

Lutheran Tidings

PUBLISHED BY THE DANISH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF AMERICA

Vol. XVI

December 5, 1949

No. 9

The Lord's Prayer

~~Thinking of a faithful friend~~

Far away, our hearts are yearning
For the ~~day when he~~ again
Comes, with peace and joy returning:
Savior, here we meet with thee
In thy word: "Remember me!"

As we at thy table kneel,
Brothers, sisters, in thy friendship
Thou art truly here, we feel,
Join our hearts in sacred kinship,
One with these who on the cross
Died to share thy life with us.

Jesus Christ, our faithful friend,
On our hearts pour out thy Spirit
That until we meet again,
Ever watchful, never wearied,
At thy table we may find
Strength in Heaven's bread and wine!

N. F. S. Grundtvig.

By S. D. Rodholm.

"Mindes vi en fuldtro Ven."

The Word of God

The many misunderstandings in regard to what we mean when we say "The Word of God" could probably be cleared up, at least partly so, if we would start with fundamentals. Too often our trouble is that we do not relate our thinking to basic ideas. Let us therefore start with the beginning.

1. THE WORD OF GOD IS GOD. God's word is not something separate from God or subordinate to God. It is God as He manifests himself. Therefore,

2. THE WORD OF GOD IS GOD'S REVELATION. In relation to man God's revelation has two aspects. Thus

a. THE WORD IS THE COMMUNICATION OF GOD. God communicates His way and his will to man. "In many and various ways God spoke of old to our fathers by the prophets, but in these days at the end he has spoken to us by a Son." Hebr. 1:1-2.

b. THE WORD IS THE ACTION OF GOD. God has acted through the Word "that does what it proposes." "Then God said: Let there be light, and there was light." Genesis 1:3-4. And God continues to act through His Word. Therefore, THE WORD OF GOD IS A LIVING WORD.

3. THE WORD OF GOD IS CHRIST. "The Word became flesh and dwelt among us." John 1:14. Christ was the **communication** of God who revealed the true character of God and His kingdom. Christ was the

action of God who won the victory over sin and death. Christ is the LIVING WORD.

4. THE WORD OF GOD IS A MESSAGE. It is the good news of salvation to men who live in the realm of sin and death. It is the evangel, the gospel. It is the **communication** to men of the good news of salvation, but it is also the **action** of God. The word of forgiveness of sins is a **living word** which creates, for those who accept it, a new relationship to God, a newness of life.

5. THE WORD OF GOD IS GIVEN TO THE CHURCH. Through Christ and through the coming of the Holy Spirit the Word of God is the possession of those who accept it in faith, and, conversely, the Christian church is the fellowship of those who accept the Word of God in faith. Through the church God **communicates** to men today and through the church God **acts** among men. Needless to say, the church is not identified with any one ecclesiastical organization or hierarchy.

6. THE WORD OF GOD IN THE CHURCH HAS SEVERAL MANIFESTATIONS.

a. AS SACRAMENT. The Word is active in the sacraments where the covenant with God is established and renewed. It is established "by water and the Word" and it is renewed by the Word which is present "in, by, and under" the bread and the wine.

b. AS PREACHING. The Word is given to us to

proclaim. Where the emphasis in the sacraments is on action, the emphasis in preaching is on communication. Nevertheless, the word as preaching is also action. One who preaches is humbled by his task, but he must proclaim.

c. AS CONFESSION. "The Word is near you, on your lips and in your heart." Romans 10:8. Confession is more than a statement of conviction; it is an active, living word. One who confesses reviews events and convictions, but he also makes himself an instrument of a living and active power. It is inseparably connected with the establishment of the covenant in baptism.

d. AS SCRIPTURE. The church has brought us in scripture a record of the revelation in Christ, of

the founding of the church, and of the confession of the first congregation. But scripture is more than communication; it is an active, living word, available to all men.

7. THE WORD OF GOD IS OURS, yours and mine. It is given for us and to us. It can never be identified with any one person for, although saved, we are still sinners. The Word is active in us when we accept it in faith, knowing that faith is not an accomplishment of ours which must be rewarded. The Word is active through us, and this is the key to understanding of all Christian action and living.

Johannes Knudsen.

Grand View College, Nov. 25, 1949.

DISTRICT VII ANNUAL CONVENTION

Danevang, Texas, October 21 through 23, 1949

First, let us pay tribute to the hosts of the District VII Annual Convention. The Danevang congregation was started in 1894—just fifty-five years ago by migrants from Denmark into the Middle West and then on to Texas. The first settlers arrived in 1880 to form a community to preserve the Danish culture, language and the Lutheran Church.

We traveled down the continent through Iowa with its tall corn and beautiful nurseries still in full bloom with dahlias, chrysanthemums and many other flowers. Then, on into the fall splendor of the Ozarks with trees in vivid autumn golds, reds and auburns against a background of mountains, and the green fertile valleys speckled with white farm buildings. However, the geographic environment was very visible here with contrasting living conditions. Poverty and riches lived side by side.

Entering Texas gave the impression of an air of purity—so pure the hanging moss which grows on trees derives its only nourishment from the air. Here also were colorful hedges of firethorn.

Upon arriving at Danevang, we were greeted in a Danish hospitable manner by people that just beamed with the desire to make everyone feel a heartwarming welcome. The housing committee was headed by Fred C. Swendsen and each delegate, pastor and visitor was convinced that he or she had the most congenial host.

At opening services Friday, at 8 p. m., Rev. John Pedersen, pastor of the Danevang congregation, welcomed all visitors. Rev. Howard Christensen gave a sermon on "Comparison of Each Other." After the opening services, all gathered in the meeting house for evening coffee and chatting. The meeting house was decorated by the Ladies' Aid with Texas cotton, rice, air moss, cat tails, native grasses and pine.

Friday night, just before turning in, we gazed into the celestial sky and conceded that the stars did appear to shine brighter and that there were more of them in Texas, but on Saturday morning, the Texas sun

only got one eye opened before Jupiter manifested himself in atmospheric phenomena and redrenched the natives and guests with what the Texans term "a little rain." However, hip boots, slickers, piggie back, boats, or barefoot were merely ways and means of arriving at the meeting house.

Saturday morning devotion was led by Rev. Charles Terrell from Cozad. The theme of this message was "The Parents Part in Home Training in Relation to Christian Education." The business meeting followed, lasting until six, with several coffee interruptions. Our evening speaker was Rev. Clayton Nielsen of Denmark, Kans., who pointed out the five senses as pertaining to "Christianity, Personalities, and Getting the Most Out of Life."

Saturday evening, there was a short business meeting of the Women's Mission Society. The new president, Mrs. Clayton Nielsen of Denmark, Kans., presided.

Sunday morning we were wakened by the Texas native mocking birds singing as Old Sol rose on a beautiful and warm day. There were two morning services on Sunday, the first in Danish conducted by Rev. Vagn Duus, one of Danevang's former pastors. The English services were conducted by Rev. Erik Møller, who assisted Rev. John Pedersen at the communion table. The church was decorated by the Ladies' Aid, each pew having its own bouquet of mums, matching those on the altar and organ.

There was also a midafternoon speaker, Rev. Harris Jespersen of Kronborg, Nebr., who pointed out a train of thought on "Thankfulness and Virtues of Character."

The Sunday evening speaker for closing services, was Rev. P. Thomsen of the Omaha congregation who brought us to meditate on "What Christianity Means to Me."

The luscious meals served during the convention were all prepared at their meeting house, with Mrs. Jack Hansen as supervisor. The dining room arrangements and service were engineered by Mrs. W. Webb,

Jr. It was especially noted in this project, that their young people, plus husbands of the congregation, donned aprons and helped wherever possible. These two functions, eating and serving, were carried on courageously, come rain, sun, or mosquitoes. Harold Hansen, through his financial ability, made it possible for all to eat well at a minimum cost.

Sunday afternoon gave everyone, more or less, a chance to really visit and feel the friendship that grew steadily between Danevang's congregation and those attending the convention, either renewing old acquaintances or making new friends. We saw the new modern parsonage which lay at one end of the plat, consisting of the church, cemetery, meeting house and parsonage. Danevang's church was an army chapel, purchased as surplus, torn down, moved and rebuilt at its present site, through the cooperative efforts of the congregation.

Sunday evening we again had coffee at the meeting house and were entertained by various ad lib speakers. This informality seemed to mold all into one large family.

On Monday, bright and early, (5 a. m.) A. E. Berndt made arrangements for a group of fishers to go to the Gulf of Mexico to try their luck. Later on, the others followed, and all met at Port LaVaca for a real treat—a sea food dinner—furnished all guests by our splendid hosts—the Danevangs. A few of the people went further down the Gulf to see the ruins of the demolished city of Indianola, Texas.

In bidding our hosts goodbye, it was with a feeling that better and closer relationships were bound to be the outcome and many Danevangs promised to make a northward trek to Rosenberg, Nebr., for the 1950 convention.

Gliding back through the Oklahoma and Kansas oil country, it was with happy hearts that we returned to Nebraska to relate our experiences to all those whose thoughts had been with us in Texas but who had to stay at home to keep the home fires burning.

Mrs. Nels Larsen,
Omaha, Nebr.

Notes On District Convention At Danevang, Texas

Mrs. Larsen of Omaha has written interestingly and extensively about the wider aspects of the convention. I shall therefore merely mention a few items from the minutes of the business meeting which may be of common interest.

In spite of the long distances to travel we were pleasantly surprised to learn upon roll call that there were twenty-nine delegates and eight pastors present at the opening of the business meeting.

Rev. Erik K. Moller pointed out in his opening remarks and report to the convention that participation in the activities of the District and Synod is not to be considered a burden but a privilege. The Kingdom does not function in a vacuum.

The following decisions were made by the business sessions:

1) That we renew and redouble our efforts to raise

our Lutheran World Action quotas. The need is beyond telling.

- 2) That an offering be authorized from the Nebraska congregations to be given to the Nebraska Lutheran Welfare Council; and that the District president appoint two representatives to serve on (a) Family Child-care Department; (b) Institutional Chaplaincy Division, of the N.L.W.C.
- 3) That we authorize the District treasurer (L. C. Laugesen) to pay the proscribed amount necessary for District membership in the Lutheran Student Foundation. However, the request by L.S.F. to solicit our congregations for funds for its new building program at the University of Nebraska was not granted. It was the general feeling that too many solicitations for funds were in progress at the present time.
- 4) That the District underwrite financially and encourage the Junior Camp project at Nysted, Nebr. Howard Christensen and Harris Jespersen were elected to plan the project for 1950.
- 5) That the Pulpit Exchange program proposed by the District DAYPL organization be given official sanction and that Nov. 20, 1949, be the date for its fulfillment.
- 6) That the District Reading Circle be continued and that Vagn Duus remain the Reading Circle manager.
- 7) That we give consideration in our local groups to the invitation issued by Howard Christensen to a meeting of pastors and lay people (officers, etc.) at Nysted, Nebr., some time during the winter, for the purpose of discussing mutual problems and participating in inspirational and fellowship sessions.
- 8) That we accept the invitation from Rosenberg, Nebr., to hold the next District convention there.
- 9) That the District accept its quota to the Synodical Budget with the determination to raise the full amount.

Considerable time was given to consideration of our relationship to other Lutheran bodies. Erik Moller led the discussion. It seems to this writer that the sentiments expressed were searching and honest. How may we best express our Christian heritage and enter into Christian fellowship?

Howard Christensen was elected District president to succeed Erik Moller.

Harris A. Jespersen,
District Secretary.

Lutheran Tidings -- PUBLISHED BY THE DANISH
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF AMERICA

Office of Publication: Lutheran Tidings, Askov, Minnesota.

Editor: Rev. Holger Strandkov, Kimballton, Iowa.

Circulation Manager: Svend Petersen, Askov, Minnesota.

Subscription price: 1 year, \$1.25; 2 years, \$2.25

Published semi-monthly on the 5th and 20th of each month. Entered as second class matter September 16, 1942, at the post office at Askov, Minn., under the act of March 3, 1879.

DISTRICT VI CONVENTION

Lake Norden, S. D., Sept. 23-25, 1949

At the evening service which opened the convention of District VI, the Rev. Enok Mortensen preached the sermon. Before the service was closed the Rev. Marius Krog welcomed all of the members of the convention on behalf of his people. He mentioned the opportunity we were to have of hearing a medical doctor formerly of Latvia.

Following the Bible hour on Saturday morning, conducted by the Rev. Harold Ibsen, the business meeting opened with all of the district pastors and the synodical president in attendance. All congregations except White, S. D., had delegates present. The White congregation was represented by its pastor. The district president, the Rev. Marius Krog, was elected chairman of the meeting.

Presentation of the district president's report opened several discussions of business. The announcement was made of plans for an institute for church council members. This was in view of the expressed desire of those who attended the institute at Lake Norden in August.

It seemed to be the general feeling that the Sunday school teachers in our district should be given a chance to go to an institute especially planned for them. After several teachers had shown themselves in favor of such a project, it was voted that a committee be appointed to plan a Sunday School Teachers' Institute for District VI during the next year.

The Rev. Marius Krog mentioned the fact that district business could more easily be carried on, if there were a district constitution. Plans were made to consider a constitution at the next convention. Other important items of business were a discussion of work among the young people, and a presentation by several people of items of interest and actual instances in the program for getting assurances for Displaced Persons.

A report was then given by a delegate from each congregation. A few items are given here as taken from the reports:

In Gayville improvements have been made by replacing trees around the church. There were seven confirmands this year. There is an active Young People's society and an active Ladies' Aid.

Forty-three new members have been taken into the Viborg church. There were eight confirmands. Under the direction of five Sunday school teachers, the attendance has increased 50 per cent in two years. Grounds around the parsonage and church have been landscaped by the voluntary work of members of the congregation. A Danish and an English Ladies' Aid, and the Senior League are all three active in church work. There were great festivities when a Hammond organ was presented to the church by the Ibsen and Lauritsen families. The new parsonage is not only paid for, but extra money collected was used for other improvements.

In Lake Norden services are held alternately in the North church and in the Badger church. There is a

regular attendance at Sunday school, and an enrollment of forty-six pupils. The young people's group is active. They have presented folk dance exhibitions at the state fair and held exchange visits with young people from the Indian school at Flandreau. The Badger Ladies' Aid bought a baptismal font for their church. They also procured a parking lot beside the church. The Good Hope Aid decorated their hall and purchased light fixtures for it and for the church.

Ruthton has an active Sunday school with monthly teachers' meetings. The Vacation Bible school had forty-five pupils and six teachers. About twenty-five members in the Young People's society have contributed \$50 to the Riber fund and attend church services regularly. About a half ton of clothing was shipped for Lutheran World Relief. The junior catechetical class had seven members; the adult class four. All catechumens study for two years. An active Junior choir has nineteen robed members; the Senior choir has sixteen members. One of the circles paid for curbing and paving on the parsonage property.

At Diamond Lake both the Sunday school and Vacation Bible school are active. The young people have thirty members who meet regularly for folk dancing. They purchased equipment for their records and gave a demonstration at the annual Harvest Festival. Money was collected for the Riber fund. There were fourteen in the confirmation class, seven of whom were confirmed after two years of instruction. The altar offering at Harvest Festival was divided among the Old People's Home, the Santal Mission, and L.W.A. The church property has been landscaped and a piece of ground north of the church was purchased for the planting of a windbreak.

At White, the church attendance has increased. Services are held on every other Sunday, instead of once a month as formerly. A new communion set and new candelabras have been presented to the church. A new cement porch was recently added to the church entrance. There was a confirmation class of four members. The Ladies' Aid also meets.

In Tyler one class of confirmands had nineteen members; the adult class had three members. The Sunday school has 125 pupils with twelve teachers. Two services, Danish and English, are held each Sunday. There is an active Men's club. The Young People's society presented a new organ to the church. The grounds were completely landscaped, sidewalks were laid around the church, and curbing put in, in front of the parsonage. The street in front of the church was resurfaced. Both the church and parsonage were painted.

Following these reports, the Rev. Alfred Jensen congratulated the district for being able to give such fine reports. He also spoke to us of several phases of the work in our synod.

The district officers elected were: President, the Rev. Marius Krog; vice-president, the Rev. Harold Ibsen; secretary-treasurer, Mrs. Carl Miller. On Sat-

(Continued on page 6)

Our Women's Work

Mrs. Johanne Lillehøj, Kimballton, Iowa
Editor

Annual Meeting Of W.M.S. District III

"Be ye doers of the Word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves."—James 1:22.

Many women in churches throughout our synod are trying to do what they can in different phases of work for others. ~~May we continue faithfully!~~

The Women's Missionary Society sponsored the program Saturday evening, October 1, for delegates and friends attending District III annual convention at Trinity Church, Chicago, Ill.

Mrs. Ernest Nielsen, our representative for three years, presided over the meeting. She read a very interesting letter from Ida Egede, national president. This included a welcome, a hope expressed that the South Slesvig Project be continued, gratitude for help toward Grand View College Furniture Fund Debt, and a plea for more effort to assist the paper, "Child's Friend." Another letter from Mrs. Agneta Jensen, treasurer, was also read. In this one we learned that the Grand View College Furniture Fund Debt was down to \$649.38.

Plans were made to continue sending clothing and money to South Slesvig. This help is greatly appreciated. Often children in the same family have to take turns wearing one pair of shoes.

We decided to use the evening offering for Grand View Furniture Debt. Our collection was \$65.15. It is our hope that the debt can be cleared this year.

Mrs. A. Engelbreth was elected district representative for three years. "Child's Friend" also has a debt. In the future we will try to help children appreciate the paper. Suggestions were made to send subscriptions to homes. Children are very eager to get their own mail! The letter corner can be encouraged by Sunday school teachers. Boys and girls can write interesting articles about their churches. Cuts are very expensive. We shall try to understand and support the paper generously.

"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."—Psalms, 46. With this psalm Mrs. Ernest Nielsen opened the general meeting.

The Misses Marion Thorup and Alma Jensen sang a duet accompanied by Ellen Andersen at the pipe organ.

Mrs. Marietta Strandskov gave a most interesting talk. For 20 years her mother was treasurer of Women's Mission Society. As a child, she often went on W.M.S. (D.K.M.) errands, such as taking receipts to her mother's friends. Now, Mrs. Hostrup can only follow the activities from her wheel chair. However, how much we have appreciated her past active interest continued, and the work Mrs. Strandskov has carried on from her mother's inspiration! We will surely miss her in District III. Thank you, Mrs. Strandskov, and the very best wishes to you in your new home and your church in Kimballton, Iowa.

May we also add our greetings and a hearty thank

you to Mrs. Viggo Hansen, who will not be in our group after this. She was not with us at the convention, but we remembered her. She will soon be in Bridgeport, Conn.

God's richest blessings on you both! Please come back to see us when you can.

Rev. Ernest Nielsen spoke of women as the contributory streams from remote and unheard of places. He made a threefold plea for unity. First, the deepening concern of the church as a witness in the world today. We may call it Evangelism. There is need for something to hold to; something that will sustain and guide, something that will inspire. The only thing that does this is religion. Second, a deepening concern for fellowship in the church. There is so much to share. Third, a deepening concern to confess in the church. The plan of unity is good because all of us must work together. In this unity there are the blessings of the missionary movement. Missionaries reach out farther to lend a helping hand to those who need.

Thank you, Rev. Ernest Nielsen, for your inspiring message on this evening.

The meeting closed by singing, "Look From Thy Sphere of Endless Day."

Many thanks for an excellent meeting of the District III Women's Mission Society and sincerest greetings to all other branches of work in our synod.

Laura E. Boose.

St. Stephen's Church, Chicago, Ill.

Report Of The W.M.S. District No. VI

In a discussion of the Women's group at the District VI convention, the opinion seemed to be that the work of the mission groups and the missionary society was best carried on within the framework of organizations such as the Ladies' Aids—rather than as separate organizations.

A summary of reports from the various Women's groups showed that funds for the support of W.M.S. and other causes were raised by sunshine boxes, birthday boxes, sale of greeting cards, bake sales, serving at farm auctions and serving lunches and other meals.

Several unusual ways were reported which might be of interest to other groups. Diamond Lake reported distributing birthday cards with all members' names and birthdays on it. As each birthday arrived, each member dropped a dime in the envelope with the card, and the envelopes were turned in at the end of the year. Tyler reported making large tablecloths and renting them out at 25c a piece. Ruthton Ladies' Aid held a plant sale in the spring. Gayville had birthday calendars made which they sold for 75c each. Each member was responsible for placing ten names on the calendar for which they received 25c a name.

The various Ladies' Aid groups reported generous

Lutheran World Action 1949

There is now less than one month left of 1949. Many congregations have taken care of their share of Lutheran World Action, but there is a number who are far from the goal. May I urge them to complete their collections and send it to the Synod Treasurer by January 1.

The many reasons for supporting Lutheran World Action this year: Help to Orphaned Lutheran Missions of Finland and Germany, restoration of churches and charitable and religious institutions of many Lutheran countries in Europe, aid to relief work, child feeding, refugees in Europe and Palestine, and especially this year, the resettlement of thousands of displaced persons of the Lutheran faith from the Baltic States have been described often and adequately in this paper and in specially prepared literature. It is needless for me to do so.

I only want to state that the cost of the resettlement of 30-35,000 DPs will exceed by far the estimated amount placed on the budget. It cost \$125,000.00 in the month of October alone, Dr. Empie says. If we are to do our share of the resettlement work as the government has allotted it to us under the Wiley DP Law, we will need our goal of \$4,000,000.00 for all eight bodies in the National Lutheran Council, and we will need to collect our share of \$21,832.00.

The Synod Treasurer reported only \$12,320.00 as of November 23. For the sake of bringing Christian care and love to our fellowmen in distress in Europe as elsewhere, let us give that \$1.50 per confirmed member by January 1.

It seems a shame to figure out in dollars and cents. Our hearts should be so filled with sympathy and understanding love that we should share our means with the needy and not ask just what our quota is.

Let us prepare for Christmas by keeping faith with fellow Christians.

Alfred Jensen.

RETURN

"The church is dead," they say, "It has grown cold,
The soul departed from its ancient walls,"
But out of war, and suffering untold,
Mankind will turn to seek its doors . . . there falls
The tramp of feet returning, even now:
The need of God so great, men's strength so spent,
There must be altars where the throngs can bow,
To agonize, to plead, and to repent.
And there will be the Presence as before:
Compassionate, and ready to forgive,
And peace will dwell within men's heart once more,
And out of seeming death again will live
The church triumphant. O men, shout and cry:
"The church of the living God can never die!"

Grace Noll Crowell.

donations to our own causes—the dormitory fund, Santal Mission, L.W.A., Children's Homes, Old People's Homes, the Seaman's Mission and their own sick, infirm and aged, besides contributions to March of Dimes, Red Cross and veterans' groups.

Mrs. Carl Miller,
District Secretary.

District VI Convention

(Continued from page 4)

urday afternoon after the close of business, the Rev. Alfred Jensen gave a talk on the organizational framework of the United Lutheran Church in America. Later the women held a meeting with representatives giving reports from the women's groups in our district.

Many people were in attendance at the services and meetings on Sunday. For most of those present, the highlight of the day was the talk by Dr. Romanes Ausgaps. This young doctor, his wife, small daughter, and father-in-law, were present at our meetings for the day. He told us how difficult the life of the Displaced Person or family can be. As a professional man he had suffered somewhat less than others. He emphasized the fact that people in Europe are looking to the Americans for a chance. The people are willing to do any kind of work. All DPs are carefully screened, so there is no risk in giving an assurance for them.

The entire convention was fine, and thanks are due to all those on the program. Special thanks are due to the hosts and hostesses who made our stay so enjoyable. The pastors who had part in the program are also to be thanked for their contributions.

Muriel Nielsen,
Convention Secretary.



"LOVE'S WORKING ARM" IS TEN YEARS OLD



This Finnish family, forced to evacuate their home because of war with Russia, piled as many household goods as possible onto a sled before leaving.



African heathens believe the birth of twins to be a bad omen, so such are usually left to die of hunger and exposure. Christian missionaries in this Tanganyika mission field overcome such superstitions with the Gospel of Jesus Christ!



Lutheran clergymen who served as chaplains with the armed forces counseled many servicemen and women in personal and family problems, and in helping keep their faith strong.

Lutheran World Action is ten years old! Actually begun in 1939 but not named until 1940, "Love's Working Arm" has now grown into a healthy young giant.

Plans for aiding Finland after her "winter war" with Russia, for sustaining isolated German missions, and for relieving refugees' sufferings were drawn up early in 1939. Actual launching of the first concerted financial appeal among all eight bodies of the National Lutheran Council did not take place until November of that year. The drive, which carried over into 1940, netted \$239,045.

As ever-spreading battlefronts cut off life-lines from sponsoring Lutherans in Germany, Norway, Denmark, and Finland, Lutheran World Action funds were used to bridge the gaps to "orphaned" Lutheran mission fields in New Guinea, India, China, Japan, Africa and Palestine. Lutheran World Action saved these "orphans" for the kingdom of God!

The Church's spiritual ministry to its men and women in the armed forces was maintained by the NLC's Army-Navy Service Commission through LW Action. Similar chaplaincy services were provided by the Council's American Missions commission in industrial communities surrounding mushrooming war plants. In cooperation with the Missouri Synod, LWAction funds and civilian pastors offered a spiritual ministry to prisoners of war. And, all these were but preparation for the tasks which lay ahead!

Following the war, "Love's Working Arm" was challenged to bear greater burdens. Where an annual average of \$1,125,000 served to meet all **needs** in the years before 1946, LWAction **needs** required receipts of \$10,502,356 in 1946-47. The following year, 1948, saw amassing of more than \$4,000,000 for the **needs** of others. **Only the most pressing needs** are included in the 1949 **minimum** Lutheran World Action goal of \$4,000,000.

This near \$25,000,000 cumulative ten-year expression of love by U. S. and Canadian Lutherans to a **needy** humanity throughout the world has paid dividends to both receivers and givers. Sharing their bounty together through Lutheran World Action has not only taught NLC congregations better stewardship in meeting others' **needs**, but it has also given Lutherans in America a closer sense of unity, and a deeper insight into their God-given destiny!

Lutheran World Action policy in helping Lutheran churches in Europe to rebuild, both spiritually and physically, has not been to make them more dependent on our American churches. Rather, they have been encouraged to help themselves. Toward this end, "Love's Working Arm" has supplied basic needs—money, materials, leadership—and thus has given them the encouragement to accomplish reconstruction under their own power. European churches which were virtually demolished by relentless bombings are today taking shape once more—rising brick by brick, by heart and hand power.

Our Lutheran churches, with other agencies, have partially solved the problem of Displaced Persons, but an even greater, more major decision still faces not only Lutherans, but all Christians and the world as well. It is what to do about the 12,000,000 refugees of German ethnic origin who are now in Germany and Austria. An increasingly heavy burden on weak and struggling German and Austrian economies, their plight grows more desperate day by day, with no solution in sight!

But refugees are not the whole problem. A still-hungry, yet-shivering Europe, weak from war's ravages, continues to **need** the physical and spiritual nourishment which Lutherans in America can and must help to provide. Food, clothing, medical supplies, and other materials, such as given by our churches through Lutheran World Relief, have sustained physical lives, continuing sparks of hope for a better world.

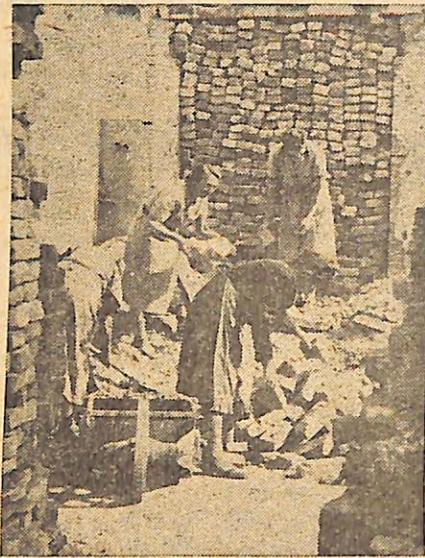
Anyone who has not been in Europe since the end of the war cannot possibly imagine the human misery, broken families, physical destruction, and moral and spiritual chaos left in



"Lebersmude," or "tired from the struggle to keep alive," is the expression shown on this woman's 40-year old face. "Vater ver-

IN TEN YEARS OF SHARING FOR THE NEEDS OF OTHERS

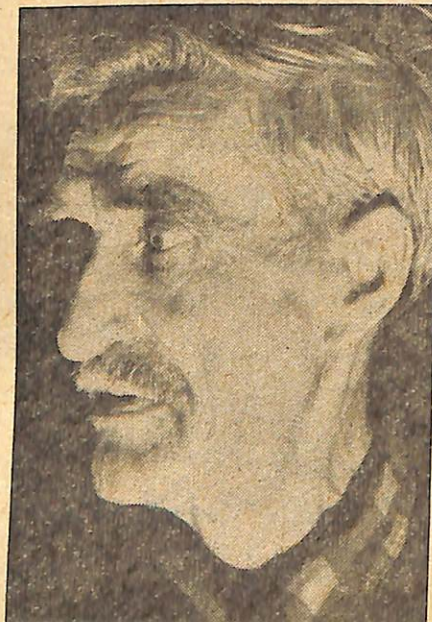
LUTHERAN WORLD ACTION NEARS \$25 MILLION SUM TOTAL



These German women salvage bricks from the rubble left by bombings. Stones still in usable condition will help rebuild their battered church building.

the wake of victory—and defeat. Because, though actual fighting ceased with the capitulation of the Axis powers—enabling us here in America to settle down to living lives of normalcy again—"peace" for the people of Central Europe has meant only untold sufferings and hardships, even greater than during physical conflict.

Sensing a Christian responsibility to aid thousands of homeless refugees in the teeming displaced persons' camps of Europe, the National Lutheran Council this past year has taken the lead



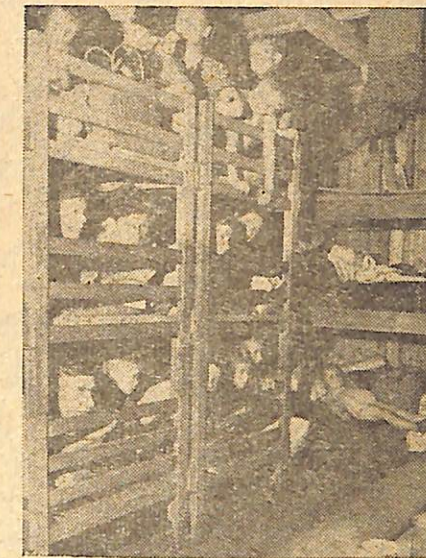
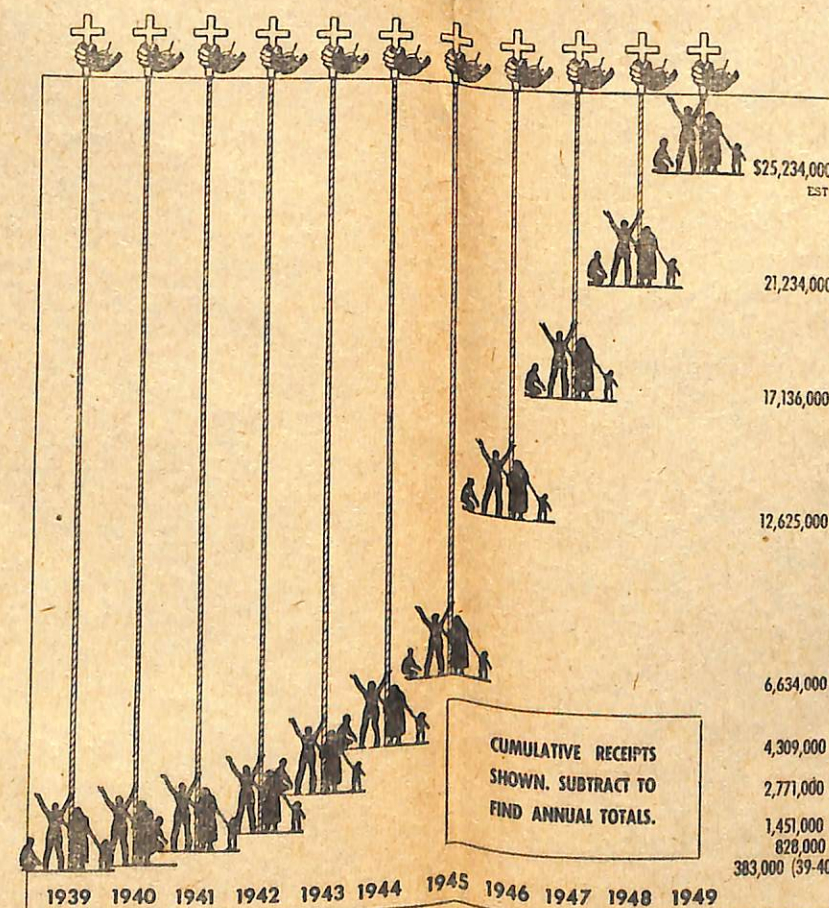
zweifelt"—a distraught father, at his wit's end how to provide for his family, wonders whether life ever again will hold any promise of happiness.

U. S. and Canadian Lutherans can feel a thrill of achievement on this tenth anniversary of Lutheran World Action. In ten years of sharing with others through "Love's Working Arm," they have cumulatively given nearly \$25,000,000! In addition, approximately \$10,000,000 in material-relief goods was channeled by Lutherans in America through Lutheran World Relief including CROP, and nearly another million through Canadian LWR.

The unique quality of these impressive figures is that the gifts they represent were in addition to the regular benevolence programs of the eight participating bodies of the National Lutheran Council. The \$25 millions were allocated for distribution in the following manner (Counting on a full \$1,000,000 from 1949 appeal):

Church Abroad	\$11,586,600
Orphaned Missions	4,821,177
Service Commission	3,204,052
Resettlement	1,552,234
Lutheran World Relief	1,421,890
Administration, Promotion (5%)	1,260,000
Domestic Emergencies	1,045,000
(Welfare, American Missions, G. I. Student Service, POW's)	
Emergency Reserves and Operating Balance	278,000
Miscellaneous	65,047
Ten-Year (1939-49) TOTAL:	\$25,234,000

L.W.A. LIFE LINES, 1939-1949



This picture does not exaggerate living conditions in the refugee camps of Europe. Up to 300 individuals may be forced to share one drafty barracks this winter.

among U. S. Protestants in resettling
DPs, joining other voluntary agencies
in the greatest mass-immigration oper-
ation in American history—receiving
205,000 "Delayed Pilgrims."

The first year of "Operation New Neighbor," Lutheran plan to grant jobs and homes for at least 35,000 refugees, has already required more than \$407,000 in Lutheran World Action funds. By November 1, 1949, over 8,000 "modern pioneers" had set foot on



Thanksgiving this year in America will have real meaning for about 10,000 NLC-sponsored DPs who will have arrived by that time. For thousands left behind in Europe, it will be but another day of increased anxiety over the future.

American soil under NLC sponsorship. With the peak of this program not yet reached, for each person arrived so far it has cost about \$66. And, if the rate of Lutheran-sponsored DP arrivals continues at the present 2,000 individuals per month, NLC leaders anticipate a minimum U. S. Resettlement budget in 1950 of more than a million dollars—European expenses not included! (A sizeable share of this expense, however, is recoverable in the form of inland transportation loans to arriving DPs, advances which have already started to return). Canadian Lutherans with the cooperation of their government, have helped to sponsor many thousands of DPs also.

The worthiness of this tremendous program cannot immediately be measured in dollars and cents, or in other human terms. The opportunities for living which U. S. Lutherans have given to more than 28,000* dispossessed people" mean an investment in things money cannot buy—rich spiritual traditions, valuable national heritages, skilled workmen—potentially-valuable citizens and church members. By receiving these "New Neighbors," we will have helped to provide a renewing, invigorating transfusion of God-fearing, freedom-loving people for both our country and the Lutheran Church as well.

* (Job and housing assurances for 28,000 individuals had been obtained by Nov. 1).



"Mother is dead." She died during the flight. Father and sons have TB. A sick father nurses his sick children . . . for what?



DPs suffering from tuberculosis in a British zone hospital in Germany receive visits from chaplains of the Lutheran World Federation.



Bishop Lajos Ordass, Lutheran primate of Hungary, still imprisoned by the Communists, exemplifies the courage of Lutherans under persecution behind the Iron Curtain.



This Estonian ex-DP family, now settled in their new Iowa home, is typical of the thousands of clean-cut Lutheran Christians we have helped through LWAction.

"No man, having put his hand to the plow,
and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God."

—Luke 9:62.

How much longer will Lutheran World Action be needed? When will it end and how much will it cost? These are questions our people are asking, the answers to which they have a right to know. But they are questions which no one can answer now.

Complications of postwar adjustment have added to our responsibilities, as for example, forcing us to take title to Tanganyika and Palestine orphan mission properties. We must also continue inter-church aid to strengthen distressed Lutheran churches in Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Poland—in other countries behind the Iron Curtain—to keep them strong for Christ!

We must not become weary in well-doing. God continues to grant Lutherans in America a bounty from which to give. The **needs** of His children everywhere continue to exist. We **dare** not, we **must** not, we **cannot stop helping** through LWAction! "Blood transfusions" from "Love's Working Arm" to **give** and **sustain** life to less-fortunate, less-blessed brothers must be continued **whenever, wherever** and as long as they are **needed**. To withdraw the healing therapy of Lutheran World Action now would be like building up a fatally-injured patient for the operation which would restore his health, then suddenly throwing him out of the hospital.

We have begun a good work. God expects us to finish it. Lutherans in America must pray God that they may have the confidence of the Apostle Paul when he wrote to the Church at Philippi: "I am sure that He who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ."



"Stewardship: African Style." These Tanganyika Lutherans bring offerings for their "bounty" to their "orphaned" mission church. Doctor F. A. Schlotz at right.

DISTRICT III CONVENTION

Trinity Lutheran Church, Chicago, September 30-October 2

The District meeting of 1949 was scheduled to be at Trinity Lutheran Church, Chicago, Ill. Always when we assemble at Trinity a great tradition of service in our Synod stands before us. Also this year as we assembled from various congregations Trinity stood before us in its majestic quiet, very attractive and inviting. The pastors from the District had all arrived for the opening session and likewise the majority of the delegates were registered and prepared to participate.

Following a custom which had been neglected for a few years the pastors of the District met in the home of the host church pastor, Rev. Ernest D. Nielsen, for the purpose of a study period followed by discussion and comment. It is a tradition that the host pastor introduces the topic. Following this order Rev. Ernest Nielsen presented the topic "Commentary on Paul's letter to the Romans," written by Andrew Nygren of Sweden. This proved a very challenging topic and each one contributed comments to the subject. Refreshments were served by Mrs. Ernest Nielsen, which gave a very cozy touch to the fellowship. The evening meal, which had been prepared by the ladies of Trinity church for the pastors and their families, was served in a beautiful manner in the lecture auditorium.

Evening Meeting

The president of the District, Rev. Viggo Hansen, pastor of St. John's Lutheran Church in Marinette, and the church in Menominee, Mich., conducted the opening service, with Rev. Ernest Nielsen officiating at the altar. A very fine attendance was noted. As usual venerable Mr. Dupont-Hansen was at the organ. Rev. Viggo Hansen had chosen for his text Matthew 5:13-16. His topic, "The Task of the Church," was related to the general convention theme, "Hold fast that which thou hast," from Second Timothy, chapter two. "Though the task be great," said Rev. Hansen, "we must trust that God supplies the strength required. Our Synod is small, but though small we have the light and the strength in the midst of mounting adversities; and gates of hell shall not prevail against us." An invitation was extended after the worship service to meet in the lecture hall for refreshments served by the ladies of the church.

Saturday Morning Meeting

Saturday morning had been set aside for discussion of the topic "Our Relationship to other Lutheran Synods and especially what has been accomplished in recent months by the synodical committee on Lutheran Church relations." This topic had been in the minds of many because of the constantly appearing articles in our church papers relative to a possible merger with the United Lutheran Church of America. President Rev. Viggo Hansen had asked Rev. Alfred E. Sorensen, pastor of St. Stephen's Lutheran Church, to present an outline for the enlightenment and discussion of this very important topic. Pastor Sorensen chose to follow the reports of the committee on Church Relationship and stated that he could not go beyond what had been acted upon or received consideration by the committee and the convention. Rev. Sorensen had also asked Rev. Ernest Nielsen to assist especially in defining certain doctrinal positions of our Synod as well as the United Lutheran Church. Reading the report from the National convention and emphasizing and clarifying certain issues, brought questions from the floor which indicated clearly that many are thinking in the terms of a larger association with other Lutheran Synods where much of the present historical background could be maintained. Certainly it is also well to recognize from the comments made at this convention that many would oppose any further consideration of merger with other bodies.

Another angle of approach was touched upon by Rev. Strandskov as he referred to a meeting held by representatives of the eight National Lutheran Council bodies. However, this particular type of federation could not be taken into consideration by this District convention. Note: Later in the session it was decided to entertain an opinion poll on this question. This opinion poll did not reveal great enthusiasm in either direction and could not be considered official. It

was, however, evident that a leaning in the direction of Lutheran unity was desired.

Saturday Afternoon—Business Session

The business session of the congregation opened with the singing of a hymn and a prayer. Rev. Viggo Hansen, president of the District, gave a greeting of welcome. A roll call of the delegates and pastors present was taken, and revealed a total of 43 votes.

A motion was passed to grant Charles Lauritzen of Dwight, Ill., synodical treasurer, voting privilege. As chairman of the meeting, Rev. Viggo Hansen was elected; Rev. Alfred E. Sorensen elected convention secretary. The minutes of the last annual convention held at Dwight, Ill., September, 1948, were read and approved. At this time a welcome was extended to Rev. Erik Back of the Children's Home. Walter Andersen, president of Trinity Church, asked for the floor and welcomed all the guests.

The treasurer, Knud Overgaard, Trinity Church, rendered his report, which had been properly audited, indicating a balance in the treasury of \$222.61. A motion was passed to approve the report of the treasurer.

Rev. Viggo Hansen rendered his presidential report. From the president's report we glean the following points. He calls our attention to the fact that the Home Mission program has been spurred on by the confirmation of adults. This indicates further Home Mission work is very essential, that others might find the way of Life. He recommends the continuance of fall meetings or Harvest festivals, thus strengthening fellowship. Much improvement in church property has taken place. Relocation has been under consideration and is being solved in Racine, Wis. The Bethania congregation has built a new modern parsonage near the site where they hope to build their new church. Rev. Strandskov of Dwight, Ill., has accepted a call to Kimballton, Iowa. Rev. Viggo Hansen will leave Marinette, Wis., and Menominee, Mich., to take over the work in Bridgeport and Byram, Conn.

Evangelism will be the topic of conversation and work in this District before long. Lutheran World Action for 1948 was within a small amount of meeting the quota. Our quota for Lutheran World Action for 1949 is the same as for 1948, \$1.50 for each confirmed member. The attention of the District was called to the fact that at the convention in Greenville a change in the fiscal year of our Synod was made to conform to the calendar year. The amount of the District quota for 1949 is \$4,225.00. For 1950 it is \$5,500.00. The president concluded his report with thanks for the cooperation he had experienced during the past year.

The question of Evangelism was discussed briefly. Rev. Hansen stated it is the object of the National Lutheran Council to deepen the life of the Church through Evangelism and not simply to make it a membership drive. It is to reach the unchurched.

The question was asked to what extent "One Great Hour," the radio program appeal for world service had been successful. Representatives from each congregation indicated general approval. Various comments were made on our church program, how a church developed in a new community, the influence of the Sunday school, and others stated the young people would build the church of the future. The summer and vacation school influenced the community. Churches like Trinity remain steadfast though others move away from their original area. This gives greater responsibility to Trinity and like situated churches. Rev. Strandskov brought to the attention of the convention the work of the displaced persons committee.

Rev. Ernest Nielsen suggested to the convention that an expression of appreciation be given to Rev. Viggo Hansen and wife and Holger Strandskov and wife for their faithful service to the District, and greetings were sent from this meeting to the other two District conventions in session at this time.

Reports of the Delegates

The secretary gleaned the following remarks from the various representatives: Mrs. Holgaard of Clinton spoke of

improvements such as hearing aids being installed in the church for the benefit of aged members. A type of used clothing sale had been very successful.

Mr. Rosendale, reporting for Trinity, stressed the visit of Bishop Fuglsang-Damgaard; the Young People's activities were stimulated by the giving of a play; the Mission Group is very active; the Visitation committee worked in groups of two making an "Every Member Canvass"; Sunday school was constantly improving and a series of lectures was planned last year and was well attended.

J. M. Jensen reported for St. Stephen's. Each year a Fall meeting is conducted with visiting speakers; the tenth anniversary of the dedication of the new church was observed last year; in 1950 the 75th anniversary will be celebrated. A recognition of Niels Andersen, aged 90, was given; each year the vacation school is conducted, the children are housed at the church during this period. The Luther League of St. Stephen's has presented several successful moving picture evenings while the senior group studied Church teachings and practices of other denominations.

Marinette and Menominee did not have a representative at the convention, therefore it fell to the lot of Rev. Hansen to itemize their work. A Sunday School Institute had been conducted and a Reformation festival was held; property had been improved; a unique service was the services at the County hospital, Rev. Hansen cooperating with other Lutheran pastors.

Carl Jensen reported from Dwight. Pastor Strandskov's departure for his new field was mentioned, there had been considerable growth in the congregation; the Sunday school was aware of its fundamental objective, teaching the Word of God to the child, he should be trained; approximately \$156.00 had been sent by the children of St. Peder's Sunday school to Lutheran World Action.

Mr. Engelbrecht reported for Racine, Wis., stating that a very successful Young People's convention had been held, also mission meeting. At the present time Sunday school is conducted in the basement of the new parsonage. There is progress in the work.

The delegates' reports were heard with great interest, much more was stated, but the above is a summary of interesting facts. The business session concluded with election of the following: President, Rev. Alfred E. Sorensen, St. Stephen's, Chicago; and vice-president and secretary, Rev. John Enselmann, Clinton, Iowa.

Saturday Evening Meeting

The Saturday evening meeting was under the auspices of the Women's Mission Society. Mrs. Holger Strandskov and Rev. Ernest D. Nielsen were the speakers, and a vocal duet was sung by the Misses Alma Jensen and Marion Thorup of Trinity Church. The offering received was given to the fund for furnishings at the Grand View College dormitory.

Sunday

At the morning service the sermon was given by Rev. John Enselmann and Communion was administered by Rev. Erik Back.

The afternoon meeting was under the leadership of Rev. Ernest Nielsen, Rev. Robert Schmidt being the speaker. His subject was "Analyzing Our Giving."

The evening meeting began with a musical program including two organ numbers by George Dupont-Hansen, two baritone selections by Gunnar Nelson, and an anthem by the choir. The message of the evening was given by Rev. Alfred E. Sorensen under the title, "Religious Horizons." At the close of the session, Rev. Ernest D. Nielsen conducted a very fitting devotion.

Throughout the entire session we appreciated the efficiency with which the Ladies' Aid and Trinity Guild prepared and served the meals, and extra refreshments. The hospitality of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran congregation is hereby recognized and we would give thanks to each one who contributed to the success of our meeting.

Alfred E. Sorensen,
Convention Secretary.



YULE—Published by the Danish American Young People's League. Rev. Harris A. Jespersen, Editor. 48 pages. Price 65c.

YULE appears again this year in a most festive cover, designed by Mrs. K. Hansen, Withee, Wis. It portrays a winter scene from Denmark, a combined snow—church—and Christmas scene, a simple design and yet very decorative.

The contents are of the very best, a veritable gold mine of excellent Christmas stories, no less than five, a large number comparatively speaking.—The feature articles, such as Mrs. Ibsen's about the DP family, Harald Riber's about his friend, Mr. Tudu, Ernst Christensen's summation of a Grand Canyon experience and Mary McCrum about Regional Christmas, esp. Christmas in Maine, are all well illustrated and hold the attention throughout.

We had intended merely paging through the volume, but we were immediately held by Clayton Nielsen's and Leif Kirkegaard's meditations and we found we could not let go until we had read through the entire YULE.

It is a worthy magazine that should find a place in every home in our synod. And what a fine gift to any American friend.

H. S.

CHRISTMAS—An Annual of Christmas Literature and Art. Edited by Randolph E. Haugan. Volume Nineteen. Published by Augsburg Publishing House, 425 S. 4th St., Minneapolis, Minn. 72 pages; Paper, \$1.00; Cloth, \$2.00.

A number of special features mark this volume of CHRISTMAS with distinction. The Christmas story by Saint Luke and Saint Matthew is by tradition the opening section of the book.—Lee Mero, Minneapolis artist, has illustrated these eight pages. The story of the DP family is touching and timely, and as the author has been active in Europe in behalf of Displaced Persons, the story has an authentic tone.

A series of splendid photographs have been used to illustrate the section called "Telemark Lake Prepares for Christmas." The picture shows Americans of Norwegian ancestry in Telemark Lake, N. J., dressed in Scandinavian costumes. The songs illustrating this section are well known Scandinavian melodies.

The Christmas poems seem to be better than ever, amongst them, "The Blue of Heaven" by Grundtvig, and "Thy Little Ones, Dear Lord, Are We" by Brorson, as well as many modern.

"Christmas in the Country" is a section sure to be enjoyed by young and old. Two full-color reproductions suitable for framing are the frontispiece; as there are several appropriate photographs of winter scenes.

CHRISTMAS is in every way the very finest in American literature and art, worthy of a place in all American homes.

H. S.

YULETIDE—A Children's Christmas Magazine; Edited by Randolph E. Haugan. Published by Augsburg Publishing House, Minneapolis, Minn. 28 pages; 35c.

This is a most fascinating Christmas magazine for children, beautifully illustrated. The special feature throughout the magazine is: Christmas in England, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Norway, Sweden, Holland, etc., and beautifully illustrated. Also a Christmas story, entitled "One Of The Least Ones" and a number of Christmas poems makes it a most charming and worthy Children's book.

H. S.

CHILD'S CHRISTMAS CHIMES—Edited by Rev. Joseph M. Girtz. Published by Lutheran Publishing House, Blair, Nebr. 64 pages. Price 30c.

CHILD'S CHRISTMAS CHIMES is a charming magazine for children. The contents are well written within the grasp of grade school children, and even the littlest ones will enjoy it with mother, father, sister, or brothers. There is something to read, something to see and something to do.

We highly recommend this little Children's Christmas book to every home where there are children.

H. S.

Grand View College And Our Youth

Vacation Vagaries

Like so many others I had quite a work schedule made out for Thanksgiving vacation, but I am much afraid that frustration will be my lot, also like so many others. The turkey is pressing my diaphragm and there is very little blood left for the brain, so all I can manage to do is to indulge in a little journalism. Perhaps that will salvage my conscience, but I have already discovered that it is next to impossible to write lying down with a portable on one's stomach.

Wednesday was a wild day with everyone scurrying around, getting ready to leave, but it was also a proud day, for the basketball team arrived home with the first basketball scalp safely in its collective belt. It had gone all the way to the Mississippi river to massacre Muscatine, and although the massacre was only a victory by five points, 51-46, it was swell to get off to a good start. Seven lettermen from last year made the trip, plus three freshmen, plus Coach Knutie and his assistant, Ted Kjaer. The station wagon went on its first basketball trip and it proved to be a victory wagon.

But things had been humming pretty much all the last week. Tuesday evening a real, honest-to-goodness Copenhagen actress showed up to do readings and singing for those who understood Danish. It was quite wonderful and even a row of city gals who knew only three words of Danish between them thought she was marvelous. The last U. K. program was also a humdinger. It certainly made up for some of the earlier fiascos, and Beverly Gravengaard deserves a lot of credit for a really splendid Stephen Foster program. She claims the credit goes to Olaf Lund, but we must give a lot of it to the musical talent of which we seem to have an abundance this year.

I'm going to write about the Danish gymnasts who were here a week ago. It isn't that they weren't good company. They were all that and more, and it was fun to talk to them, but I still haven't recovered from all the aches and pains I got in my joints and muscles just by watching their exercises. I enjoyed the exhibition though, and so did 200 other Grand Viewites and about a thousand other people who came out to the Drake field house. There are those who say that the exhibition wasn't as good as the one two years ago, but I'd like to see anyone do better flip flops than we saw that night. We had a good time from the moment the band played the Danish

hiking song to the last flip flop and the exit march, and now I have written about the event anyway despite my vicarious aches and pains.

I'm going to close this report now so I can get another nap before I start on my lesson. But if I shouldn't get too much studying done, there are only three weeks (plus a few days) left until Christmas when I will have two whole weeks to write term papers. So I guess I'm not so bad off. I think I'll concentrate on choir practice and the basketball games of which we will have several. I might even join a few classes in winter school. They tell me it's going to start Monday with a nice little group. Always something new at old Grand View. Be seeing you.

John Henry.

Ellen Carstensen Reenberg

Ellen Carstensen Reenberg, dramatic actress from Denmark, who is at present visiting this country, appeared in Kimballton, Iowa, on Tuesday evening, November 23th, under the auspices of the Danish Ladies' Aid in Kimballton.

The program offered throughout the evening was excellent. The guest actress presented in a number of readings and songs a choice selection from the best in Danish literature. Her program was varied enough to appeal to many and her performance was characterized by a fine understanding of the subject matter.

She has appeared in several of our communities, Newark, Hartford, Trinity in Chicago, Cedar Falls, Des Moines and is now on her way to Chicago again, where she will be a guest of the St. Stephen's church Monday evening, Dec.

5. From there she travels west to Seattle with a stop-over in Minneapolis and possibly other places.

Editor August Bang of Cedar Falls, Iowa, is arranging the tour.

H. S.

Religious Discussion Club

The purpose of the Religious Discussion group is to add to the groups information about religious subjects. It is also to make us aware of problems which we haven't encountered yet.

Why should we wish to add to the groups information on religious matters? To us the main reason is that discrimination can be made between facts, opinions, and mere prejudices. Our discussion permits a free interchange of ideas. Impulsive decisions or false conclusions get their best criticisms in a group of friendly people. The individuals gain by realizing what he believes and telling why he believes it.

The topics we have discussed thus far have been, "What is Christian Living?" and "Church and State." The topic of "Church and State," brought to light a very interesting subject, week day church school. This is a problem which has caused much controversy both nationally and locally.

At each meeting a moderator for the next meeting is elected. It is the duty of the moderator to take charge of the discussion and to designate different people for reports. The discussion for the next meeting is voted on by the group.

Topics for future discussion will cover such subjects as: "Is the Protestant church ineffective?" "Have we a right to impose our religion on others?"

Yule

For Good Christmas Reading

Forty-eight pages of Christmas meditations, stories, poetry and articles of interest for family reading during the Christmas season. Well illustrated. Beautiful cover design.

Partial table of contents includes: Short meditations by Pastors Leif Kirkegaard and Clayton Nielsen; "David's Star of Bethlehem," story by Christine Whiting Parmenter; "The Beauty of the Lord," story by Dagmar Potholm Petersen; "The Telegram," story by Anne Marie Krogh; "The Holy Night," by Selma Lagerlof (translation); "Meet Mr. Tudu," by Missionary Harold Riber; "The Grand Canyon," with excellent pictures by Ernest Christensen, a tourist guide; and "A DP Family," by Harald Ibsen.

Yule is edited by Harris Jespersen and published by the young people of the Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church. It will be off the press about mid-November. Price 65 cents a copy. Ten per cent discount on orders of ten or more copies.

Order today from your local agent or book store, or directly from Rev. Harold Petersen, Askov, Minn.

Send Yule as a Christmas Gift

"Inter-faith marriage," and "Can Christians pass moral judgment on others?"

We are planning to make two tours. We have a rare privilege awaiting us for the Religious Discussion Group and Seminary students are going to visit the monastery which we have in Des Moines! We are also eagerly waiting to make tours to churches of several denominations.

We should like to thank the Rev. Farstrup and Rev. Kildegard for their guidance at our discussions. We also would like to thank the Rev. and Mrs. Farstrup for giving us the use of their house for alternate meetings.

Paul R. Bower,
President, R.D.G.

From Manistee, Mich.

Nearly six years have elapsed since the first gift bond was given the church earmarked "new organ fund." This was given at the time of our 75th anniversary in memory of Leo Broe. The fund grew slowly and especially during the interim when we were without a pastor. Interest in a new organ was revived when Pastor Wikman came to serve us a little over a year ago. Last year, just before Christmas, our new electric Wurlitzer organ was installed. We did not celebrate at the time of its dedication because of the approaching busy Christmas season. Many other gifts had been given to the organ fund as memorial gifts and the organ committee thought it only fitting to complete the project by having a plaque made for the organ bearing these names. In September this work was completed. A beautiful plaque of wood was carved by one of our members, Harry Fredericksen, and the nameplates in bronze placed upon it. On September 25, at 4:30 o'clock, the following organ recital was given and the dedication of the plaque took place. A beautiful basket of purple and white asters formed the floral setting for the plaque. Members of the organ committee assisted Rev. Wikman in the impressive dedicatory service.

Program

Prelude ----- The Lost Chord
Arr. by Dufla
Invocation
Hymn: Praise the Lord.
Koncertstykke ----- Jorgensen
Hymns of Childhood ----- Rogers
Largo ----- Gounod
Organist—Thora Hansen
Traumerei ----- R. Schumann
Concerto No. 1 ----- Tchaikowsky
La Cenzoontaine ----- Marie
Dreams of Love ----- Liszt
Violinist—Mary Lynn McCorkle
Song of the Evening Star ----- Grieg
Nachstuck ----- R. Schumann
Prelude on "Sessions" ---Arr. by Ashford
Organist—Thora Hansen
Blessing ----- Curran
Bless This House ----- Brake
The Lord's Prayer ----- Malotte

Soprano Soloist—Margaret Pennala
Overture Voluntary ----- Battmann
Barcarolle—Opus 37 ----- Tchaikowsky
Bøn ----- Nelledmann

Organist—Thora Hansen
Dedication of Memorial Plaque
Rev. Paul Wikman

Hymn: Thy Blessing.
Benediction.

Postlude: Marche ----- Gounod

After the services members of the church gathered in the school hall where a delicious baked ham dinner was served by members of the Young Married Group with Mrs. Chas. Sell as chairman. The places of the organ committee were marked by corsages and boutonnières. It was in their honor this social event was given. Those serving on the organ committee were Rita Norden, Agnes Nielsen, Quenti Jorgensen, Thora Hansen and Mrs. Tom Knudstrup. Elmer Ness, chairman of the church board, served as toastmaster at this successful event. During the social hour in the evening Pastor Wikman entertained with a talk on his adventures and experiences in West Canada.

On October 4, Mr. and Mrs. Martin Rasmussen celebrated their Golden Wedding anniversary. Their four children, Helen, Alice, Harvey and John, and their husbands and wives were home for this festive occasion. In the afternoon their many friends came to call. Members of our church surprised the Rasmussens in the evening in their home. Elmer Ness presented the couple a plant of gold coins from the church. After an evening of happy reminiscing and singing, dainty refreshments were served. May the Rasmussens have many more years of happiness together.

Reporter.

Greeting From The Children's Home

Chicago, Illinois

This is the season of the year when the various organizations within our congregations turn their thoughts to the need of the institutions within the synod which are concerned about the welfare of others.

In our Children's Home at Chicago we are serving children in a group setting which approximates that of our many homes throughout the synod. I with that many of our people could visit our Children's Home to see the type of service which we render to children who are deprived of a normal home like that of your children.

For the sake of the total program of the work of welfare within our synod, we are not making any appeal to the exclusion of others. We shall be grateful for whatever kind of gift that our people may wish to give.

Your gift may be sent either through the synod treasurer, Charles Lauritzen,

222 Pollard St., Dwight, Ill., or directly to the Home: Danish Lutheran Children's Home, 3320 W. Evergreen Avenue, Chicago 51, Ill.

On behalf of the board of directors,

Sincerely yours,

Ernest D. Nielsen.

Acknowledgment Of Receipts From The Synod Treasurer

From Oct. 25, 1949, to Nov. 24, 1949, Inc. Toward the Budget:

Previously acknowledged ----\$ 4,995.00

Unassigned Receipts:

Congregations—

Juhl Community, Mich.	267.35
Askov, Minn.	56.50
Bridgeport, Conn.	25.00
Cedar Falls, Iowa	288.00
Muskegon, Mich.	200.00
Minneapolis, Minn.	216.80
Hartford, Conn.	117.00
Volmer, Mont.	80.00
Bronx, N. Y.	112.00
Clinton, Iowa	50.00
Portland, Me.	200.00
Newark, N. J.	156.00
Parlier, Calif.	59.25
Los Angeles	230.00
Trinity, Chicago, Ill.	300.00
Greenville, Mich.	20.00
Omaha, Nebr.	89.74
White, S. D.	30.00
Ludington, Mich.	34.65
Dalum, Alberta, Can.	136.65
Canwood, Sask., Can.	67.00

Pension Fund:

Congregations—

Dalum, Alberta, Can.	29.35
Cedar Falls, Iowa	35.00
Minneapolis, Minn.	243.99
Greenville, Mich.	27.00
Bronx, N. Y.	44.00
Kronborg, Nebr.	38.83
Salinas, Calif.	55.76
N. Clausen, Minneapolis, Minn.	10.00
Thora Strandskov, Trinity, Chicago, Ill.	10.00
Rev. Vilhelm Larsen, Canwood, Sask.	15.00
Rev. Ronald Jespersen, Newell, Iowa	20.00

Old People's Home, Tyler, Minn.:

Danish Ladies' Aid, Clinton, Iowa	10.00
--	-------

Children's Home, Chicago, Ill.:

In memory of Mrs. Lena Hansen, Brush, Colo., Sunday School, Solvang, Calif.	10.00
Congregation, Ludington, Mich.	15.00
Congregation, Greenville, Mich.	7.00
Danish Ladies' Aid, Clinton, Iowa	10.00

Seaman's Mission:

Congregations—

Ludington, Mich.	5.00
-----------------------	------

Greenville, Mich.	12.00
Sidney Mission Group, Mich.	5.00
Danish Ladies' Aid, Clinton, Iowa	10.00

Publications:

Svend Petersen, Luth. Tidings	4.75
Svend Petersen, gift	5.00
Congregation, Greenville, Mich.	27.50

Annual Reports:

Congregations—	
Waterloo, Iowa	5.00
Racine, Wis.	20.00
Wolters Corner, Wis.	2.50
Cedar Falls, Iowa	12.00
Tacoma, Wash.	4.50
West Denmark, Luck, Wis.	9.00
Greenville, Mich.	9.50
Enumclaw, Wash.	3.00
Parlier, Calif.	3.00
Kronborg	12.50

Home Mission:

Congregations—	
Oak Hill, Iowa	34.86
Greenville, Mich.	36.50
Thora Strandskov, Trinity, Chicago, Ill.	10.00

Total receipts for budget to date\$ 8,543.48

Received for Items Outside of Budget:**For Lutheran World Action and Lutheran World Relief: (1949 Quota)**

Previously acknowledged	\$10,864.45
Congregations—	
Waterloo, Iowa	248.00
Cedar Falls, Iowa	175.87
In memory of S. P. Sondergaard, Tyler, Minn.:	
Mr. and Mr. H. P. Sondergaard	10.00
Mrs. Evlatas Miller	5.00
Dr. and Mrs. C. P. Johnson	10.00
Dr. and Mrs. A. L. Vadheim	10.00
Thora Strandskov, Trinity, Chicago, Ill.	10.00
Congregations—	
Greenville, Mich.	129.50
Newell, Iowa	525.00
Parlier, Calif.	67.50
Sunday School, Rosenberg, Nebr.	25.00
Olaf Pedersen, Rosenberg, Nebr.	50.00
Congregations—	
Rosenborg, Nebr.	55.00
Omaha, Nebr.	10.50
Ludington, Mich.	39.50
Canwood, Sask., Can.	85.00

Total to date\$12,320.32

Women's Mission Society:

Mission Circle, Manistee, Mich.	30.00
--------------------------------------	-------

Santal Mission:

Acknowledged by Miss Dagmar Miller	
--	--

Eben-Ezer Mercy Institute:

Congregation, Oak Hill, Iowa	19.25
Danish Ladies' Aid, Clinton, Iowa	10.00

Total\$ 29.25

G.V.C. Debt Retirement:

Rev. Ronald Jespersen, Newell, Iowa	10.00
Thora Strandskov, Chicago, Ill.	
Rev. H. O. Nielsen, Cedar Falls, Iowa	4.00
Congregation, Canwood, Sask., Canada	21.00

Total\$ 45.00

Church Extension:

Rev. H. O. Nielsen	5.00
Congregation, Canwood, Sask., Canada	35.00

Total\$ 40.00

Correction: In last month's report, under District II Convention offering, convention was held at Juhl, not Greenville.

Our budget total has improved considerably this month and we have but a short time left until the end of the year. I will personally be very thankful for your cooperation in having all quotas met by December 31, 1949.

Sincerely yours,

Danish Ev. Lutheran Church of America.

Charles Lauritzen, Treas.

OUR CHURCH

The Danish Gymnasts under the direction of Erik Flensted Jensen, after having appeared at a number of Colleges and Universities and in Danish communities in the midwestern states, will give an exhibition in the Houston Public School Field House, Houston, Texas, Thursday, December 15th, 8 p. m.

Rev. and Mrs. Erik Back observed their silver wedding on Sunday, Octo-

ber 27, at their home at the Children's Home in Chicago. Rev. and Mrs. Back served for a number of years in various congregations of our synod, and for a period of years served at the Eben-Ezer Mercy Institute in Brush, Colo. About two years ago they were called to the position of House-father and House-mother at the Children's Home in Chicago. Here they have served faithfully and have meant much to the large family of children there. Sincere greetings and congratulations to the silver wedding couple from many friends throughout the synod.

Pulpit Exchange was observed in District VII on Sunday, Nov. 20. On that Sunday each pastor had been asked to serve a neighboring church in the District. The DAYP League of the District sponsored the Exchange, having been given approval at the Church District meeting held at Danevang, Texas, in October.—The schedule in most cases called for an extra meeting to be held where the visiting speaker addressed the young people.

Arne Sorensen, former Minister of Ecclesiastical Affairs in the Danish government, is coming to America to lecture on Denmark.—His tour is being arranged by Dr. Johannes Knudsen, president of Grand View College, Des Moines, Iowa.

Trinity, Chicago—Youth Sunday was observed on Sunday, Nov. 13. The young people had previously met with the pastor and had chosen the theme for the service: "Youth in the Service of the Church." They chose the hymns, the scripture reading and prayers, and selected the individuals who were to lead the service. (It would be interesting to get a more complete report of this

**THANKS-GIVING
HOW?**

Give Thanksgiving its full meaning by sharing your blessings with the needy abroad.

SEND

CLOTHING BLANKETS
SHOES LAYETTES
Fix-it-Kits Kiddies Kits

to your nearest depot or to:

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

North 13th Street & Bushkill Drive

Easton, Pennsylvania



new venture in "Youth Sunday" services).

A Sunday School Teachers Institute was held in the Fredsville, Iowa, Church Sunday, November 27. Sunday school workers from Alden, Minn., Hampton, Cedar Falls, Waterloo and Des Moines, Iowa, were invited. Rev. A. E. Farstrup, Director of Religious Education from Grand View College was the guest speaker.

St. Stephen's, Chicago—Rev. V. M. Hansen, former pastor of the St. Stephen's church, was the guest speaker on Sunday, Nov. 21. Rev. and Mrs. Hansen were on their way from Marinette, Wis., to their new call at Bridgeport, Conn.

Luther Memorial Church, Des Moines, recently accepted ten new adult members into the congregation. Rev. Holger P. Jorgensen is the pastor.

The DAYPL Nebraska District met for its annual "Leadership Workshop" at Nysted, Nebr., during the week-end, November 25-26. According to reports the meeting was well attended.

Church Dedication

Davey, Nebraska

It is now three and a half years ago since our church in Davey was destroyed by fire. Plans were made almost immediately to rebuild. However, because of the scarcity and cost of materials we were unable to begin actual construction before late last fall. Most of the labor was furnished by the members and friends of the congregation, both the men and the ladies. I deeply admire the sacrifice this small congregation has made to build such a beautiful building.

Now we are ready for the dedication

and in order to really show our appreciation to all who have taken so much interest in the work here, the Bethlehem Lutheran congregation of Davey, Nebr., announces the dedication of their new church on December 18, 1949, and wish to extend an invitation to all who are interested in attending.

The following schedule has been suggested for the day though it is subject to slight change:

10:00 a. m.—The unveiling of the cornerstone.

10:30 a. m.—Worship services.

12:00 noon—Dinner will be served.

2:30 p. m.—Guest speaker.

—After lecture the time will be open for friends to speak.

5:30 p. m.—Supper.

8:00 p. m.—Communion service.

If any visitors plan to stay overnight, please notify either Arthur Nielsen, Rt. 4, Lincoln, Nebr., or Rev. Gudmund Petersen, 5351 Cooper Ave., Lincoln 6, Nebr.

Sincerely,

Gudmund Petersen.

NEWS BRIEFS

WYOMING MAN GIVES CARLOAD OF OATS TO LWR THROUGH CROP

New York—An entire carload of oats has been donated to Lutheran World Relief through CROP (Christian Rural Overseas Program) by a resident of Wyoming, it was reported here by Bernard A. Confer, administrative secretary of LWR.

Clifford E. Dahlin, who represented LWR on the three-man CROP cabinet, said the gift was given without being solicited and was, in fact, donated even before a statewide CROP organization was set up in Wyoming. The oats will be made into cereal and shipped to Germany for child-feeding projects.

CROP is the program for gathering farm produce for overseas relief. Sponsors are Lutheran World Relief, Church World Service and the Catholic Rural Life Conference.

HISTORY OF NLC'S WAR SERVICE IS PUBLISHED

Washington, D. C.—"By Their Side," a history of the war service of the National Lutheran Council from 1940 to 1948, has been issued by the NLC's Bureau of Service to Military Personnel here. The Bureau is successor to the Service Commission which functioned during the war years with Dr. N. M. Ylvisaker as executive secretary.

Included in the book are reports of the various services performed by chaplains, both in this country and abroad in combat areas; the Lutheran Service Centers which provided a "home away from home" for service men and women; the Military Chaplains' Association,

of which Dr. Ylvisaker was president for a number of years; a complete roster of chaplains who served as representatives of the NLC; a list of service center pastors; the final report of the Service Commission and statistics on the centers.

A large proportion of the book is devoted to illustrations. The material for the book was compiled and edited by Miss Ruth Curby, formerly on the Service Commission staff and now librarian and statistician in the New York office of the NLC. "By Their Side" will be distributed to the Lutheran chaplains and service pastors and others who were active in the NLC's program for service men and women.

GERMAN CHURCHES OBSERVE WEEK OF PRAYER FOR WAR PRISONERS

Hannover, Germany—Churches in all zones of Germany observed a week of prayer for war prisoners October 9-15. In announcing the week Bishop Dr. Hanns Lilje of Hannover, vice president of the Council of the Evangelical Church in Germany (EKID) gave these statistics:

In Russia there are still 1,600,000 German soldiers of whom only 225,000 are in contact with their relatives. In Poland there are 12,000, in Yugoslavia 14,000, in French prisons 2,000 and in Belgium, Holland and Luxembourg 600.

100,000th DP, ESTONIAN FARMER, WELCOMED BY NLC IN NEW YORK

New York—Saturday, October 29, began as a grey, rainy day here, but ended full of sunshine—especially for an Estonian family of five, who docked that day from the Army transport, General Howze, 107th vessel to bring DPs to the U. S.

As their ship nosed into its slip at Pier 60, North River, the New York fire department band played, "God Bless America," and the 100,000th displaced person to come to the United States waved his hat and grinned. This celebration—music speeches, newsreel cameras, reporters—was all for him!

Following his three sons and his wife down the gangway of the I.R.O.-chartered vessel, Ferdinand Kiisk, 50, grinned even more broadly as flashbulbs popped all around them. When the Estonian farmer had been informed he could come to America to work on a Michigan farm, he had never dreamed he would get a king's reception!

Expressing his appreciation to the crowd in Estonian, translated by his 16-year-old son, Ulo, Kiisk said, "This is a most wonderful greeting and we are very happy to be here. We thank you for the neighborly spirit you extend to us."

Sponsored by Fred Prielipp of Harrison, Mich., and the National Lutheran Council, Kiisk, his attractive wife, and three husky sons were greeted by the Council's assistant executive director, Dr. Carl E. Lund-Quist.

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.

December 5, 1949

I am a member of the congregation at

Name

New Address

City

State

RT. 2,

JENSEN, JENS M.
TYLER, MINN.