

Lutheran Tidings

PUBLISHED BY THE AMERICAN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH



Ground Breaking Ceremonies at Faith Lutheran Church, Junction City, Oregon

On Sunday, May 15, ground breaking ceremonies were held in our church in Junction City, Oregon, preparing the way for the erection of a new education unit. Work on the new structure began on the following day, and it is expected that the unit will be completed in time for Rally Day in the fall. The Sunday school work in this bustling community has expanded beyond the confines of the congregation's present buildings. The new unit is expected to cost about twelve thousand dollars. Pictured in the

above photograph are Pastor Harold E. Olsen together with Winther Bodtger, chairman of the Building Committee, kneeling, left, and Hans Skow builder, also kneeling. In the back row are, from left to right, Edward Jensen, council president; Mrs. Elmer Hansen, Sunday school superintendent; the pastor, and Brochner Mikkelsen, Chairman of the Finance Committee. The ceremonies took place following regular church services. On the ground in front of the group are the plans.

Thanks to Thee, My God and Savior

Thanks to thee, my God and Savior,
Thanks, O Jesus, for thy word,
Thanks for thy baptismal laver,
Thanks for thy communion, Lord.

Thanks that thou didst die for us,
Thanks that thou for us arose,
Thanks for the blest hope of heaven
That thou unto us hast given.

Tr. by J. A. Aaberg.

Invocation

In the three months since Rev. Milton Heitzman delivered the invocation at the opening of the 1955 session of the Illinois legislature at Springfield, the prayer he gave on that occasion has been used on radio and television programs, and over a thousand copies have been sent out in response to requests.

Mr. Heitzman is associate director of audio visual and radio education in the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches. His associates there have dubbed him "the Peter Marshall of Illinois."

The prayer was as follows:

DEAR Father, whose almighty hand created this Prairie State and allowed it to flourish in the care of those pioneer spirits; Thou who cast the die of Thy way upon the hearts and minds and lives of their children and then upon their children's children:

Look down upon us this important day. Help us, as we stand in this select place, to have humility. Allow no man who stands now before Thee to feel the surge of selfish power — rather touch each servant of the people of Illinois with the sense of GREATER servitude to Thee.

O God, the coming weeks will be filled with confusion; too big words will be supported by too small ideas; the pull and tug of politics will attempt to stagger statesmanship; in these coming days some of these men will feel the sting of the whip of loneliness when they try to be right instead of popular; during these coming weeks we know, Our Father, the markings of space, the rights of free men, the teaching of our children, and the economics of food for the hungry will tousele the thoughts and tempers; therefore we ask, O God, our Friend, to bless these sincere men:

Cleanse their hearts of selfishness,
Clothe their minds with wisdom,
Brighten their vision with truth,
Give them backbone instead of jawbone,
Bless them with imagination — help them to see in their vision the heart of Illinois before they speak.

O God, let them see Thy children walk along the levee of the Mississippi in Cairo — help them to see as they consider the ways of free men in our State,

a crib full of corn in San Jose,
the bright glow of a Joliet furnace,
a pen of hogs at Galva,
the blue exhaust of a plane at Midway,
the deep red of a prairie sunset reflected on the back of a Hereford at Hoopeston,
the shiny, black smell of the oil of Salem,
the gleaming yellow of a Peoria tractor,
and the pale glint of a miner's lamp at Gillespie.

O God, today, give them enough imagination to know persons from things, and bread from cake.

We ask, Father, that Thou will truly bless them.

And bless the leadership of this body. May they be true to their trust.

Be with us now as citizens of the great State — Thy Kingdom.

Amen.

Editor's Note: Usually this page is reserved for sermonettes or inspirational messages from one of our pastors, or from a nationally known churchman. This prayer has been substituted because of its great inspirational value, as well as its striking literary qualities.

TRUTH

God offers to every mind its choice between truth and repose. Take which you please — you can never have both . . . He in whom the love of repose dominates . . . gets rest, commodity and reputation; but he shuts the door to truth. He in whom the love of truth predominates . . . will abstain from dogmatism . . . He submits to the inconvenience of suspense and of imperfect opinion, but he is a candidate for truth, as the other is not and respects the highest law of his being.

Ralph Waldo Emerson.

Lutheran Tidings—PUBLISHED BY THE AMERICAN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Office of Publication: Lutheran Tidings, Askov, Minnesota.

POSTMASTER: Send Forms 3579 to ASKOV, MINNESOTA.

Editor. Rev. Verner Hansen, 1336 Morton Ave., Des Moines 16, Iowa

Circulation Manager: Svend Petersen, Askov, Minnesota.

Member of Associated Church Press

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

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

It's A Split Vacation for John Smith

by

Philip C. Jones

**Dr. Jones is Associate General Secretary,
World Council of Christian Education
and Sunday School Association.**

ANY similarity between the imaginary character about to be described herewith and any actual person will be purely coincidental, as though anyone would care whether it were or not!

Our hero is John Smith from Tinytown, Texas. (He might be a native of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan; Ogden, Utah; Montgomery, Alabama; or Rumford, Maine.) He is twenty-five years young and has completed his "hitch" in the navy. Currently he is employed as an accountant in a wholesale grocery concern but he spends a lot of his spare time and energy in working with boys. He teaches a class in the junior high department of the West Trail Church, and is assistant scoutmaster of Troop 4, B.S.A. He is a deacon in his church. (In fact, the youngest one.)

John is one of those practical and energetic young fellows who not only dream about the future, especially about their coming vacations but who also do something about making their dreams come true. Already, he has told his friends about his plans for the summer of 1955. The first part of his holidays he will spend in his car, "tires spinning and fancy free," visiting Williamsburg, Virginia, the Naval Academy in Annapolis (satisfying curiosity aroused during his stay in the navy) and Washington. Then he will drive to Cleveland, Ohio, by way of Niagara Falls.

The last part of his time off will be more than a sight-seeing jaunt, though there will be a good bit of that in Cleveland-by-Lake-Erie. He plans to attend the Twenty-Third International Sunday School Convention to be held there July 27 to 31, under the auspices of the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A., in cooperation with the Department of Christian Education of the Canadian Council of Churches. In fact, not only has he told his friends about his vacation plans; he has also been trying to persuade two of the other teachers in his church school to go along with him. (Perhaps they will share the travel expense, he may have been thinking from time to time!)

The minister of John's church, Rev. Alert Pastorius (any similarity between the imaginary character and any actual person will be purely coincidental) had told him about the Convention in the first place, and had suggested his attendance assuring him that the officers of the church would pay his registration fee and help to meet his expenses while in Cleveland.

John kept reading over the folder describing the Convention. It seemed more exciting every time he looked at it. He had one quandary though, and that was about which Interest Group he should attend during the mornings. It was easy for him to see that

he wouldn't get much help from the sessions dealing with methods of guiding kindergarten children, or from those considering the leadership of adult groups in the church. Finally he decided that the Interest Group, — **ADULTS WORKING WITH YOUTH 12-13 YEARS OF AGE**, — would be most helpful.

Of course, John looked forward eagerly to the Bible study sessions as well as the meetings with other junior high teachers. He knew, too, that he would enjoy the convocations planned for him and the others in his denomination, but he felt most excited when he thought of the wider fellowship he would have the opportunity to share. He had always liked inter-denominational youth rallies and other similar inter-church affairs, and so he felt a quiver of delight as he anticipated meeting with ten thousand other church school leaders, not even knowing, in most cases, in what denominations they held their church memberships. It seemed to him something like a new crusade, though there wouldn't be any long and hungry marches, hardships and fighting involved.

This particular part of the Convention, in his thinking, fitted in somehow with the modern trends in the world with all the new intimacies between people brought about by easier and swifter travel, faster communications, and the new political activities of the nations. (He had often thought about the impossibility of telling Baptists from Lutherans, or Methodists from Episcopalians, or Presbyterians from Disciples, unless one went to church services with them or got to talking about denominational differences, church organizations and things like that.)

Elements of the Convention about which he speaks most enthusiastically to his friends whom he is trying to persuade to accompany him to Cleveland are the assembly sessions to be held in the Public Auditorium, with the choir of hundreds of voices rendering stirring anthems, the congregational singing of the great hymns of the church, and the addresses by the noted speakers about whom he had often heard and whom he was eager to see in person. And he became really eloquent when he spoke about the great pageant to be held in connection with the opening assembly.

Harry and Paul (the two friends he hopes will take in the Convention with him) are nearly hypnotized when John talks on and on about the mechanical arrangements for these huge meetings, with the amplification scheme and the air conditioning. Naturally, he keeps "letting himself go" as he tells about the big Sunday afternoon meeting which will deal with Christian education in other countries, and in which, among leaders from all of the continents there will be in attendance Mr. J. Arthur Rank of London (the noted motion picture producer) and Lord Mackintosh

of Halifax. As he said to his friends, he feels that "there is something just right in stressing the world-wide character of our Christian faith in these days of fast changes in affairs of the world, and all we can do to increase the sense of our oneness in Christ is just that much more impetus given to the cause of universal peace and brotherhood."

John dreamed a bit also, from time to time, about the ways he might report on the Convention when he returned to his church. He could see himself telling the church officers and Rev. Mr. Pastorious about the meetings, as he thanked them for helping him with his expenses. He was sure the boys in his class and the Scouts in Troop 4 would want to hear about everything. (He was glad he planned to stay over an extra day in Cleveland, to see the Indians play a league game in the Municipal Stadium, for they would surely want to hear all about that!) He would take pictures to show — of scenes in Cleveland, and some close-ups of other delegates, and some of the speakers, if he got a chance. Probably they would want him to speak to the other teachers of the church school at the organization dinner in the autumn. Perhaps they would even ask him to speak to the whole school on Rally Day.

John Smith is an imaginary character teaching in an imaginary church school, but the Cleveland Convention is the "real thing," and the kinds of dreams John had are those of a great many of the ten thousand delegates-to-be. The experiences they think about expectantly are really going to come true.

P.S. (Added later) — Harry and Paul have decided to go to the Convention with John. In fact, they have already sent to their denominational headquarters to get registration blanks and John is asking his pastor to see what he can do about getting them help toward their expenses. They will all have a "wonderful time," meeting a lot of new people from all over — from San Diego to Hartford, from Prince Rupert to Miami, from Corpus Christi to Ottawa. When they get back to Tinytown they will be better teachers; they will have sharp and kindling memories of thrilling inspirational experiences; and their awareness of the inclusive and world-wide character of the Christian Church will be a source of constant stimulus and unflinching reassurance.

Luther Film By-Passes Censors

The Martin Luther film, which had been banned 17 months ago by the Quebec Board of Cinema Censors, was shown to capacity audiences simultaneously by eleven Protestant churches of the Montreal area on successive evenings beginning May 30.

On the first night of the scheduled one-week presentation an estimated 5,000 attended, and according to ushers at the doors, almost as many were turned away for lack of room. Almost all the churches were packed 15 to 20 minutes before the service began. Large groups of persons went from one church to another attempting to get in. In the municipality of Westmount, where the ministerial association coordinated 10 of the showings, local police and firemen

were on duty assisting with the crowds. Clergymen commented that visitors comprised an unusually high percentage of the total audience.

The film was presented by the congregations as a part of a service of worship. Invitational cards reading, "you are invited to a church showing of the outstanding religious film Martin Luther" were distributed widely in Greater Montreal by over 100 co-operating Protestant churches. The film was not advertised commercially, but clergy extended the invitation from their pulpits on previous Sundays.

Of the 11 churches showing the film the first week, five were of the United Church in Canada, two were Lutheran, two Presbyterian, one was Baptist and one Anglican. After noting the initial response, some pastors indicated that showings might well continue into the second week.

Earlier the censor ban had been vigorously protested by Protestant churches and individuals expressing themselves in "letters to the editor" of Quebec and other Canadian newspapers, and the issue grew to the proportions of a national controversy. The censor board meanwhile refused to lift the ban.

Enok Mortensen Decorated

On May 21, Pastor Enok Mortensen, of Tyler, Minnesota, received a letter from the Ambassador from Denmark in Washington, D. C., informing him that he had been awarded the "Order of Dannebrog."



Photo courtesy Tyler Journal

Pastor Mortensen

Pictured above is the beautiful cross of white gold suspended in a red and white ribbon, inscribed "For God and King." The decoration, which came as a complete surprise to Pastor Mortensen, was awarded "in recognition of his work in the (sic) Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church of America and for his warm interest in culturally cooperative activities between Denmark and the United States."

District Convention

Salinas, California, April 29-May 1

I boarded a bus downtown at the Greyhound depot Friday morning April 29; the day was dark and gloomy. The first stop was made at Santa Barbara; from there, on through the well-known countryside through Buellton on to San Luis Obispo which was the lunch stop. Leaving this mountain-girded town, the foothills soon receded in the distance and made way for fertile valleys. Soon we were in the Salinas Valley, "the salad bowl of the nation," so-called because a large proportion of the nation's lettuce, as well as a lot of sugar beets and other produce, is grown there. These well-cultivated fields were the finest I have seen in California.

I arrived at Salinas at four fifteen o'clock, earlier than anticipated. I found that the church was only two blocks from the bus station and as I was to be lodged at the home of Rev. Frost next door, I was soon among friends, and spent a pleasant hour before going to the church for the opening meeting. Rev. Frost, as host pastor, bid the group welcome, and announced with regret that Rev. Einar Farstrup would be unable to be present due to the death of his mother.

A telegram of condolence was sent to the Farstrups the next day. Pastor Aage Moller preached the sermon, ("Progress and Nationalism"); afterwards, we were invited to an elaborate coffee table in the church parlors where we met our hosts and quarters were assigned. Sixty out-of-town guests were enrolled, a good attendance. Delegates from Los Angeles were Johanne Knudsen, Mrs. Lund, Axel Pedersen, Harriet Olsen, Sofie Fricke, Mr. and Mrs. N. P. Nielsen and Mr. and Mrs. Anton Nielsen.

Saturday morning there was Bible hour conducted by Pastor S. Marckman, and then business meeting with secretary and treasurer reports which were very good, and comprehensive. Cash on hand: \$225, of which \$100 was allotted to the "student and welfare fund," and \$25 to the "student federation."

Axel Pedersen and Nis Pors were nominated for board membership of the Solvang Home. Pastor Gramps from Watsonville reported that the work there was in good progress; there is talk of church re-location. The expansion program of our synod came in for a great deal of discussion pro and con.

Saturday afternoon, Pastor Enok Mortensen led the discussion on the ULCA affiliation, and after many had expressed themselves, the consensus of opinion seemed to be against affiliation — which also showed in the vote of the delegates, **the majority of whom were against the merger.** Saturday evening there was the Women's Mission meeting with a report from last year's meeting read by Mrs. Kroigaard, who presided. The cause of Grand View has always been close to the hearts of the Women's Mission. Since the retention of the Seminary was decided on last year, it will need a great deal of financial help. We in Los Angeles, among other things, have interested ourselves in the seamen's mission in San Pedro. Thyra Larsen thought we should earmark our contribution for a special project. Some were interested in starting a women's retreat in California. Three representatives were appointed to further that idea, namely: Thyra

Larsen, Solvang; Mrs. Edgar Jensen, Watsonville; and Mathilde Jensen, Los Angeles. A collection of \$32.65 was taken for the seminary project.

The home talent entertainment was most interesting. The barbershop quartet was almost professional — four fellows dressed in white flannels and bright red vests, singing popular old melodies. Also there were piano solos, and violin solos, also the story of borax in graphic description — the finding and mining of borax and its enormously difficult transportation via the 20 mule team wagons. The last number was the "Lord's Prayer in Song."

On Sunday, the sermon was delivered by Pastor Owen Gramps, assisted at communion by Pastor Frost. A banquet was held Sunday noon at a restaurant a short distance outside Salinas, turkey with all the trimmings.

Pastor Mortensen spoke in the afternoon "The church invisible may mean more than the one built of lumber and stone." Evil church members may undo a lot of work done by good people. Mr. B. P. Christensen was given a few minutes to show the plans for a new addition to the Solvang Home; this will cost \$27,000, and there are only \$3,000 in the treasury as of now! So there is a great need for further contributions. A greeting from the meeting was sent to the old folks at Solvang.

On Sunday evening, Pastor Enok Mortensen and his wife were guests of honor in their former Salinas congregation. Nanna Mortensen gave a talk on the interesting activities at Tyler, Minnesota, (where they now live). The old Danebod school has been crowded with many folk-meetings, small and large groups, who get together for varied recreation, crafts, study groups, folk dancing, square dancing, leather carving, etc. During the late years, a "Women's Retreat" has been popular; this gives the women a complete change from their daily work: new interests and wider horizons.

At the last coffee table, we bid our hosts and friends a fond farewell. In conclusion I want to say that we certainly appreciate the work and effort expended by the Salinas people to make our stay so enjoyable in every way. The steady rain did not let up long enough to give us a chance to see much of the city but the moisture was much needed, and a blessing.

Los Angeles, Calif.

Mathilde Jensen.

P.S. This is not an official report and the details of the business sessions are not complete.

Nothing is inherently or invincibly young except spirit. And spirit can enter a human being perhaps better in the quiet of old age and dwell there more undisturbed than in the turmoil of adventure . . . Old places and old persons in their turn, when spirit dwells in them, have an intrinsic vitality of which youth is incapable; precisely the balance and wisdom that comes from long perspective and broad foundations . . .

In MY HOST THE WORLD,
George Santayana.

Concerning The Word of God

Valdemar S. Jensen

At the Font and Table only
Do we hear God's Word to us.
Grundtvig.

My friend, Pastor Wikman, in Chicago, tells me that people believe that I do not regard scripture as the Word of God. Pastor Wikman urges me to make myself clear on this point; so here is an attempt.

The first words of the epistle to the Hebrews are: "In many and various ways God spoke of old to the fathers by the prophets." In the Old Testament we have the record of what God has spoken of old to the fathers by the prophets. In that sense the Old Testament is the Word of God.

Take for instance what we have in the first eleven chapters. I believe that is a record of what God told Moses or some other prophet. The Father in heaven who is good (Matt. 19:17) in every way to his creatures, will have known that this creature made in his own image, would ask, "Who, what, whence am I?" Therefore the Lord told some man whose ear was attuned so that he could hear the Word of God. This man wrote down what he received from God, and thus began holy scripture. And because holy scripture is from God it is able to make us wise unto salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

This to me is the sense in which both Old and New Testaments are the Word of God. "No prophecy ever came by the impulse of man; but men, moved by the Holy Spirit, spoke from God" (2 Peter 1:21). We call scripture the Word of God because it contains the record of what God has spoken to me of God.

Scripture is interspersed with remarks of their own which these men made. For instance, Paul writes to Timothy: "When you come, bring the cloak that I left with Carpus at Troas; also the books; and, above all, the parchments." (2 Tim. 4:13). This, of course, is not a word spoken by God to Paul. It is a word which Paul writes to Timothy. Nevertheless, we call scripture the Word of God, because it contains the record of words spoken by God to prophets. We must believe that God spoke to the prophets because these men dare say, "Thus says the Lord."

If anyone objects to the statement that scripture **contains** the Word of God, and would have every word of scripture to be the Word of God, then all I can say is, "Have it your own way. You are zealous for the Word of God spoken to the fathers. I am zealous for the Word of God spoken to me."

Is there such a Word?

From your own standpoint in scripture, I will endeavor to show that there is. Hebrews 1:1-2, "In many and various ways God spoke of old to the fathers by the prophets; but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son."

What can the author mean in saying that God has spoken to us? Can he mean what is given us in the book which we call the New Testament? That book was not in existence when Hebrews was written! And what can the author mean when he speaks of "Jesus, the apostle and high priest of our confession?" What confession? The author even goes so far as to urge "Let us hold fast our confession!"

And he speaks of "the first principles of God's Word." In the same breath he calls it "the Word of righteousness." And in this connection he mentions "those who once have been enlightened" which in that day was the term for those who had been baptized. He says that they may "taste the goodness of the Word of God." Judge for yourself if this does not lead our thoughts toward the covenant Word in baptism.

At least it seems that the author's thoughts have gone in that direction; for in the next four chapters (7, 8, 9 and 10) he speaks again and again of "the covenant." He says that "Jesus is the surety of a better covenant" (than the old). The covenant that Christ "mediates is better" than the old. He cites the passage from Jeremiah 31 which so clearly refers to the covenant which God establishes with man in baptism. Seventeen times in these chapters he refers to the covenant, contrasting the old and the new. Does it not seem that it is the Word of God spoken to us by the Son of God at the Font that he has in mind?

Or let us ask the apostle Peter. In his first epistle he praises God and says that "by his great mercy we have been born anew." That is an expression that he has learned from Jesus. Jesus had said to Nikodemus that man must be born anew, and Christians understand this to mean baptism. But in this same first chapter Peter points out that there is a definite Word of God in baptism, for he says, "You have been born anew, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and abiding Word of God."

When Peter here calls the Word a seed, he again has the expression from Jesus, who said, "The seed is the Word of God" (Luke 8:11) and "He who sows the good seed is the Son of man," (Matt. 13:37). It is evident that Jesus, and Peter after him, is speaking of a definite Word other than scripture. It is evident from Peter that that same Word is God's Word in baptism giving the new life, the eternal life out of God.

Or the apostle James: what does he mean by saying that "of his own will (the Father) brought us forth by the Word of truth" and then almost in the same breath urging: "Receive with meekness the implanted Word which is able to save your souls?"

And let it not escape our notice that Paul uses this same expression when he speaks of the Word of Faith. He says (Rom. 10) after having spoken of the Word of Faith, that "if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved."

Or the book which we call the Acts of the Apostles:

(Continued on Page 11)

Editor's Note: In recent months, Pastor Jensen has written vigorously on this and related subjects, always touching on the "affiliation" issue. As he rightly states in closing this piece, "we are not many who now set forth in writing . . ." We invite replies, lest we be accused of one-sidedness. Pastor Jensen is Synod Ordained, but he will not be surprised nor dismayed by the opinions of those who disagree with him.

Paging Youth

American Evangelical Lutheran Youth Fellowship

Editor: Thorvald Hansen, Quad A-111 State University
of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa

Camp

**Pastor Beryl Knudsen
Sidney, Michigan**

The Camp Season for AELYFers is just around the proverbial corner. Before long many of our young people will be packing their suitcases and heading for the annual District Summer Camp and Convention.

Have you ever been to camp? If so, this article will not enlighten you a great deal, because you do not have to be urged to go again. You will be there if you possibly can, I know. But if you have never been to camp you have missed a great experience. Maybe the following picture will show you what I mean.

YOU ARE THERE

The time is 7 a. m. It is a clear sunny summer morning. The place is the great outdoors of nature. You are at camp. There are fifty or more young people of your age here and you are having the best time of your life! Why? Because it is the District Lutheran Youth Fellowship Camp and — YOU ARE THERE.

The time is 7:01 a. m., and suddenly through the door of the cabin, which you share with several other sensible sleepers, charges one of the camp's early risers yelling at the top of his voice! (Every camp has two of these, one boy and one girl, just to make you and the other sensible ones miserable). You quickly see that there will be no more sleeping this morning, so you leap out of bed, and with the help of the other sensible ones you proceed to give this "intruder of dream" an early shower — clothes and all. Everyone enjoys this immensely, save one, and you are so happy about it that you do not even want to sleep anymore so you get dressed and go to breakfast with the gang. What a breakfast! (Camp cooks are always the best, and they know how to start a group of young people off on a busy day).

Now daily programs vary from camp to camp, but the chances are that the one you are attending will begin with morning devotions led by one of your pastors. So when the dishes are done you assemble with your friends and participate in singing, listening and praying together. I will venture to guess that this is the part of the camp that you will remember the longest, because in these quiet moments you will experience a close awareness of God which you will not soon forget. Remember, YOU ARE THERE.

The rest of the day will then be filled with group recreation of all kinds, discussion groups, swimming, craft, more good meals, and a lot of spontaneous fun. The day will end as it began in a spiritual vein, with some evening hymns and a prayer around the campfire — the perfect end of a perfect day.

You will return to your cabin with your friends,

and after you have succeeded in silencing the noisy ones, you will drift off to sleep. You will be happy because your life has been enriched through another wonderful day at camp. Yes, it is a great experience, and it can be yours if — YOU ARE THERE.

The above is only a brief snapshot of what takes place at an LYF camp. It can be a long moving picture with you as a participant if you will take advantage of the opportunity that is yours to attend the LYF camp in your district.

Remember it is not a "get-away-from-it-all" vacation. Camp is a "get-into-it-all" experience. It is an opportunity to get into the swing of young people's activity in your district. It is a chance to get acquainted with the work of your church on the young people's level. It is an opportunity to share with other fine young people who have a mutual interest in the church. **Do not miss it! Go to camp this summer!** You will be glad that YOU WERE THERE.

Northern Lights District Camp

JUNE 19-25

Calling all young people in the Northern Lights District!!! For a week of fun, inspiration and fellowship with young people of like minds — come to your camp at Luther Point on beautiful Wood Lake, near Grantsburg, Wisconsin. Enjoy God's beautiful out-of-doors. Sing, play and worship together. Pastor Clayton Nielsen of Withee, Wisconsin, is the director of the camp. Other leaders at the camp will include the pastors of the district, pastors' wives, and Dean Axel Kildegaard of Grand View Seminary. The study sessions will deal with "Basic Teachings of our Church." Other features of the camp will include a camp choir; discussion periods; boating and swimming; creativity periods (creative writing, crafts, nature study); programs of music, stunts and drama; and campfires. Ideal facilities, including modern cabins, improved beach, fine boats and other features make Luther Point an ideal camp site. The cost is \$16. Registrations should be sent to Pastor Harald A. Petersen, Route 3, Luck, Wisconsin. Contact your local pastor for more information.

Dates to Remember

June 3-5 — Atlantic District AELYF Convention at Bridgeport, Connecticut.

June 10-12 — Iowa District AELYF Convention at Luther Memorial Church, Des Moines, Iowa. Send your registrations to Rev. Holger P. Jorgensen, 1003 Grand View Ave., Des Moines 16, Iowa, by June 4.

June 19-25 — Northern Lights District Camp at Luther Point, on Wood Lake near Grantsburg, Wis.

June 27-July 3 — Lake Michigan District Camp at Wells State Park near Menominee, Michigan.

July 9-16 — The Pacific Northwest and California District Camp at Camp Drake near Solvang, California.

August 21-27 — Iowa District Camp at 4-H camp near Madrid, Iowa.

Change of Address

Please note your editor's new address above. He will be at the State University of Iowa from June 13 through August 10.

Our Women's Work

Editor

Mrs. Ellen Knudsen, 1114 South Third Avenue, Maywood, Illinois

WMS Board

PRESIDENT: Mrs. Hans Egede, Hampton, Iowa.

VICE PRESIDENT: Mrs. R. Jessen, 1700 East 13th, Des Moines, Iowa.

TREASURER: Mrs. Ove Nielsen, 3231 Fremont, Avenue, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

SECRETARY: Mrs. Alf Utoft, Luck, Wisconsin.

Please send all contributions to WMS to our new treasurer, Mrs. Ove Nielsen.

DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES

DISTRICT I: Mrs. Carlo Petersen, 55 Roseville, Newark, New Jersey.

DISTRICT II: Mrs. Laura Macleod, Grayling, Mich.

DISTRICT III: Mrs. Alfred Holgaard, 320 Myra Place, Clinton, Iowa.

DISTRICT IV: Mrs. Aksel Holst, Cedar Falls, Iowa.

DISTRICT V: Mrs. Vagn Duus, Alden, Minnesota.

DISTRICT VI: Mrs. Harold Ibsen, Viborg, South Dakota.

DISTRICT VII: Mrs. Michael Mikkelsen, Lindsay, Nebraska.

DISTRICT VIII: Mrs. Dorothy Kroigaard, 4011 Iowa Street, Fresno, California.

DISTRICT IX: Mrs. Niel Gribskov, Junction City, Oregon.

Our Women's Mission Society

Because so many of the younger women of our church group often ask about the set-up of our mission society, about the way we work and the rules and regulations for it, and because we have no printed Constitution and Bylaws to give these new workers in our church, our president, Mrs. Egede, and the editor of this page have asked me to tell a little about it here.

It is really not surprising that our new friends should ask questions when, for example, at our synodical convention they have attended the one and only yearly business meeting of WMS and though they have never been asked to join the group by getting their name on a membership list and pledging a certain yearly sum, they are still given ballots and asked to help select board members for the coming year and perhaps editor for the Women's Page, as well as to vote on special projects and to give their opinion on what shall be especially supported by the mission during the year.

You see, during the 47 years since this group was started, we have never had a membership list. Any woman who is a member of any of our churches and who is interested enough in missions to come to the WMS meeting is considered a member.

Of rules and laws governing this group there also are very few. We have a board of five members who are elected alternately for terms of two years. The president and the vice president keep the cause of the mission before the women of the synod by writing

letters, articles, etc., to the church papers and to individuals. The president, of course, is responsible for carrying out the decisions of the yearly meeting, and she also represents our group outwardly at conferences or National Lutheran Council meetings. The secretary and the corresponding secretary keep the records and write letters to representatives of the Ladies' Aids and mission groups, informing them about the work and reminding them of our needs. And our treasurer, of course, receives the money, keeps the books and forwards the funds to wherever it has been decided to give it. Let me add that they have also all been known "to go that extra mile" and to write many, many "Thank You" letters, which helps a lot.

Within the last 10 to 15 years we have organized a little on the District level. At the annual meetings of the nine Districts of our synod the women have a little meeting of their own. They have a District representative who is elected at this meeting for a three year term. Reports from Ladies' Aids are often given about their different ways of working, since most of the WMS funds come in through our women's auxiliaries. We also receive offerings, however, at national and District conventions, a few memorial gifts, and other gifts from individuals. In this way the women of our synod have collected through the years tens of thousands of dollars to help build churches and halls, furnish dormitory rooms at Grand View College, support small churches and home mission pastors, and many other things.

I just read in an old yearbook that one of the main reasons for starting this group in the first place — under the name of the Danish Women's Mission Fund — was to support our seminary in Des Moines and the young men preparing to become pastors in our churches. So our project for this year of collecting \$5,000 to help improve the facilities of the seminary and buy new books for its library, etc., is very much in line with what our pioneer women planned for us to do. May we not fail their trust, or fail the young men who are planning to make the ministry in our synod their life work.

In spite of the fact that this work is spread out over the country from the east to the west coast and from Canada to the Gulf, you can see that it is being done in a very simple way perhaps the only way we who have worked with it have been able to do it. We certainly know, however, that it is not the only way, nor perhaps the best way. So if you younger women, who little by little will be taking over the work, would like to organize our WMS more fully, for example by having fixed membership, etc., I am very sure it will be with the blessing of all the rest of us. If you can do more and better work by organizing, then "More power to you." And if and when we affiliate with another synod I think we shall want to do this. I doubt that there is any other church body where it is not taken for granted that there is a

mission society in every local church. In most of our churches we do not have any such, although I am sure that a mission group, no matter how small, would add blessings to any congregation. Yes, there is still room for a lot of improvement. Young workers are needed. So we are glad you are asking questions.

With greetings to all, and a special greeting to our honorary member on the WMS board, Mrs. Knudstrup of Manistee, Michigan, who through all the 47 years has "stood by" with her work and in her prayers.

Sincerely,

Anna J. Stub.

A Reminder

Each year our WMS sponsors a special project. Special projects in previous years have been: Home Missions and Grand View dormitory furnishings. This year our project is a Grand View Seminary fund of \$5,000. This was voted on at the annual WMS meeting held last August at Cedar Falls, Iowa. The WMS board has made an estimate and found that we are approximately 4,500 women who by virtue of our membership in the synod are also members of the Women's Mission Society. If 5,000 is divided into 4,500 parts, each one will have a share but it will not be a very large share. Many women's groups have responded to the appeal but we have not yet reached the half way mark (to date the fund totals \$2,360.18). May I urge the societies which have not yet sent their contribution to do so soon. Our fiscal year ends July 1, 1955, only a few weeks away.

Seminary fund contributions which have come in since the last acknowledgment are as follows:

St. John's L. A., Cozad, Nebr. -----	\$ 28.00
St. Peter's Community L. A., Hay Springs, Nebraska -----	5.00
Kronborg, Nebr., L. A. -----	50.00
Ansgar L. A., Pasadena, Calif. -----	16.00
Trinity L. A., Wilbur, Wash. -----	42.00
Kronborg Guild, Marquette, Nebr. -----	36.00
Danish L. A., Viborg, S. D. -----	25.00
Juhl-Germania Mission Society, Michigan -----	25.00
Danish L. A. Tyler, Minn. -----	50.00
Dagmar, Mont., L. A. -----	50.00
Manistee, Mich., Mission Group -----	20.00
Mary Seeley Knudstrup -----	5.00
The Guiding Circle, Ringsted, Iowa -----	6.00
Juhl, Mich., L. A. -----	50.00
Bethania Guild, Solvang, Calif. -----	10.00
St. Peder's Ladies' Aid, Lake Amelia Ladies' Aid, St. Peder's Guild, Minneapolis, Minn. -----	77.30
St. John's L. A., Cordova, Nebr. -----	24.50
Bethany L. A., Granly, Miss. -----	15.00
District VIII Convention -----	32.65
Dalum, Alberta, Canada, L. A. -----	15.00
In Memory of Clara Eskildsen by Mary Seeley Knudstrup -----	5.00

\$ 587.45

Previously acknowledged ----- \$1,772.73

Total ----- \$2,360.18

Thank you for these gifts.

Ela K. Nielsen, Treasurer.

Tyler Retreat

(Continued from last issue)

Another personality featured every day on the program was Mrs. Noyes, speech teacher at Grand View College. It would be an understatement to say that the women "enjoyed" her hours, because enjoyment usually is a transitory thing. Nor did she arouse an interest in her subject, because it was apparent from the immediate response evident in her audience that the interest was already there. She met a need, and the exciting thing was that she had so much to give in answer to that need. Of course, in the few sessions no serious voice training could be accomplished, and the last one who expected to do this was Mrs. Noyes. Master of her craft, as she is, she would, even better than we, know how many hours and days and months it took to achieve that competence. Surely, what she aimed to do was to be a leaven, in fact this was really the purpose of her lecture, "Balancing the Scales," in which she stressed that as our bodies need a balanced diet for growth, so does our mind. We need not only facts and recipes for doing the practical tasks, but we should strive to become more intimate with beauty in its many phases: music, poetry, painting.

The stories Mrs. Noyes read at the close of every afternoon were about mountain folk, and the main characters were two blind people. We were brought the lesson that there is much more to life than what meets the eye.

The full realization of Mrs. Noyes' talents came Saturday evening, when she read "The Barretts of Wimpole Street." She revealed skillfully the personality of the characters, and she brought to life the dramatic struggle between the father who must dominate and the children who long to be free. By now everyone who attended the Retreat has long told how much she enjoyed Mrs. Noyes and her name on the program will attract attendance. She may not be available every time, but those planning the Retreat should take into consideration the interest shown in a topic you might describe as cultural. The Arts should not be forgotten.

Every afternoon all those who were interested in crafts gathered around Phyllis Sorensen from Askov, Minnesota. The planning committee had asked Mrs. Hertha Hansen from Askov to be in charge of crafts this year, but at the last minute, due to illness in her family, she had to beg off. Mrs. Sorensen graciously agreed to take over, and she gave the women many new ideas for holiday decorations. Thank you, Phyllis! It was truly a sharing of talents.

We had two speakers for a discussion on the United Nations. Mrs. Heffelfinger, who has represented the United States on UNESCO, spoke one evening. We learned a great deal about UNESCO and its operation, and if we had come with misgivings about the amount of politicking that had to go on even in a cultural organization, it was probably good for us to strengthen our moral fibers. Mrs. McGuire spoke and lead the discussion the next day on United Nations and retold her experiences in the first meeting at San Francisco, when it was founded. She has given of herself to good causes for most of her lifetime, including Women's Suffrage, League of Nations, and League of Women Voters. Who could help but feel warm admiration for someone who had used her talents so generously

for our good? Remember United Nations in your groups!

Another person who shared with us his knowledge and experience, gained through a great deal of living, was Dr. Selke, who at that time was Executive Secretary to the Governor of Minnesota but soon was to be Conservation Commissioner. His field had been education, but this branches out in so many ways and it was not surprising that when our discussion groups reported their findings to the general group, we had shown a great variety of views in our group discussions.

From our own numbers there were members who led us in discussion on our work as women in the church. Mrs. Ellen Knudsen had an afternoon of discussion of the question: What do we want of our Women's Page in Lutheran Tidings. She conducted a workshop on leading and planning our women's meetings, and through her efforts our lunch hour was often enlivened by small skits pointing up problems of officers of our women's groups.

Mrs. Egede talked over with us the work of the WMS. She asked for an expression from the women present what each one considered to be the purpose of women's organizations in the church. I wish we had had time to formulate our answers. Few of us could dash off a really comprehensive statement in a few moments.

If most of the women came for fellowship, we had it in singing to the vigorous accompaniment of Mrs. Thyra Nussle. In doing KP together, in the informal dormitory living, at the coffee table both afternoon and evening, and talking over the wisdom that can be dispensed with a smile, in the evening devotions when Rev. Enok Mortensen read from the pen of Simeon Stylites we all shared a rich and full fellowship.

The Chicago chapter of the 1955 Class of the Danebod Alumni met and discussed the mutual experiences. At the end one husband said: "It seems to me that you have been saying, that you wanted it to be better, because it was very, very good." I think it would be to the advantage of those who attended, if you had such an alumni meeting and would forward your suggestions to the people concerned with the planning of the Retreat.

Nebraska Homemaker is Mrs. America of 1956

St. Louis, Mo., May 18 — A 35-year-old Sunday school teacher at Christ Lutheran Church, Lincoln, Nebraska, Mrs. Ramona Deitemeyer, was named Mrs. America of 1956 the other day at Ellinor Park, Fla.

For the first time in the 17 years of the contest, no bathing-suit competition was held. Judging was altogether on the basis of homemaking skills.

When it comes to homemaking, Mrs. Deitemeyer and her family deserve their all-American reputation. Mrs. Deitemeyer and her husband teach Sunday school, and she is president of the Holmes elementary school Parent Teacher Association. Husband Carl, a

former Sunday school superintendent, is chairman of Christ congregation, editor of the Nebraska Farmer magazine and a member of the governor's State School Lands Commission, working on the problem of proper use of lands once designated for school use.

When the Deitemeyers and their five children tackle a task, they do it together, no matter what it is. Two years ago they decided to take up a pleasant task — ice skating, so the Deitemeyers trooped down town and bought seven pairs of skates.

All decisions are made in family council — like the decision last year to start tithing. Rev. John B. Bredehoeft, pastor of Christ Church, preached a series of sermons on the subject, and the Deitemeyers took the matter seriously — so seriously that it goes without saying that ten per cent of Mrs. Deitemeyer's Mrs. America prize money will go for church purposes.

As a matter of fact, Mr. Deitemeyer urged his wife to enter the Mrs. America contest so the family could demonstrate, if they won, how important a role Christian faith can and should play in American life.

The morning after the contest decision, newspapers carried pictures of Mr. Deitemeyer serving his wife breakfast in bed. But, the captions said, she wouldn't be there for long, because Mr. and Mrs. Deitemeyer were planning to attend public worship.

Later, on their return home to Lincoln, a parade in her honor ended at the state capitol steps. Gov. Andersen, of Nebraska, called her the "most outstanding homemaker of the nation," and proclaimed the day "Mrs. America Day."

The open convertible in which Mrs. Deitemeyer rode was flanked by ten army air force men from nearby Lincoln Air Force Base, five of them Negro.

The nation's chief housewife alighted, waved to the crowd, and ascended the steps on the arm of her husband, Carl.

Earlier, men, women and children representing Christ Lutheran Church, Girl Scout, Parent Teacher Association, Junior Chamber of Commerce and city council groups joined Lincoln's Mayor Clark Jeary in paying tribute to Mrs. Deitemeyer and her family at Lincoln municipal airport.

That morning, a family friend drove the five Deitemeyer children to Omaha airport where they met their parents' plane, in from Chicago. After civic ceremonies and a parade in Omaha, the children joined their parents for the flight to Lincoln, and the seven Deitemeyers got off the plane together. The crowd at Lincoln waited in suspense as "regular" passengers left the United airliner. Then, as the children began to come down the steps, the townspeople burst into applause. People on the airliner did not know that Mrs. America was aboard. When they landed, the stewardess asked, "Why didn't you tell us?"

Mayor Jeary told Mrs. Deitemeyer "We think our greatest thrill came as you displayed great humility. Your pronouncement that your church and your family were entitled to a great amount of your success made us happy. We are just human enough to think that you thrill because you are back home. This

From Our Readers

New York, New York
May 20, 1955

To the Editor of Lutheran Tidings:

Mr. Christensen does not care. He says so in his open letter to the synod board published in the LUTHERAN TIDINGS May 5 issue. He states distinctly that he is not concerned so much with whether or not our synod merges as with the method whereby the result is obtained. The implications are the same as those met with in mathematics; if the method is right the answer must perforce turn out to be right, and what one is trying to prove is not so important as the exercise of proving.

Mr. Christensen may be right; if the result is not so important, then the method is all-important. After all, we learned that in high school — it is not the final score that counts, it is the way the game was played. It is clear that Mr. Christensen would put all the emphasis on the method, since he asserts it is the "manner the decision is arrived at — that could cause friction." He will find ready agreements with this point of view from those who are not so concerned with the result.

There are many members of our synod who will cause no friction over the manner by which the decision is obtained. It would not occur to them to do

afternoon we like to think that we're Mother Lincoln, and our arms are open to you."

Then Mayor Jeary presented a bouquet of red roses to Mrs. Deitemeyer. The flowers were the gift of co-workers of Mr. Deitemeyer at the Nebraska Farmer, where he is managing editor.

After the capitol ceremony, the Deitemeyers sat in the second pew in Lincoln's Christ Lutheran Church where they hold membership, to hear the Rev. John B. Bredehoft call the public utterances of Mrs. America of 1956 "something which has electrified the entire nation." He spoke of the "wonderful contribution which you have made to American life and thought and action." Speaking of Christians as reflecting the light of Christ, the pastor said, "You certainly have turned on the lights." Pastor Bredehoft asked that the family remain humble, "and if you will remember what you are and that you are just reflectors of God's grace, you will remain humble. If you will remain humble, then God can use you to accomplish great things. The American world has been stirred by your action. May others catch this spirit, this dedication to your church, your family, your community."

In the church basement, a sign read, "Welcome home, Carl and Ramona." Members and friends gathered for a reception there, and later in the evening a reception and banquet were held at the Cornhusker Hotel. Tribute was paid the guest of honor by H. V. Potter of New York, representative of the American Gas Association, sponsor of the Mrs. America contest, and by Miss Janice Pries, representative of the Department of Public Relations of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.

The Deitemeyer children are Diann, 13; Steven, 12; Kaye, 10; Cheryl, 8; and Kent, known as "Biff," 6.

so. These are people who are profoundly concerned with the final outcome. To them the **method** shades into insignificance compared to the disaster which will befall them if the merger is accomplished. They can very well become "the homeless ones." They are the people who cannot accede to the doctrine of the ULCA which declares the Scriptures, which were written by fallible men, to be the one and infallible Word of God. They believe that the Bible was written by imperfect human beings, and that rather than being the Word of God, it contains the revelation of the Word of God. They believe that the Word of God is a direct covenant between God and man, with no man-made statements standing intermediate. They believe that they cannot deny these tenets of their faith in order to have "a part in the larger fellowship." They are the ones who care, because they can never truly and wholly belong to the United Lutheran Church of America. They care, because they love AELC and all it stands for; they believe it has a mission which it is especially qualified to perform, a mission which will be in grave danger of stultification if it must subserve a higher authority such as ULCA.

A Layman Who Cares.

Concerning the Word of God

(Continued from Page 6)

you laymen who are so busy "making a living," as you say — why not take time to read the book that tells about our real living, even after death? Why not take time out to read the Acts of the Apostles and then notice the following passages where Luke speaks about the Word:

Acts 6:7	Acts 13:5, 7, 26, 46, 49
Acts 8:4, 14, 25	Acts 14:3, 25
Acts 10:36, 37	Acts 15:35, 36
Acts 11:1, 14	Acts 16:32
Acts 12:24	

the last of which goes "They spoke the Word of the Lord to him . . . and he was baptized."

O, I shall stop enumerating. But I believe that if you start, you will be caught up in the reading. And you will read on, seeing more and more distinctly that Acts tells of a definite Word of God other than the Old and New Testaments, and that this Word of God was connected with the water in baptism.

If, then, it dawns upon you that this Word of God has been given also to you in baptism; then, I believe, your hope of salvation and eternal life will find an anchorage which it did not have before. "For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that by steadfastness and encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope." (Rom. 15:4)

This, now, has been written from **your** standpoint in scripture, concerning the Word of Faith connected with the water in baptism. Permit me to write in a succeeding article about the Word of Faith from **my** standpoint in the congregation of believers. I realize that I am presuming upon the space of our bi-monthly paper. Bear with me! We are not many who now set forth in writing the foundation upon which the Church of God was founded — the foundation upon which our little church here in America was founded.

78th Annual Convention

of the

American Evangelical Lutheran Church KIMBALLTON, IOWA

August 9-14, 1955

Immanuel Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church, Kimballton, Iowa, will be host to the 78th annual convention of the American Evangelical Lutheran Church during the days of August 9-14, 1955.

The convention will open with a worship service in Immanuel Lutheran Church, Kimballton, Tuesday, August 9, 8 p. m. The business sessions will commence the same place Wednesday, August 10 at 9 a. m. All congregations of the synod are asked to send delegates according to the by-laws of the synod governing this matter. The names of delegates must be submitted in writing by the officers of the respective congregations to the credentials committee of the convention in time to be in the hands of this committee by July 15. The names of delegates must be certified to by the secretaries of the respective congregations (name and address of chairman of credentials committee will appear below this article in due time). All ministers of the synod and others who have voting rights at the convention are expected to attend.

The convention will deal with old and new business to come before it through the reports submitted to it by the officers of the synod, and of the synod institutions, activities and missions as well as auxiliaries. The meetings will as far as space will allow be open to friends and members of the synod in general. Further announcements concerning this will follow from the host congregation.

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 to be published in LUTHERAN TIDINGS, July 5th issue.

All reports to come before the convention are expected to be at my address by May 20 in order that they may be printed and published and forwarded to all delegates and pastors.

May God prepare our hearts and minds so that we may do His will in all things when we assemble for our synod convention in Kimballton.

Alfred Jensen.

1232 Pennsylvania Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa.
April 22, 1955

Invitation

Kimballton, Iowa
May 31, 1955

Immanuel Lutheran Congregation, Kimballton, 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 9-14, 1955.

The members of our congregation are at work planning for the convention, and will endeavor to make your stay with us an enjoyable and enriching experience.

In accordance with the synodical ruling, all pastors and delegates must send their registrations and credentials to the Chairman of the Registration and Credentials committee, Mrs. Sylvia Esbeck, Kimballton, Iowa, by July 15.

For all other registrations the committee urges that, as far as possible, these be made by August 1, and calls special

attention to these dates, in order that there maybe no misunderstanding.

In the past couple of years there has been much waste of good housing facilities during convention, due to the neglect of those having made reservations, in that they neither came or sent word that they were not coming, and their quarters were held open indefinitely. To avoid repetition of this condition, the committee respectfully requests the cooperation of all guests, in asking that they notify us of any delay or cancellation within 24 hours after the stated time of their arrival.

Registration cards will soon be in the hands of all pastors. We urge that all who plan to attend convention make use of these cards. Further details, and train and bus schedules will appear in the next issue of LUTHERAN TIDINGS.

Sincere greetings,

Mathias Simonsen, President of the Congregation.
Holger Strandskov, Pastor.

Love is The Light

It is only in our loves that we really live. What we hate is dead to us, and the wider the range of our hates the narrower our lives.

Love is the light in which we see and live. Hates are mists in which we blindly grope and miserably die.

Obtuse, indeed, is he who has not learned from his own experience and observation that one little drop of kindness holds more of the real nectar of life than does a whole ocean of hate.

One may search the whole world of moral philosophy through and find no truer truth than this — that hate, envy, malice and all the other evil passions the heart is heir to work their first and worst injury to their possessor; they corrode, render wretched and destroy the heart in which they originate.

We must expend much of our life forces on others. Is it not better to expend them in kindness that uplifts than in spite that debases?

What we give we get back in kind. Is it not better to have the respect of others than their hatred?

Love is one of the things the more of which you give out the more you have.

The human heart, like the rose, only as it opens to the sunshine, generates fragrance that sweetens its own atmosphere.

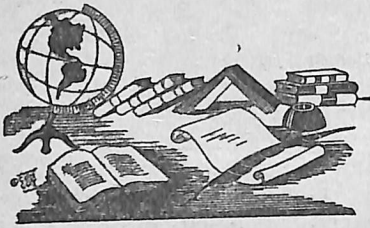
Anonymous.

Lutheran Tidings Gets New Address

BEGINNING JUNE 15, ALL LETTERS AND
ARTICLES FOR THE EDITOR SHOULD BE
SENT TO:

Lutheran Tidings
4260 Third Avenue
Los Angeles 8, Calif.

The paper will continue to be printed and
mailed at Askov, Minnesota.



OPINION AND COMMENT

A GREAT MANY experiments are carried out by scientists on animals, in the hope that truths discovered about animals may turn out to be applicable to human beings as well. Much useful information is learned in this way. We have watched psychologists train animals into certain patterns of behaviour, then deliberately frustrate them in order to create neuroses. The process seems cruel and perhaps it is one of the things which made William James call psychology "that nasty little science" after he had turned from being a psychologist to being a philosopher! The procedure, as we say, has its uses. However, there are people who forget that on the available evidence, man is more than animal. Animals rely on the five senses, (plus a few obscure, indefinable ones humans don't have), but animals have no provable power to think, to reason, to live richly. Our five senses bring to us only a fraction of the values of life. The most important ones come, not through our animal senses, but through that special sensitivity which God breathed into Man when He created him. In one of Thomas Hardy's poems, he is listening to a thrush singing and he wonders if there be a message of joy which it hears but which has escaped him to whom the world looks so gray and bleak and shivery. In another poem, Hardy is in church, but, unable to see what the worshippers are seeing, and unable to feel what they feel he sees that he is a stranger there. They are pathetic poems. Some people continuously play down their sensitivity to the finest values in life; they plug their inner ears against the voice of Spirit; they shade their eyes against the sight of opportunities for service. They measure the ether waves of sunset, but do not experience the sunset! They know the Bertillon measurements of a boy, but they cannot value him as does a mother's love. They are skilled in the region of sight, but not of insight. Against such materialism, the church stands strong. From its inception, the church has countered the claims of materialists with the Master's question, "Is not the life more than meat?"

WE HAVE BEEN watching with considerable interest the progress of the bill in Congress to extend the draft. This bill passed the House on February 8, but companion bills strengthening the reserves and setting up a six-months' training program for all youths have been stalled. The Selective Service law expires June 30. Unless the Senate takes quick action, the Selective Service law could expire, calling for entirely new legislation. The objectionable feature about the six-months' training bill has been the requirement that such trainees would be obligated to the "reserves" for a period of 9½ years following their six months of basic training. In amendments, this period has been cut to eight years. However, the companion bill on the National Reserves met with the most opposition. The bill provided that the Defense

Department could fill out National Guard units with reservists. Since many states operate their National Guard units on a segregation basis, some reservists might find themselves in segregated units against their will. After a stiff fight, an amendment was passed which prohibits the Department to assign reservists to segregated National Guard units. Because of this amendment, many Southerners would vote against the entire bill and so the final vote was postponed.

A LETTER TO PASTORS from an official of LWA commends our Synod for its contribution to the cause of LWA and LWR and cites the fact that for the third successive year our group reached the highest percentage of its goal (oversubscribed). It also noted that our Synod has produced the Director of the All-Lutheran Food Appeal, Pastor Ove Nielsen, whose "thoroughness, skill and consecration were important factors in the gathering of more than \$650,000 worth of farm gifts last year to feed hungry people abroad." Also cited was Miss Henrietta Lund of our Synod who spent several months in Austria in refugee relief work, where she directed the local Service to Refugees under the LWF. (The next issue of LUTHERAN TIDINGS will carry an article by Miss Lund, possibly two.)

A YEAR AGO we suggested through this page that some capable person investigate and work out a plan whereby individuals might invest in our Home Mission work, possibly through low-interest bonds. We still think this would be a good idea, and have discussed it with a number of others, including one man of considerable influence and wealth who says it should succeed. Last Sunday we attended church in the new building at Cedarloo. (It was Pentecost, and it was the first service in the new building.) Much of the money that built that church was borrowed, and will be paid back. Why could not our Synod allow small investors to put — say, one hundred dollars — into such a project, with a very low rate of interest, merely a token payment, so that the investor would be loaning a small part of his savings without an idea of return, except for the principle? This would relieve the Home Mission of a worrisome interest payment that usually is big enough to be a real problem, (usually many hundreds annually), and would give people a more direct share in our Home Mission efforts. This is not a new idea; other synods have such plans working. A Home Mission should have funds available immediately, without waiting, so that a building can be built, — a chapel, at least — and so that the cultivation of the new field can be begun at once. The work in Cedarloo has taken an immense spurt since the building has gone up. (Last Sunday, four new families with children announced their desire to become members; this was in one week.)

THIS WEEK'S smile comes from a small boy who was taking his first ride on a fast elevator up into a city skyscraper. After the elevator had shot up ten or twelve floors, the little fellow caught his breath, and looked up at his father who was with him and said, "Daddy, does God know we're coming?"

OUR CHURCH

Wilbur, Washington. Dr. Alfred Jensen spoke here some weeks ago, and Pastor Ove Nielsen attended a recent quarterly meeting of the congregation and gave an address.

Exira, Iowa. Members of the congregation here recently completed the redecorating of the interior of the church, putting up new wall surfaces in modern colors. Pastor Sedoris McCartney was recently installed here, and in the Oak Hill congregation.

Hay Springs, Nebr. Members of this congregation have worked several weeks in removing studdings, putting down floors, building a stairway, nailing up Celotex wallboard, and installing two windows to make two new bright class rooms in the east wing of the church.

Watsonville, Calif. The 75th Anniversary of the founding of our church here was celebrated May 15th. Former pastor, Enok Mortensen, preached at the morning service and lectured in the afternoon. Another former pastor, Arthur Frost, was toastmaster at the banquet where 105 persons enjoyed a turkey dinner; a number of speeches were made, and Mr. L. P. Holgersen (who happens to be 15 years older than the church, according to the correspondent) presented a check for \$1,000 to the building fund. The congregation has been discussing the possibility of relocation, according to reports. (Also see Dist. Convention report in this issue.)

Ringsted, Iowa. A dedication service for the new organ will be held here on June 12, at 2 p. m. with Miss Rita Pedersen as organist for the occasion. Miss Pedersen's home is Ringsted, but she is now teacher of music in Minnesota. During the summer, after Pastor Melby's departure for Hartford, Conn., the congregation will be served by senior seminary student, Carl Laursen, who will conduct first services June 19.

Withee, Wisconsin. Five teachers conduct summer school for seventy-six pupils (a new local record) compared with 31 last year.

Nysted, Nebr. A son, Jon Arnold, was recently born to Pastor and Mrs. Arnold Knudsen, with baptism conducted on May 22.

Newark, New Jersey. We have a report that Pastor Carlo Petersen has resigned his church here to accept the call from Ringsted, Iowa.

Santal Mission Field, India. Sketchy information has reached us that Missionary Harold Riber has been severely clawed by a leopard while on an animal hunt. The animal knocked Harold Riber down, but was frightened off by others in the party. His injuries included a mangled arm which is reported healing well. We hope to have more information on this soon.

Here and There

"Mission-Minded Pastors" is a term that we are reminded of now and then, and then the thought comes: "Well, are they not all mission minded?" Of course, they are, but to a more or less degree. I think we all agree that Rev. Alfred Sorensen is the leader in that field. I worked with him one year at Danebod. I believe he had just been ordained, and he preached in the Community Church in Tyler, (a building put up after the tornado and used by several congregations). I learned then from his services and daily conversations, that he, indeed, was missionary minded. He served, I think, about twenty-five years in Seattle. How fortunate to get him to take over in Cedarloo, Iowa, though up in years then. And how wonderful has been the success there! Now it seems that Circle Pines, near Minneapolis, is in need of another mission spirited pastor, and maybe Alfred Sorensen could point the way. I believe that our synodical board should have much authority in recommending pastors to congregations, though I would not say the direct power of appointment.

How can a congregation select the best man out of a few pastors that may be available? Some years ago, when members of a congregation prepared to elect a new pastor out of, I think, four available, I cast ballot for one that I knew personally, but when it came to the other three, I cast blank ballots. I feared to take the responsibility. I am not advocating that our synod president, or even the Board, should have all authority; but they should investigate thoroughly and give somewhat detailed advice to congregations, for example, as mentioned, the Circle Pines situation, where they seem to be looking for a mission-minded man as was the Cedarloo field a couple of years ago. The synod president should know the pastors, and the local conditions of congregations calling pastors. Now some one will say: "Do you want to make a dictator out of the board, or the president?" "No, but make a **good advisory committee!**" The article in Lutheran Tidings led the way to the above. So, good luck to YOU at Circle Pines. May you find the right shepherd for **your** flock.

Sigurd Pedersen.
Ruthton, Minn.

Contributions to Santal Mission

May, 1955

General Budget:

In memory of departed friends,
by Svend Petersens, Askov,
Minn., Emil Andersens, Paso
Robles, Calif., and Mrs. Wos-
gaard, Solvang, Calif. ----- \$ 10.00
St. Stephen's Ladies' Aid,

Clinton, Iowa -----	45.54
St. Stephen's Mission Group, Chicago, Ill. -----	50.00
St. John's Ladies' Aid, Seattle, Wash. -----	25.00
Mrs. S. P. Larsen, Solvang, Calif. -----	5.00
Joint Ladies' Aid Mission Meeting, Hampton, Iowa --	14.18
In memory of Mrs. Hans Far- strup, Mrs. K. Knudsen, Des Moines, Iowa -----	1.00
A Friend -----	12.00
By Oak Hill Mission Group, Brayton, Iowa -----	5.00
By Dagmar and Marie Peter- sen, Des Moines, Iowa ----	2.00
By A Friend -----	1.00
In memory of Dr. Martin, Lati- mer, Iowa, Rev. H. Juhls, --	1.00
In memory of Andrew Holm, Enumclaw, Wash., Mrs. Hans Jacobsen and Mr. and Mrs. Martin Jensen, Seattle, Wash.	4.00
Bone Lake congregation, Luck, Wis. -----	15.00
Mrs. T. A. Ortogren, Mar- quette, Nebr. -----	5.00
Danevang Lutheran Church, Danevang, Texas -----	57.00
Joint Ladies' Aid Meeting, Gardner, Ill. -----	50.95
St. John's Congregation, Mar- quette, Nebr. -----	115.00
Agner and Louise Larsen, Al- bany, New York -----	10.00
Rev. Heide, Racine, Wis. ----	15.00
West Denmark Congregation, Luck, Wis. -----	43.00
Trinity Luth. Sunday School, Greenville, Mich. -----	32.85
In memory of Mrs. Bertha Marie Larsen, Trinity Con- gregation, Greenville, Mich.	5.00

Total for May ----- \$ 524.52
Total since January 1 ----- \$4,119.35

Acknowledged with sincere thanks,

Dagmar Miller,

1517 Guthrie Ave., Des Moines, Iowa

A correction please: The Hans Egede's name dropped out of the list of friends desiring to honor the memory of Mrs. A. C. Nielsen. Sorry. —Dagmar Miller.

A Mingling Church

The Church is more than a Noah's Ark or ambulance cart . . . Its mission is to enter boldly into the worlds of commerce, industry, education, politics, art and declare that there, as everywhere, God's will must be done. . . . There is a difference of emphasis between the Roman Catholic and Protestant positions . . . The Protestant emphasis is that the church enters these areas of life not to legislate, but to make a witness, to state the Christian principles in each province.

Robert J. McCracken,
Riverside Church, New York.

Lutheran News from Around the World

\$1,000,000 GOAL ENVISIONED FOR ALL-LUTHERAN FOOD APPEAL

Minneapolis, Minn. — (NLC) — A hope that the 1955 All Lutheran Food Appeal may result in a million dollars worth of food gifts for distribution among the needy overseas was voiced at a meeting here of ALFA state chairmen.

Dr. Oscar A. Benson, president of the National Lutheran Council, told regional chairmen of the All Lutheran Food Appeal that, "We shall not only work and give, but pray, that even as we received more than \$650,000 last year, a million dollars worth of food be given in 1955."

"The needs of humanity today are the result of what we have done to destroy countries and humanity through wars," added Dr. Benson, who is president of the Augustana Lutheran Church.

The results of last year's All Lutheran Food Appeal as well as the plans for the 1955 appeal were analyzed at the meeting by the Rev. Ove R. Nielsen, ALFA director, who urged that "we go forth in thousands to receive gifts from hundreds of thousands to feed suffering millions."

Declaring that "the Church's announced objectives become her prophecies," Mr. Nielsen urged "let us work through Jesus Christ so that these prophecies shall not become wordless wind."

The 17 ALFA regional chairmen, appointed to head the appeal in 1955, represent sixteen states. The drive in Texas will be headed by two area committees, one in Southern Texas, the other in the Panhandle.

Twelve of the chairmen are from church bodies cooperating in the National Lutheran Council, five are from the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, which cooperates with the NLC in the All Lutheran Food Appeal.

Bernard A. Confer, executive secretary of Lutheran World Relief, the NLC material aid agency, described the needs and the distribution of ALFA gifts in Korea, Formosa, Hong Kong, Jordan, Yugoslavia, Austria and Germany.

The Rev. Edwin A. Nerger, chairman of the Missouri Synod's Board of World Relief, told the meeting that the emergency which exists in today's world should not be considered the chief reason for giving. The chief reason, he said, "is that the giver needs to give . . . giving is an exercise of faith that must be continued."

The Rev. Werner Kuntz, executive director of the Missouri Synod board, added that the Church must "reach out beyond prejudices and barriers to

everyone, as Christ did, in their time of greatest need."

Other speakers at the gathering were Dr. Fredrik A. Schiotz, president of the Evangelical Lutheran Church; Dr. T. O. Burntvedt, president of the Lutheran Free Church; Dr. Edwin Moll, former director of the Lutheran World Federation's Near East Branch, who recently returned from a tour around the world; and Dr. M. A. Hammarberg, pastor of Arlington Hills Lutheran Church, St. Paul, Minn.

DR. BRAUER AUTHOR OF NLC STUDENT SERVICE LITERATURE

Chicago — (NLC) — Dr. Jerald C. Brauer, recently elected dean of the Federated Theological Faculty of the University of Chicago, is author of one of the most popular pamphlets issued by the Division of Student Service of the National Lutheran Council.

Entitled "Basic Questions for the Christian Scholar," the pamphlet deals with the problem of the relation of faith and education. Since its publication last September, it has been in wide demand by college and university professors both in this country and abroad.

A scholar in the field of ecclesiastical history and Christian thought, Dr. Brauer is a pastor of the United Lutheran Church in America.

One of Dr. Brauer's most recent writings is a syllabus on "The Lutheran Reformation," prepared in collaboration with Dr. Jaroslav Pelikan of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod, who is also a member of the Federated Theological Faculty of the University of Chicago.

The syllabus is intended for both credit and non-credit courses in religion at colleges and universities and is being distributed by both the NLC's and Missouri Synod's Student Service.

Dr. Brauer is the Author of "Protestantism in America," published in 1953. He now is writing a book tentatively titled "Protestantism and Politics in America," which will concern "the disguised, but persistent Puritan theoretic ideal in the United States," and another book on Puritan theology and piety.

LWF CALLS LUTHER RESEARCH CONFERENCE IN 1956 IN DENMARK

Geneva, Switzerland — (NLC) — An international Luther research conference will be held in Aarhus, Denmark, August 13-18, 1956, to exchange progress reports on Luther research in various countries and to give the participants an opportunity to discuss common tasks, it was announced here by the Lutheran World Federation's Department of Theology.

All leading scholars in Luther research, inside as well as outside the Lutheran Church, have been invited and participants are expected from sixteen different countries, it added.

The main topics of debate will include the studies of Martin Luther's biography, the critical edition of Luther's works, the interpretation of Scripture in Luther's theology, Luther's ecclesiology, and the concept of sanctification in Luther's theology, said the announcement.

KING PARTICIPATES IN DEDICATION OF DANISH LUTHERAN CHURCH IN PARIS

Copenhagen, Denmark — (NLC) — King Fredrik of Denmark read scripture of the dedication of a new Danish Lutheran Church at Paris, France, and thus created a new precedent in the history of Church and royalty of Denmark, according to the Danish church press.

According to schedule, the new church was to be dedicated by four clergymen, but as one of them was prevented from appearing in Paris, Bishop C. W. Noack, chairman of the Danish Church in Foreign Lands, asked the King to take his place, "Kristeligt Dagblad" reported.

The King consented and read the first of the four Scripture passages at the dedication, thereby "giving an example that will not soon be forgotten in these times when many forces are opposed to the Church," the Christian newspaper commented.

PRAYER ON WOMEN PASTORS RAISES FURORE IN SWEDEN

Copenhagen, Denmark — (NLC) — One of the strongest prayers ever voiced in a Lutheran church was heard in connection with the Swedish debate on ordination of women to the ministry of the Church of Sweden, "Kristeligt Pressebureau" of the Church of Denmark reported here.

According to the Danish information service, a Swedish pastor, who had tried to explain the debate to his congregation, concluded the Sunday service with a prayer that "God may deliver us of female pastors."

The prayer provoked so much attention, the Danish report continued, that soon Bishop Bo Giertz of Gothenburg, in whose diocese the prayer had been given, was forced to intercede in defense of the "guilty" pastor.

The bishop told the press that, "the New Testament teaches us that a woman is not called to the ministry," and that, as far as he could see, "all ought to pray that the Church be delivered of the controversies and misfortunes which may come if the Parliament adopts a law giving women the right to become ordained ministers."

Meanwhile, the Swedish Parliament

has postponed voting on the controversial issue to give the Council of the Church of Sweden an opportunity to voice its formal opinion.

Adding that "certain signs indicate a majority for the admission of women to the ministry in Sweden," Kristeligt Pressebureau stressed that the shortage of ministers in the Church of Sweden has caused it to call ten Norwegian ministers to serve in Sweden during the past six years.

"As the shortage of pastors in Sweden appears to endure, the 'export' of ministers from Norway to Sweden may become more and more an acute question, especially as there does not seem to be any great surplus of theologians in Norway either," the Danes commented.

LOOK MAGAZINE FEATURES LARGEST LUTHERAN CHURCH

New York — (NLC) — A five-page story on the Rev. Reuben Youngdahl who "built the biggest Lutheran Church in America" will be featured in the June 14 issue of "Look" magazine, scheduled to appear on the newsstands May 31.

The feature relates how Dr. Youngdahl "who operates on one lung and 30 to 40 cups of coffee daily," developed Mt. Olivet Lutheran Church in Minneapolis "from an ailing, debt-ridden parish of 285 to the biggest Lutheran congregation in America."

In a description of the 8,500-member congregation with its 2,700 Sunday School children and \$300,000 annual budget, Look notes that "everything at Mt. Olivet has Paul Bunyan proportions, including Pastor Youngdahl," whose "car is equipped with a phone for emergency calls, a tape recorder for composing sermons and books and a perking coffee pot."

The article declares that Dr. Young-

dahl "hatches ideas for Christian service that would astound a previous generation of Swedish Lutheran," and that he is somewhat of a crusader on social problems.

To the question, "Why should a good Swede like you be involved in all this?" asked by a critic of his passionate concern with minority groups, Dr. Youngdahl is quoted as replying, "I am a child of privilege and I cannot live at peace with myself unless I fight for the rights of others, too."

The Look story was produced by Laura Bergquist; the eleven photos, including one full page blow-up of Dr. Youngdahl, were supplied by Frank Bauman.

LUTHERAN HOUR OFFERS LISTENERS FREE RECORDING OF SACRED MUSIC

In observance of the 25th anniversary of its founding, The Lutheran Hour is offering listeners a free recording of sacred music sung by three Lutheran Hour choruses.

The record will be offered to listeners on the June 12 program.

Founded in 1930, The Lutheran Hour has since become the world's most wide spread radio broadcast of any kind. It is currently heard on more than 1250 radio stations in 65 countries and territories and in 56 languages.

Featured on the anniversary record are The Lutheran Hour choruses of St. Louis, Mo., and Concordia Theological Seminary. In addition, the Family Worship Hour ensemble is also heard on the record.

A seven-inch, 78 r. p. m. recording, the anniversary souvenir record includes the following choral selections: "A Mighty Fortress is Our God," "Beautiful Savior," "Jesus Loves Children," and "I Lay My Sins on Jesus."

Details on how listeners can secure a free copy of the record will be announced on the broadcast.

LUTHERANS URGE CHANGE IN MAILING PRIVILEGES

Washington, D. C. — (NLC) — A House Post Office subcommittee unanimously approved simplification of the procedures governing second class mailing privileges for parish bulletins and official church publications after a hearing at which spokesmen for major Protestant bodies and the Post Office testified in favor of the bill.

Among those heard by the subcommittee were Dr. Robert E. Van Deusen, Washington secretary of the National Lutheran Council, and Dr. Frederick E. Reissig, a member of the United Lutheran Church in America, who testified in his capacity as executive secretary of the Washington Federation of Churches.

The bill under debate would eliminate a requirement that a religious group must obtain a signed statement from each of its members and contributors asserting that part of their

contribution is designated as a subscription to the church publication.

Instead, a church group would need to send the Post Office only a simple resolution of its governing board, a procedure allowed for other non-profit organizations.

Dr. Van Deusen told the subcommittee that the bill would "rectify a long-standing discrimination, unintentional but rather real for a large number of local congregations."

Dr. Reissig said the measure would give many churches a better conscience because there is "many a slip twixt cup and lip in complying with the technicalities of the present law."

He added that the bill would mostly aid the small parish publications as it would not affect denominational organs carrying paid advertising and sold on a subscription basis.

ST. OLAF CHOIR GOES TO EUROPE

Northfield, Minn. — (NLC) — The 57-voice St. Olaf College choir started from here on the first leg of a concert tour that will take it to Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Germany and Holland. It is the third time the choir goes to Europe.

On its way to New York, the choir will appear in a number of concerts, including a final concert before embarking for Europe at the Brooklyn Academy of Music on June 21. It is scheduled to arrive in Oslo, Norway, on July 2, and conclude its European tour in Amsterdam on August 3.

THE NARROW GATE

The gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life and not many ever find it. Thus did Jesus stress the truth that discipline, not indulgence, is the price to be paid for life, indeed. The animal appetites are clamorous and strive constantly for domination. The love of beauty, the love of truth, the love of goodness, are latent in human nature, but they must be cultivated and nourished before they come into full bloom.

To live as a mere animal does not take arduous training, but to be a good member of God's household requires alertness, sensitivity and responsiveness to the appeals of affection.

The love of music is buried within the spirit of man, but the highest enjoyment of harmony and the creation of great music demand training and practice. Many a child may be gifted with potential skill as a surgeon, but rare is the individual who devotes himself to the study and training required of a great practitioner.

Truly the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to creative life. Not indulgence, but discipline, not yielding constantly to physical stimuli, but responding to holy aspirations and pursuing lovely dreams of life, as it can be. No price is too high to pay for life on the pinnacle. — Kirby Page.

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, Minnesota.

I am a member of _____ the congregation at _____

Name _____

City _____ State _____

New Address _____

June 5, 1955

JENSEN, JENS M. R.T.E. 2,
TYLER, MINN. 6-3