krag,
Danevang, Texas," from Mr.
and Mrs. Hans O. Jensen,
Galveston, Texas ----- 5.00

To Lutheran World Action (1948 Quota):

Previously acknowledged, con-

gregations, Ladies' Aids and
miscellaneous -----\$ 6,202.51

Congregations—

Clinton, Iowa ----- 9.50

Ludington, Mich. ----- 182.70

Victory, Mich. ----- 30.00

Fredsville, Iowa ----- 408.06

Cordova, Nebr. ----- 83.00

Davey, Nebr. ----- 45.00

In memory of Nels C. Thomp-
son, Arlington, S. D.":

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Pe-
dersen ----- 2.00

Mr. and Mrs. Archie Matte-
sen ----- 1.00

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Jensen ----- 1.00

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Horsted ----- 1.00

Mr. and Mrs. Niels P. Niel-
sen ----- 1.00

Mr. and Mrs. Anton Sand --
Mrs. Helvine Sand ----- 1.00

"In loving memory of our dear
son, Wayne R. Stamp," Mr.
and Mrs. Chris Stamp, Clin-
ton, Iowa ----- 5.00

\$ 6,973.77

Preciously acknowledged, Sun-
day schools -----\$ 176.65

Bethany and St. Ansgars Sun-
day Schools, Rosenborg,
Nebr. ----- 31.30

\$ 207.95

Total to date -----\$ 7,181.72

Respectfully submitted,
Olaf R. Juhl, Treas.

4752 Oakland Ave., Minneapolis 7, Minn.

Santal Mission

General Budget

Mrs. Hansine Hansen, Seattle...\$ 3.50

Herald Jensens, Kimballton ----- 10.00

Montcalm Co. Luth. Church,
Michigan ----- 54.00

A Friend, H. J. K., Kimballton ----- 40.00

Mrs. D. Ingemann, Minneapolis ----- 10.00

In memory of Mrs. Jens Chris-
tensen, Fredsville, Iowa: Mrs.
Peter Thuesen, Dagmar,

Mont., Mrs. I. Petersen and
Mrs. Peter C. Petersen ----- 3.00

In memory of Carl Tambo, Dia-
mond Lake: His wife and N.
M. Nielsen ----- 1.00

In memory of Mrs. Bertha Mik-
kelsen, Junction City, Ore.:
Hans Reerslevs ----- 2.00

In memory of Niels Thompson,
Arlington, S. D.: C. S. Peter-
sens ----- 2.00

In memory of Mrs. Olga Olsen
Jorgensen, Chicago: Mrs.
Fred Ammentorp, Detroit --
In memory of Dr. Soe, Kimball-
ton, Iowa: Hartvig Hartvig-
sens, Chas. T. Sorensens,
Wm. Jorgensens, Hal Martins,
Ole A. Hansens, V. H. Truk-
ken ----- 6.00

In memory of Mrs. And. Peter-
sen, Luck, Wis.: Jacob Jen-
sens, Levi Jensens and West
Denmark Ladies' Aid ----- 4.00

In memory of Mrs. Laurits

Muller, Minneapolis: Dagmar,
Miller, Tyler ----- 1.00

Total for August -----\$ 139.50

Total since Jan. 1 -----\$6,576.27

Thanking every contributor for these
gifts to our work in far off India, I
suggest: Who will come and do like-
wise?

All money orders made payable at
Hampton, Iowa.

Thank you,

Dagmar Miller,
Tyler, Minn.

Iowa District Convention

The Fourth District of the Danish
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Amer-
ica will hold its annual convention at
the St. John's Lutheran Church, Hamp-
ton, Iowa, Sept. 24-25-26. The con-
gregations of the district are requested
to send delegates and all pastors are
urged to attend the convention. Each
congregation is entitled to one delegate
for each fifty voting members or frac-
tion thereof as recorded in the latest
issue of the synodical report.

Holger O. Nielsen,
Dist. Vice President.

St. John's Danish Lutheran Church
cordially invites members and friends
of the Iowa District to the annual
convention which will be held at Hamp-
ton, Iowa, beginning Friday afternoon,
Sept. 24, at 2 o'clock. Please send your
registration at least one (1) week in
advance to:

A. B. P. Miller, President,
Rt. 2, Hampton, Iowa

or
Hans Juhl, Pastor,
Rt. 2, Hampton, Iowa.

District IV Convention

Hampton, Iowa, Sept. 24-25-26

Friday, September 24

2:00 p. m.—Devotion and sermon by
Rev. Leif Kirkegaard.

Recess

3:00 p. m.—Business session.

4:00 p. m.—Discussion: "Church Coun-
cil and its responsibility,"
presented by Rev. H. P.
Jorgensen.

5:30 p. m.—Supper.

8:00 p. m.—Worship service, sermon by
Rev. A. E. Frost; liturgy by
Rev. H. O. Nielsen.

Saturday, September 25

9:00 a. m.—Devotion by Rev. J. P.
Andreasen in Danish.

Bible hour by Rev. V. S.
Jensen in Danish.

10:00 a. m.—Business session continued.

12:00 Noon—Dinner.

2:00 p. m.—Business continued, etc.

3:15 p. m.—Recess.

3:45 p. m.—Discussion: Some topic

pertaining to religious education presented by Rev. A. E. Farstrup.

- 5:30 p. m.—Supper.
 7:00 p. m.—Women's Mission Society business meeting.
 8:00 p. m.—Meeting sponsored by W. M. S. Speaker: Dr. J. Knudsen.

Sunday, September 26

- 9:00 a. m.—Danish worship, sermon by Rev. C. P. Højbjerg; communion by Rev. S. D. Rodholm.
 10:30 a. m.—English worship, sermon by Rev. Ronald Jespersen; Communion by Rev. Marvin Nygaard.
 12:00 Noon—Dinner.
 3:00 p. m.—Lecture on the Amsterdam meeting by Rev. Alfred Jensen.
 5:30 p. m.—Supper.
 8:00 p. m.—English lecture in parish hall by Rev. A. C. Kildegaard.
 Danish lecture in the church by Rev. C. P. Højbjerg.
 9:15 p. m.—English closing meeting with devotion by the new district president.

Please bring Hymnal for Church and Home, and please register early with A. B. P. Miller or Pastor Hans Juhl, both of Hampton, Iowa, Route 2.

Holger O. Nielsen,
 Vice President.

District II Convention

Grayling, Michigan
Sept. 24-26, 1948

In pursuance of the invitation below, may I announce that the annual convention of District II of the Danish Evangelical Church of America will be held at Grayling, Mich., Sept. 24-26, 1948.

All congregations of the District are urged to send delegates to the convention; and all members and friends of our churches are invited to participate in this meeting.

May I remind delegates to come to the convention prepared to give reports from their respective congregations.

C. A. Stub,
 District President.

Grayling Evangelical Lutheran Church, Grayling, Mich., host to our annual Michigan District Convention this year, hereby extends a cordial invitation to the pastors, delegates, members and friends of our churches to attend this convention. The meeting will begin Friday with an opening service at 8 p. m. and last through Sunday afternoon.

It is hoped that there will be a large attendance to worship and participate in the work and fellowship of this convention.

LUTHERAN TIDINGS

Reservations should be sent, not later than September 15, to Miss A. Ingeborg Hanson, 608 Michigan Avenue, Grayling, Michigan.

Wilhelm Raae,
 President of Grayling Church.
Rev. Svend Holm, Pastor.

Convention Program
Sept. 24-26, 1948
Grayling, Mich.

Motto:

"Surmounting the Passiveness in the Lutheran Church."

Program

Friday:

8 p. m.—"Christ's Commission to His Church."—Rev. Svend Jorgensen.

Saturday:

9 a. m.—Bible hour—"Faith and Work."—Rev. John Christensen.

10 a. m.—Business Session, Layman's Hour—"Overcoming Difficulties in Practical Church Work."

2 p. m.—Business session, Sight-seeing.

7 p. m.—Women's Mission meeting.

8 p. m.—"Forward with Assurance"—Rev. Paul Wikman.

Sunday:

11 a. m.—Morning worship and Holy Communion. "The Fruits of your Faith in the Community." Sermon: Rev. Edwin E. Hansen. Communion: Rev. Svend Holm.

3 p. m.—Welcome to the Zion Lutheran church, Germania—Rev. C. A. Stub. "Responsibility of Parents and Congregation to the Young."—Rev. Richard H. Sorensen.

Closing.

District VII Convention

Cordova, Nebraska
October 1-2-3, 1948

Friday the 1st

8:00 p. m.—Opening service, Rev. Vagn Duus. Welcome, Rev. Hakon Jorgensen.

Saturday the 2nd

9:00 a. m.—Morning devotion, Rev. Gudmund Petersen.
 9:30 a. m.—Business meeting.
 12:00 noon—Dinner.
 1:30 p. m.—Business meeting.
 6:00 p. m.—Supper.
 8:00 p. m.—Women's Mission Society, Rev. John Pedersen, speaker.

Sunday the 3rd

9:30 a. m.—Sunday school.
 10:30 a. m.—Worship service. Sermon, Rev. Harris A. Jespersen. Communion, Rev. Hakon Jorgensen.

September 20, 1948

- 12:30 p. m.—Dinner.
 2:30 p. m.—Rev. Alfred Jensen, report from meeting of World Council of Churches.
 6:00 p. m.—Supper.
 8:00 p. m.—Closing meeting. Revs. Peter D. Thomsen, Gordon Miller, Hakon Jorgensen.

St. John's Lutheran Church, Cordova, Nebr., cordially invites members and friends of our District to the annual meeting October 1-3.

Please register in advance to one of the undersigned.

Chris B. Nielsen, President,
 Exeter, Nebr.

Hakon Jorgensen, Pastor,
 Cordova, Nebr.

Fifth District Convention

Bone Lake Danish Lutheran church, located on Rt. 2, Luck, Wisconsin, here-with extends invitation to attend the convention of District 5, Danish Lutheran church in America, October 8-9-10. Lodging and breakfast will be provided guests gratis, while dinner and supper will be served in the church basement. Please notify us if you arrive by bus, train or by private car. Pastors and delegates are urged to attend and to send registration early.

Willie Mohnsen, President
 Rt. 2, Luck, Wisconsin.

F. O. Lund, Pastor,
 Rt. 3, Luck, Wisconsin.

The detailed program for the meeting will be announced later.

L. C. Bundgaard,
 District President, Withee, Wisconsin.

Program

October 8, 9 and 10

NOTE: Dates are changed from
Oct. 1, 2 and 3

General Topic for the Meeting:

"The Challenge to the Christian Church from within itself, from the Nations and from National and Cultural Leaders."

Friday Evening—

Rev. Harold Petersen, Askov, Minn., introducing the topic: "The World is Challenging the Church."

Saturday Morning:

9:00—Devotion and address: "Is the present membership of the church willing and able to rise to the challenge before it?" Rev. M. Mikkelsen.

10:00—Business session. Delegates are asked to have written reports ready to read.

12:00—Dinner.

2:00—Business session continues.

4:00—Sunday School Teachers' session. Introduction of topic for discussion: "Is our social and community influence a handicap to the children in our time?" Rev. Thorvald Hansen.

6:00—Supper.

8:00—"What is the intellectual and spiritual challenge to our teaching in our time?" Introduced by Rev. Ottar Jorgensen.

Sunday Morning:

Sunday School.

Service in the Danish language by Rev. Peter Rasmussen at the West Denmark church.

Service in the English language by Rev. J. C. Aaberg, "Can we challenge humanity where there is no sense of duty to hear the Christian message?"

Noon—Dinner.

Afternoon: "The Meaning of the World Church Movement to us—can we rise to it?" Introduced by Rev. Alfred Jensen. (Open for discussion and questions).

Sunday Evening:

7:30—Lecture in the Danish language by Rev. P. Rasmussen.

Song fellowship.

A brief summary of the lectures and discussion. L. C. Bundgaard.

It is expected that Rev. F. O. Lund will have a choir to sing for Sunday afternoon and evening.

L. C. Bundgaard,
District President.

Fall Meeting At Solvang, California

October 22-24, 1948

District VIII of the Danish Ev. Luth. Church of America extends a cordial invitation to all pastors, members of our churches and others interested to attend a fall meeting which will be held in Solvang, Calif., October 22-24, 1948.

The meeting will convene Friday at 8 p. m. and close Sunday evening.

Pastor C. P. Hojbjerg from Denmark will be the main speaker. The District pastors will also speak. Please bring your Danish hymn and songbooks. Most of the meetings will be conducted in the Danish language.

All guests will be housed in the Atterdag College dormitories. Guests will kindly send their reservations as early as possible to Mr. Viggo Tarnow, Atterdag College, Solvang, Calif. Everyone welcome!

Svend Kjaer,
District President.

HELP WANTED

Children's Home, Chicago.

The Children's Home in Chicago is in need of a young lady who will work directly with the children.

Please write to the Superintendent for further details.

Miss Reva Nielsen,
3320 Evergreen Ave., Chicago 51, Ill.

Sixth District Convention

Members and friends of the work of District VI are invited to attend the District convention to be held in the Hope Lutheran church, Ruthton, Minnesota, October 22-23-24.

Congregations are asked to send delegates and all pastors in the district are urged to be present.

Registrations should be sent in advance to Volmer Jensen, Ruthton, Minn., or to Pastor Eilert C. Nielsen, Ruthton, Minn.

Volmer Jensen,
President of Congregation.
Eilert C. Nielsen,
Pastor of Congregation.
Enok Mortensen,
President, 6th District.

NEWS BRIEFS

17 LUTHERAN CHURCHMEN NAMED TO WCC's CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Amsterdam, the Netherlands—Seventeen Lutheran churchmen from twelve countries were elected to the Central Committee of the World Council of Churches at its first assembly here.

The Central Committee is the policy-forming body of the World Council. It consists of 90 members, including 20 from America, and will meet annually in the years between the quinquennial assembly of the Council.

Archbishop Erling Eidem, Primate of the Church of Sweden, was one of six

presidents elected by the World Council, all of whom are ex-officio members of the Central Committee. He had been serving as one of the presidents of its Provisional Committee.

Sweden is also represented in the Central Committee by Prof. Anders Nygren, president of the Lutheran World Federation, and Bishop Ynge Brilioth.

Three Lutheran representatives were named to the committee from Germany, including Bishop Hanns Lilje of Hannover, Bishop Hans Meiser of Munich and Reinhold von Thadden, a layman.

Dr. Franklin Clark Fry, president of the United Lutheran Church in America, and Dr. Petrus O. Bersell, president of the Augustana Lutheran Church, were among those chosen from the United States.

Other Lutheran leaders on the Central Committee are:

Bishop Eivind Berggrav of Norway, Bishop Hans Fuglsang-Damgaard of Denmark, Bishop J. D. Salomies of Finland, Bishop Gerhard May of Austria, Bishop Lajos Ordass of Hungary, Bishop Teodor Ruppeldt of Czechoslovakia, Bishop Jan Szeruda of Poland, Bishop Philippe Poincenot of France, and the Rev. J. H. Lazarus of India.

Six of these churchmen are also members of the executive committee of the Lutheran World Federation, namely, Bishops Lilje, Meiser and Ordass, and Drs. Nygren, Fry and Bersell.

CONFESSIONAL REPRESENTATION APPROVED BY WORLD COUNCIL

Amsterdam, the Netherlands—A constitutional amendment providing for confessional representation in the World



...For A World In Need

SEND NOW . . .

Food

Sugar, Shortening, Cocoa,
Milk, Meats.

Clothing

Suits, Dresses, Coats,
Bathrobes, Stockings, Underwear, Overalls.

Shoes

All sizes, Rubbers, Boots,
Slippers.

Bedclothes

Sewing Materials

Food and clothing given in Christ's name bring hope and witness of love to people who live on the brink of despair. The gifts of American Lutherans saved many this past winter from desperation and sin. Yet, the task is not done—we must continue to supply food, clothing, and self-help materials. Your help is needed now!

EVERY LUTHERAN CHURCH A COLLECTION CENTER !

Ship to
LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF, INC.
N. 13th Street and Bushkill Drive
Easton, Pennsylvania

Give through LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

Council of Churches, as requested by Lutheran members, was approved at its first assembly here.

As finally adopted, the amendment provides that seats in the assembly shall be allocated to the member churches by the Central Committee with due regard for such factors as numerical size, adequate confessional representation, and adequate geographical distribution.

The petition for confessional representation in the World Council originated with the U. S. A. Committee for the Lutheran World Federation and was unanimously endorsed at the federation's assembly at Lund, Sweden, in July of 1947. It was then approved by the Provisional Committee of the World Council for submission to the first assembly here, being adopted unanimously after minor revisions in the wording.

PUBLICITY WORKSHOP SCHEDULED BY NLC's PUBLIC RELATIONS

Chicago—A Publicity Workshop will be held here on Tuesday, Sept. 21, under the auspices of the Division of Public Relations of the National Lutheran Council. The all-day session will take place in the LaSalle Hotel.

Various phases of church publicity on the local and national level will be discussed in a series of seminars during the morning and afternoon, led by church editors and publicists and religion editors of secular newspapers.

Addresses will be given by Dr. Ralph Tabor, committee chairman of the Division of Public Relations; the Rev. Carl E. Lund-Quist, executive secretary of the division; Dr. F. Eppling Reinartz, secretary of the United Lutheran Church; and the Rev. Oswald Hoffmann, newly-elected director of the

Department of Public Relations of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

Semi-annual staff meetings of the National Lutheran Council will also be held here at the same time. The Division of Public Relations will meet on Sept. 20, the Student Service Commission on Sept. 20-21, and the Division of American Missions on Sept. 21-22. The scheduled meeting of the NLC's executive committee has been postponed until Nov. 8, and sessions of the Division of Welfare will also be held at a later date.

TO BUILD 5 CHURCH BOATS IN NORWAY WITH LWA GRANT

New York—Not one, but five church boats will be purchased by the Lutheran Reconstruction Committee of the Church of Norway with a recent grant of \$40,000 from the U. S. National Committee for the Lutheran World Federation. The craft will be used to bring a spiritual ministry to Finnmark in northern Norway.

It was originally planned to use the \$40,000 to obtain a new and longer church boat to replace a vessel that was bought a few years ago with the help of American Lutherans.

The Reconstruction Committee decided, however, that the funds could be used more effectively by obtaining three small boats for the travel of ministers at 45,000 Norwegian crowns each, and two motor-driven river boats at 5,000 crowns each.

The remainder of the grant will be used to pay three years' salary for a special minister for youth and workmen, traveling expenses for three years and a contingency fund to cover increased costs and unforeseen emergencies.

In a recent action, the U. S. Committee for the Lutheran World Federation voted to accept responsibility for the payment of salaries of five Norwegian missionaries assigned to the Berlin Mission in South China, which is supported out of Lutheran World Action funds allocated to orphaned missions. These missionaries are now en route to China.

Germany—Thousands upon thousands of orphaned and homeless boys between the ages of fourteen and twenty are wandering about aimlessly in Germany today. In the larger cities they often sleep in bunkers, improvised shelters under bombed buildings, engaging in the shady practices of black markets in railroad stations or on the curbs of crowded city streets.

Uprooted as they are and deprived of parental oversight and guidance, they easily fall prey to every form of temptation. The physical and spiritual health of the Germany of tomorrow depends in no small measure on what happens to such boys.

Here and there, under church aus-

pices, camps have been established to house such homeless boys and to offer them the opportunity of living a regulated life in an atmosphere of Christian fellowship.

One such camp was established on the outskirts of Frankfurt am Main shortly after Easter. Under the direction of trained Christian youth workers, some twenty tents were erected to accommodate six boys apiece. There is a larger mess tent and a recreation tent which has little equipment but which is utilized especially for lectures, discussions, and worship. The camp site was leveled off, gravel walks were laid, and gardens were planted by the boys themselves, who also do the routine camp work, including the cooking. Some of the boys work nearby and plans are in the making to teach them trades in camp workshops. Eventually it is hoped that some of the boys will be received into private families and that all of them will become useful and Christian members of society.

The camp leaders are working without adequate material resources and at great personal sacrifice. But they have the reward of knowing that their experiment is a constructive contribution toward the rehabilitation of a "lost generation" and that it may point the way to a much larger and more adequate undertaking.

DR. FRY NAMED VICE CHAIRMAN OF WCC's GENERAL COMMITTEE

Amsterdam, the Netherlands—Dr. Franklin Clark Fry, president of the United Lutheran Church in America, was elected vice chairman of the Central Committee of the World Council of Churches at its first assembly here.

Anglican Bishop G. K. A. Bell of Chichester, England, was elected chairman of the committee, the policy making body of the World Council, consisting of 90 members, plus the six presidents.

Earlier, at a meeting of the executive committee of the Lutheran World Federation at Castle Hoekelum, near Arnhem, Holland, Dr. Fry was named as treasurer of the federation, succeeding the late Dr. Ralph H. Long, who died last February.

SYNOD OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: Rev. Alfred Jensen, 1232 Pen. Ave., Des Moines 16, Iowa
SECRETARY: Rev. Holger O. Nielsen, 1410 Main St., Cedar Falls, Iowa
TREASURER: Olaf R. Juhl, 4752 Oakland Ave., Minneapolis 7, Minnesota
TRUSTEE: Charles Lauritzen, Reddick, Ill.
TRUSTEE: Erling V. Jensen, 1104 Boyd Ave., 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 LUTHERAN TIDINGS, Askov, Minn.

September 20, 1948

I am a member of the congregation at _____

Name _____

New Address _____

City _____ State _____

JENSEN, JENS M.
 TYLER, MINN.

RTE. 2,