

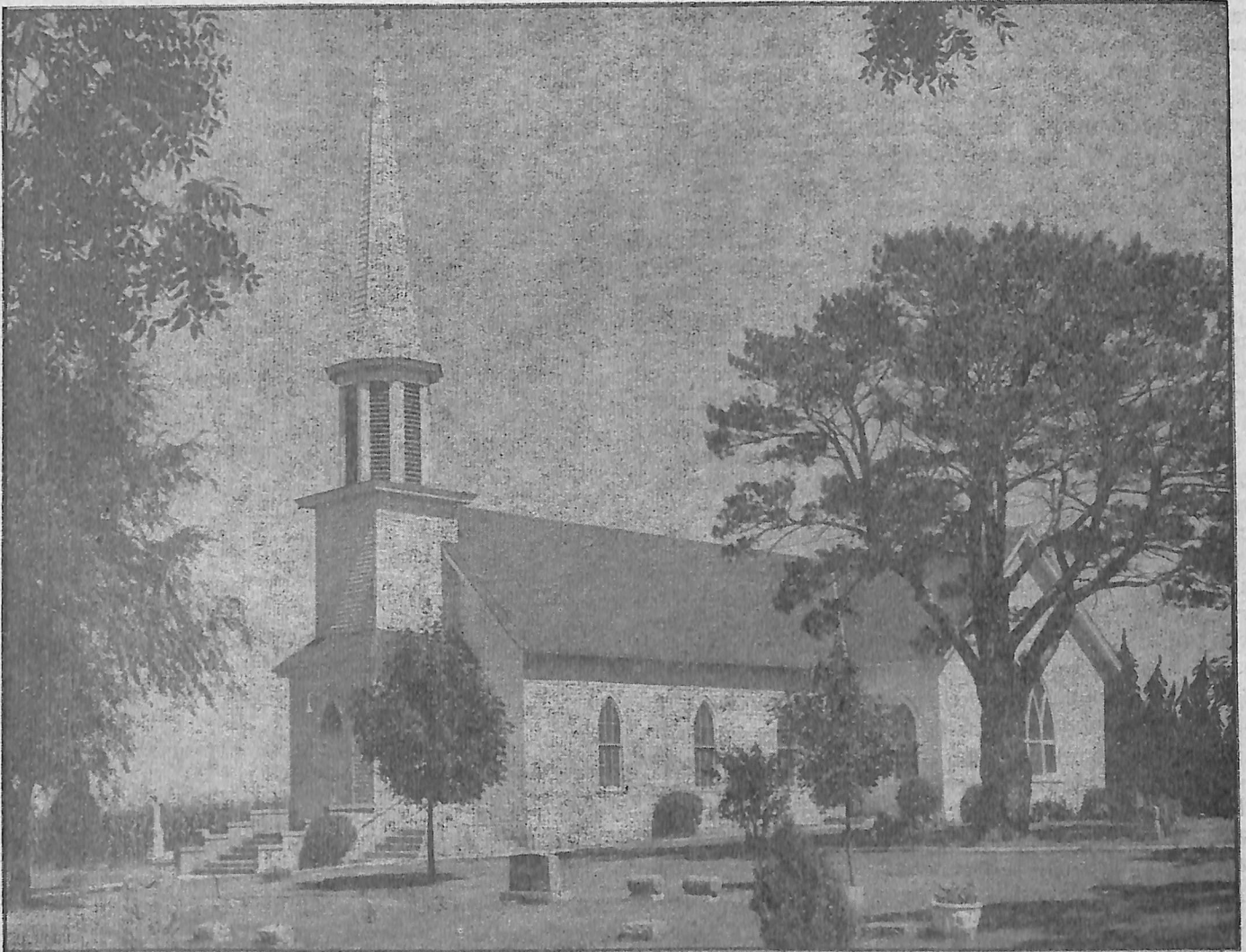
Lutheran Tidings

PUBLISHED BY THE DANISH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF AMERICA

Vol. XX

August 5, 1953

No. 1



St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Hampton, Iowa
75th Anniversary, June 20-21, 1953

Church Triumphant

O Church of God triumphant, above the world's dark fears;
In Thee our souls find refuge through all these earthly years.
Christ's steadfast holy purpose, illumined by the cross,
When hosts encamp against us, reveals their might but dross.

Her bells on Christmas Evening have set our hearts aglow,
At Easter-time her carols with faith still overflow;
Within her sacred portals our children learn God's truth,
While at her hallowed altars to Christ we pledge our youth.

—S. Ralph Harlow.

Seventy-fifth Jubilee In Hampton, Iowa

June 20-21 was the week-end St. John's Danish Lutheran Congregation, Hampton, Iowa, was to celebrate and properly observe the seventy-five years of practically unbroken pastoral services to her people, young and old.

Though Rev. Hillerup Jørgensen was the first pastor to reside in the parsonage, built by Danish pioneer immigrants, he did have predecessors. Rev. A. S. Nielsen (commonly accredited "Gamle Nielsen") was pastor in Cedar Falls. To the group of Lutheran Danes in Franklin County he made, I know not how many, pastoral visits. He preached in the school house, a few rods to the south from the present site of St. John's Church.

When Nielsen was succeeded in Cedar Falls by Rev. Jensen Mylund, this pastor followed Rev. Nielsen's practice of preaching the gospel and administering the sacraments to these not yet organized church folk. On the books in Bethlehem Congregation, Cedar Falls, Iowa, one will thus find recorded baptisms of children from St. John's There were no records at Hampton available in that day.

In rapid succession then follows the names of pastors in charge. The year 1878 marked the organized beginning with Hillerup Jørgensen as the minister, and this affords the Jubilee date. After Jørgensen came Pastor Bekker and family, then Horslunds, Jeppe Sjøe (who was married here). Anders Kirkegaard deserves special note by me. He prepared me for Confirmation and has meant much to me. It was during his service that the church building became too small to accommodate the worshippers. The east end was added in 1950.

It was, sorry to say, also during this pastor's service that thirty members left St. John's Congregation and were given a sum of money with which they might build a church. This we now know as the Nazareth Church of Coulter.

After Pastor Kirkegaard came Rev. C. J. Skovgaard, then Rev. N. C. Strandkov, Pastor Niels Møller, who came directly from the U. of Copenhagen. Rev. Johannes Ravn came from Danevang, Texas. After him came Pastor Hans Juhl, Rev. H. C. Strandkov, Rev. Edwin Hansen, and Rev. Gudmund Petersen.

In compliance with requests, I shall gladly note some highlights from the meetings commemorating the great occasion. As we now gather Saturday afternoon to the beautiful strains of the new organ, as a Congregation we join hearts and voices in songs of praise. Rev. Gudmund Petersen leads in prayer,

and thus opens the meeting for true fellowship as this is experienced in Church. Pastor Petersen then invited Pastor Alfred Jensen to share with us. To cite Alfred Jensen's message to St. John's 75th Jubilee I shall not attempt; that I cannot do. To me, the keynote was a wholehearted reminder that this congregation give joyful thanks and praise for blessings in a life of unity of purpose in the Kingdom these 75 years. Through God's grace, revealed in His Son, lies pardon and redemption full and free in our baptismal covenant. This is to all who will come to the "fount of every blessing." The group was deeply thankful to Dr. Jensen for the uplifting message on joy, under God, in worship and fellowship.

After the singing of a hymn, Miss Dagmar Miller spoke. She related some of the historic events and experiences in the life of this congregation, so singularly blessed through the many years. She concluded her message with this prayer, written by Harry Emerson Fosdick at the dedication of the Riverside Church, New York:

"God of grace and God of glory, on Thy people pour
Thy power;

Crown Thine ancient Church's story; bring her
bud to glorious flower.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the facing
of this hour.

Lo! the host of evil round us, scorn Thy Christ,
assail his ways,

From the fears that long have bound us free our
hearts to faith and praise.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the living
of these days.

Cure Thy children's warring madness, bend our
pride to Thy control;

Shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in things
and poor in soul.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, lest we miss
Thy kingdom's goal.

Set our feet on lofty places; gird our lives that they
may be

Armored with all Christ-like graces in the fight, to
set men free.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, that we fail
not man nor Thee.

Save us from weak resignation to the evils we de-
plore;

Let the search for Thy salvation be our glory ever-
more.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, serving Thee
whom we adore.

In challenging words Rev. Edwin Hansen spoke on Saturday evening. He first mentioned with pleasure the several visible, tangible improvements of the property "Paa Kirkebakken," and his theme was: To be ever aware of what true evangelism implies. Only three former pastors are living and Rev. Hansen was the only one able to attend. Rev. N. Møller is in Denmark and Rev. Hans Juhl and his faithful wife were attending the 75th Anniversary of another former pastorate, Ludington, Michigan.

Sunday morning the members and guests were privileged to gather about the word, with Rev. J.

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Come Unto Me

"Come to me, all who labor and are heavy-laden and I will give you rest." (Math. 11:28)

Those few words always come to my mind when I see the Thorvaldsen Christ. I have seen the infants brought to the fount, who are so helpless and do not understand. But I understand, and and they will understand, when they see those hands reaching out to everyone. Because of his love we have been led to the fount—not because we had earned it but because we were willing to receive it or because someone felt they wanted us to be taken into that love.



Early in life we notice the marks of the nails in his hands and feet and the wound in his side. Again we do not understand fully what it means that he suffered and died for our sake. But the words grow and according to our ability to understand the words reveal themselves to us and again we see the forgiving expression on his face and we can almost hear the words, "Come to me, your sins have been forgiven. My life was given as ransom for many." It can leave us in deep humility when we think of

L. J. Dixen preaching the sermon on the gospel for the 3rd Sunday after Trinity beginning as follows: "Now all the publicans and sinners were drawing near unto him to hear him"—Luke 15:1-10. So grant us, Lord. Rev. Petersen administered the Holy Communion.

At the Sunday afternoon meeting Rev. Hansen once again warmed our hearts as he reminded St. John's congregation of being mindful of "Him who blessed us on our way," so that this and every congregation press on to reach the goal. His then becomes the honor. With us rests the urgency.

Sunday evening Rev. Petersen spoke, assisted by Rev. V. S. Jensen, who with Mrs. Jensen had motored to Hampton after the ordination services held in Des Moines. Pastor Jensen spoke of our inheritance as Christians. Face to face with the Master-builder, our faith was strengthened. He led the early pioneers. He will also lead us of today. Assured that God, the Holy Spirit, is working in and through the Word, we thank and praise our Lord.

In the St. John's assembly hall were many photos, old and new, some of which were included in the Jubilee Book. One of the guests expressed this statement: "It is really something for which to be deeply thankful to God and man that here in St. John's Church the sixth generation worships today." The family line runs as follows: Mogens Møller, Peter Møller, Karen and Andrew Jørgensen, Dagny and Alfred Kibsgaard, Julia and Randall Nelson and their three young hopefuls. As the Gospel of salvation has been preached to sinners for 75 years, may the experience of the joy in the forgiveness of sin through Christ be a living, never ceasing reality.

Dagmar Miller.

the stubbornness in ourselves and how he, a man without sin, would bear the ridicule, pride and jealousy of men who refused to open their hearts.

There are times when everything seems to have lost its appeal to us. Because of misfortunes, misunderstanding of men, loneliness and many other things which cause this depressed state of mind one is often tempted to give up. Then again we can see the answer in that Christ who seems to say, "Have you forgotten? There was once I, too, was alone before Pilate. Do you remember the agony I went through that last night I lived among you?" Again the Christ seems to speak out, "Just as I found my strength in the unity with God so can you find unity in me—so come to me."

Then comes the greatest struggle of all. I am sure we are all acquainted with the despair which comes when death has taken one of our loved ones from us. Our dearest friends stand helpless before us wishing that they were able to do something to comfort us in our sorrow. They cannot bring back the one we loved. But again we see those hands reaching out to us. "Come to me." It is there that we feel that we receive a new strength. Death could not break the ties between him and the disciples so why should death separate us from those departed? Perhaps death has even created a deeper fellowship. Christ proved to us there is a resurrection and a life hereafter and that death cannot destroy the believer. He is able to give man the perfect peace and rest which goes far beyond our understanding.

So the Thorvaldsen message in his Christ is able to say enough to make us realize that Jesus stands before us calling and ready to receive us with open arms. We slowly bow our heads in shame because we didn't come to him sooner and in our humility we find ourselves saying, "Our Father who art in heaven -----." In his prayer we take refuge and find peace and rest.

Gudmund E. Petersen.

John E. Ostling

John E. Ostling of Roscommon, Michigan, died April 25, 1953, at the age of 73. He was born in Sweden October 21, 1879. In 1906, he married Velma Skagerberg and they had one daughter and seven sons. He was a fine carpenter, and one of the founders of Messiah Lutheran Church in 1936. He was a man of few words, but friendly and dependable with a deep love for his church.

Carl M. Sorensen

Carl M. Sorensen of Grayling passed away June 24, 1953, after a long illness, 63 years old. He was born in Grayling September 18, 1889. He became a barber but later he went into the Motel business. In 1914, he married Camilla Fischer, and they had two daughters and two sons. Carl Sorensen was all his life a member of our church in Grayling. He was buried from the church and his brother, Rev. Alfred Sorensen of Cedarloo, gave the benediction at the cemetery.

—Correspondent.

Lutheran Unity

III

It was not possible to find the time and quietude necessary to bring to a conclusion the discussion on Lutheran Unity in the June 20th issue which the writer had undertaken in the May 20th and June 5th issues of Lutheran Tidings.

In order to summarize the content of these two articles the following is suggested: developments were discussed leading up to the present situation when the ALC, ELC, UELC, and LFC, have agreed upon "United Testimony on Life and Faith" and have commenced negotiations through a Committee consisting of nine representatives of each of the four bodies looking toward coordination and cooperation of the various agencies, activities, boards, institutions, etc., belonging to them. The expectation is according to statements published by some of the leaders that this four-way merger will be completed in 1956. The Augustana Church withdrew from merger negotiations because all Lutheran bodies were not invited to join in the merger, nor were ecumenical relations proposed to be dealt with until after the merger would be completed. In the second article the position of the LFC was made clear by the presentation of the statement signed by the president, vice president of the LFC and the president of Augsburg College proposing that the congregations now belonging to the LFC be allowed to form a non-geographical conference within the boundaries of the future church as merged. This conference would be allowed to support Augsburg College and Seminary as well as having its own annual convention.

The Meaning Of The Merged Lutheran Church

It has been hinted rather broadly that the reason why only a limited number of Lutheran bodies was invited to join in the Lutheran merger discussed above was that this number was supposed to represent the conservative wing of Lutheranism, thereby indirectly placing the stamp of liberal Lutheranism on those not invited to join. Nor is it held impossible that the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod would be joining at some future date. The preparation for such a move is already underway in the doctrinal agreement reached between the ALC and the Missouri Synod. Criticism of some of the theological books recently published by theologians belonging to the ULC and the Augustana have been made by theologians from the group of churches involved in the merger. There is no doubt in this writer's mind that one phase of the meaning of this merger is an attempt to set up and make dominant the version of conservative Lutheranism prevailing in some of these bodies.

The character of the relationship to other church bodies, be they Lutheran or some other Protestant churches, is to be maintained according to the Minneapolis Theses. These also deal with doctrinal matters, but for the sake of enlightening the minds of people who hitherto have not had an opportunity to make the acquaintance of these I quote from the Minneapolis Theses: (adopted in 1930 by The American Lutheran Conference.)

III. Church Fellowship

1. These synods agree that true Christians are found in every denomination which has so much of divine truth revealed in Holy Scripture that children of God can be born in it; according to the Word of God and our confessions, church fellowship, that is, mutual recognition, altar and pulpit fellowship, and eventually cooperation in the strictly essential work of the church, presupposes unanimity in the pure doctrine of the Gospel and in the confession of the same in word and deed.

"Where the establishment and maintenance of church fellowship ignores present doctrinal differences or declares them a matter of indifference, there is unionism, pretense of union which does not exist."

2. "They agree that the rule 'Lutheran pulpits for Lutheran pastors only, and Lutheran altars for Lutheran communicants only' is not only in full accord with, but necessarily implied in the teachings of the divine Word and the confessions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church. This rule, implying the rejection of all unionism and syncretism, must be observed as setting forth a principle elementary to sound conservative Lutheranism."

V. The Lodge Question

1. "These synods agree that all such organizations or societies, secret or open, as are either avowedly religious or practice the forms of religion without confessing as a matter of principle the Triune God or Jesus Christ as the Son of God, come into the flesh, and our Saviour from sin, or teach instead of the Gospel, salvation by human works or morality, are anti-Christian and destructive of the best interests of the Church and the individual soul, and that, therefore, the Church of Christ and its congregations can have no fellowship with them."

2. "They agree that a Lutheran synod should not tolerate pastors who have affiliated themselves with any anti-Christian society. And they admonish their pastors and congregations to testify against the sin of lodgery and to put forth earnest efforts publicly and privately to enlighten and persuade persons who are members of anti-Christian societies, to sever their connection with such organizations."

The above two paragraphs cover the relationship to other Christians. The four synods involved in the merger have all subscribed to these. How strictly can the merged church be expected to apply these principles? The answer can be found partly in the following quotations from "United Testimony on Life and Faith" Article VI, Spiritual Fellowship, section 4 (toward the close) and 5 and 6:

"So long as witness can be borne to the truth as we see it in Christ, a measure of outward fellowship may be enjoyed even with such as differ with us in the apprehension of certain aspects of the truth."

5. "—There is room for a large measure of cooperation in externals which need not involve the principles of spiritual fellowship."

"So long as there is no compromise of divine truth such cooperation in external matters may be practiced with secular groups or with other churches."

6. —Article III, Church Fellowship. The Minneapolis Theses, has been formulated as a result of century-long experience of the Lutheran Church, has been accepted by our church bodies in 1930, and furnishes the correct guiding principles of spiritual fellowship for our churches. It is recognized that in the application of these principles, situations calling for exceptions will arise. The individual Christian, the conscientious pastor, the local congregation, and the church bodies, in determining their attitudes in such situations, must earnestly seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit and the instruction of the inspired Word.

This writer leaves it to the judgment of the individual reader of this article to estimate how great the gap will be between the pronounced principles of 1930

and the exceptions and loop holes of 1952. It is not to be wondered at that the four Lutheran bodies planning to merge have not become members of the National Council of Churches. It is to be hoped that the emerging church will not set up a definition or interpretation of Lutheranism which can be used as a sort of standardized Lutheran higher Catechism.

The Effect on the National Lutheran Council

To this writer there seems to be a danger inherent in the new large formation of Lutheran Strength. The danger is that the National Lutheran Council will become superfluous, because any Lutheran Church with a membership above 1,750,000 does not need to make use of the agency, which the National Lutheran Council is. Such a body will have ample means and organizational machinery with which to carry out its own program. This will also hold true of the ULCA. Public Relations, Student Service, etc., could be done independently by either of these bodies just as it now is by the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. What will become of the smaller bodies, squeezed in between these large bodies, especially if these should choose not to get along?

To this writer the four way merger movement is a great disappointment. It certainly accentuates a discord rather than an accord. It has brought to the forefront all the issues that have irritated Lutheran bodies in their relationships throughout many years. It has dusted off differences of opinion, which years of patient cooperation as well as hard labor had helped deemphasize. The National Lutheran Council and the Lutheran World Federation had become the really great unifying force among Lutherans in this country (as well as in the world). American Lutherans had pointed with pride to Lutheran World Action and the united efforts it meant. Then all of a sudden emerges a movement that separates a section of these united efforts into a new church body, thus underscoring the disparagement with which it views other members of the strong united force producing Lutheran World Action and Relief. The appeal for Lutheran unity throughout the world promoted by the National Lutheran Council is in danger of losing its meaning because of the unwillingness of a large portion of its constituency to unify.

Characteristics of the Lutheran Church of America

The writer intends to indulge in clarification of his own personal hopes for what the Lutheran Church of America some day may appear to be like. The four way merger excluding the possibility of admitting other churches has proven in the writer's estimation how far we are from the goal of one Lutheran Church of America. One can hope, however.

The first and most important characteristics of the Lutheran Church of America should be that it is ecumenical and not sectarian. Its adherence to the traditional position of the Lutheran Church on the canonical books of the Old and New Testament, the symbols of the ancient church as well as the Augsburg Confession and Luther's small Catechism, the Word and the Sacraments as the Means of Grace would show its faithfulness to the Apostolic, historical Christian

Church and to the Church of Reformation. Its Confessional statements should be few and general. Where the "United Testimony on Life and Faith" in its profuseness becomes all things to all Lutherans it should instead leave the main or chief and principal confessional books and symbols to be interpreted by the teachers and pastors as well as lay people. Thus I would discourage adoption of authoritative explanations. These tend to limit and stifle research and independent thinking. It should be the right and duty of each Christian, who has been regenerated in Holy Baptism to read his Bible, Church History and all other books by the light of the Holy Spirit. We should attempt to be as Lutheran as Luther.

Secondly, it follows from the above that there would be room for both conservative and liberal Lutherans. In fact it is axiomatic that if there is to be one Lutheran Church in this country it must provide room for all shades of theology. - The alternative would be to have some sort of Lutheran Sanhedrin that could declare things to be heretical, and therefore to be outlawed. The only court of appeal should be the Holy Spirit of God. If at times false claims upon His authority would be made, they are sure to be found out in due time by the fellowship of faith and saints in the Church. The various shades of piousness, consecration, devotedness, fervent evangelism or full stewardship as well as the lesser desirable attitudes would be allowed the freedom necessary for the better values to persevere. If the fire of the Word of God is to kindle hearts and minds it will be done whenever the power inherent in the Word of God freely possesses the children of God.

Such a Church would not question the sound Lutheranism of any of its members because he associated freely with other Christians in and out of Lutheran churches. His convictions would not blind him to the values and integrity of the views and personalities of others.

Thirdly, the Lutheran Church of America would not deny its past but thank God for its wealth of inheritances, traditions and relationships. It would harbour and treasure all the rich deposits made in the minds and hearts of its many tongues, its literature, theological thinking, artistic ability. Creatively it would weave all these into a beautiful pattern that could enhance and enrich the life of its homes and communities. The nationalistic stranglehold on all these values are fast fading. Yet, there are untold stores of religious, spiritual and cultural wealth to be found in the inheritances and experiences of the people of the Lutheran churches of this country. Our children are not looking forward. They are also conscious of their roots. They know they have come from a spiritually rich soil. The passing of the languages of the Lutheran churches in no way hinders the creative relationship of the present and future with that of the background of the generations that have gone before them. Why not, therefore, place a premium on diversity of gifts rather than on uniformity of conduct, streamlined methods and the machinelike precision of worship services, convention procedures, etc.

Fourthly, the Lutheran Church of the future should

realize that the American people of today and for generations to come is mostly a promise and a process. Perhaps we see dimly as in a glass, what it is to become. It has not yet appeared what this melting pot will eventually produce. The Lutheran Church like all other Protestant churches will have to grow up with the American people. It will evangelize and serve to the best of its capacity, but it will always be responsive to changes and hopefully look for the day when one Protestant Church will be serving a thoroughly united and integrated nation. The Lutheran Church should be a church of the people. If there ever is to be one single American people, like there is one Danish, Swedish, Norwegian, German, there is bound to be one Protestant Church, perhaps also one Catholic Church. It will be the task of the Lutheran Church to be the leaven.

There is much more than these few things I look for in the future Lutheran Church of America. But how sad it would be should Lutherans of all bodies fall for the temptation to apply purely political organizational methods to such a Church. No living church can be governed from without. It will always be guided from within its own conscience and faith. The goal is a symphonic harmony, not the blast of a single though mighty horn. In such a symphony there is a part for even the smallest instrument. It is true that the Church, and the Lutheran Churches as part of the Christian Church today is big business. The constantly mounting figures in the statistical columns bear this out. America's boast is its capacity to produce. It is also its weakness for often there is no good purpose back of all this productiveness. Let it not be said of the churches, least of all the Lutheran Church that it has an insatiable thirst for bigness without purpose. The kingdom of God in the hearts of men is the only worthy goal.

Alfred Jensen.

Convention Program

TUESDAY, AUGUST 11

- 8 p. m. Opening service in Luther Memorial Church
Sermon by Rev. Arthur Frost, Salinas, Calif.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12

- 9:00-9:45 a. m. Bible Hour and Devotions at Grand View Lutheran Church. "Newness of Life Begins Through Unity In Christ," Ephesians 1, 3-14. Rev. Edwin E. Hansen, Muskegon, Mich.
(The morning Bible hour will be on the main topic "Newness Of Life" and taken from the letter to the Ephesians.)
- 9:45 a. m. Opening of the convention—Dr. Alfred Jensen, Synod President.
- 10:00 a. m. Business session begins.
- 12:00 m. Dinner.
- 1:30 p. m. Business session continues.
- 3:30 p. m. Coffee-recess. Coffee served at Luther Memorial Church.
- 4:00 p. m. Business session continues.
- 5:30 p. m. Supper.
- 8:00 p. m. At Grand View Lutheran Church, "The Significance Of Spiritual Ministry To The Armed Forces," Rev. Verner Hansen, Des Moines, Iowa, Former Chaplain who served in Korea.
- 8:00 p. m. At Luther Memorial Church, Danish Worship service—Rev. Hans Brink Jensen, Danish Seaman's Pastor, Brooklyn, N. Y.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 13

- 9:00-9:45 a. m. Bible hour and devotions, "Newness of Life is Strengthened and Enlarged Through Worship," Eph. 3, 14-19. Rev. John Christensen, Ludington, Mich.
- 9:45 a. m. Business session continues.
- 8:00 p. m. Santal Mission meeting at Grand View Lutheran Church. Mrs. Frances Nielsen, Chairman of Synod Santal Committee, presiding. Mr. Munshi Tudu, Student at Luther Seminary, St. Paul, Minn., Speaker. Rev. Harold Riber, Missionary to Santal, Speaker. No meeting at Luther Memorial Church.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 14

- 9:00-9:45 a. m. Bible hour and devotions. "Newness Of Life Extends Into Community Life", Eph. 4, 17-32. Rev. Willard Garred, Hartford, Conn.
- 8:00 p. m. At Grand View Lutheran Church. "Basic Elements In Developing Ministers."
1. Childhood—Rev. Einar Farstrup, Solvang, Calif.
 2. Adolescent—Rev. Howard Christensen, Grand View College, Des Moines, Iowa.
 3. College—Dr. Ernest D. Nielsen, President Grand View College.
 4. Seminary—Dr. Johannes Knudsen, Dean Grand View Seminary.
- 8:00 p. m. At Luther Memorial Church.
- Evangelism** 20 minute talks and discussion.
1. "How To Obtain Laymen's Participation In Evangelism." Rev. Holger O. Nielsen, Cedar Falls, Iowa, Synodical director of Evangelism.
 2. "Evangelism" Rev. C. A. Stub, Assistant director of Evangelism.
- Stewardship.** "How To Obtain A Better Understanding And Practices Of Stewardship." Rev. Ove R. Nielsen, Dagmar, Mont., Chairman of Stewardship committee.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 15

- 9:00-9:45 a. m. Bible hour and devotions. "Newness Of Life Is Defended By The Use Of The Divine Armor," Rev. M. Mikkelsen, Lindsay, Nebraska.
- 6:30 p. m. At Luther Memorial Church. Women's Mission Society business meeting.
- 8:00 p. m. Women's Mission Society meeting, Mrs. Ida Egede, President, in charge. Rev. Ottar Jorgensen, Minneapolis, Minn., speaker. Mrs. Harold Riber, Santal Mission, speaker.
- 8:00 p. m. At Grand View Lutheran Church. Danish American Young People's League meeting in charge of Rev. Clayton Nielsen, President of D. A. Y. P. L. "Christian Youth And The World Struggle." Herluf Jensen, President Lutheran Student Association, speaker.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 16

- 10:30 a. m. English worship service with Communion at Grand View Lutheran Church. Sermon: "He Appeared Also To Me," Rev. Enok Mortensen, Tyler, Minn. Communion—Rev. Marius Krog, Omaha, Neb.
- 10:30 a. m. Danish worship service in Luther Memorial Church. Sermon by Dr. Alfred Jensen, President of the Synod. Communion—Rev. Paul Wikman, Ringsted, Iowa.
- 3:00 p. m. At Grand View Lutheran Church. "How Long Wilt Thou Forget Me?" Carl Pfluege. "O Savior Of The World," James Pears.
Luther Memorial Choir.
"I Talked With God Last Night," David Guion.
Tenor Solo, George Bruner, Choir director.
"Some European Impressions," Dean Alfred C. Nielsen, Dean Grand View College, Des Moines, Iowa, speaker.
- 7:30 p. m. At Grand View Lutheran Church. "The Word Of Life," Rev. Holger Andersen, Wilbur, Wash. "Is It Nothing To You All Who Pass By," Rev. Alfred Sorensen, Cedar Falls, Iowa.
Greetings and brief remarks.
Closing of the convention, Dr. Alfred Jensen, Synod President. Coffee served.

Luther Memorial Congregation, Des Moines, Iowa, hereby extends a cordial invitation to pastors, delegates and members and friends of our Synod to be its guests during the synodical convention August 11-16, 1953.

The members of our congregation are busy preparing for the convention and will be ready to make your stay with us pleasant and enriching in Christian fellowship.

All delegates and pastors, according to synodical ruling (see above paragraphs in Alfred Jensen's notice) must send in their registration and credentials to the chairman of our registration and credentials committee, Mrs. Anton Berg, Jr., 2808 John Patterson Rd., before July 25.

The committee further requests that all other registrations be sent in to Mrs. Berg before July 25 and not August 5 as in last issue. The committee feels that two dates and the two types of registration may be confusing. It wishes therefore that ALL registrations be in by July 25. Also tell the day you expect to arrive. Unless you send us your registration we will assume that you are taking care of your own lodging.

Playroom facilities and cots will be provided in the girls' dormitory recreation room for guests with children. However, no supervision will be furnished. Our regular nursery during the Sunday morning church service will be open to convention guests.

May we ask that all who plan to attend the convention register. This should also include those who plan to stay with friends and relatives in the congregation.

With sincere greetings,

George Madsen,
President of the Congregation.
Holger P. Jorgensen, Pastor.

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

I

Reference is made to Article IX of the Synodical Constitution named "Synod Officers", paragraph 2, which reads as follows: Quote:

All officers shall be elected by ballot by a two-thirds majority of the votes cast, the term of office to begin December 1st following election. The term of election of the board shall be for two years in rotation so that the term of the president and two board members shall expire the first year and the term of the vice-president-secretary, the treasurer, and two board members the next year, Unquote:

Shall the above Article be amended by having the following sentence added: With exception of Office of President, no person shall be elected to hold the same Office more than 4 (four) consecutive terms of 2 (two) years each.

B. P. Christensen,
Solvang, California.

II

The Constitution of the Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church of America:

1. That Art. VI, Par. 5, be deleted.
2. That at the time of the next vacancy in the office of Ordainer Art. X, Par. 1*, shall be considered amended to include a new section to read, "He shall act as Ordainer for the Synod."
3. That at the time of the next vacancy in the office of Ordainer the constitution shall be considered amended as follows:
 - a. The words "an Ordainer" shall be deleted from Art. IX, Par. 1.
 - b. Par. 3 of Art. IX shall be deleted.
 - c. That Sec. a. and b. of Art. X, Par. 6, shall be deleted and Sec. c. shall become Par. 7 of Art. VI.

* Article X embodies "The Duties of the Synodical President."
Editor.

III

That at the time of the next vacancy in the office of Ordainer the rules of the Board of Admission, Ordination and Ministerial Jurisdiction shall be considered amended as follows:

- a. Par. 1, Sec. a., shall read "The Ordainer and the Dean of the Seminary."
- b. Par. 1, Sec. b., shall read, "And five others elected by the synod convention. These five members shall be two laymen and three pastors. At least two of the pastors shall be in the active ministry. No pastor shall be eligible for election unless he has served at least five years as such in the synod."
- c. Par. 2 shall read "The term of office of the elected members shall be five years and shall be so arranged that one person is elected each year."
- d. That the word "Four" in Par. 3 be changed to "Five."

Eilert C. Nielsen, Clinton, Iowa
Edwin E. Hansen, Muskegon, Mich.
Paul Wikman, Ringsted, Iowa
Halvdan Knudsen, Los Angeles, Calif.
A. E. Farstrup, Solvang, Calif.
C. A. Stub, Cedar Falls, Iowa.

IV

"What can be done to help the South Slesvigians with their Refugee Problem and their Right of Self-determination."

Julius M. Nielsen.

A PROPOSAL TO THE ANNUAL MEETING OF GRAND VIEW COLLEGE AND GRAND VIEW SEMINARY.

That the words, "The election of the President and the Dean shall be approved by the annual meeting of the corporation.", be reinserted at the end of Section 5, of Article II of the By-Laws of said corporation.

Article II, Section 5 of the By-Laws will then read as follows: "The Board of Directors shall elect the President of Grand View College and the Dean of Grand View Seminary and, upon their recommendations, the members of the respective faculties. The election of the President and the Dean shall be approved by the annual meeting of the corporation."

Thorvald Hansen.

Oak Hill Parsonage
March 17, 1953.

Greetings To The Convention

Dear Friends in Christ:

As I am not able to be present at the Convention and share the Christian fellowship with those that have come together from far off and nearby, I would like to send a greeting both from the congregation and from my wife and me. In doing this I can't find anything more fitting than a few verses from Paul's letter to the Ephesians beginning with these words: "That He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory to be strengthened with might by His Spirit in the inner man; that Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth and length and depth and height, and to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge that ye might be filled with the fulness of God."

Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think according to the power that worketh in us, unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen."

P. Rasmussen, Dalum, Canada.

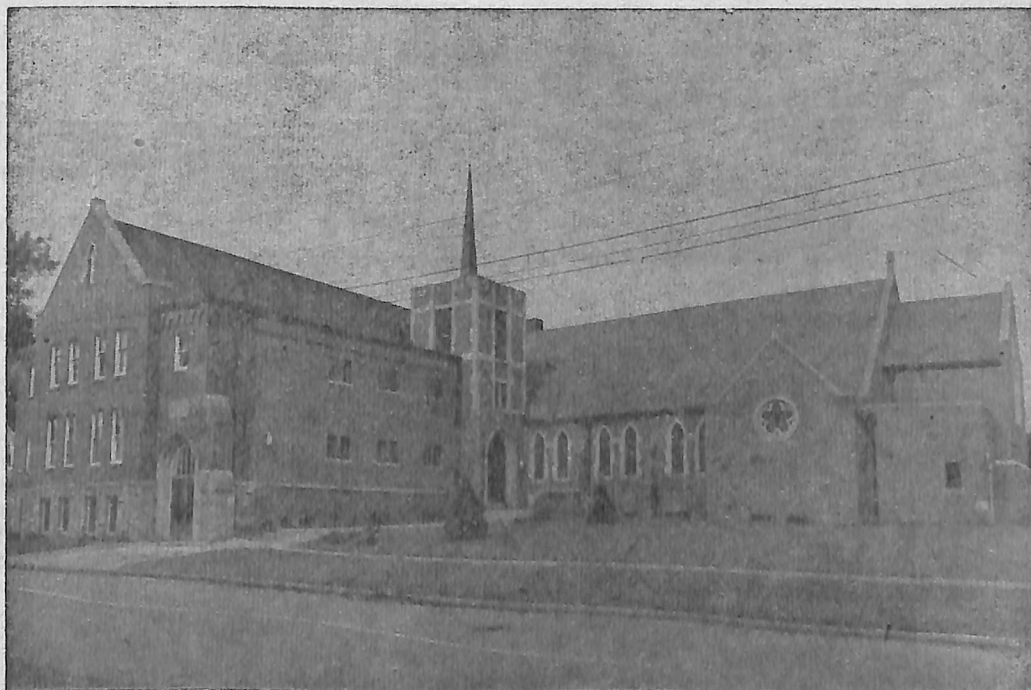


Luther Memorial Church and Home for the Aged

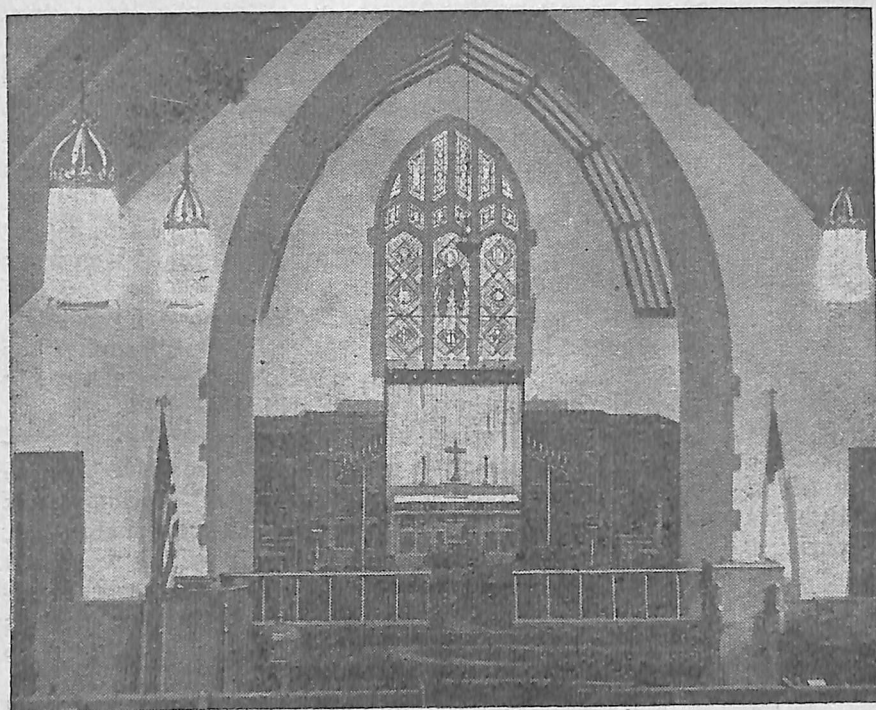
Site Of The Seventy-sixth Annual Convention

Pictured on these pages are the two churches which will be the centers of activity during the D.E.L.C.A. convention to be held August 11-16, 1953. Luther Memorial Church is spacious and comfortable, but additional facilities will be needed. One of the churches of the Augustana Synod lies nearby, and bears the co-incidental name of Grand View Lutheran Church. Its members have kindly permitted the use of their recently erected beautiful church. Its sanc-

tuary seats 465 persons, and joins the three story educational building which was built in 1928. In addition, the Grand View College campus and dormitories will be put to use. Breakfasts will be served in the college dining hall, while other meals will be had in Grand View Lutheran Church. Evening meetings which are concurrently scheduled will be held in the two churches. Daytime activities will be conducted in Grand View Church.



Grand View Lutheran Church



Sanctuary Of Grand View Lutheran Church

"I was glad when they said unto me,
let us go into the House of the Lord."

—Psalm 122.

Grand View Church is an L-shaped building with its tower placed at the point of union between the two wings. A copper spire is topped with a gold-leaf cross. Total valuation of the church property is \$325,000 and membership stands at 701, with 348 children.

A Call to Christian Stewardship

Food For The Hungry

We are told that on an occasion one of our pioneer pastors was visiting with a group of men in Nebraska. Somehow the conversation moved into a discussion about the physical strength of men, when the pastor facetiously remarked that he was as strong as four men in a congregation in another state. The men talking with the pastor raised their eyebrows, for they knew that there were some sturdy specimens in that other congregation and then demanded to know how the pastor had reached that conclusion, for he was neither a Samson nor a Goliath. The pastor, smiling, told them that in the specified congregation it required four men to carry a dollar to the altar and he was able to do that by himself.

Today the Lutheran Church in America is looking for farmers who have the strength to lift five, or ten, or twenty bushels of corn or wheat or some other farm commodity into a truck. This will require more than physical strength. It will require the strength of conviction that the Christian has concern for the welfare of his fellow men.

Since 1946 Lutheran World Relief has served churches of the National Lutheran Council in meeting emergency needs in various parts of the world where starvation has resulted from war or natural calamities. In the past 6½ years Lutheran World Relief has provided almost 50 million pounds of food with a valuation of \$6,192,654 as an expression of Christian brotherhood to people in 20 countries.

A substantial portion of the food distributed by LWR has previously come through CROP—the Christian Rural Overseas Program—of which LWR was a co-sponsor. Because of decreasing public response to

such community-wide appeals, the sponsors mutually agreed to dissolve CROP as a joint appeal and seek to meet the continuing need through their own channels.

From Germany Pastor Carl Mau, LWR Representative reports: "Each day 600-1,000 people from behind the Iron Curtain make their break for freedom into Western Germany. About 70 per cent of them must remain in the 75 mile strip along that border where industry does not want to go, and where little housing is to be found. Here in this no-man's land the battle of human tragedy and suffering goes on."

From the Holy Land Dr. Edwin Moll writes "The hunger of these people is so great and their suffering so intense that we will accept anything in the way of food and clothing that you can send to us. The more wheat and flour we get the better. What are the prospects for more beans and rice? Please send whatever you can."

Today our Lutheran church faces a continuing responsibility to help feed hungry people. In many lands food is desperately scarce. Thousands go hungry every day. Starvation stalks some countries, such as India. In others, such as Germany and Austria, national economies are not yet able to support back-breaking loads of refugees. Millions were made homeless by war. Others flee oppression today. Undernourishment makes ready targets for disease in the Holy Land. Your gifts of food will help save human lives.

When Christians are hungry and pray, "Give us this day our daily bread," they mean bread. Our hands are God's hands as we do our share to answer prayer—with wheat, or beans or corn syrup or whatever God has entrusted to our stewardship.

Between now and November Lutheran World Relief will gather food in a dozen states. Some of you will probably be enlisted on the county or community level to help. Others will be asked to give of their commodities when the appeal is conducted in their community. Whatever you are called upon to do, have the strength to do it.

O. R. N.

Paging Youth

ESPECIALLY OF OUR D. A. Y. P. L.

Editor: Thorvald Hansen, 22 South 13th Street,
Estherville, Iowa

I Am Number Four

Everything we do whether it be great or small, has a purpose. My purposes for coming to Grand View College were the same, I feel, as the purposes for which Grand View College exists. The college, supported by the Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church of America, is proud of its purposes: to enrich a student's Christian life, to further his intellectual capacities, and to help him become a well adjusted social individual who has something to give to humanity.

Of course, many may say, "This sounds good, but it is only on paper and does not work as gloriously in practice as it should." Yet, I know that the religious, educational, and social life of Grand View College, once experienced, will dispel the doubts in anyone's mind.

I must have been about ten years old when I first saw Grand View College. It reminded me of a castle with beautiful princesses, grandeur, excitement, and glory. However, time went on, and I grew wiser and realized the whatness of G. V. C. I started to wonder about the life God had given me—its future and purpose. By attempting to fulfill my own desires and to obey the wishes of my parents, I came to Grand View College. Here, I experienced the same happiness as my one brother and two sisters had found before me. I was the fourth in our family to enter G. V. C.

The thought of college rather terrified me. The first day found me a little backward and timid, but I received a warm welcome and in a brief time became a part of the school. It is hard to express in words the feeling I have towards Grand View, but it is the same feeling that all who attend experience. If I had problems they were solved; if I had burdens they were lightened; if I had happiness it was shared. We studied, worshipped, sang, played, danced, laughed, loved, and cried together. Two years packed with new experiences each day! One cannot feel blue after starting the day off with devotions, receiving blessings which only God can give us, and end the day in a similar way.

Each year went by quickly. Fall suddenly changed to winter; studies were getting more involved. The Fall Formal, picnic, U. K., and other social high lights became pleasant memories. Winter gave even more—Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Years and then "Fastelavn" with its gaiety immediately before the season that all of us know as Lent.

Everyone looks forward to Spring. It is a time of reawakening and of beauty, but to us here at the college it is an extra special season, because it brings Studentfest. This occasion does not sneak up on us. It is preceded by much hard work and planning.

This is the time when we show off our school. We invite everyone; family, friends, relatives and alumni, and give them a grand "Velkommen," as the Danes say. There are many activities—choir concerts, folk dancing, ball games, and play. There also is a banquet with speeches and dance on Saturday, and Church on Sunday.

This all sounds so wonderful, it seems like all play and no work, but I can recall much work. It was work with meaning and purpose.

What has the result been? What have I received? They have been years in which my philosophy has been molded, and years in which my ideas about my life and vocation have been clarified.

Many think college students are carefree and irresponsible. In part we are. We like to have fun, to be lighthearted and gay which is good, because it is not yet time for us to take on critical responsibilities. Yet, college days are also the time in which we begin to realize that some day we must assume the responsibilities of adults. Many feelings haunt us, desires tempt us, and reality frightens us, and we begin to realize our limitations and possibilities.

This might sound like an old story, a "pretty good line," but it is not. All of it has been felt in the heart. Due to guidance, help, and friendship my two years spent here have been happy. What I received here is something which I am able to take with me as I leave the college. My experiences have not been brief sensations to be overlooked in the future, but an experience I shall always cherish and never forget.

Des Moines, Iowa.

Patricia Romans.

Iowa District Camp

Are you ready to pack your suitcase for the D. A. Y. P. L. Camp at Hampton on August 19-23?

We are offering you camp for the cost of \$15.00 for the whole time. This includes your board and room, insurance and registration. Where can you get more fun and good healthy Christian fellowship for so little?

Here is the daily schedule:

- 7:15—Time to get up and wash up. There's a big day ahead of you.
- 7:45—First and last call for breakfast.
- 8:15- 9:00—Make your bed, clean the room, and police the grounds.
- 9:00- 9:30—Morning devotions.
- 9:30-10:30—Crafts (Silver, wood, etc.)
- 10:30-11:30—Dinner. Fill up as it will be a long time 'til supper.
- 1:30- 2:30—Recreation and sports.
- 2:30- 5:00—Swimming.
- 5:30—Supper. Last meal until breakfast.
- 7:00- 7:30—Singing.
- 7:30- 8:30—Religious discussion period.
- 8:30-10:00—Folk games.
- 10:00—Refreshments.
- 10:15—Campfire and Closing devotions.
- 11:00—Lights must be out. "Goodnight."

The Sunday program will be altered so we can all worship together. There will also be Holy Communion. Your parents are also invited to take part that day. Ask them to come along so they will know what camp is.

Send registrations to Reverend G. E. Petersen, District Camp Director, Route 2, Hampton, Iowa.

Our Women's Work

Editor

Mrs. Ellen Knudsen, 907 Morton St., Des Moines 16, Iowa

"In Quietness And Strength"

The new minister and his family had arrived in Hartford. As usual all were agog to see them, (I too), so it was with a happy heart that I was on my way, to the parsonage, with an invitation to dinner at our house. As I neared it, I heard a woman singing to the accompaniment of a whirring sewing machine. I rang the bell. The singing and whirring stopped. Presently a tall lady, with a crown of red-gold hair and twinkling blue eyes, opened the door, "Kom ind, kom ind," she cried pressing my hand, "saa du er Potholm's lille Dagmar." Right then she won my heart completely.

We had a good chat, and she showed me the three gingham dresses she was making, one blue, one pink, and one green. Such pretty house dresses and, as she said, more important than dress-up clothes. I was to learn that these dresses plus one good woolen suit, with a change of dainty blouses, constituted the most of her wardrobe. Yet she always looked well-dressed! She told me, once when she had wanted to attend a synodical convention meeting, but had no winter coat, she had unripped the lining of the suit and padded it with newspapers. "Everyone spoke of my wonderfully warm suit," she chuckled. So often I was to see her overcome any obstacle that might deter her from her duty, either to her church or home.

It was once my privilege to spend a summer in their parsonage. There I learned many things, among them a wife's loyalty to her husband. Once, when an irate parishioner showered vindictive words against him, she interrupted sternly, "Please, I cannot listen to you; you are speaking of my husband." Often I saw him upset and discouraged, draw courage and strength from her quiet smile and wise reassuring words.

I shall never forget the picture of her standing in the doorway, at the beginning of a new day, enfolding her children within the circle of her arms and whispering a prayer for their safety in God's sustaining love. What greater heritage can a woman give to her children than the comfort of mother love and the assurance of divine guidance.

She was moreover a charming hostess, never apologetic if her treats were simple, rather proud, as if in all things, she shared with her fellowmen. Nor did I ever hear a word of complaint on the difficulty of rearing a family on a limited income. She was a woman dedicated to her home, so it became that, in the fullest sense of the word, and, under any circumstances.

There was no fanfare in her life proclaiming her many deeds of kindness, but "in gentleness and confidence" was her strength. Once she gave me a little brass candle-holder which I cherish. I am reminded of Shakespeare's lines, "how far that little candle throws its beams." I cannot know how far her candle

beams have shed their rays, I can only know that they touched me and made my life immeasurably richer. Such was the power of Christine Marckmann's light.

Concerning Home Mission Work At Cedar Heights and Cedarloo, Iowa

(The above mentioned areas are located between the cities of Waterloo and Cedar Falls; the greater part of the Mission is at the eastern limits of Cedar Falls.)

The editor of this page has asked for a brief resume of the work done at the Cedarloo Home Mission Field. I submit the following:

I arrived in Cedar Falls after this area had been visited by a terrific hurricane which had disrupted the power services, trees had been blown across highways, and in general there was much devastation; so I was introduced to our new home by candlelight (present address is temporary). Since then I have been shown our new field of labor and find it very appealing and certainly challenging.

The Membership of The Bethlehem Lutheran Church has done a very good preliminary survey and organized a Sunday School and regular worship services. For the present our activities are conducted in the Cedar Heights Public School Building and fair attendance has been noted. The "Hymnal for Church and Home" provided by The Women's Mission, in sufficient quantities for present needs, is in use at each service.

A Vacation Bible School was conducted for two weeks during the month of June. Rev. Sorensen was assisted in this project by Mrs. Agnes Holst, Mrs. John Arends, Mrs. Cecil Schauer, Mrs. Lynn Harned, and others assisted with transportation of the children thus making a very favorable attendance record for the 27 children enrolled. We now find most of these same children attending Sunday School, even bringing their friends with them.

The area assigned to our Synod by The Regional Home Mission Committee is attractively located; the majority of the homes are new and each day we observe more excavations for additional homes. The property purchased by the Synod is located near the centre of this residential area.

Among those residing in this new development are many young married couples; they have small families and the children are young. One can realize their problems of establishing homes and raising their families, while being employed in nearby cities. The Home Mission work that is to be accomplished is to help them find and build a spiritual home.

A Lutheran Home Missions Conference, sponsored by The National Lutheran Council, was held at Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter, Minnesota, early in July. Rev. Sorensen and I attended, that we might share in the experiences of others who were engaged in similar work. We were given much food for thought and a real spiritual uplift, which should help to train us for this service. The challenge is great, and the field of Home Mission is unlimited.

The emphasis made at the above conference was that Home Mission objectives should be shared by us all. Jesus said, "Ye are the salt of the earth," "the light of the world,"—these words are for everyone who confess faith in Christ. If we neglect this responsibility we cease to be a Christian Church.

Fortunately, we have not neglected it, for we indicate by the action of our Synod that we will assume the responsibility for extending Home Mission Work "beyond our own" into this present objective at Cedarloo and vicinity! We trust we have the prayers and support of fellow Christians.

May I relate an encouraging experience; it was at St.

Stephen's Lutheran Church, Chicago, when Rev. Sorensen conducted his last service there, Sunday, May 31st. This Sunday, (the fifth of the month) was "Family Sunday," the custom was that on this Sunday, the regular Sunday school session was omitted and instead the children were to worship with their parents at the morning worship period.

Mrs. Thyra Nussle, Sunday School Superintendent, had suggested that the offering given by the children on that day would be for Home Missions and that the amount collected would be set aside for a "Baptismal Font" for the future Church of the Cedarloo Area. At the present time the fund amounts to about \$58.00, which also includes a gift by the children and teachers of St. Stephen's Vacation Bible School.

We are personally very grateful for this experience of interest in the work assigned to us in Home Missions.

Above all, let us pray for more fields of labor and many "laborers in the vineyard," for truly, "the fields are white unto harvest, but the laborers are few."

Gertrude D. Sorensen.

1006 West Ninth St.,
Cedar Falls, Iowa.

Editor Retires

The pace of time is so rapid and relentless that a decade or two goes by before one knows it. Holger Strandkov has edited Lutheran Tidings for the past



Rev. Holger Strandkov

Pastor Strandkov was born in 1893, in Diamond Lake, Minnesota, and was educated at Grand View, at the U. of Nebraska, and in Askov Folk School, Denmark. His pastorates were in Kronborg, Tyler, Dwight and Kimballton. He is married to Marietta, formerly Hostrup.

Lutheran Tidings, years ago, was a small eight page paper, and it was Holger Strandkov's own initiative that expanded it to its present 16 page format. We know of no instance where his editor's chair was relinquished, whether for illness—which has been not inconsiderable—nor for vacations—which have been all too few. At this writing, the Strandkovs are enjoying a trip to the West, and this issue includes a greeting from them.

thirteen years, and it has been a monumental work. He assumed the post of editor in a period when the paper reached only 800 families; now, as a membership paper, and our official church organ, it is read in almost 8,000 homes. Modesty has cautioned him against allowing more than the barest minimum of information about himself to appear within these pages, and it seems only proper for us, the new editor, to pen a brief appreciation for an exacting task conscientiously done.

The duties of editor have kept Holger Strandkov from many other assignments and committees in our Synod work which he now will be free to do. We have lost his experienced hand at the editor's desk, but we will find other work for his capabilities.

Open Letter To The 76th Annual Convention

To the 76th Convention Chairman and Convention Delegates:

GREETINGS:

Inasmuch as I find myself unable to attend the Convention, I feel it my duty to express my reasons for proposing Topic No. 1 for convention discussion. It is a known fact, that since many Congregations began to rebel against self-perpetuating congregational councils by amending local constitutions so as to restrict unlimited terms of offices, much improvement has been accomplished in Congregational activities and overall harmony.

It is my observation and conviction that our Synodical affairs are fast approaching a new era. It will require broad and diversified opinions within our Synodical Board to properly administer those affairs. This is not possible without injecting new membership upon the Board at frequent intervals.

Neither is this possible under the present prevailing unlimited terms of office that a person may serve upon the Board.

This point is readily proven by calling attention to the fact that new, perhaps little known, but still very capable persons nominated to office, stand very little chance of election when constantly pitted against incumbents in office.

In last year's 75th convention twenty-six (26) elections were held for various offices within the Synod Board and Committees. Twenty (20) incumbents were re-elected. Three (3) office vacancies were due to either death or resignations. Thus actually only three new nominees were successful of election.

I for one do not wish to see our Synod Board (nor, for that matter, Committees) become self-perpetuating, for I have seen such Boards and Committees function, and always to the ultimate detriment of specific causes served.

I therefore recommend that the Synod Constitution and/or By Laws be amended so as to prevent this to happen.

With Cordial Greetings,

Respectfully yours,

B. P. Christensen.
Solvang, Calif.

REQUEST TO CONVENTION CHAIRMAN:

I herewith request that the above article be read at the Convention at such time as the topic is on the agenda for presentation.

B. P. Christensen.

Greetings From "Eben-Ezer In The Pines"

What a wonderful relaxation to be out here in the cool and refreshing mountain air—yes, and there is no "Lutheran Tidings" to get ready for a certain dead-line date. Therefore it is a real vacation, and the first of its kind in many years.

But this greeting has its purpose. We would like to recommend "Eben-Ezer in the Pines" to our friends who may be going to Colorado for a vacation, or if driving through from the West Coast.

The camp is about twenty-five miles southwest of Denver and only five minutes' walk from Evergreen, Colorado. In fact, we are on a mountainside high above the village.

"No visitor is a stranger" is the motto here and every day some travelers stop in; some just for a brief stay, others for a longer visit. We see names in the Guest Book from Ringsted, Iowa, from Trinity Church, Chicago, from Los Angeles, Calif., etc.

As the camp is owned by Eben-Ezer Lutheran Home in Brush, Colorado, the Sisters and workers from the Home change off taking their summer vacation here.

We live as one large family; well prepared family style meals are served—also the traditional afternoon coffee. We meet at 9 o'clock each morning in the beautiful little chapel for our morning devotion and Bible hour.

The charge for your stay here is low, based on actual cost, about \$3.00 a day per person. Come and enjoy the perfect rest and uplift in the beauty of God's grand nature.

Holger Strandskov.

Here And There

By Sigurd Pedersen

The short comments in "Today's Devotions" by Rev. H. E. Olsen in "Lutheran Tidings" of June 20th seem clear and worthwhile. The message seems to come from the heart rather than from theological booklearning—yes, some of the reports from the Pastor's Institute are too complicated for laymen; but of course, the Pastor's Institute is a different "sphere of intellect." At least my intellect fails to soar aloft to that rare realm!

I believe with Rev. Alfred Jensen (I mean Dr. of course) in his "characterization of the Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church" (L. T. June 20th) read his last five lines again and you will see the truth he points to. This was well said and in plain words. Of course, August Bang may lose some sleep after reading it! (See his article in "Kirke og Folk.")

Rev. Thorvald Hansen's suggestion in regard to the election of the President and Dean of Grand View

College is a vital issue. But would it not create a predicament, when a new president had been elected by the board, and then would have to wait several months for confirmation by the synodical convention? Especially as we now have moved our convention to the month of August. If he is a pastor, or whatever other position he holds, will he feel like resigning before he is assured of the confirmation by the convention? If he should resign from his present position when elected by the board and probably move to Des Moines, and then the possibility of the synodical convention being unwilling to approve his election!!

If the rules for the school required resignation of G. V. President by March 1st, then the board could possibly find the next man by June 1st, and if we then moved our convention back to the month of June, there would be confirmation on or about June 15th, then all gears would click.

June is after all the **proper** month for convention. Why did we ever move to August? School is out in June; the fields are beautiful; the flowers in prime condition. It should be a good time for the pastors to get away to rest after all the holiday activities. In June we have green fields instead of the stubble-fields in August. Truly, June is the convention month. I suggest that we go back to the "wonderful, inspiring days of June" and cure all the ills mentioned above in regard to the election of Grand View College President.

District IX Convention

The Annual Meeting of District 9 will be held at The Hope Lutheran Church, Enumclaw, Washington, September 12th and 13th.

The meeting will be opened with Devotion Saturday morning at 9 a. m. All delegates and pastors are asked to be present at that time.

We extend a welcome to attend this convention to the membership of our churches, and, to friends. All delegates are requested to bring a written report from their respective congregations.

In order to accommodate you with lodging, and in order to plan the meals please register one week before the meeting with the president of the congregation or the pastor.

Martin Petersen, President.

R. F. D. 2, Enumclaw, Wash.

Svend Holm, Pastor.

Holger M. Andersen, Dist. Pres.

District III Convention

September 25, 26 and 27

The Annual Meeting of District Three of the Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church of America will be held at Racine, Wisconsin, September 25, 26 and 27, 1953.

The host congregation will be Bethania Evangelical Lutheran Church.

The congregations of the District are requested to send delegates, and all pastors are urged to attend this convention. The congregations are entitled to one delegate for every 25 voting members, or fraction thereof.

Please note that all reports to the convention should be submitted in writing.

The convention will convene on Friday evening with a worship service.

Members and friends of the congregation throughout the district are welcome to be in attendance.

Registrations should be sent to Mr. Jens Engholt, 1545 Arthur Avenue in Racine well in advance of the convention dates.

May we meet in sacred fellowship and conduct such matters of practical importance that will further the work of the Christian Church.

Alfred E. Sorensen,
District President.

Bethania Evangelical Lutheran Church of Racine, Wisconsin, extends a cordial invitation to all pastors and members of congregations in the District to attend the annual convention.

Kindly send your registration well in advance of the convention date to Mr. Jens Engholt whose address is 1545 Arthur Avenue, in Racine, Wisconsin.

Hans Nyboe, Vice President.

Robert C. Schmidt, Pastor.



OPINION AND COMMENT

When editorships change hands, readers look for changes in editorial policy. We anticipate no radical departures from the familiar content and form of past issues. Changes, if they come, will be evolutionary rather than revolutionary. As always, our aim will be inspiration and information, the two age-old motivations for church papers, and if we must have a policy, it will be that of the Christian mission at large, a striving for the Spirit of God and the realization of His Kingdom.

However, suggestions for improvements in Lutheran Tidings will always be welcomed. We cannot follow them all, but we will consider them all. And now might be a good time to come forth with suggestions and criticisms, before a new pattern takes shape. The most frequently heard comment on L. T. is that it ought not be printed on such inexpensive stock. To improve the paper stock would add hundreds of dollars to the annual cost of printing and

such an added expense would be difficult to defend. (Likewise, the cost of pictures is approximately five dollars each.)

Readers should feel free to write articles for these pages. While we reserve the right to exercise editorial judgment and editorial shears where a writer's enthusiasm becomes too vigorous, we will not shy away from controversial issues, if the issues are vital and of general interest.

The recent breaches in the hitherto solid front advanced by the Communist, god-less nations have given Christians over the whole world new reason for hope. Any loosening of the lines of communication between the peoples of the world cannot help, it would seem, but to better understanding where so much misunderstanding exists. However, what about the breaches in our own ranks? The shocking declaration of independence by the South Koreans is an example of something that is becoming increasingly clearer as time goes by. International politics is a maze and a mire, in which each struggling participant still seems to be looking to his own welfare, and seems quickly to lose sight of the greater welfare of all, which was the goal of the U. N.

The cease-fire in Korea has been an answer to myriad prayers, but it should not mean an end to the spirit of sacrifice, without which permanent peace can never be achieved. Now more than ever, the nations of the world must look carefully to see if there are not concessions and admissions and sacrifices they might honorably make by which they can demonstrate their sincerity. If the cease-fire simply results in a fresh spirit of isolation and independence in the members of the U. N. it will have been a Pyrrhic and an illusory victory for peace.

We have noticed that so many churches, when they begin improving their church property, begin in the kitchen. We may be wrong, but it seems to us that the kitchen ought to be far down on the list, and that other improvements ought properly to come first.

According to a "Year-End Report" released by the World Council of Churches, Lutherans of the U. S. gave almost half of all the gifts received by needy European churches last year. The only justification for us to publish this fact ourselves is to point out the scope of such efforts as L. W. A. and L. W. R. to those of us who did not do all we might have done. Many, many needs still went unmet. Inter-church aid reached \$8,500,000 and almost four millions came from Lutherans. But many Lutherans continue to give nothing. How can they?

OUR CHURCH

Rev. Richard Sorensen served Bethlehem Church, Cedar Falls, in the absence of Rev. H. O. Nielsen, who is vacationing.

Pastor Harold Petersen, Askov, who is district president, visited the church at Volmer, Montana, on July 24 and Flaxton on the following Sunday.

The Parish Hall of our church in Withee, Wisconsin, has recently been remodeled at a cost of about \$8,000. Part of the cost was raised by blood donors whose gifts of blood brought an income to the church. Only a small part of the total cost is still unpaid.

Pastor A. C. Ammentorp, we regret having to report, is in Aurora Hospital, Aurora, Nebraska, where he is in serious condition as the result of a motor accident. Affectionately known as "Prof" to his former students, he is former pastor of Luther Memorial Church in Des Moines, and for many years taught at Grand View College and Seminary. Since it is probable that he will be hospitalized for some time, well-wishers can write him at the above address.

Dr. Ernest Nielsen, president of G. V. C., recently returned from a tour in the Michigan District, where he lectured and made personal contact with prospective students.

Ruthton and Diamond Lake Parishes recently employed a college student, Mr. Dale Krog, to assist the pastor for 30 days during June and July. This enabled Pastor Walter Brown to conduct two summer schools, call on 70 families, attend one young people's camp, conduct another, and carry on the full church schedule.

Junior Camp at Grand View College has just been completed, with youngsters between the ages of 12 and 15, eighty-four of them, participating. Eight counselors assisted co-chairmen, Axel Kildegaard and Howard Christensen.

Gifts

Received for Tyler Old People's Home, Tyler, Minn.:

In memory of S. K. Mikkelsen, Tyler, Minn., Mrs. Jens Borresen, Tyler, Minn., Mrs. Victor Jensen, Tyler, Minn. Easy chair
In memory of Mrs. C. O. Nelson, Tyler, Minn., Mr. and Mrs. Jens Kjergaard, Kimballton, Iowa ...\$2.00
Mrs. Bodil Marie Hansen 1.00
In memory of Art Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Vadheim, Tyler, Minn. 5.00
Thank you.

Hans C. Svendsen, Treas.

Santal Mission

Contributions for May and June, 1953

For General Budget:

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| Reinholdt Nielsen, Ferndale, Calif. | \$ 3.00 |
| Mrs. Caroline Holst, Newell, Ia. Bethania Congregation, Racine, Wis. | 3.00 |
| Memorial Congregation, Menominee, Mich. | 72.65 |
| Women's Circle, Our Savior's, Omaha, Neb. | 5.02 |
| St. Paul's Sunday School, Tacoma, Wash. | 10.00 |
| Bethany Sunday School, Ludington, Mich. | 10.00 |
| St. John's Sunday School, Easton, Calif. | 50.00 |
| Nazareth Sunday School, Withee, Wis. | 20.40 |
| Rev. P. Wikmans, Ringsted, Ia. Andreas Hansens, Tyler, Minn. | 23.00 |
| Mrs. Anna Terkildsen, Tyler, Minn. | 10.00 |
| Jens Becks, Withee, Wis. | 5.00 |
| Marie Miller, Withee, Wis. | 2.00 |
| Diamond Lake Congregation, Lake Benton, Minn. | 10.00 |
| Danebod Sunday School, Tyler, Minn. | 35.00 |
| West Denmark Congregation, Luck, Wis. | 50.00 |
| St. Stephen's Congregation, Chicago, Ill. | 54.10 |
| St. John's L. Aid, Seattle, Wash. | 42.00 |
| St. John's Danish L. Aid, Mission meeting, Hampton, Ia. | 25.00 |
| Bethlehem Cong., Askov, Minn. | 7.15 |
| Hope Luth. Congregation Ruth-ton, Minn. | 30.00 |
| St. John's Congregation, Cordova, Neb. | 74.55 |
| St. Stephen's Women's Mission Society, Chicago, Ill. | 26.55 |
| Lutheran Guild, Watonsville, Calif. | 35.00 |
| A Friend, Enumclaw, Wash. | 32.00 |
| Danevang Danish L. Aid | 10.00 |
| Bethania Congregation, Solvang, Calif. | 7.15 |
| Bethlehem S. S. Birthday Bank, Askov, Minn. | 39.22 |
| Special Offering St. Peter's Congregation, Dwight, Ill. | 9.08 |
| Gardner L. Aid, Dwight, Ill. | 189.55 |
| A Friend of the Mission, S. D. | 42.00 |
| | 12.92 |

In Memoriam Gifts

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| For Erling Miller by Anna Sorensen, Chicago, | 5.00 |
| by Paul Westers, Chicago ... | 5.00 |
| For Carl Johnson, Spencer, Iowa, Relatives at Hampton, Tyler and Des Moines | 11.50 |
| For Magdalene Dixen by Esther Dixen, Minneapolis | 1.00 |
| For L. C. Bundgaard by Esther Dixen, Minneapolis | 1.00 |
| For Mrs. Serena Baumgartner, Oak Hill Mission Group | 5.00 |
| For Martin Beyer, Dwight, by Martin von Qualens | 5.00 |
| by Mrs. Anna Green | 2.00 |

| | |
|---|-------|
| For Paul Wester, Chicago, by Alfred Kibsgaards, Alfred Jorgensens, and Mrs. Andrew Jorgensen, Hampton, | 2.50 |
| For LeRoy Pedersen, by Jens G. Jensen, Axel Tobiasens and Mrs. Andrew Jorgensen, Hampton, Iowa | 1.50 |
| For Thora Rorvang, by Sivert Andersens, Badger, S. D. | 1.00 |
| For Thyge Thygesen, by S. Dixen Sorensens, Dwight, Ill. | 2.00 |
| For Chris Godtfredsen, by Friends at Ringsted, Iowa ... | 10.00 |
| For Mrs. L. R. Lund, Newell, Iowa, by Friends | 2.00 |
| For Wm. Skonetski, Dwight, Ill., by Harry von Qualens by Friends | 5.00 |
| For Miner Jensen, Rapid City, S. D., Stephan Nelsen, Viborg, S. D. | 38.00 |
| For Mrs. Frank Jensen, Sr., Viborg, S. D., by Friends | 1.00 |
| For Mrs. Ludvig Andersen, Viborg, S. D., by Friends | 11.00 |
| | 19.00 |

For Children:

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| Daily Collection in Summer School, Greenville, Mich. ... | 30.87 |
| Sister Ingeborg Hansen, Brush, Colo. | 1.00 |
| St. Ansgar's Sunday School, Portland, Me. | 25.00 |

For a Leper in Hospital:

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| Rev. M. Nygaards, Dwight, Ill. | 43.00 |
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For Harold Ribers' and Muriel Nielsen's Work:

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| Trinity Mission Group, Chicago | 100.00 |
| John Petersens and David, Madrid, Neb. | 15.00 |

For May and June\$1,290.71

Acknowledging these gifts, on behalf of our friends at work in India, I thank you.

Dagmar Miller.

1517 Guthrie Ave., Des Moines, Iowa.

SANTAL MISSION CONTRIBUTIONS

July, 1953

General Budget:

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| Annual Meeting, Danebod, Tyler, Minn. | \$ 143.15 |
| Our Savior's Congregation, Hartford, Conn. | 40.00 |
| W. M. S. | 2.00 |
| Anonymous | 341.00 |
| St. Stephan's Sunday School, Chicago, Ill. | 25.00 |
| Mrs. White, Ludington, Mich. | 25.00 |
| Rev. John Christensen, Ludington, Mich. | 25.00 |
| In memory of Mrs. Anna Grau, Newell, Iowa, Mrs. S. D. Rodholm | 2.00 |
| In memory of Marie Nissen, Marquette, Neb., Kronborg friends | 11.00 |
| C. C. Hansens, Clara Han- | |

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| sen, Sena and Ottolena | |
| Madsen, Aurora, Neb. ----- | 3.00 |
| In memory of Andrew Petersen, | |
| Alden, Minn., Friends ----- | 6.00 |
| Mrs. Andrew Petersen ----- | 4.00 |
| In memory of Mrs. Lars Olsen, | |
| Withee, Wis., Mr. and Mrs. | |
| Fred Miller, Withee, Wis. -- | 2.00 |
| In memory of Edward Petersen, | |
| Cordova, Nebraska, Dagmar | |
| Miller ----- | 1.00 |
| Mr. and Mrs. Julius Petersen, | |
| Exeter, Neb. ----- | 3.00 |
| Total for July ----- | 633.15 |
| Total since January 1 ----- | 4,705.16 |

Sincere greetings,

Dagmar Miller.

1517 Guthrie Ave., Des Moines, Iowa

Our workers in India write of the exceedingly high cost of living today. This causes very real difficulties. Particularly trying do the Indian workers find this situation. We are thus, doubly thankful for every help you send to be forwarded to India.

Thank you.

D. M.

Dr. Nolde Reports On Korea Visit

"My major purpose in going to Korea on behalf of the Commission of the Churches on International Affairs was to promote an atmosphere of good will in which there would be greater likelihood of political agreement between Syngman Rhee for the Republic of Korea and Walter Robertson, the United States representative for the United

Nations," Dr. O. Frederick Nolde said yesterday as he reported to the World Council of Churches and the International Missionary Council, co-sponsors of the CCIA, on his two weeks of consultations in Korea.

Dr. Nolde returned July 16 from what he called an unofficial mission of goodwill. On July 3rd, in Seoul, he had a long interview with Syngman Rhee during which he conveyed the greetings of the Commission of the Churches on International Affairs, of which he is director, and expressed the grave concern felt by its constituents over the tragic situation in Korea. He assured Dr. Rhee of their continuing interest and concern for the years ahead and explained to him the three purposes in mind when he decided to hold consultations among Christian leaders in Korea. 1. "To preserve and strengthen sympathetic understanding within the Christian fellowship at a time when a serious difference of opinion on a cease fire was known to exist. 2. To inform our Christian colleagues in Korea, and appropriate government officials, of the position taken by the constituency of the CCIA in its formal statements wherein it urged that every effort be made promptly to secure a truce on honorable terms and expressed the view that conditions were now favorable. 3. To reassure our Korean colleagues that our constituency wholeheartedly endorsed the objectives of the unification and independence of Korea and their support for a cease fire now only served to strengthen their commitment to that objective but by means and methods other than military."

In the course of the conversation with Syngman Rhee, Dr. Nolde reported, Mr. Rhee said that he approached the problems facing him on a religious basis and sought to find God's will to guide him in his decisions. Dr. Rhee then cited the historical background of betrayal and frustration in Korean life, pointing out that in 1882 the United States signed a treaty of friendship with Korea but in 1905 and successive years acquiesced in Japanese control over Korea which eventually led to domination. He called attention to the fact that the U. S. was an instrumental factor in the division of Korea at the 38th parallel. In the light of these and other facts, Dr. Rhee made it clear, the Republic of Korea has little confidence of securing its objective by political means. In spite of this, he assured Dr. Nolde, Korea has the warmest friendship for the United States and appreciates fully the lives that have been sacrificed and the money that has been spent since June 25, 1950. Because of the background of betrayal, he explained, but also because of this friendship with the United States, they feel that they want to have the situation concluded

SYNOD OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: Rev. Alfred Jensen,
1232 Pennsylvania Ave.,
Des Moines 16, Iowa.

SECRETARY: Rev. Holger O. Nielsen,
1410 Main St., Cedar Falls, Iowa.

TREASURER: Charles Lauritzen,
222 Pollard Ave., Dwight, Ill.

TRUSTEE: Olaf R. Juhl,
30 W. Minnehaha Parkway
Minneapolis 19, Minn.

TRUSTEE: Erling V. Jensen,
1104 Boyd Street
Des Moines 16, Iowa.

TRUSTEE: August Sorensen,
Ringsted, Iowa.

TRUSTEE: Viggo Nielsen,
190 Jewett Ave., Bridgeport 6, Conn.

while the United States is still on the scene.

Dr. Nolde also had a meeting with Mr. Walter Robertson, in accordance with CCIA procedure of keeping in touch with both parties to a negotiation. He returned with the highest admiration for the work Mr. Robertson has been doing in Korea. At the close of both the conferences just mentioned, a prayer for restraint, patience and open minds was said. During meetings with Christian leaders in both Pusan and Seoul, Dr. Nolde interpreted World Christian opinion and, specifically, the position of the CCIA on the Korean situation. In turn, Korean Christian leaders explained their position and their reasons for urging unification before a truce upon the official negotiators.

It is believed that the fact of the Commission of the Churches on International Affairs having a representative of the churches on the scene at this strategic moment constituted an evidence of Christian concern and may have been a factor in prompting the atmosphere which made agreement possible.

INGENUITY

The story goes that a blacksmith once offered to shoe a horse on the basis of 1c for the 1st nail, 2c for the 2nd, 4c for the 3rd and so on until the job was completed. The owner of the horse, unfamiliar with compound doubling, accepted the bargain. For 8 nails in each shoe or a total of 32 nails, the bill came to \$42,949,672.95! — Capper's Farmer.

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, Astor, Minn.

August 5, 1953

I am a member of the congregation at _____

Name _____

City _____ State _____

New Address _____

REV. CLAYTON NIELSEN 5-1
WITHEE, WIS.