

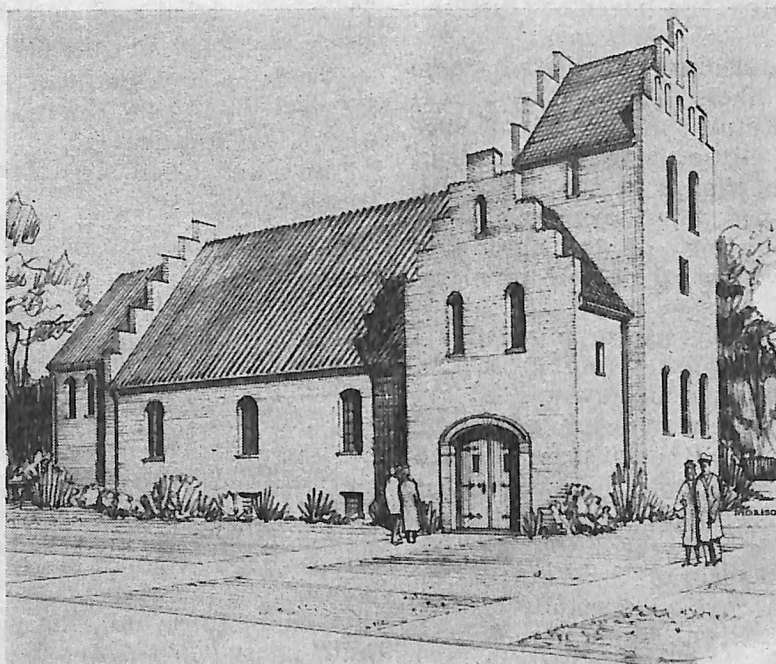
Lutheran Tidings

PUBLISHED BY THE AMERICAN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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No. 19



Architect's sketch of the proposed new church of St. Peter's Congregation, Detroit, Michigan.

Detroit Builds

On the afternoon of Sunday, April 4, 1954, St. Peter's congregation of Detroit broke ground for its new church on the corner of Greenfield and Penbroke, a site just one half mile inside the city limits. The pastor, the Rev. Svend A. Jorgensen, using the Lutheran ritual for ground-breaking, turned the sod three times in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. He was followed by Mr. Jens Feldborg, president of the congregation; Mr. Chris Nielsen, chairman of the building committee; Mr. Peter Schmidt, deacon and oldest member; Mrs. Victor Olsen, who represented the ladies of the congregation; and eight year old Linda Louise Pearce, who represented the children. Each turned the sod three times, using a gold plated shovel presented at the service for the occasion by Paul Blinkilde in behalf of the Young Adult Bible Class.

The building, estimated to cost \$113,000.00, was designed by architect James B. Morison to carry out a Danish trend in style. It will be built of white brick with red roof and will consist of one floor with basement fellowship hall underneath. Seating for 206 will be provided in the church, with facilities for 30 choir members in the balcony located at the rear. Also in the balcony will be the organ console (which

is not included in the building price and must be separately provided for at a later time) and storage facilities for robes and music. To the right of the altar will be two rooms, a small sacristy and a pastor's study. A cry room for mothers with young children will be located at the rear near the vestibule. Included in the basement are kitchen, fellowship hall, storage and coatroom facilities.

Fund raising efforts, particularly since the sale of the former Vermont and Caroline Streets church in July, 1953, have been successful in raising almost three quarters of the building cost to date. Significant is the enthusiasm of the entire Detroit Danish colony, typified by the good will and financial support of such organizations as the Danish Brotherhood and Sisterhood. The congregation, now numbering about 225 families, is dedicated to the task of building and maintaining a Danish church for the Danish and Danish American people of the Detroit area. We are building a Danish style church as a landmark and as a symbol to remind ourselves and others that the transplanting of a Danish spiritual heritage, begun in Detroit in 1882, has taken root and flowered in American soil.

Alice M. Jorgensen, Correspondent.

The Troubles I've Seen

By Henriette Lund

"Warum wuenschen Sie nach Amerika auszuwandern?"

It was in the Hilfswerk office in Speyer, Germany. I had been sent there by Lutheran World Federation to counsel with uprooted people who were looking once more toward our country for a haven of peace and safety.

Each family that came looked bewildered; some were clearly frightened; others trembled in excitement. The news of the Refugee Relief Act of 1953 had spread to camp and city and village barracks, but there was also the knowledge of the many displaced persons whose hopes were destroyed when they were left "in the pipeline" on the closing of the DP Act. Now there was word of new immigration plans.

"Why do you want to immigrate to America?" I repeated the question in English. (My chief, Dr. Empie, pays me the compliment of saying that my heart is as expansive as my German is limited!)

"Why? Why?" Sometimes the husband waited for his wife to speak. Sometimes her voice was choked too. Always the answer was the same, though the words in which it was framed were different. "Because we seek freedom and security." "We need the chance for our children to develop normally." "We want to be wanted." "We seek the end of our flight."

There were upwards of eight hundred refugees with whom I counselled in Northern Germany. They were Balts, Yugoslavs, Czechs and others from behind the Iron Curtain. They were new refugees also, who had fled from Eastern Germany into the West.

They were lone persons — a man or woman or youth who had become separated from the rest of the family in the escape. They were parents with two, three or five or six children and an aged grandmother and an extra aunt or two. Primarily they were people—like you and me: persons with hopes and fears and joys and disappointments; persons with professional and artistic skills and persons whose cracked, swollen hands spoke of hard labor.

There was the lone Roumanian man who put a worn snapshot on the desk and stared at it for a few moments before he spoke. "This is my son," he said slowly. "He was 14 then, when last I saw him. He is 24 years old now. He and his mother and I had just crossed the border into Austria when they were repatriated. I do not know if they are still alive. Perhaps I can establish a home in the USA and then some day they may join me." He was the man who kept standing outside the office building all day in the drizzling rain, just to say one more word: "Please!" I didn't have to ask him what he meant. He was pleading for someone in the USA to accept him.

It was the little children who tugged at my heart-strings till it hurt. They sat so submissively and expressionless through the long interviews—and looked lost in a world that has not been kind to them. They have known only makeshift homes. They have slept in the upper bunks in crowded rooms and overheard

LUTHERAN WORLD ACTION Sunday is May 16. This article and one by Dr. Paul Empie to be published in the next issue of TIDINGS is presented to publicize various aspects of the LWA program throughout the world.

the fears and anxieties of their parents. They have not had enough of fresh milk and sunny playgrounds. They are called the outsiders—sometimes the outcasts—in school and community.

I tried to talk to them and to coax forth a smile or two. "What do you want to be when you grow up?" I asked one lad. The answer came quickly: "A butcher! Then there will be enough to eat if war comes."

If war comes! Even the children are afraid and uncertain.

It is not easy to see trouble first hand, but it is inspiring to feel the faith of men, women and young people as they bare their souls. They ask simply for the chance to be useful and safe. They believe in the kindness of people.

"Will you come to our home for a cup of tea?" asked various refugee families. It is good to share, I thought, for the gift without the giver is bare. And so I used Sundays and evenings in visiting. In one home, which boasted two rooms instead of the usual one-room-with-kitchen-facilities unit, the parents and three children were housed in the one room, and the grandparents and a sister and brother-in-law in the other. The beds stood so close together that there was place for only a chair and this the grandparents took turns in using through the long day of in-activity. In a corner was a gas burner and plate. Here were people of many interests who had known a comfortable life in Estonia before the invasion. The grandfather had once visited the USA and still lived in memory of it. "Now I withdraw and ask only that the younger folks may have a better life over there," he said simply. He did not even want to be included in the application.

In the town of Kassel, where several hundred persons came to the Hilfswerk office to plead for American sponsors, the local worker told me about the day in 1943 when 35,000 persons were killed in twenty minutes of bombing. The recoverable bodies were stacked high in the Kassel town square, chemical poured over them, and then they were burned in the presence of the relatives.

Kassel is still in ruins, and many of the dead lie under the debris. The driver spoke of his wife who has had excruciating headaches without relief since the bombing. There are many others who still suffer like her, he said. He had lost one child and his business and house were destroyed. Little wonder, I thought, that the local people cannot provide adequately for the incoming "escapees and expellees" (as the refugees are now called.)

The Hilfswerk workers, by the way, are the refugees' guardian angels. Their dedicated devotion, kindness and patience and their untiring energy were truly remarkable. Great tribute is due them for their

service to the homeless people with whom they deal in large numbers every day.

"If we get discouraged," said Frau Moeser at the Frankfurt office, "then we think about the cross on our lovely Lutheran church. When the church was bombed and burning, the cross stayed upright and bright even after the walls of the building began to crumble. It symbolizes our faith, which must be a light to others."

I have come away from this adventure in the practice of our Lord's compassion with the conviction that each human being has a part to play in bringing peace and good will on earth. Each of us can do it if we will make an honest effort to help some other human being. It is as simple as that.

I have learned too in this contact with suffering people that, when we are obedient, God releases rich inner resources in man that help him to triumph over disaster. If this were not possible, then millions of our fellowmen in Europe would have gone down to despair—and the whole world with them.

All men must be, can be brothers.

The group of eight American pastors and laymen who have just come back from Europe counselled with nearly 2,000 families. They prepared dossiers for each family, for use in finding work, housing and sponsors, so that as many persons as humanly possible may be helped to immigrate while this new Refugee Relief Act is open.

Now we turn to you for help in answering the prayers of the homeless people. You can do this by giving work and house and sponsorship to a family or individual. You can do this by giving money through Lutheran World Action. Your local pastor, with whom the Lutheran Service to Immigrants is in touch, will provide specific information about the people. Do not delay. Human lives are involved. The time for Christian action is now.

If each one of us will sponsor one family, either directly or by finding someone else who will do so, then we are living our faith and we are building the brotherhood of man. This means a better life for us, too.

"Into his fateful heap of days and deeds the soul of man is cast.

"There is a destiny that makes us brothers;
None goes his way alone;
All that we send into the lives of others
Comes back into our own."

The soul of man—that is our concern.

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Going To Evanston?

Thousands of persons who are interested in participating in the first ecumenical gathering ever to be held on American shores will be given the opportunity to purchase tickets for the eleven public sessions of the Second Assembly of the World Council of Churches starting April 1.

Requests for such tickets at \$1 per session (\$11 for the series) should be sent to World Council Tickets, 1800 Sheridan Road, Evanston, Ill. A stamped, self-addressed envelope should accompany the order. Requests will be filled on a "first come, first served" basis.

Three thousand three hundred ticket holders will be admitted to Assembly sessions at McGaw Hall on the campus of Northwestern University at Evanston on the following occasions: August 15 at 2 P. M.; August 16, 17, 18, 20, 22, 23, 24 and 27 at 8:00 P. M.; August 21 at 10:00 A. M.; and August 29 at 4:30 P. M.

Among the leading churchmen and theologians who have been invited to speak on these occasions are Marc Boegner, France; D. T. Niles, India; Eivind Berggrav, Norway; C. L. Patijn, Holland; Charles Malik, Lebanon; the Archbishop of Canterbury, England; O. Frederick Nolde, U. S. A.; Benjamin E. Mays, U. S. A.; Mrs. Rena Karefa-Smart, Nigeria; Reinhold Niebuhr, U. S. A.; Otto Dibelius, Germany.

Other programs of interest to the general public during the Assembly include the Ecumenical Festival of Faith at Soldier Field, Chicago on August 15, the exhibition of great religious paintings at the Chicago Art Institute and the Ravinia Park Symphony Concert on August 19. Information on reserved seats for Soldier Field is available from Dr. Ralph G. Schell, 8 South Dearborn St., Chicago.

Prayer for Mother

Henry Van Dyke

Lord Jesus, Thou hast known
A mother's love and tender care;
And Thou wilt hear, while for my own
Mother, most dear, I make this birthday prayer.

Protect her life, I pray,
Who gave the gift of life to me;
And may she know, from day to day,
The deepening glow of life that comes from Thee.

As once upon her breast,
Fearless and well content I lay,
So let her heart, on Thee at rest,
Feel tears depart and troubles fade away.

Her every wish fulfill;
And even if Thou must refuse
In anything, let Thy wise will
A comfort bring such as kind mothers use.

Ah, hold her by the hand,
As once her hand held mine;
And though she may not understand
Life's winding way, lead her in peace divine.

I cannot pay my debt
For all the love that she has given;
But Thou, love's Lord wilt not forget
Her due reward — bless her in earth and heaven.

77th Annual Convention

of the

American Evangelical Lutheran Church

Cedar Falls, Iowa

August 10-15, 1954

Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Cedar Falls, Iowa, has invited the American Evangelical Lutheran Church to gather for its 77th annual convention at Cedar Falls, and has made plans for being host to the convention. As authorized by the Des Moines convention the synodical board has accepted this invitation.

The convention will open with a worship service to be conducted at the Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 1410 Main Street, Cedar Falls at 8 P. M., August 10. The convention business sessions will commence at 9 A. M. August 11 and will take place at the Cedar Falls Junior High School, located one block north of the Bethlehem Church. All business sessions of the convention will take place there as well as most of the church services and larger meetings, including those on Sunday, August 15. An exception will be an all-Lutheran rally to be held at the Iowa State Teachers' College auditorium on its campus about one mile distant, August 11 at 8 P. M. Dr. Paul C. Empie will be the speaker.

It is expected that all congregations of the synod will be represented at the convention with one delegate for each 50 voting members or fraction thereof. The congregations in district one, eight and nine as well as the congregations in Dalum, Canwood, Danevang and Granly, may elect delegates according to the provisions of Synod By-Laws Art. VI 7 a-c, page 13. The names of delegates must be submitted in writing by the officers of the congregations to the credentials committee of the convention in time to be in the hands of this committee by July 25. In order for the delegates to be acceptable to the credentials committee they must be certified to in writing by the secretaries of the respective congregations. (Name and address of chairman of credentials committee is given below.) All ministers of the synod have voting rights at the convention and are expected to attend.

Friends and members of the Synod are welcome to attend the meetings and services of the convention. The business sessions for the convention usually lasts from 10 A. M. till 5:30 P. M., with recess for lunch and coffee. Devotional services are held each morning at 9 and the evening meetings are conducted in the interest of the missions, institutions, educational activities and auxiliaries of the Synod. Sunday will offer services in the English and the Danish languages with celebration of Holy Communion. It is also expected that there will be ordination Sunday morning.

Attention is called to the following provision in the Synod constitution: "Every member shall be privileged to submit topics for discussion to the convention. These topics shall be sent to the president of the Synod, who shall publish them at least six weeks prior to the convention." Such topics must be at my address at least by July 1st in order that they may be published in the July 5th issue of Lutheran Tidings.

It is expected that all the reports from institutions, district presidents, missions, committees and auxiliaries of the Synod that are to come before the convention will be at my address by May 20. These reports will be published and forwarded to all ministers and congregations of the Synod for distribution.

The annual convention of the Synod is its largest single undertaking carried out by the united efforts of the entire synod. Its influence for the good of the Synod can hardly be overestimated. In order to deal intelligently and as Christian men and women with the important issues to come before the convention may we prepare ourselves by studying the various aspects and implications of these under the guidance of God's Word and Holy Spirit.

Alfred Jensen.

Des Moines, Iowa, April 24, 1954.

Invitation

April 26, 1954.

In accord with the announcement above the Bethlehem Lutheran Church of Cedar Falls, Iowa, extends a cordial invitation to the pastors, delegates and members of all congregations in the American Evangelical Lutheran Church and to the friends of the work of this Synod to be its guests during the annual convention of the Synod, August 10-15, 1954.

The members of the congregation are ready to do all within their power to furnish suitable accommodations to those who come.

Thomas L. Bode, Chairman of the Church Council.
Holger O. Nielsen, Pastor of the Congregation.

Announcement

(Concerning the Recommendations of the Board of Directors on the Future Plans for Grand View Seminary.)

The suggestion has been made that the Board of Directors of Grand View College and Grand View Seminary should make known its recommendations on the future plans for Grand View Seminary well in advance of the annual meeting of the Corporation.

It is the intention of the Board to have its recommendation published in the June 5 issue of LUTHERAN TIDINGS. A board meeting has been called for May 28 and 29, 1954, at which time the Board will make final decisions concerning its recommendation to the annual meeting of the Corporation.

Board of Directors,
Grand View College and Seminary,
Erling Jensen, Chairman.

The Unknown Genius

A genius eked his life away
And never proved his worth,
Who could have sent a golden ray
Of light across the earth
To bless and cheer the lives of men
And help them find their place,
If he had used his tongue or pen
To tell of God's rich grace.

He let life's precious years go by,
Beset with golden weeks,
Which could have lifted him quite high
Where fame and honor speaks,
And tells what God can do for those
Who live to do His will,
Like patriarchs and saints who chose
Their rightful place to fill.

His life was lived on planes quite low
Because he left God out,
And chose the way the sinful go
Who never turn about,
Nor face the better way of life
That leads to heaven's goal,
Where all great souls are free from strife
While endless ages roll.

He could have mastered some great art,
Or left a mark behind,
To bring lost souls to God's great heart,
Thus blessing humankind;
Whereas he lived and passed away,
A genius never known,
Whose life is but a blank today,
For which he can't atone.

O careless man, give God your time,
Your talent and your all,
And then reach out for heights sublime
Like useful men and tall,
Who tower up above the mass
Of those who have no aim,
Who gain no greatness as they pass,
No honor and no fame!

Taylorsville, N. C.

Walter E. Isenhour.

A Call to Christian Stewardship

Budgeting

I want to tell you a story about a minister who made it a practice to preach two sermons every Sunday at the morning service. His congregation didn't dwindle. It actually grew.

Both sermons were not the same length. Neither were they prepared for the same congregation. But they were preached at the same service. One was the sermon you hear in every service of public worship. The other was a talk addressed to the children, listed in the order of worship as "The Junior Sermon."

There was a good attendance of children at the morning hour of worship. So the minister made special preparation for the junior sermon each week. He had some very interesting reactions as he preached to them. They talked back to him, which is something adults do not do in church. They also took seriously what he had to say to them, which also is a habit older people might well develop.

One morning he decided to talk to the Juniors on the subject of making a budget. He wanted the youngsters to get the idea of handling money carefully. To make the lesson realistic he took into the pulpit a dollar in small change.

He counted out the dollar before the children and then raised the question: "Suppose a dollar were given to you each week by your parents as your allowance, and you could have no more, how would you use it?" There was silence for a moment, and then suggestions began to flow in from the Juniors.

Of course they all went to school, and expenses connected with that had to be met. So they agreed that ten cents a week should be set aside for pencils, paper and books. That left ninety cents.

Next the movies were listed and twenty-five cents more were laid aside for that purpose. Then they thought of sodas, candy, pop, and voted to write another twenty-five cents into the budget, leaving them with forty cents to spend.

There was a savings bank plan operating in the local grade school. One lad suggested that five cents a week be put into the bank, and the dollar dwindled to thirty-five cents. They decided that their club dues would call for another dime, and voted that accordingly. Then they said that each day at luncheon hour the school served a hot drink or milk and it costs five cents, so they charged that item for the entire week against the remaining twenty-five cents, and the dollar was spent.

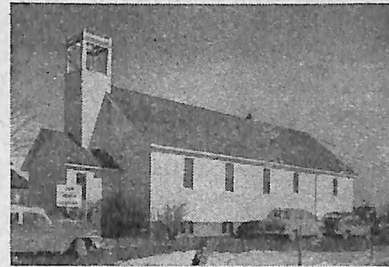
The minister then raised the questions, "Where does the Church come in? What have we left for the Sunday School? Doesn't God figure in our budget?" There was a silence.

Finally one lad spoke up. "We started wrong," he said. "Let's give God a dime first, and then spend the rest." So the dime was set apart for God, and

Dedication

Dedication Services for the building addition to the Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church of Germania, Marlette, Michigan were held Sunday afternoon, March 21. The new addition includes an enlarged kitchen for the church parlor, a council and Sunday School Room and lavatories.

The building addition was begun just a year ago. Nearly all of the work has been done by members of the Congregation. In addition to the new addition, the church parlors have also been redecorated. Rev. Ed-



win E. Hansen, President of the Second District of the American Evangelical Lutheran Church, assisted by the local pastor, Harry S. Andersen, conducted the Dedication Services.

A fellowship dinner was served in the newly decorated dining room to about 150 people preceding the Dedication Service.

The Congregation of the Germania Church looks back upon this project with joy and happiness and to the future in confidence of being able to serve God better because of this blessing.

Announcement

The American Branch of the Santal Mission, the Reverend O. Gornitzka, President, and the Reverend M. C. Dixen, Secretary, will hold its Annual Meeting, God Willing, May 14-16, 1954, in Dawson, Minnesota. Riverside Lutheran Church, the Reverend K. J. Helgesen, Pastor, and Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, the Reverend R. L. Otterstad, Pastor, will serve as co-hosts. Everyone is cordially invited.

the remaining ninety cents were spent with great enthusiasm, and no small amount of wisdom. Strangely enough there was plenty for all the objects which the children thought necessary.

This is just a story of what actually happened one Sunday morning. In our budgeting don't we older people make the same mistake the children did? Don't we leave God out until we have spent everything, and then find that we have nothing left to give Him? Are we wise enough to say what the boy did that Sunday morning, "We started wrong. Let's give God a dime first, and then spend the rest."

A dime out of every dollar for God. Have you ever tried it. If you haven't you will find it's really fun to spend the other ninety cents.

Arthur H. Limouze.

Our Own Point Four Program

Technical aid to our hard-working missions in India? It's a possibility, and a challenge!

Harald and Mary Riber visited the congregations of our Synod on the west Coast in January and February. It was a joy to have them come and according to reports all of us were enlivened by their forthright and sincere description of life and conditions in India. It was a refreshing experience and most of us, I am certain, felt happy to be a part of the work in the Santal Mission.

Here in Solvang Mary spoke at the Ladies' Aid and Harald spoke to two World History classes at our high school in addition to the two evening meetings for the congregation. We had invited the Sunday school to the one evening meeting and while Harald spoke to the elders Mary introduced the children to the land of the Santals. Afterwards we gathered to see the pictures from the mission field.

Most reports on such meetings end on this note—but here there have been repercussions. We think others in our synod should know about it and consequently I have been asked to write a few lines in Lutheran Tidings.

After listening to the description of conditions among the Santals two of our younger men, Philip Larsen (farmer, born and reared in Solvang) and Dr. Harvey Wipf (our new dentist, who hails from North Dakota) who are accustomed to using the best of modern equipment in their work, conceived the idea of doing something tangible to help the Boys School in Kaerabani in the tilling of its fields.

"Why not buy them a tractor?" they asked. The more they thought about it the more it seemed a good step to take. When they spoke to me about it I suggested that they call in a few others and talk it over. They did—and the idea held up. Why should we, who are so well equipped, let the leaders and students at our mission schools work without these advantages? It was decided to write for more information.

Soon letters began to come back. One from Landsvaerk at the Kaerabani Boys' School telling us that they had long wished for a tractor and equipment to go with it but so far the funds had not been available. Another from Mr. Dixen, Secretary-Treasurer of the American Board, telling us that the Board had been thinking of ways and means to furnish Kaerabani School with a tractor but had been unable to find the finances for it after regular expenses had been paid. Still another letter came from the Massey-Harris-Ferguson Tractor Co. in England that they would cooperate with us in contacting their India Office. Clearly here was a need, and it had been placed at our door. Then came two other letters. The Sunday School children in Wilbur, Washington, one of our Home Mission churches, had felt the need of doing something similar and from them—through Harald Riber—came

a check for \$50.00. The other letter came from the Bethania Guild in Racine. These good women had heard of our discussions and forthwith decided to send a check for \$25.00.

The next question before us was that of the reaction to an appeal for a tractor fund on the part of our local congregation. Dr. Wipf put it before our April quarterly meeting and the "green light" was given and a committee authorized.

A few days ago, the committee, consisting of Philip Larsen as chairman, Dr. Wipf as treasurer, Axel Nielsen, Tom Petersen and myself met here at the parsonage to discuss the necessary steps in the appeal. Information was at hand that for slightly over \$6,000.00 we could purchase, in India, two tractors with necessary equipment such as plows, disks, harrows, terracing blade and tipping trailers. (WHY TWO? We had come to feel that if Kaerabani needed a tractor so would the Grahampur School in Assam where Harald and Mary Riber, according to reports, will be going when they return to India.) Now, \$6,000.00 is quite a bit of money to raise in one congregation so it was decided to make a special appeal to all the congregations here on the West Coast—and to invite anyone else in our Synod, who were interested—to help us. The only obstacle was the fact that May is Lutheran Action month in our churches and we did not wish this appeal to compete in any manner with the various other worthwhile causes which we all support. Consequently we decided to wait with our appeal until June.

I have written the above upon the request of the committee so that all friends of the Santal Mission may know about our plans. We feel that \$6,000.00 can readily be gathered in but we do not wish it to be at the cost of any other good cause. This must be, as one of the committee members put it, "a special love offering" from those of us who enjoy the conveniences of modern life to our

friends in India who are struggling to get on their own feet. You will hear more from us.

Ejnar Farstrup.

Solvang, California.

No man ever became great or good except through many and great mistakes. — Gladstone.

We like people in proportion to the good we do them, and not to the good they do us. — Lawrence Sterne.

"Beauty, unaccompanied by virtue, is a flower without perfume."



Readying rice seedlings for transplanting in India. Santal men do not help with the actual planting.

NLC'S 36TH ANNUAL MEETING

THREE NEW NLC PROGRAMS

By Erik W. Modean

A TRIAL PROGRAM for the resettlement of refugees, a second capital fund to finance student centers at colleges and universities, and plans for activity in radio and television were among the major proposals approved at the 36th annual meeting of the National Lutheran Council in Atlantic City, N. J., Feb. 2-5.

The Council decided to join other major agencies in efforts to resettle refugees under the Refugee Act of 1953, after the 34 councillors at the four-day session heard the law severely criticized by several speakers for its "restrictive features."

During a discussion that lasted several hours, some councillors urged the NLC to stay out of the program until Congress would amend the law, while others stressed the moral obligation to undertake another resettlement program.

The council accepted the view of its executive committee that "the best hope for recruiting considerable numbers of assurances lies in skilled interpretation of the program," and that the program must be interpreted to pastors and sponsors "one by one and in small groups."

To this end, the Council approved a six-month trial period, with a promotional budget of \$203,200. Special efforts will be made to obtain job and housing assurances in twelve areas of the country. The results achieved will determine if the Council will expand or reduce its resettlement activity.

Student Center Expansion

Unanimous endorsement was given plans to establish a second capital fund for financing Lutheran student centers at colleges and universities. A total of \$1,750,000, of which \$1,000,000 is to be contributed by the NLC's participating bodies, will be sought to conduct a building program between 1954 and 1960.

In the past six years, nearly \$2,000,000 has been devoted to the construction of 29 student centers throughout the country. About half of this amount was contributed by the NLC's eight bodies, and the rest was raised by local student foundations.

Radio, TV Approved

The Council also voted favorably on a recommendation to establish a Department of Radio and Television within the Division of Public Relations, an action which automatically requires that it be submitted to the participating bodies for approval in principle, after which a detailed plan of operation must be drafted and approved.

Meanwhile, the Public Relations division was authorized to undertake work in radio and television, subject to the approval of the general bodies, and providing funds are made available for such activity.

Palestine Peace Urged

Reopening of direct conversations between the Arab nations and Israel to attain peace in the Middle East was also urged by the Council, as it adopted a resolution calling upon the State Department to encourage the United Nations to issue a "new appeal" for Arab-Israeli talks that would lead to peace. "No

Thanksgiving to God

RESOLVED: That the National Lutheran Council give expression to its humble gratitude to Almighty God, our dear Heavenly Father, for His blessings and mercies upon our National Lutheran Council in its activities of the eight participating bodies constituting a part of the militant Church of Jesus Christ. He who said, "Without Me ye can do nothing," has evidenced that His presence, in grace and power, has been the dynamic in our entire program of work during the past year. To Him be the honor and glory, now and forever!

peace," the Council said, "can be found apart from such direct conversations."

Action on the issue followed an appeal by Dr. Frederik A. Schiotz, executive secretary of the Commission on Younger Churches and Orphaned Missions, who has visited the Holy Land four times in the past two years. He said churchmen everywhere should seek to intercede in the Arab-Israeli impasse, both by prayer and by action.

Dr. Schiotz noted that since October, 1948, Lutheran World Relief has distributed 7,017,468 pounds, of relief goods valued at \$2,503,500 to Arab refugees in Jordan, and since November, 1952, 134,849 pounds of such goods, valued at \$125,259 to Arab refugees in Syria.

However, he said, "Is it enough for the Church of Jesus Christ to stand by with supplementary food and clothing? Has not the time come for churchmen everywhere to give more time to prayerful intercession on behalf of the two parties in the Middle East struggle, and to use every legitimate means of encouraging them to meet in consultation?"

"Darkness has descended, and the hour is late," Dr. Schiotz added. "Let us invite churches everywhere to pray for peace in the Middle East."

LWA Policy Adopted

The Council adopted a statement of long-range policy on Lutheran World Action, and also approved a schedule of distribution of the 1953 LWA receipts, which amounted to \$2,791,300, or 107.36% of the goal.

Approval was also given to a tentative budget for distribution of the 1954 LWA goal of \$2,600,000. The budget totaled \$2,900,000, and it was pointed out that congregations were being urged to raise at least 10 per cent more than the quotas originally assigned to them in order to meet the increased needs.

A goal of \$3,070,000 was tentatively set for the LWA appeal in 1955, and the executive committee was authorized to "fix the details," and "if possible, reduce the total" at its meeting next November.

Population Mobility

The Council voted to call a conference of church leaders this year to consider the effect of mobility on the various programs and policies of the Lutheran Church. The conference was proposed by the Division of American Missions, which declared that the mass movement of people in America makes it necessary to adjust church programs "in order that losses may not be too great, and so that opportunities might be used to the fullest."

Paging Youth

ESPECIALLY OF OUR A. E. L. Y. F.

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

AELYFlashes

Some sixty young people, representing societies in Des Moines, Hampton, Kimballton, Ringsted and Newell, gathered for a **Spring Youth Festival** at **Newell, Iowa** on Sunday, April 25th. It was a beautiful Spring day; the weather could hardly have been better.

The activities began at 3 o'clock with a ping pong tournament. The host society provided a trophy and disqualified themselves from the competition for it. At tournament's end the trophy went to Hampton.

Those who were not occupied with, or interested in ping pong, played volleyball or, in the case of many of the boys, were drawn by the basketball and basket. A community sing film and an interesting film called, "Make Way For Youth," were shown in the interval before supper. The latter film gave a fine presentation of what can be done by and for youth to cope with the problem of prejudice in a community.

Following the chili supper, which was prepared and served by the Newell young people, a program was presented by the host group. It was a variety program featuring tap dance and vocal and instrumental numbers.

From about 8:15 to 9:30 p. m., recreation in the form of folk and square dancing, was enjoyed by all. It was directed by Mr. Herluf Pedersen and Pastor Ronald Jespersen.

The day was brought to a close with a devotional program called, "Living Sermons," prepared by your editor and presented with the aid of a group of Newell AELYF'ers.

It is now possible to announce the place and the dates for the **Iowa District Camp and Convention**. There has been some confusion about the matter but the time and place are definite now. The dates for the camp are August 22nd to August 27th.

The convention will follow immediately after the camp, beginning on the evening of the 27th (Friday) and continuing through the 29th (Sunday).

The Ringsted young people will be hosts to the camp and convention this year but the camp will not be held on church grounds. A regular campsite has been secured for these dates and, according to present plans, both the camp and the convention will be held there.

The campsite is owned and operated by the Estherville Circuit of the ELC and is located on Ingham Lake, near Wallingford, Iowa. It is reached by taking

county road B west from Ringsted for about ten miles or by taking the same road East from Wallingford for about 5 miles. Normally, the camp is rented with everything including food, cooks, waitresses, etc., supplied. However, since our group is small it is not possible for us to obtain the camp in that way. It has rather, been arranged to use the campsite and the buildings, supplying our own food, cooks, etc.

We presume that further, more detailed, information will be sent to all societies in the district some time prior to the camp dates. For the present, suffice it to say that camp will be conducted about the same as always except that this time it will be at a regular campsite.

It is planned that some slides showing scenes from the campsite will be available to all societies in the district in the near future.

The society at **Ringsted, Iowa** had an interesting project on Saturday, May 1st. **A Car Wash Day** was held on that date. Beginning at 9 a. m. and continuing throughout the day, the young people washed cars, inside and out, for \$1.00 each. The profits are to be used to help bolster the local society's treasury.

Well the young people, about 15 of them, might end up all wet with a project like that but we hope it doesn't dampen their enthusiasm.

We suppose you've noticed that all the news is from Iowa. Surely there must be things happening elsewhere in AELYF land. How about letting your editor in on some of those things!

My Church

Deep in my heart I know that the Church is of God. That in spite of human frailties she has brought blessings untold to all generations, including my own. That she has made my community and my country a better place in which to live, to work, to establish a home, and to rear my children. That I would not want to live or die in a land where no Church spires point its people heavenward.

I also know that the Church continues to live triumphantly even when men and nations reject her by indifference or open hostility.

In this knowledge, I gladly give myself to my Church and its Master. Him I can serve better by joining the Church, offering her my loyal support, my service, my generous giving and my ardent prayers, and attending devotedly its worship and services. There I have fellowship with my fellow believers and with my Lord Jesus. There I hear His welcome voice: "Come unto Me."

—Ansgar Lutheran.

A college education sometimes is a four-year loaf of the old man's dough.

A boisterous Congressman once boasted to Horace Greeley, "I'm a self-made man." Replied Greeley, "That relieves the Almighty of a great responsibility."

Our Women's Work

Editor

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

Women's Work in the Church

Because we called on some of the women in our synod for material for a discussion of this topic at the April meeting of the Bethania Guild, Solvang, California, I feel it only fair that we should share some of the aspects of this meeting with you.

As background for part of the discussion some of our ladies had written to four of our congregations to inquire of how they carried on their women's work. It was interesting to learn of the range in organization from one group which has no by-laws to one which is intricately organized down to the last detail. We were particularly interested in the programs carried out in the various groups. We intend to make good use of the ideas in future program planning.

The value of such a discussion as this lies in an evaluation of the work we are doing in the light of the goal we have set before us. In its 7 years of existence the Guild has placed its emphasis on education on the assumption that fellowship and stewardship follow as we grow in Christian enlightenment and understanding. We do not have membership dues and do not go in for extensive money-making schemes. A large part of our income is derived from the offerings taken at our meetings. Once a year we cater for the local businessmen's annual dinner and we have occasionally held a food sale. We are a branch of the Lutheran Brotherhood and as such share in the benefits of the benevolence fund of this large insurance company. We feel our plan has been very successful in as much as a large share of our members are young mothers and can not devote much time to working on committees.

As a direct result of our discussion a proposal was made to send out a questionnaire to all church members to not only ascertain whether there is a need for an evening circle for our women, but also to make a survey of members interested in a young married couples group, a men's club, teaching Sunday School and Bible School, and singing in the choir.

In order to coordinate the efforts of the women's groups it was also proposed that at least the executive boards meet to formulate joint programs and projects if an over-all organization of the groups did not seem desirable at this time.

Our women have been interested in the "Women's Mission Retreat" to be held at Danebod and we do hope some of the repercussions will reach the West Coast through the pages of Lutheran Tidings. Because of distance it isn't feasible for us to take part. The possibility of having a closer fellowship between our women of District VIII was discussed and the suggestion was made that such meetings could be held in conjunction with our District Conventions and Fall Meetings if not as a separate conclave.

I would like to suggest that women's groups who

plan their programs for a year in advance share their plans through "Our Women's Work" page and in that way stimulate other groups.

Thyra Larsen,
Program Chairman.

Today I Didn't go to Church

Sunday School has just been dismissed at North Cedar. By now you all know about the mission Sunday School which is sponsored by our synod but still under the wing of the Bethlehem Lutheran Sunday School of Cedar Falls. As one of the teachers at Bethlehem, I have been helping in North Cedar.

As a rule I always drive from North Cedar right to the Bethlehem Church where Rev. Nielsen is nearing the close of the sermon. I don't get to take part in very much of the service but I love to come into our beautiful church with pews well filled, share in the benediction, meet friends after the service, and with others rejoice at seeing the swarm of little children milling out from the new addition which has just been added to the church and where the children attend Sunday School classes after sharing an opening service in the church with their parents.

To me it is as if a fresh breeze is flowing through our congregation. For many years we have heard our pastors tell us that our churches will grow as we are mission minded. It would be a joy if Bethlehem Lutheran should become an example of that truth. I question that in years past we in Bethlehem would have merited an "E" for effort in our mission programs. But somehow, maybe almost against our good will, we have become the Mother church to two mission projects in our neighborhood.

Today I didn't stop at the church for driving down Highway No. 218 after Sunday School was dismissed I kept thinking how much it would have meant to you, the sponsors of this mission, to have looked in to see what was taking place, so I have come home and am writing this to tell you about our morning session.

This morning we had an attendance of 47 in our Sunday School and a little child was baptized. As Rev. Alfred Sorensen, who is with us for the opening exercises, placed his hand on the little child's head and baptized it "In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit" a new world seemed to open up for the many little children, and for some of them this is all so new, and as the parents and a grandmother promised to teach the child to know and love God, to pray and to do as God wants us to do, a lesson never to be forgotten was brought home to the children. A number of parents have asked to have their children baptized too, so

the children will share this experience again and again.

When Rev. Sorensen leaves to conduct the service in Cedarloo, Prof. Hofstad carries on with the help of four Sunday School teachers, and once a month Harold Madsen, from the Bethlehem Lutheran brings a film and film equipment from that Sunday School to the delight of the North Cedar children. Teaching here, however, means that Prof. Hofstad and most of his helpers sacrifice the privilege of attending church, Sunday after Sunday but they have learned that the reward is in the work itself. We are always aware of the fact that much more could be done if only we had a small building of our own. We meet in a fine public school building, but it isn't our own and we need a building where we could meet for more than just the Sunday morning session.

Out in Cedarloo the faithful little group of 50 baptized members also carries on in a school building. Generally, a school room doesn't lend itself to church atmosphere, but here, when the altar is in place, covered with a hand-made cloth and with a background of red velvet, there is a quiet, calm and reverent attitude which can only lead to good spiritual growth. One senses that this is a group that will love fellowship and sacrifice. It is a joy to see how easily folding money finds its way to the collection plate. The members in this group who tithe have no problem Sunday morning as to what "they can spare."

Soon summer school will be in session and the parents of the Cedarloo area gave much praise to the work that was carried out in this field last year. One of the leaders there has expressed herself in these words: "Our task is not without problems, but it is a delightful one and full of gratification. It is refreshing and stimulating to work with children and young people for in them we see hope. There is an indefinable satisfaction in knowing one is contributing even in a small way toward the making of a better world. And we teachers gain from it, because teaching is sharing. Let us hope for more and more volunteers in this wonderful work."

Agneta Jensen.

The Church

This is our House of Prayer, but more,
It is a door
Leading beyond our trivialities
To precious mysteries,
Beyond the bonds and bounds of sense
To the eternal confidence.

This is the place where we have heard God's Word;
With power
His will has gripped our hearts, and many an hour
Spent here in search sincere
Has opened windows to a surer view
Of what our God would have us do.

—Thomas John Carlisle.

1954 Lutheran Ashram Plans Announced by LSAA

Chicago, Ill.—(NLC)—The 1954 Ashram of the Lutheran Student Association of America will "explore the meaning of our faith in the victorious Christ for academic life, for the Church, and for the world," in close relation to the deliberations at the Evanston Assembly of the World Council of Churches, it was announced here by LSAA.

The 1954 Ashram will be held at the National Music Camp in Interlochen, Mich., August 28 to September 3, the announcement said. The Evanston Assembly will take place from August 15-31.

According to LSAA plans, the Rev. Donald R. Heiges, executive secretary of the National Lutheran Council's Division of Student Service will serve as dean of the the Ashram faculty. The Rev. Robert Larsen, newly appointed administrative assistant of the NLC division, will serve as Ashram manager.

The LSAA announcement that Dr. Stewart W. Herman, executive secretary of the NLC Division of Lutheran Cooperation in Latin America will be a featured speaker discussing "The Despair and Hope of the World of Nations."

Dr. Frederik A. Schiotz, executive secretary of the NLC Commission on Younger Churches and Orphaned Missions is scheduled to speak on "The Despair and Hope of the Church."

Other chief speakers announced are Dr. Howard Hong of St. Olaf College and Dr. Ruth Wick of the United Student Christian Council, whose topics will be, respectively, "The Academic Community" and "The Student Christian Movement."

In charge of the Bible study program will be Dr. George Aus, professor of Systematic Theology at Luther Theological Seminary, St. Paul, Minn. The Rev. L. Dale Lund of Upsala College will be the Ashram chaplain, the announcement said.

A Christian Art exhibit to be held at the Ashram is expected to draw contributions from students as well as from professional artists in all sections of the United States, the LSAA added.

Urging all Lutheran student groups to start recruitment programs for the 1954 Ashram, the LSAA said registrations should be sent to Miss Burnice Fjellman, 327 South LaSalle St., Chicago 4, Ill.

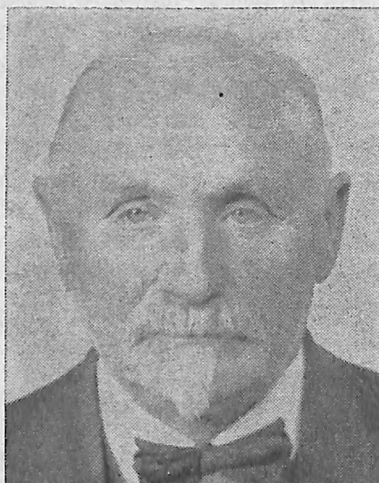
The total cost for the six-day conference is set at \$35, including camp fee, registration fee and a year's subscription to "Campus Lutheran," the official LSAA publication. Those who register before June 15 may save one dollar.

Ordination

On Sunday, May 30, 3:30 p. m., of this year, two candidates, Ivan E. Nielsen and Beryl Milton Knudsen, will be ordained to the ministry. The ordination will take place in Luther Memorial Church, Des Moines, Iowa.

All friends of these men and of our Church are cordially invited to attend. Ministers, please bring your gowns.

Valdemar S. Jensen, Ordainer.



Fifty Years In The Ministry



The date is now past; it was the 13th of March. But it ought not to be passed over unnoticed, for on that day Pastor Peter Rasmussen and his wife, Katharine, had been fifty years in the special service to the Lord and their fellow men. On March 13 he was ordained to the ministry. The word "minister" means "servant;" and that is what he has been. That is what they both have been, servants for God, servants for their fellow men. That service is one and the same; for the Lord says "Truly I say unto you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me."

Was it in Sheffield, Illinois, they began to minister? Their service in California to our two churches near Fresno is clearer in my mind. The people there have also remembered it through the years, and have on occasion had Pastor Rasmussen come back to speak to them.

But Peter Rasmussen had in his youth been awakened to see that

"Human first, and Christian then,
That is truth fundamental."

and he longed for an opportunity to foster the truly human in young men and women, as he had seen it fostered in the folk high school in Denmark. So they moved with their children to Ashland, near Grant, Michigan, where there was a building which had been used for folk high school purposes; and for some years they helped young people there to grasp the truth that

"Worth far more than glitt'ring gold
Is knowing God and ourselves, his creatures."¹

But the time of transition in language was fast approaching for the Danish folk groups in the U. S. And Rasmussen was Danish—Danish to the core. O, he spoke and wrote English, but that was the language of his head. His heart's language was Danish. As fewer and fewer of the young people spoke, or even understood, Danish, the folk high school at Ashland dwindled.

At that time "Dansk Folkesamfund" started a settlement near Wayne, Alberta, Canada. I do not know if the Rasmussens were asked to go there and minister to prospective settlers, or the thought arose

in their own hearts, but they risked it: "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to a land that I will show you." (Gen. 12) That was the risk. They could have had a call here in the states; there were enough openings. But they chose rather to follow their landmen as these went north and crossed the border.

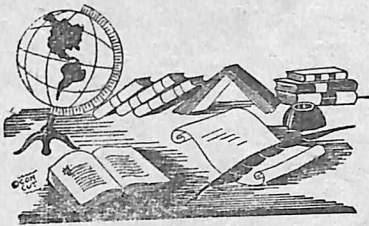
Was there a church building and a parsonage waiting for them? There were two wheat granaries; in these they lived till the settlers, about fifty of them, mostly bachelors, could help to build a house. But building a house there on the prairie was for several reasons difficult. The first was that neither Rasmussen, nor the other settlers had any money. Rasmussen had to take land, and farm as the rest of them did, in order to secure food for himself and his growing family. For many years Rasmussen had to devote part of his time to farming.

Another reason for the delay in building was that the house must be big enough so that it could be used for folk high school as well as living quarters. How they managed I cannot say; but the roomy house stands there today, a witness to faithfulness to an ideal—yes, and to how Rasmussen and his wife and children had won the hearts of the bachelors, so that there was help in building their private house. How had they won them? That is a whole story; here is one instance:

Rasmussens had butchered a hog; and, of course, made sausages. One of the wee little girls had a bachelor friend. She asked if she might give him a string of sausages. Yes, indeed she may. But Rasmussens had at the time a number of children, and each one asked if he or she might give some part of the hog to the special bachelor friend. I cannot say how much hog was left when each bachelor friend had been supplied, but—"cast your bread upon the waters"

The folk high school was started, and the young people came year after year as long as the Danish folk group in Alberta remained intact. And while Rasmussen in the lecture hall which had been built on his land beside the house, opened the eyes of the young people to far away vistas in literature and history, Mrs. Rasmussen was up and down the stairs to the basement making meals, taking care of her

¹ "Langtmere værd end det røde Guld
Det er, sin Gud og sig selv at kende."



OPINION AND COMMENT

THE CURRENT HEARINGS in the Senate subcommittee must appear trifling in the eyes of many Americans, and certainly in the eyes of many foreigners. Yet, they are representative of something deeper than they appear to be in themselves. When considerable expensive time is taken to probe into what seems a trivial fact, the excuse for it is the judicial principle which we like to think part of our American democratic heritage—that no one is convicted on anything less than all the available evidence. Most of the people who are protesting over these hearings seem to be people who already have a notion, preconceived, as to how they should be decided. Were we on trial, or were we under investigation by a committee, we would certainly be in despair if any attempts were made to skip over small facts in the interest of haste. There is a pertinent passage in the Pentateuch (Deuteronomy 17:8 ff.) that admonishes to refrain from acting “presumptuously” and advises to heed the judgments of those in authority. Decisions ought not be made on partial facts, if all the facts are available. The painstaking plodding of the counsel is probably more necessary than we can readily see.

WHILE AT THE UNITED NATIONS headquarters last week we were addressed by a member of the India delegation who wanted to point out some statistics he had just received from his native land regarding missionaries. It is well-known that missionaries are having considerable difficulties under the self-rule of the Indians, compared with conditions under the British. Mr. Jantzen (spelling is uncertain) said that there have been more missionaries in India during the first five years of Indian rule than the last five years of British rule. This may well be so. After the war and up until a very few years ago, many missionaries were permitted to enter India (including our own Harald and Mary Riber and Muriel Nielsen). But it would be interesting to know what the figures are for the past two or three years. It is only recently that the pressure has really been seriously felt. A news release just received informs us that two Danish missionaries have been refused visas for entering India. One of them was home on furlough and the other has had his request for a visa refused twice. No reasons were given. It is clear that a stiffening policy is IN EFFECT. MEANWHILE ELSEWHERE in the world we are encouraged by other news. This summer the first Lutheran church in Peru will be dedicated—a work largely encouraged and partly financed by L. W. A. According to Dr. S. W. Herman, executive secretary of the Division of Lutheran Co-operation in Latin America of the N. L. C., numerous problems are be-

ing encountered in Latin America, which has usually been thought of as the special province of Roman Catholics for mission work. The cost of living, in Venezuela, is twice that of the U. S.! This is a staggering fact. Despite this difficulty, and the others already mentioned, our mission efforts need our renewed enthusiasm. May 16 is Lutheran World Action Sunday; L. W. A. is one vast branch of our concern for those not so fortunate as Americans.

THE ALTAR PAINTING in our Perth Amboy church has been “restored” and provided with a new frame, and is hanging once more at the altar. Restoring a painting is a delicate art in itself, and should not be attempted by the usual “house-cleaning” committee of a congregation. Church councils ought to give consideration some time to this matter. Paintings can be refreshed and brought back to their original vitality, and if we believe in using various art forms (such as statuary and music) in enhancing our worship, we must try to present it at its best.

AS POINTED OUT by Prof. Kildegaard, speaking at Pastors' Institute, the H-Bomb brings forcefully to our attention an area of Christian concern known as the eschatological problem because of the magnitude of the catastrophe it causes. However, hysteria is not in order. William Faulkner boldly proclaimed, in accepting the Nobel Prize in Stockholm, “I decline to accept the end of man,” (a philosophic declaration which seems at variance with some of his books.) James Michener says somewhere, “I find myself more deeply committed than ever to the capacities for good in the average human being.” And other writers of our time have echoed a continued faith in the eventual victory of good over evil. In these columns some time ago we expressed our belief that our best hope lay in some kind of disarmament agreement. Some who disagree with this viewpoint were kind enough to write to us to make their opinions known and left the impression that they felt what we wanted was to have the U. S. disarm. Unless the feeling is worldwide that disarmament is the solution, we can hardly hope to have it work. (Certainly the Russian people must fear the havoc of atomic weapons as much as we do.) To say that not disarmament but Christ is our best hope is indisputable in one sense. Yet we feel that persuasion toward disarmament would be one of the methods Christ would use were He to involve Himself in the kingdoms of this earth.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS for Grand View Seminary include in this issue a declaration as to its intentions about its decision on the future of the Seminary. We all look forward to the recommendation, whatever it may be. It will provide a basis for discussion throughout the summer. LUTHERAN TIDINGS will be happy to give space to comments from interested Synod members, and if enough letters are submitted, it may be worthwhile to have a regular section of three or four columns devoted to this serious matter in the June and July issues.

All-Lutheran Food Appeal

Pastor Ove Nielsen, new full-time director for L. W. R.'s annual food appeal, has announced the appointment by Dr. Alfred Jensen of the following men to serve as members of various state steering committees in their localities:

Rev. M. Nygaard, Illinois.
 Rev. Harry Andersen, Marlette, Michigan.
 Rev. Clayton Nielsen, Withee, Wisconsin.
 Rev. Harold Petersen, Askov, Minnesota.
 Rev. C. A. Stub, Iowa.
 Rev. Gordon Miller, Lake Norden, S. D.
 Rev. Harris Jespersen, Marquette, Nebraska.
 Rev. Willard Garred, Vesper, Kansas.
 Rev. Ronald Jespersen, Texas.

The ALL LUTHERAN FOOD APPEAL has the cooperation of the Board of World Relief of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. This will be a commodity appeal. The fruit of the field will be sought for shipment in carload lots and will be used to feed famished persons in areas of greatest need around the world without regard for profession of faith, political affiliation, or race.

Grand View Homecoming

"Studenterfest"

The 1954 Studenterfest celebration at Grand View College will get underway on Friday, May 14, with the registration and housing of all visitors. This year is the 10th and 25th anniversary of the classes of 1944 and 1929 respectively, and special observation and reunion of these two classes will take place. However, all former students and all other friends of G. V. C. are invited to be present for a week-end program that will include memorable events such as a choir concert, a folk dancing exhibition, a banquet and dance, a ball game between students and alumni, and a play.

The choir concert will feature excellent soloists and will bring to a close the year for the sixty-voice choir which has just concluded a 2,000 mile trip for concerts in Michigan, Iowa, Illinois, and Wisconsin, and an appearance at Orchestra Hall in Chicago.

The play on Sunday will be "Death Takes a Holiday" with a cast including thirteen students who have worked hard to make this an event enjoyable for all attending.

Studenterfest is "homecoming" for our college, and is presented especially to honor alumni. This invitation is extended in hopes that many will remember the dates—**May 14-16**—and journey to Des Moines for a never-to-be-forgotten experience. Hunt up your old Vikings and page through them for glimpses and memories of some of the people you may run into down at Grand View!

—Grand View Student Body.

If you want to be a self-made man, don't leave out the working parts.—Hazel Bruner.

The same rain that saves the optimist's corn makes the pessimist's weeds grow faster.—J. W. Cunningham.



Eben-Ezer in the Pines

Again we invite you to join us at our Home for rest and retreat at Evergreen in the beautiful Colorado Rockies.

Evergreen is 35 miles S.-W. of Denver and can be reached by car or bus along highways of beautiful scenery—highway 285 and 74 through Morrison, or 6 and 40 lead right to Evergreen town. Eben-Ezer in-the-Pines is 5 minutes walk from Main street.

Eben-Ezer in-the-Pines welcomes guests for vacation, week-ends or single days. There is no fixed charge. Cost-price c. \$3 per day (children \$2) may be paid at departure. The Home is a non-profit enterprise founded for Christian fellowship, conferences and retreat. It accommodates 35 in single, double and dormitory rooms.

This year the devotional part of the fellowship will be conducted by pastors from several Lutheran synods, including American Lutheran Church and Evangelical Lutheran Church. Names of the pastors will be published in the respective church papers.

With its central position, Evergreen provides an excellent base for sight-seeing in the Rockies. We hope to meet you there during the coming summer months. Eben-Ezer in-the-Pines will open June 15th and close Labor Day. Please write for reservations to:

Rev. V. E. Bagger, Superintendent,
 Eben-Ezer, Brush, Colorado.

Cook Wanted For Summer Months

Charge of kitchen at Eben-Ezer in-the-Pines, Evergreen, Colorado. June 10 to Sept. 10. Capacity is 35 persons. Salary: \$125 per month and room and board. Contact:

Eben-Ezer Home, Brush, Colo.

Pastor V. E. Bagger, Supt.,

Lutheran Churches To Observe Rural Life Sunday, May 23

Chicago — (NLC) — "O God, Thou Lord of Springtime and Harvest, we beseech Thee to bless the seed sown throughout the world for the sustenance of mankind. So water it with the gentle rain from heaven and warm it with the golden sunshine that it may bear fruit a hundredfold, to the glory of Thy Holy Name and the welfare of the people."

This prayer, a part of the traditional ceremony of "the dedication of the seed," will be spoken in many Lutheran churches on May 23, observed throughout the land as Rural Life Sunday.

Many Christian denominations observe Rural Life Sunday, Rogation Sunday, as a day set apart from emphasizing the meaning of Christianity for rural life; for the invocation of God's blessing upon the seeds, the fruits of the soil, and the cultivators of the earth; and for the consideration of justice for agriculture.

The Lutheran service, based on the common liturgy of the church, has been prepared by the Rural Church Program of the National Lutheran Council. Combined with such traditional prayers of the common service as the Kyrie, Gloria in Excelsis, and Offertory are special prayers invoking the blessing of Almighty God on the fields and flocks of the land.

Dr. E. W. Mueller, secretary of the Council's Rural Church Program, explains that the purpose of Rural Life Sunday "is not to worship rural life but to worship the Creator of rural life."

"Its purpose," he says, "is to put into focus our dependence on Divine Providence for God's blessings on the labors of the farmer—to make us worthy of being God's co-workers—to give all of us an appreciation for movements that help us to preserve God's earth and develop the skills and abilities of rural youth."

Rural Life Sunday in its present form was first observed in 1929, at the suggestion of the International Association of Agricultural Missions, and according to plans adopted by the Home Missions Council and the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America and many religious bodies.

The basic idea for the Rogation Sunday observance may be traced back for centuries in the liturgical churches; however. The three days before Ascension, or Rogation Days, were observed anciently by holding religious processions through the fields, asking God's blessing upon the fruits of the earth.

Grand View College And Our Youth

The Tour, Toujour, the Tour

Yes, since our return to Des Moines practically all we talk about is the choir tour. It is **always** in our thoughts. We did have a wonderful time, a lot of fun, and I honestly believe that we were good ambassadors for Grand View College. There seems to be a lot of good natured rivalry on the part of those of us that were lucky enough to visit our home towns and home states, but we all agree that everybody but **EVERYBODY**, treated us just simply wonderful. It is a trip and experience that we will remember with joy as long as we live! Let it be said right here that we thought the "faculty gentlemen" that accompanied us deserve our thanks for being good sports and being good to us. There are a number of interesting happenings that we should like to record for posterity, and here goes.

In all but one town, we appeared before large audiences, and if we take the word of the people who listened to our concert, we sang very well. Our robes covered a multitude of shaking knees when we sang before the Sunday Evening Club in Chicago, but even there we sang as though inspired, and I honestly believe we were. One place along the road as we stopped for a little treat, we discovered that even our business manager couldn't talk a shopkeeper out of a deposit! Just imagine, H. J. had to lay down a three dollar deposit so we could have spoons with which to eat our ice cream. (Is there no such thing today as a person who **looks** honest, or had the proprietor had experience with college students in the past?) Well, anyway our feelings weren't hurt, but we can't help but think that that was **one** situation that stumped our expert. How about it, Mr. Bus. Mgr.? The trip across the lake was dreamy—ah, for more of the same. We don't like to mention what Joe Brown did to our most excellent director, so that will have to be one of our secrets. About all we can say is that Mr. Speed was "up in the air", all right. There's much more to this trip, but time's a-passing, and so is our space, so this will have to be enough. But we of the choir do wish to thank our hosts very much for a truly delightful experience. May we come again???

Seems to me I promised to give a little information about the future prospects of our future teachers. Sena Heilskov has a contract for a fine teaching assignment in the Sioux City

system for next September. Others who have signed contracts are: Sonja Gravengaard and Carol Rasmussen who go to Davenport, Joan Grant who will teach in Mitchellville, and Donna Downs and Donna Andersen will make their bid for success in the Fort Madison schools. Sounds good for our education department, doesn't it? And we wish to say, it IS.

Let's see. This is the last time we can put in a plug for our Studenterfest, isn't it? Well, you have heard all about it by now and we know you're just **dying** to come, so what more can we say? Well, maybe this! If you come you will be as welcome as flowers in May. We have put in a good word for a nice lot of rain for that week-end, because we figure that such a request might bring sun, although the weatherman says, "No matter what you ask for, we have discovered that it is always wise to take what you get." That's weather-wise speaking, naturally. But we will be looking for you, so we hope you will not disappoint us.

Be seeing you!

R. F.

CHURCH PRESS PAYS TRIBUTE TO FILM ON MARTIN LUTHER

New York—(NLC)—The Associated Church Press paid tribute here to "Martin Luther" as "one of the great motion pictures of our time."

The accolade was bestowed on the film at the 35th annual meeting of the ACP, composed of some 125 Protestant periodicals in the U. S. and Canada, during its three-day session, April 21-23.

In a resolution adopted by the church editors, the ACP "thanked and commended" the producers and exhibitors of the Luther film "for making and showing one of the great motion pictures of our time, thus making known the character of our Protestant heritage, in spite of restrictions imposed in areas of the United States and Canada."

The last phrase of the resolution was a reference to the banning of the picture in the Province of Quebec and to the few instances where bookings were rejected by theaters in the U. S.

"Martin Luther" was produced by Louis de Rochemont Associates for Lutheran Church Productions, Inc., and has proved a smash hit in its commercial showings during the past year.

A special showing of the film took place for the church editors, after which Henry Endress, executive secretary of Lutheran Church Productions, discussed Roman Catholic reaction to the picture.

Other Lutherans who appeared on the program of the ACP convention here were Dr. Franklin Clark Fry, president of the United Lutheran Church in America, who discussed the Second Assembly of the World Council

of Churches in an address on "The Shape of Things to Come—Evanston," and Dr. O. Frederick Nolde, executive secretary of the Commission of the Churches on International Affairs, who spoke on "The Church Press and the United Nations." Dr. Nolde is dean of the Graduate School of Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia, Pa.

Lutheran editors present included Dr. G. Elson Ruff of **The Lutheran**, weekly newsmagazine of the ULCA, who is serving a two-year term as president of the Associated Church Press.

Also in attendance were Dr. E. W. Schramm of **Lutheran Standard**, the Rev. John M. Jensen of **Ansgar Lutheran**, the Rev. Verner Hansen of **Lutheran Tidings**, the Rev. John Mangum of **Luther Life**, James Ryberg and Erik Modean of **National Lutheran**, Dr. Loren F. Blankenbuehler of **Lutheran Witness**, the Rev. Alfred P. Klausler of **Walther League Messenger** and Dr. Adolf F. Meyer of **American Lutheran**.

Fifty Years in the Ministry

(Continued from Page 11)

children besides the larger family of young people who lodged and boarded in that same house out on the prairie. Room? They slept in rooms, they slept on cots along the hallway. And if the young woman teacher helper had the room at the farther end of the hall and wanted to make sure that the coast was clear of young men in the morning (who slept on the cots) she had to sing quite loudly before she made her appearance.

Hard days, hard work for man and wife; it must have been, but golden days, with God's grace new over them every morning. Their works will follow them; they were done for eternity.

By and by the language of the land prevailed also in Canada, and with the passing of Danish as a spoken language in the homes, the possibility for a Danish folk school in Canada passed also; and Rasmussen and his good wife had to limit themselves to the ministry in the church and in the homes.

At the same time their thoughts constantly sought their fellow church members in what to them was their own land, the United States. Mrs. Rasmussen has told me that when her first child in Canada was to be born, the thought that he was not to be an American but a Canadian was almost more than she could bear.

As to Rasmussen, no minister, no person in our church has written as much to our papers as he. By so doing he has kept the fellowship alive between them there and us here.

That is a sketch of what they have lived and what they have done through the fifty years. Now they are tired in, but not of, their Master's service. It

To Publish New Book



The Publication Board of Muhlenberg Press has informed Dr. Johannes Knudsen that it has accepted for publication soon the manuscript of his book entitled "Dynamic Christianity." Details will be announced at a later date.

New Education Aid Published

Chicago—(NCC)—Ten years of far-sighted and careful planning came to fruition during February, when the Division of Christian Education (DCE) of the National Council of Churches released, at the annual dinner of the Visual Education Fellowship, (VEF) the new one-volume **Audio-Visual Resource Guide** which from then on will be the top layer of the ten-dollar VEF membership package.

Growing out of the International Workshops in Visual Education, held annually under the auspices of the Department of Audio-Visual and Radio Education of the DCE, this new and comprehensive guide to audio-visual resources marks a milestone of achievement for the Department. More importantly, it gives church leaders across the country the master-tool for which they have been waiting. No longer will they need to wonder what audio-visual there is on a certain subject, or to guess at its content, or take a chance on its quality. The **Audio-Visual Resource Guide** will give them all this information, and much more, in a highly organized and useful form.

A VEF membership will bring the local church or local leader the **Resource Guide** and much more. He will

is for An Other to say, "Well done, you good and faithful servants"; and it is for us to say, "Thank you for untiring and faithful service through young days, through manhood, and approaching old age!"

Valdemar S. Jensen.

need the **Guide** to bring him up to date. With some 75 new films coming out each year, and almost as many new filmstrips, not to mention an increasing number of recordings, the local leader will need some way to keep up with the procession. The VEF people have thought of this also, and have included in the package a "Monthly Evaluation Bulletin" on current releases. Another item in the membership package will be the "Quarterly Newsletter" which will supply news and ideas on what to use and how to go about it. To round out this bargain, the VEF membership package will contain a basic manual, "Using Audio-Visuals in the Church," and a filmstrip on this manual which will be invaluable in leadership training in the church and community.

This **Audio-Visual Resource Guide** is unique in the whole field of education. There is nothing comparable in the field of public education. It is not a catalogue. It is not a compilation of producers data. It is a comprehensive and critical evaluation of audio-visual aids useful in the total work of the church.

Its evaluations have been arrived at through a nation-wide process of review. In some 16 major cities there have been preview committees composed of ministers, directors of religious education, church school teachers, local audio-visual leaders and other grassroots leaders in the work of the church.

These preview and evaluation committees gave their time, meeting monthly in some cases. They received the material to be previewed. They used forms which were uniform for the whole country. A definite procedure was followed, and it was the same for all. Old and new materials were often studied in the same session. All forms, together with minutes giving critical remarks, were sent to the Department of Audio-Visual and Radio Education of the DCE in Chicago. There the evaluations were pooled, and a final evaluation for the **Resource Guide** was determined for each production. Every evaluation was based on the work of the committees that saw that item, and very often as many as three and sometimes as many as six committees were consulted.

While new memberships in the VEF will be ten dollars, present memberships can be renewed for eight dollars per year. Any church that can afford a projector of any kind can afford a VEF membership which will motivate and guide those who seek to give new appeal and power to the programs of the church through the wise and careful use of well-selected audio-visual aids. The church must use every modern tool in doing her great and urgent work, and in the **Audio-Visual Resource Guide** and membership in the VEF there is a continuing source of inspiration and guidance for every church and its workers.

Three New NLC Programs

(Continued from page 7)

The conference, which may be postponed until early in 1955, will consider the effect of mobility on the programs of parish education, youth, church policy and practices, preparation for church membership, transfer of membership, and other related problems.

Approval was given to revised procedures for the regional home mission committees sponsored by the Division of American Missions. A major change adds to the scope of the committees' work, the responsibility to give advisory counsel in situations of harmful duplication of congregational work in existing congregations.

The committees are authorized "with the consent of the participating bodies concerned, to investigate situations of allegedly harmful duplication of work of congregations belonging to the different participating bodies, and to suggest means for the elimination of such harmful duplication, as may be found to exist."

Other Actions

In other actions, the Council:

- Adopted a budget of \$900,508 for the regular work of the Council in 1954, consisting of \$659,892 from the eight participating bodies, and \$240,616 from Lutheran World Action, the U. S. A. Committee for the Lutheran World Federation, other sources and balances.
- Revised its pension plan to provide for a contribution of 8% by the Council and 4% by the employee, making a total of 12% available for pension and social security purpose. At present, both Council and employee contribute 5% each.
- Referred to the executive committee for study a proposal from the Augustana Lutheran Church that the Council

explores the possibilities of establishing a Division of Men's activities, designed to take over the work now being done by the American Federation of Lutheran Brotherhoods' and any additional work that will strengthen the men's and boys' activities in the entire Lutheran Church.

- Authorized the Division of Welfare to call a conference of Lutheran chaplains serving Veterans Administration hospitals in connection with the national meeting of the Lutheran Welfare Conference in 1955.

- Approved a study of the structure and functions of the Division of Welfare by a special committee composed of division committee members, councilors and professional social workers.

- Endorsed the action of Lutheran Church Production, Inc., sponsor of the film, "Martin Luther," in "protesting vigorously against the discriminatory action" which prevented the showing of the picture in the Canadian province of Quebec. The Council is one of the member groups of LCP.

Resolutions of Appreciation

In other resolutions, the Council expressed appreciation to:

- Dr. Carl E. Lund-Quist, executive secretary of the Lutheran World Federation, for "his constructive leadership in strengthening the bonds which unite the Lutheran Churches of the Lutheran World Federation, in clarifying our vision of the world's need, and of the responsibility of the Christian Church, and in developing the agencies for cooperative Lutheran action."

- Dr. George Anderson for his "illustrious leadership" as director of the Commission on Younger Churches and Orphaned Missions in Tanganyika, and as chairman of the Lutheran Mission Council of Tanganyika. Dr. and Mrs. Anderson are returning shortly to the U. S.

- Dr. and Mrs. Julius Bodensieck "for faithful service and leadership in Lutheran world affairs" during their seven years abroad (1946-1953) as representatives of American Lutherans through the National Lutheran Council, Lutheran World Relief, and the Lutheran World Federation.

- Chaplain Gynther Storaasli for "his devotion and superb leadership" as secretary of the Bureau of Service to Military Personnel. "The increasing effectiveness of his program and his broad understanding of men and needs have made his contribution a major source of inspiration in this important work of the Kingdom." Dr. Storaasli leaves the NLC staff in March to become director of the newly-organized chaplaincy commission of the Evangelical Lutheran Church.

- Dr. John A. Scherzer, whose service as secretary of the NLC's Desk for European Affairs was "distinguished by his effective administration and by the warm, friendly impact of his personality in his dealings with persons in this land and overseas." Dr. Scherzer

resigned last October to become pastor of St. Matthew's (ALC) Lutheran Church in Washington, D. C.

- Dr. Joseph Simonson, former executive secretary of the Division of this important position in the Council a trained skill and insight in public relations which enhanced the effectiveness and prestige of the Division." Dr. Simonson resigned last September to become U. S. Ambassador to Ethiopia.

- Dr. Rees Edgar Tulloss, retiring secretary of the Council, whose "contribution to the work of the Council in this office and in others of responsibility has merited the commendation due to the servant with many talents."

- Dr. Clarence E. Krumbholz, retiring executive secretary of the NLC's Division of Welfare, for "his able and effective service" and for his service "with distinction" in relationships which have included the welfare programs of other faiths, state and federal governmental units. Dr. Krumbholz, who has headed the Division of Welfare since its organization in 1939, leaves the NLC staff on March 15 to become pastor of St. Luke's (NLCA) Lutheran Church, Dunellen, N. J.

- To thirty of the NLC's many military chaplains for their "service record of faithfulness and valor" in the Korean War.

(Editor's Note: Reprinted from the March-April issue of the NATIONAL LUTHERAN, official organ of the National Lutheran Council.)

In This Issue

Henriette Lund is a consultant in the Division of Welfare of the N. L. C. She spent two recent months interviewing refugees in Europe. In 1948-50 she was director in Austria for the Lutheran World Federation Service to Refugees.

Erik Modean is Secretary of the National Lutheran Council's News Bureau, with offices in New York City, N. Y. He is also Managing Editor of the NATIONAL LUTHERAN.

Cook Wanted

A cook will soon be needed for the Old People's Home in Des Moines, "Valborgsminde." If interested write to

Pastor Svend Kjaer

1101 Grand View Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa

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

May 5, 1954

I am a member of _____ the congregation at _____

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