

Lutheran Tidings

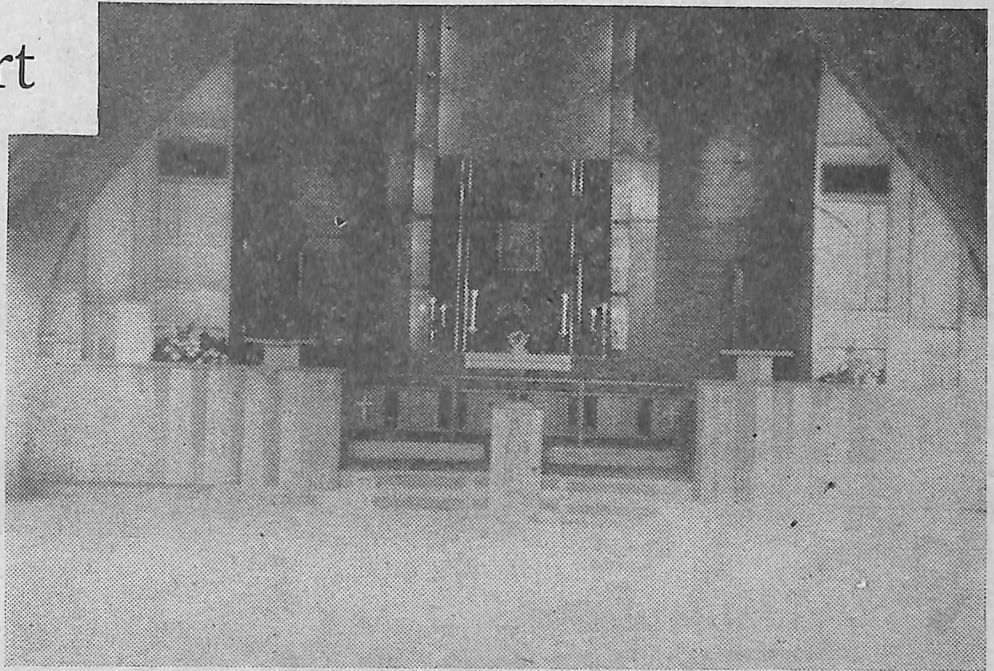
PUBLISHED BY THE AMERICAN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Progress Report

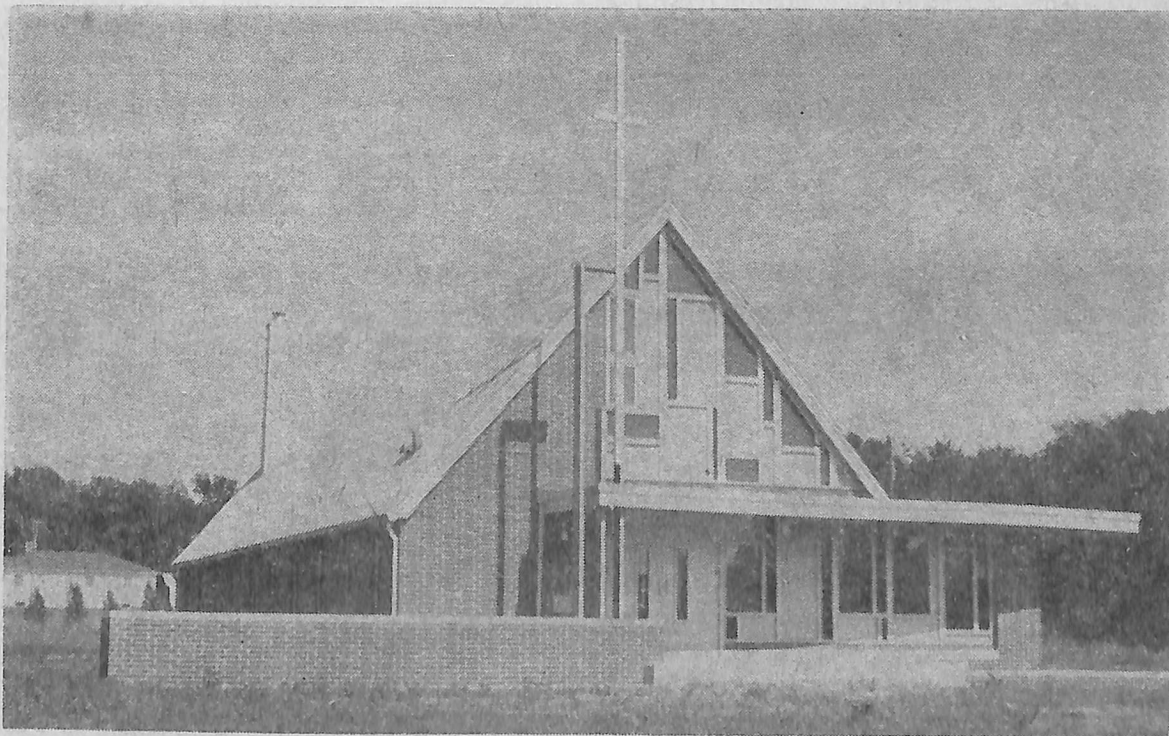
Home Mission at

Cedar Falls, Iowa

"Cedarloo"



The chancel interior furnishings are done in Philippine mahogany, blonde. Carpeting is beige and black, and soon a ceiling-to-altar dossal drape of white and gold metal fabric will hang behind a mahogany cross above the altar.



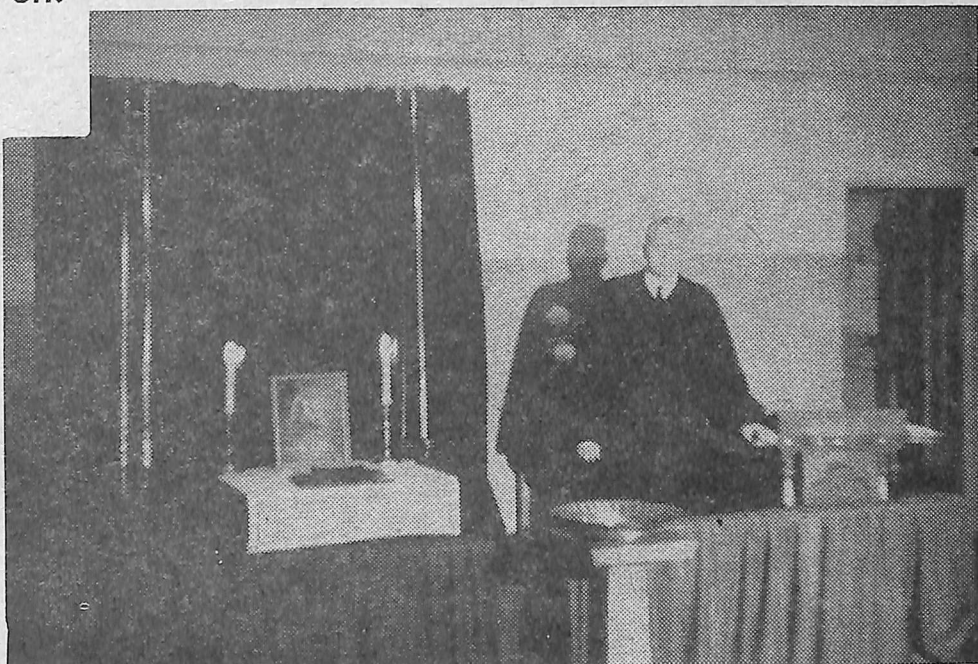
Until Pentecost of this year, services at Cedarloo had been held in Cedar Heights Public School Gymnasium. Dedication of the new chapel (above) took place July 24. Long-range plans call for a large church to be built to the rear and toward the left of this building, which will then become an educational-recreational unit or chapel.

Your Home Mission at Work Early Services Held in Simple Public School Setting

Iowa Project Makes Headway



Pastor Alfred Sorensen



Chronology

May 5, 1952. Regional Home Mission Council met in Des Moines, Iowa, to discuss possibilities of a church bordering Waterloo and Cedar Falls, Iowa. Survey was made of 298 homes, with 31 volunteers.

September 7, 1952. First service conducted in a public school.

November 1952-March 1953. Services and pastoral work carried on by Grand View Seminary students.

March, 1953. Call extended to the Rev. Alfred Sorensen, of Chicago, and accepted.

June 1953. Home Mission Council acquires three lots, total 300 feet by 300 feet, at Pleasant Drive and Willow Lane.

June 7, 1953. Installation of Pastor Alfred Sorensen.

November 29, 1953. Congregation was organized, with a dozen families as charter members.

January 8, 1954. Constitution adopted.

August 12, 1954. St. Paul congregation accepted into the Synod at 77th Convention.

September 19, 1954. Parsonage dedicated — with guests from Iowa District Convention present.

October 17, 1954. Ground breaking ceremony, with Pastor Holger Nielsen, vice president of the Synod, officiating.

January 22, 1955. Laying of the cornerstone.

May 22, 1955. Last service held in Cedar Heights Public School Gymnasium.

May 29, 1955. First services held in the still unfinished church. This was Pentecost and fourteen members were added this day.

July 24, 1955. Dedication of the new chapel.



First services were conducted here September 7, 1952 by Pastor H. O. Nielsen. Student pastors (Robert Fallgatter, Calvin Rossman) carried on the work later. Also see cover.

Eternity—A Glistening Jewel

MATTHEW 5:1-12

Each convention day opens with an hour's devotional preparation. Pastor Harold E. Olsen delivered this message (here condensed) the first day, August 10, at Kimballton. His former pastorates include Marinette, Wisconsin, and Menominee, Michigan, and at present he lives in Junction City, Oregon.

MANY passages in Holy Scripture stand out to the individual reader. A few stand out to all who read the divinely inspired book. The passage given above is one of the latter and we recognize it immediately as belonging to that portion of Holy Scripture that we have learned to call The Sermon on the Mount. We are not so impressed by the same passage in the gospel according to Luke possibly because it is not so well arranged in that gospel and because it does not head a section nearly so large as that which appears in Matthew's gospel.

A comparison of the two accounts does impress us, however, with the fact that what we have learned to call The Sermon on the Mount is in reality more than one sermon — that possibly the words are words of several, even many, sermons. It is believed that the Beatitudes were given on the same occasion, but even a careful examination of them alone suggests a number of sermons, one sentence sermons — if you please, each with a seed to be sown in the hearts of men that they may come into the sphere of eternal life.

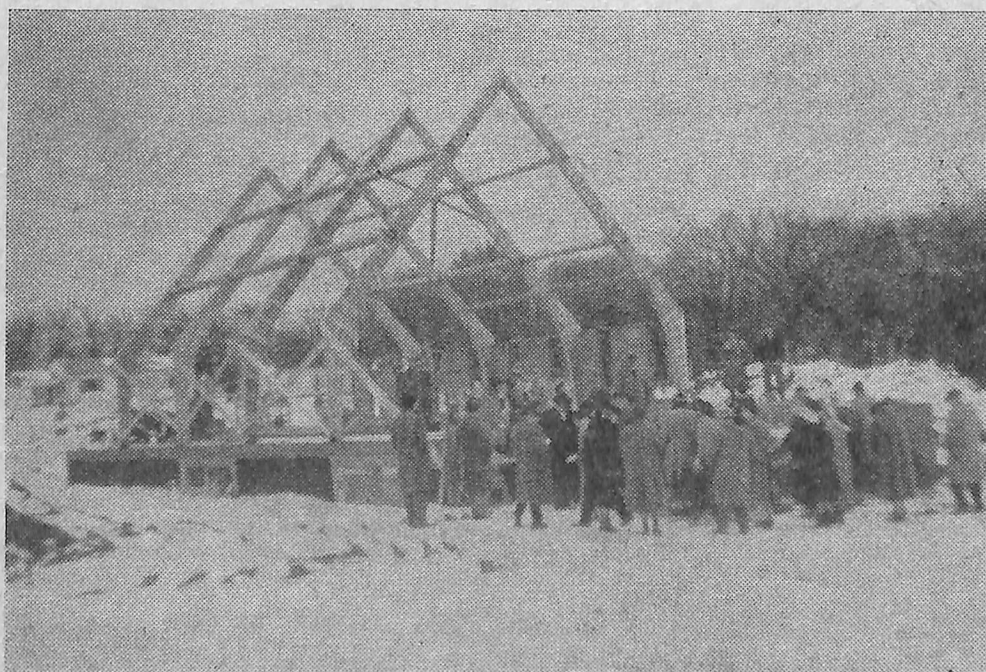
In the brief portion of the Sermon on the Mount called the Beatitudes there are no less than seven such seeds and with a little stretch of the imagination it may be increased to ten seeds which the Master would sow in the hearts of men.

The first of these suggests the thought that by comparison God's riches are so much greater than Human possessions, spiritual or otherwise. The second Beatitudes may be suggestive of Divine consolation where human loss has been sustained. And if we skip down to one of the last of the series, we see that it is suggestive of a sermon which might be called "Peace, God's Purpose."

The Sermon on the Mount reveals eternity as a glistening jewel emitting divine love from every angle. Embodying eternity it emits eternity with its purposes and promises from whatever angle we are forced to look upon it. The man on his death bed in spite of his sufferings may see that eternity with all its love. The true martyr of the faith may see it. The gentlemanly old saint may see it. The regenerate statesman may see it. Eternity is a divine and glistening jewel ground so precisely that it sends forth its divine purposes and promises so that none shall be without it. The Master would reveal that fact and He has done so in the beloved words which have been placed compactly into three chapters of Matthew's gospel which we have learned to call The Sermon on the Mount.

The gospel writers are not in complete agreement as to who heard these sparkling truths concerning eternity. One says twelve of the disciples; another says only four. In any case some of those whom the Master later instructed to go into all the world to make disciples, to teach and to baptize were present and this suggests a second significance for these words. In addition to presenting eternity as a glistening jewel, these words would suggest that those who are recipients of eternity likewise display that fact in a jewel-like fashion.

There were those in Jesus' day who displayed eternal characteristics, even as there are in our own day. There were the philanthropists, the charity workers and the prophets of righteousness. And yet many were and are like the cheap imitation jewel which emits light because of a silver veneer and then does not radiate the light from whatever angle the world observes. Many have been the



Cornerstone laying in Cedarloo, Pastor C. A. Stub, District President, officiating. Church and parsonage have now been completed.

philanthropists who have failed to emit the light of eternity because their sole eternal virtue was giving away money that was largely in excess of a comfortable living. Likewise there have been many a charity worker who has failed to send out an eternal ray of light because he failed in humility. And many there have been who have proclaimed the virtues of life and have failed in radiating eternity because good works were absent.

Our Master would have us radiate the eternity within us from all the various avenues from which the longing world observes. It is not enough that we give testimony of one or two eternal virtues; we do not radiate unless eternity can be seen in us in every aspect of life. We do not radiate eternity unless its jewel-like glistening can be seen through us.

Of course, we cannot earn eternity nor is this the reason that we should cultivate our eternal characteristics. Eternity is a gift that we have or have turned down. The effort requested is not an effort to gain eternity; it is an effort to suppress those things which would tend to obscure the light of eternity from those who would see it in us.



Pastor Harold Olsen

We are reminded of the Table of Virtues which Benjamin Franklin established for his life. Franklin wanted his virtues to be brought out and that the contrary characteristics should be brought into subjectivity. Beginning with Patience, Franklin worked with this virtue until he felt that it had been brought forward in his life and then on to the next and so forth. When he had finished the thirteen he had listed he began again from the beginning because he felt that it was an endless job. In like manner Christ would have us labor on the eternal virtues within us.

The world in Jesus' day waited for eternity. It came to them. It came as a glistening jewel through Christ. The world today also waits for eternity. It waits for it to be revealed by the Sons of God as the same glistening jewel so that it may be seen in whatever the circumstance of life man may find himself in.

Eternity is a glistening jewel revealed by Christ and to be revealed by his heirs in faith.

Harold E. Olsen, Pastor.
Faith Lutheran Church.
Junction City, Oregon.

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District IV Convention

The annual convention of District IV of the American Evangelical Lutheran Church will be held at Newell, Iowa, September 23-25. The meetings begin Friday at 2 p. m.

All congregations are urged to send as many delegates as possible — one for every 50 voting members of the congregation.

May I also ask all officers of the District and committee representatives to be ready to report on their activities.

C. A. Stub, District President.
Route 4, Cedar Falls, Iowa.

Nain Lutheran Church of District IV extends a cordial invitation to pastors, delegates and friends to attend the annual convention, September 23 to 25. Please register in advance with one of the following:

Viggo Jensen, President.
Newell, Iowa.
Herluf Pedersen, Secretary.
Newell, Iowa.
Rev. Charles Terrell,
Newell, Iowa.

PROGRAM

Friday, September 23

2:00 p. m.—Opening Devotions, Rev. H. O. Nielsen
3:00 p. m.—Coffee
3:15 p. m.—Business Session
6:00 p. m.—Supper
8:00 p. m.—Worship Service, Rev. Richard H. Sorensen

Saturday, September 24

9:00 a. m.—Opening Devotions, Rev. Gudmund Petersen
9:45 a. m.—Business Session
12 Noon—Dinner
1:45 p. m.—Business Session
3:00 p. m.—Coffee
6:00 p. m.—Supper
7:00 p. m.—WMS Business Session
8:00 p. m.—WMS Meeting, Speaker: Rev. Sedoris McCartney

Sunday, September 25

9:00 a. m.—Danish Service, Rev. Holger Strandskov
10:30 a. m.—Children's Service, Rev. Alfred E. Sorensen
10:30 a. m.—English Service, Sermon: Rev. A. C. Kildegaard
Communion: Rev. C. A. Stub
12 Noon—Dinner
2:30 p. m.—Address by Dr. Ernest D. Nielsen
6:00 p. m.—Supper
7:30 p. m.—Closing Meeting, Rev. Howard Christensen
Greetings

District V Convention

District V Convention will be held at St. Peder's Church in Minneapolis on October 14, 15, and 16. The meeting will open Friday afternoon at 2 o'clock and close about 5:30 Sunday afternoon. Delegates are requested to bring a report of the work and activities in their respective congregations during the past year. Each congregation is permitted to send one delegate for each 25 voting members. We hope that all the congregations within our district may be well represented at this meeting.

Harold Petersen,
District V President.

Members of the churches of District V and friends are most cordially invited to participate in the District Convention to be held at St. Peder's Church in Minneapolis, October 14-16. Registration may be addressed to Miss Kathryn Nielsen, 4609-43rd Ave. So., Minneapolis 6, Minnesota, or to the pastor, Ottar S. Jorgensen, 3149-35th Avenue South, Minneapolis 6, Minnesota.

We would be pleased to have your enrollment one week prior to the convening of the convention.

For St. Peder's Church,

Ottar S. Jorgensen, Pastor.
Olaf R. Juhl, President.

They Seek a Place in Life

Henriette Lund

LUTHERANS in Montana are taking an active interest in the future of the American Indian tribes who live in the Treasure State — the Blackfeet, Salish and Kootenai (Flathead), Cree, Crow, Sioux, Assiniboin, Gros Ventre and Chippewa.

Representatives of these tribes and Montanans interested in Indians took part in a recent Institute on Indian Affairs at the University of Montana in Missoula. This institute is affiliated with the Montana Committee on Human Relations, of which Dr. Harold Tascher of the University is president and the Rev. Rolf Normann of the Lutheran Welfare Society in Montana is vice president.

For three full days the Indians and non-Indians talked about human needs and practical ways of meeting these needs. Indian mothers and fathers spoke freely about "feelings inside of people," about ambitions for their children, the need for good health, training and jobs and about wanting to belong in this land (which, they didn't say, once belonged to them!)

"We know what hunger for food is," they said simply, "but it is not as bad as hunger for a place in life."

This was no usual gathering. Words we are told, are the bridges we walk across to get to people. Here university presidents, lawyers, missionaries, executives of state and voluntary organizations, long-haired tribal councilmen, blanketed women and alert youth crossed bridges into each other's lives. Many were surprised at what they learned.

There was hushed silence when the venerable old Flathead chief, Charlot, rose to speak. Time was running out for him and he had much on his mind. One sensed in this man the power of the human being and the loneliness and frustration of a defeated and bewildered people. In the soft musical words of his native language he admonished his full-blood brothers not to be crushed by the white man's lack of understanding of them, nor even to lose their identity among "blue-eyed Indians" (mixed bloods). With dignity he pointed out that the Indians can hold up their heads unashamed, the Flatheads alone having given the government millions of acres of land — for it was not the government that had given the land to Indians.

Miss Lund, whose origins are in West Denmark, Wisconsin, has spent 12 years with the Division of Welfare, NLC. This summer she has studied occupational therapy at a Mexican university, and now will go to Tanganyika, East Africa, to study and write about the work of the NLC Commission on Younger Churches and Orphaned Missions. She is a specialist on American Indians.

The old patriarch shook his head sadly as the report given by the Rev. Rolf Normann was interpreted to him. Normann was the study director of the group of 40 citizens who had visited the Fort Peck Reservation to study its problems at first hand. This was a centure of the Committee on Human Relations and had wide implications for the 3,400 Assiniboin and Sioux, 1,200 of whom are full bloods, who live on this reservation.

The report showed need for better child care, health protection, social services, sanitation, education, work opportunities, and spiritual development and better ways to inform people of Montana about the situation of the Indians. There were families who lived in sub-standard homes "chinked with adobe and straw, some with dirt floors and many without water wells."

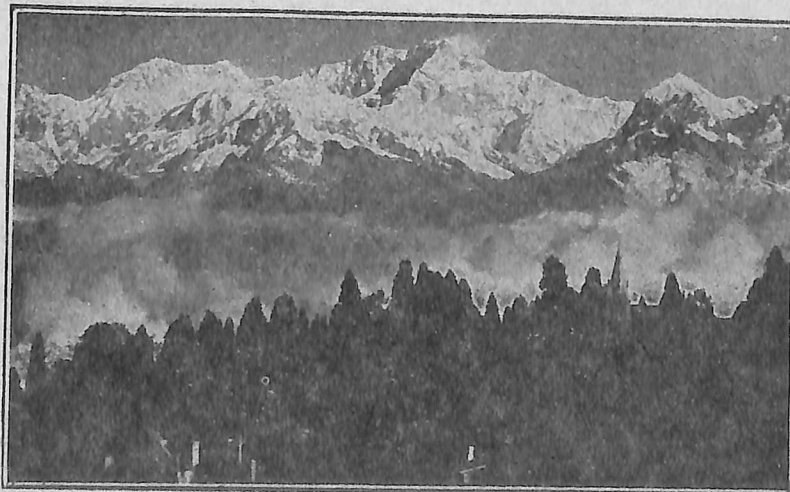
The study group reported discrimination against Indians in churches as elsewhere. The lay people must show that they really believe in equality of all people There should be more of an attempt on the part of the church to understand Indian culture and to use modern methods of social work in helping the people to work out their problems."

There was the plight of the 25,000 Crees who live as outcasts on Hill 57 at Great Falls and in slum areas, who fare even worse. This is the tribe, by the way, for whom the United Lutheran Church conducts the Rocky Boy Mission.

Mr. Normann's report was shocking and was felt to be a disgrace to the American people. The Indian delegation, however, did not want to dwell on its misery but they were intent on considering new approaches.

Discussion centered around developing existing resources on reservations, bringing in new industries and gearing state health and welfare services to the needs of this minority group. It was important, too, to find ways of preserving values and traditions and arts and crafts passed from generation to generation, which will soon die out if serious heed thereto is not given.

Assimilations, it was pointed out does not mean that an Indian stops being an Indian any more than a Dane or a German gives up his culture when he becomes part of the American stream of



life. One must never forget this. To know is to understand. "Honorship," for instance, is more valuable to an Indian than "ownership."

"The human resources among American Indians are unexcelled anywhere," said one Montanan pioneer, Mrs. J. Erickson. "We must be given responsibility before we can accept responsibility," added Mrs. Yellow Tail.

At the social gatherings in the evenings — which included an elk barbecue — the Indian was no longer the defeated, bewildered person, but the colorful, agile, brilliantly costumed artist in rhythmic tribal dances singing and story telling. Among the thrilling performances offered were those of the Crows, who had just returned from a European and African tour as goodwill ambassadors of the Department of State. They spoke proudly of experiences such as their reception by royalty in Norway and their adoption of the Crown Prince into the Crow Tribe.

While the institute was in session, another was being held at the University of Minnesota for the third year. It is encouraging to note that the first institute originated at the suggestion of the Division of Welfare, National Lutheran Council.

The purpose of the institutes is to develop more effective relationships and advanced understanding between persons, groups and communities, especially as regards Indians and non-Indians and to study basic problems relating to delinquency, alcoholism, law and order, and inadequate income. The institutes encourage leadership of local community groups and active participation of the Indians. The latter have too long been left out of planning for their welfare. The plan has attracted attention far and wide and is stimulating definite talk about a "Point 9 Program" right here in the United States.

The possibility of reservation termination was largely the motivation back of this development. At such time as the Indians themselves believe they are ready for a termination of government services, there must be intelligent support of constructive social legislation on the part of all of us. Not only must the Indian be prepared for this great change but the white man likewise. The Church has a special contribution to make, for increasing numbers of Indian families will be coming as strangers into cities and towns.

It is wonderful to have occasions such as this to think of people as people, not white or Indian, professional or unskilled laborers, but as persons with human and spiritual values. And to learn something about the enduring qualities of people by having seen Little Dog on the Blackfoot Reservation walk up a steep path each morning for his daily worship. Or to have heard the old story of Powhatan from Forrest Stone — himself a great and loyal leader of the Indians. Powhatan was grieving over the loss of his daughter, Pocahontas and said to the white men:

"I am an old man and must soon die. Other leaders must serve in my place. I wish their experience was equal to mine and that your love to us might not be less than ours to you. Why should you take by force that which you can get by love? Why do you destroy us who have provided you with corn and other food when you were starving? We could deny you of our

Convention Announcement District IX

The annual convention of District IX, AELC will be held at Wilbur, Washington, on Saturday and Sunday, September 24 and 25. The theme will be "I Will Build My Church." The meetings will begin promptly at 9 a. m., on Saturday.

Each congregation is requested to send one delegate for every 20 voting members or fraction thereof. It is expected that the pastors of the district will be present.

We are coveting God's blessings upon the occasion and pray that our meeting may be to His glory and to the extension of His Kingdom in the Northwest.

Harold E. Olsen.
District President.

Trinity Lutheran Church, Wilbur, Washington, cordially invites all pastors and members of congregations in District IX to attend the annual convention September 24-25, 1955.

Registrations are to be sent to Mrs. B. S. Hansen, Wilbur, Washington, or Pastor Robert K. Fallgatter. In order to plan housing and meals, we must ask that all registrations be in by September 15.

Roderick W. Daniels, Pres.
Trinity Lutheran Church
Wilbur, Washington.
Robert K. Fallgatter, Pastor.

District IX Convention Schedule

THEME: "I WILL BUILD MY CHURCH"

Saturday, September 24

- 9:00 a. m.—Devotion Period, "The Church and Her Lord," Rev. John Pedersen, speaker
- 10:00 a. m.—Business
- 12 Noon—Dinner
- 1:00 p. m.—Business continued
- 3:00 p. m.—Coffee
- 3:30 p. m.—Panel by laymen, "The Church and Her Benevolences," Rev. Harold E. Olsen, moderator
- 4:30 p. m.—Free
- 6:00 p. m.—Supper
- 8:00 p. m.—Women's Missionary Society Meeting. "The Church and Her Women," Rev. Clayton Nielsen, Withee, Wisconsin, speaker

Sunday, September 25

- 11:00 a. m.—Morning Worship and Holy Communion. Sermon: "The Church and The Keys of the Kingdom," Rev. Jens C. Kjaer, speaker; Rev. Robert K. Fallgatter, liturgist
- 12:30 p. m.—Dinner
- 2:30 p. m.—District Guest "The Church and Her Mission," Rev. Clayton Nielsen
- 3:30 p. m.—Coffee
- 4:00 p. m.—Free
- 6:00 p. m.—Supper
- 8:00 p. m.—Lecture, "The Church in A World of Sin," Rev. Holger Andersen, speaker
- 9:00 p. m.—Farewell coffee

food and you would be hungry. Therefore I exhort you to peaceable councils."

What a heritage of strength this man must have passed on to his people.


Then one thinks of the inspiring words of the Rev. David Owl, a Cherokee Indian, in whose backyard there was a perennial mud hole which every spring produced a beautiful lily. "No matter how dark the outlook, man's humanity to man with God's grace will always blossom forth."

If a few Lutherans have helped to lift some shadows from a burdened people, it may inspire more of us to greater effort.

Highlights and Sidelights

From the Annual Convention

(Concluded)

T is a fact widely noted during the past decade or so in our synod that one of the areas in which our people lag behind other Lutheran bodies is in the general area of Christian stewardship. Usually the word stewardship is associated with people's willingness to give money, and it is in this sense — let us say it plainly — that we refer to the word here. This convention was notable for its lack of financial restraint. It is evident that our failings in the area of stewardship are beginning to shame us, and at long last we are awakening to our responsibilities. The familiar admonishment from 2nd Corinthians has been variously translated, but one of the most recent renders it: God loves a hilarious giver. The Greek word is very strong, and the word **hilarious** is as acceptable as the more familiar word **cheerful**. At any rate, the convention was one in which the whole subject of "cost" was given second or third place, and the concentration was upon "need." Pastor Robert Heide's morning message was sound and effective and strong, and sent us down from that worship convicted of our shortcomings but convinced of our responsibilities. The convention also had its usual quota of lighter moments and **faux pas**. It is a rare year when someone does not refer to our minister's school as the Grand View Cemetary; the young lady who was trapped into this slipup recovered with disarming charm, and her information, (about our second student from India), lost nothing by her bobble. Even funnier was the young Michigan pastor who stood up and objected to a point of discussion on the basis of a paragraph in "the Constitution" only to discover that he had been quoting from the Constitution of the ULCA! Another young pastor, (who has such a sense of the humorous that he will not mind my mentioning him by name), David T. Riley, of Canwood, Sask., Canada, gave us a light-hearted and serious-veined analysis of his people in Canwood, and said about us, as a Synod, that we are "happy Danes. And even when you are unhappy you look as though you will very soon be happy again." Pastor Riley's manner and presentation is captivating, though somewhat lacking in terminal facilities! We did enjoy his talk.

What with the wiring for huge ventilating fans, small oscillating fans, Klieg lights and coaxial cables for the TV, plus the microphones for the amplifying system, the front of the church somewhat resembled an engineering laboratory. So we almost hesitate to suggest one further item which we feel would be an improvement. The chair wisely, and according to past custom, required each delegate to come forward to a microphone before granting him the floor. Many people, probably, would get up to speak if they did not have to make the long conspicuous trek to the front of the church to get to the mike. Would it not be possible to use a small hand microphone with a long line attached which could

be carried by a volunteer runner from place to place on the floor for the convenience of delegates who wish to be heard?

The Convention recommended that in the future, delegates not be unalterably "instructed" by home congregations. There was a strong feeling of frustration on the part of some delegates who changed their minds during the convention on the affiliation issue but who could not change their vote. Some delegates were instructed against their own personal convictions, which is indeed an unfortunate situation. Of course, some congregations found it impossible to decide, one way or another. The most striking example of this occurred in the community of our largest congregation, Tyler, Minnesota. There, a vote was taken on affiliation, with the incredible result of 47 in favor, and 47 opposed!

Good news came from Grand View, where the registrar reported that enrollments for the coming year exceed by a wide margin the enrollment in the past on a like date. The new building program proposed by the Board reflected its confidence in the future of the school. New buildings are much needed. But will we not also need an increased endowment to maintain such fine new buildings? We cannot add campus facilities without expecting to budget for their upkeep. Delegates must bring home the message of Grand View so forcefully that the current drive will be met and surpassed. (One new building has already been added, the Y. P. S. home. The low purchase price of \$10,000 included the furnishings — tables, beds, suites, etc.)

By and large, the convention behaved in calm, Christian dignity, and the importance of the issues did not carry anyone away, (with one or two irascible exceptions.) It is possible to disagree without being disagreeable. Some delegates who were attending their first convention went home with a new respect for the problems, the tasks, and the life of our Synod. The convention is the great throbbing heart of our work; when it is strong in faith its impulse courses to the far reaches of our Synod. "And Jesus said unto them, . . . 'If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you.'" This was the spirit of the meeting. May God provide us the will, as he provides us the strength and the way.—V. H.

District I Convention

District I of the American Evangelical Lutheran Church will hold its annual convention at Perth Amboy, New Jersey, Friday, September 16 - Sunday, September 18. All congregations are asked to be represented by delegates in accordance with our constitution.

Viggo M. Hansen,
District President.

In accordance with above announcement St. Stephen's Danish Lutheran Church, 99 Broad St., Perth Amboy, New Jersey, invites delegates and friends to be our guests during the convention. Registration cards have been sent to all congregations. Please return them one week before the meeting.

K. Kirkegaard-Jensen, Pastor.
Harry Lund, President.

Paging Youth

American Evangelical Lutheran Youth Fellowship

Editor: Ted Thuesen, 55 Roseville Ave., Newark 7, N. J.

Please note that your editor has moved again. However, this time he will stay put for almost three months while he serves a period of internship as student pastor of Bethesda Evangelical Lutheran Church, Newark, New Jersey.

Paging?

Valdemar S. Jensen

"Paging Youth"? Those words gave me a vision of youth sitting and turning the pages of a book. I had to go and ask Webster. He says that to page may mean to act as a page. That helped some. But I don't know whether youth is being paged or is paging. I hope it is the latter. Of old, pages were young people waiting upon their elders. Thus, did they learn "to worship their king as their conscience and their conscience as their king." The old order changes; may this never change!

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

Why? Because:

Are to us but empty phrases
Our own people, our own land,
If to us these names are nothing
More than millions, mold and sand,
Then we waste our breath in speaking
Of God's kingdom's hills and vales,
Of God's people and his church.

What rouses young people to listen? Listen:

"Far off a solitary trumpet blew
And at the door the war-horse neighed."

Where is the audience of young people that would not raise their heads in anticipation on hearing this?

"Loud from its rocky caverns the deep-voiced
neighboring ocean speaks. And in accents dis-
consolate answers the wail of the forest."

And why will young people listen eagerly to these lines? Because they speak of the beauty of our human life.

Land and people; Home! These hills and valleys that my eyes have looked upon since before I can remember—they are mine. Mine with a much greater possessiveness than they are to him who merely holds the deed to the land.

We say and sing with sentiment: There's where the West begins. Yes, but here, here where I live, see, walk and work, here's where my love begins — love of land; love of people. And the souls of young people are not dead. They may not say to themselves:

"This is my own, my native land." It is not necessary for them to say it; they feel and know it.

That's where spiritual awakening begins. Paul knew: "It is not the spiritual which is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual." It is not the hills and vales of God's kingdom that are first; it is the hills and vales of father's farm, then of the neighbors' farms, then of Iowa or some other state, then of these United States. Love of eternal life is not first, but love of this life with its beauty in nature, its beauty in poetry, its beauty in the lives of men and women in history, its beauty in the one who is to be my mate.

These primitive loves are first. And they make me feel that this human life is a good life — a thousand times worth living. Make me feel that I want to keep on living. And then, then I am open for talk about life eternal. For:

No one ever wept for nuggets
Who ne'er saw the glit'ring gold,
And the remnants of God's image
Must for us a promise hold
If in us the scattered remnants
Gathered are again to be,
And we live the new-born man.

AELYF Doin's

Lake Michigan District — The District convention was held on July 2 during the Camp at Wells State Park near Menominee, Michigan. The following district officers were elected:

President—Ken Christopher, Dwight, Illinois.
Vice President—Russell Lincoln, Greenville, Mich.
Secretary—Annette Heusner, Marlette, Mich.
Treasurer—Karen Sorensen, Menominee, Mich.
Advisor—Rev. Paul Wikman, Chicago, Ill., (St. Stephen's).

The **Menominee, Michigan**, LYF volunteered to take over the editing and printing of **THE LUTHERAN LANTERN**, the district paper, for one year starting in October. For the past year it has been edited and printed by St. Stephen's LYF (Chicago), the group that started the project.

St. Stephen's LYF was asked to look for a possible camp and convention site near Chicago for next year.

Ringsted, Iowa—The LYF sponsored a family night on August 28. Included on the program were a talk by Anil Jha, organ selections by Rita Petersen, reports by the delegates to the Synod Convention, and a potluck lunch served by the youth advisors and mothers of LYF members. Student Pastor Carl Laurson from Grand View Seminary has been serving Ringsted during the summer months.

Trinity (Chicago)—An LYF outing was held at the Indiana Sand Dunes on July 17.

St. Stephen's (Chicago)—A Recreational Week-end was held August 5-7. Trinity, Dwight and Racine were also invited.

YOUTH NIGHT at the Annual Convention of the AELC, at Kimballton, Iowa, was held on Saturday evening, August 13. Dr. Charles Smith of the Divinity School of Drake University, Des Moines, Iowa, was the featured speaker. The president of AELYF,

(Continued on Page 12)

Our Women's Work

Editor

Mrs. Ellen Knudsen, 1033 South Tenth Street, Maywood, Illinois

1955-56 WMS Board

PRESIDENT: Miss Emilie Stockholm, 3320 W. Evergreen Ave., Chicago 51, Illinois.

VICE PRESIDENT: Mrs. Richard Jessen, 1700 E. 13th St., Des Moines, Iowa.

TREASURER: Mrs. Ove Nielsen, 3231 Fremont Ave. South, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

SECRETARY: Mrs. Alf Utoft, Luck, Wisconsin.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY: Mrs. Arnold Sorensen, Askov, Minnesota.

HONORARY PRESIDENT: Mrs. Thos. Knudstrup, 345 3rd St., Manistee, Michigan.

In closing, I wish to express my thanks and appreciation to Mrs. Ida Egede for the good wishes she expressed to me in a letter informing me of my election. I am grateful for her offer to be of assistance to me and the Board at any time. We all acknowledge with sincere thanks, her ten years of fine leadership as president of WMS.

Sincerely,

Emilie Stockholm,
3320 W. Evergreen Ave.,
Chicago 51, Illinois.

Greetings from a Pastor's Wife

Many of our pastors serve two churches, but few of them serve two churches only three miles apart and located in two different states. This is our situation in Marinette, Wisconsin, and Menominee, Michigan.

The Ladies' Aid of Memorial Lutheran Church, Marinette, is a small group with approximately fifteen members. The primary function of this group is to help the church in its program. However, they also manage to give support to projects outside the local area. The Ladies' Aid meets the first Wednesday of each month. Recently the group decided to have a special money raising project every month. Aside from giving the church financial help the ladies also place flowers on the altar for every church service.

The Women's League of Bethany Evangelical Lutheran Church, Menominee, is somewhat larger than the Ladies' Aid. The League has a membership of approximately twenty-five members. This group is exceptionally active. The past year it gave a slide projector and screen to the Sunday School, one hundred dollars to the Seminary Building Fund, a communion goblet to the church, and paid one dollar to the Church Building Fund for every two dollars contributed by the church. In addition to this it supports other local projects as well as lending support to the work of the mission field. Each spring the League sponsors a non-profit Mother-Daughter Banquet. This spring they served more than seventy guests at the banquet.

Last spring four ladies from the Women's League participated in the Women's Retreat at Danebod. One lady from the Ladies' Aid participated in the last few days of the Retreat. From all indications there will be a good representation from here next year.

This summer it has been necessary to keep the clocks in the parsonage on two different times. Menominee, Michigan, went on fast time while Marinette did not. As a result of this change of time church service began in Menominee at 8:30 a. m. and in Marinette at 9 a. m. — yet there was an hour and a half between the starting time of the two services.

As I look back on my first year as a pastor's wife I discover that I have been confronted with many challenging experiences. Some of them I have faced rather despairingly while others have been a source of enrichment.

Mrs. Ivan Nielsen.

If we work upon marble, it will perish; if we work upon brass, time will efface it; if we rear temples, they will crumble into dust; but if we work upon immortal minds, if we imbue them with principles, with the just fear of God and love of our fellow men, we engrave on those tablets something that will brighten to all eternity.

—Daniel Webster.

Greetings to the Church Women of AELC

How privileged we are to be church women — to be working members in the great fellowship of the Christian church! As church women we are constantly challenged to serve in His Kingdom. All our talents, great or small, can be put to use. We can serve in all areas of church work, each task being important to the ultimate results.

As I begin my work as president of the WMS Board, I do so in humility, being fully aware that there are scores of women in WMS, who are better qualified than I for this task. The officers of WMS are elected to serve the general membership. We are ready to do so, trusting that our Master, Whom we all serve, will give us guidance and wisdom to do so, according to His Will.

The success of our organization depends on the efforts of the individual members, which should be coordinated through the guidance of the officers. Our officers are not the Women's Mission Society of AELC. You, the individual church woman of AELC, constitute our membership. You are the Women's Mission Society of AELC. We are challenging you to act, and to recognize the importance of your worth to WMS. We need the coordinated efforts of each member to be truly successful in carrying out our projects.

Have you ever given much thought to the purpose, the organization, and the policies of WMS? May we suggest that each one of us studies and analyzes the constitution and rules of WMS? These were published in the previous Lutheran Tidings. Then as we meet in groups, in homes, at Ladies' Aid meetings, or at District Conventions, discuss these matters thoroughly. Formulate a written statement of the findings and send it to the WMS Board. Cooperation in this matter will be of great value to us in executing our duties as your officers. We're anticipating a good response to this appeal. Your opinions are important.

In reading the minutes of the WMS annual meeting at Kimballton, we note that we fell \$2,000 short of our goal for the Seminary Project last year. Since the Grand View Seminary cannot conveniently appropriate extra funds at this time, in preparation for the school year, it would seem advisable to concentrate on this project immediately.

Please bring this matter before your local groups at your very next meeting. A contribution of approximately \$20.00 from each of our women's groups will bring in the \$2,000. I believe we can have this obligation cleared by November 1st. Further delay only handicaps the work of our seminary. So, let's do it now!

Eben-Ezer Lutheran Home and Hospital

Eben-Ezer Sunday — the 13th Sunday after Trinity, September 4 reminds us that a greeting from here is overdue.

With the wonderful text of that Sunday in mind we are thankful to God and to you fellow-workers that we can look back upon a year in which we every day have been able to help the Good Samaritan take care of those He brought to our Home. We are happy to know that church groups are building homes for for the same cause in other parts of our nation. But with 70 guests looking to us daily for help to body and soul, and with many waiting for room — 20 appeals since June 1 — we pray that God will place it upon the hearts of our friends to help speed the day that we make room for more of those waiting.

It is by looking back and remembering the many tokens of God's grace that we take courage to look forward to solve the many problems that lie ahead and meet the need that confronts us daily. Many, many friends have remembered us with gifts and encouraging letters. During the year we saw the re-decoration of much of the good old Home "Bethesda" — where most of our sick people live — especially the sitting hall that has become far too small for our "family." We got a better sound-system so that all three floors as well as the hospital can share what takes place in church and chapter house. Our church organ underwent a much needed rebuilding. Our boilers and heating system were overhauled, so that nobody need feel cold when the sudden storms from the north appear; and water from the city has replaced the more expensive softener system. A modern incinerator should also improve our working conditions. All these things, and more of them, are needed to relieve the physical burdens of our guests. But our greatest privilege is the unnumbered opportunities given to share the Gospel with one another in Church, Home and Hospital alike, thereby trying to live up to our inheritance: to keep Eben-Ezer as a Church-Home.

Our Board of Trustees will at the annual meeting — October 14-16, discuss the future planning for the Madsen Memorial Nursing Home, for which we have received only about 15 per cent of the cost. But since we will continue to make use of "Bethesda" for aged and sick people as well as for making a home for the Sisters, we hope and pray, that some of our friends will help us to improve that Home.

We need in the very near future: 1) An **expansion** of the **sitting room** on first floor and of the dining room in the basement (estimated cost, \$4,500). 2) An **elevator** to replace the old winding tower steps that have been a hardship for guests, Sisters and nurses alike. Will you be so kind as to give that immediate need a thought on **Eben-Ezer Sunday** and the coming days?

God who gave us the name: Eben-Ezer. "Hitherto the Lord has helped," will also give us "a future and a hope." Jer. 29:11.

Contributions may be sent through the synodical treasurer or to

**Rev. and Mrs. Victor Bagger
and the Sisters.**

District VIII Fall Meeting

September 29 — October 2

The Fall meeting for the members and friends of the congregations in District VIII will be held in Solvang, California, beginning with an opening service the evening of September 29th and closing Sunday afternoon, October 2nd.

Our guest speaker this year will be Pastor Marius Krog of Omaha, Nebraska. Pastors of the district will also speak. This is a fellowship meeting and aside from the annual meeting of the Solvang Lutheran Home, which will be held on Friday, September 30th, there will be no business meetings. We hope that many will come for these days to share in the fellowship.

Please register early. A limited number of rooms are available at Atterdag College for a nominal charge. Guests will also be housed in private homes. Meals will be served by the ladies of Bethania Church. Enrollments should be sent to Mrs. Arne Iversen, Atterdag College, Solvang, Calif. Please signify whether or not you wish rooms at Atterdag.

A. E. Farstrup, Dist. Pres.

District VII Convention

September 30, October 1 and 2, 1955

The annual convention of District VII of the AELC will be held at Brush, Colorado, on September 30, October 1 and 2, 1955. The meeting will begin on Friday afternoon at 3:30 with a discussion about some phase of our church work. We urge all delegates and friends to be there by that time.

Each congregation is entitled to send one delegate for every ten voting members. We hope there will be full representation from all the congregations. One delegate from each group should be prepared to present a written report to the convention at some time on Saturday, concerning the life and work in the local congregation.

All registrations should be sent to Pastor Steven Mogens, 810 N. Carson Street, or to Mr. Leo Mathiasen, 421 Carson Street, Brush, Colorado, as soon as possible.

Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Congregation at Brush, Colorado, is anxious to have as many as possible from our congregations come to the convention and stands ready to serve and to share with us the best they have. You are cordially invited.

Leo Mathiasen, President
Bethlehem Lutheran Church
Brush, Colorado.

Harris A. Jespersen, President.
AELC District VII
Marquette, Nebraska.

District VI Convention

Lake Norden, South Dakota

September 23-25

PROGRAM

Friday, September 23

8:00 p. m.—Opening Service, Rev. Walter Brown

Saturday, September 24

9:00 a. m.—Bible Hour, Rev. Harold Ibsen

10:00 a. m.—Business Session

2:00 p. m.—Business Session Continued

7:00 p. m.—Women's Mission Society Meeting, "The Future of Grand View College", Mr. Harry Jensen

Sunday, September 25

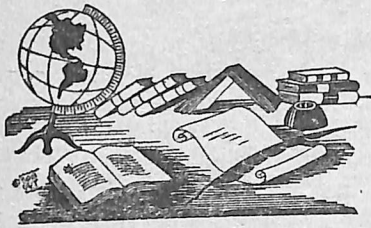
10:00 a. m.—Installation Service, Rev. Enok Mortensen

Sermon by Rev. John Enselmann

Holy Communion Service, Rev. Enok Mortensen

2:00 p. m.—Address by Dr. Alfred Jensen

3:30 p. m.—Closing Meeting



OPINION AND COMMENT

More on Unity

As we recall, the one unity question at our Convention on which there was complete agreement was the Minneapolis proposal, (that we discuss unity with ULCA and Augustana). If there were any hands raised voting in objection, we could not see them from where we sat in the left wing. It is difficult to draw conclusions from this vote, but we like to think that it shows one thing: We in our Synod are not **isolationist minded**. When one reads the record of the June convention of the Augustana Synod, one sees a remarkable parallel. Four hundred delegates there rose to their feet in favor of a series of unity resolutions, while only five delegates stood in opposition to them. It was Augustana, it will be remembered, that withdrew from the "four-way" merger of other NLC church bodies, thereby risking for themselves the "isolationist" label. That this label was undeserved seems established by the result of Augustana's decisive vote. That the label is undeserved for us also seems now well established. It would seem that it never was a valid accusation, since our participation in joint endeavors in LWR, as well as membership in the National Lutheran Council, and the controversial World Council of Churches, are hardly isolationist tendencies. Dr. E. E. Ryden, editor of Augustana's LUTHERAN COMPANION recently wrote a very true thing when he advised: It is "most important to unify our own household of faith, to make sure Augustana is unified." (There are problems facing the two great bodies which will be gravely difficult. For example, some ULCA pastors are Masons; historically, Augustana has been opposed to membership in secret orders.) We are not "isolationist" or sectarian in the sense that our doctrinal difficulties set us apart as being eccentric; indeed, this is one of the things we have in **common** with other Lutheran bodies.

The Martin Luther Film

It recently was announced by Lutheran Church Productions, Inc., that complete copies of the "Martin Luther" film may now be purchased by private groups for slightly more than the print cost: \$150. No copies of the film will be available for rental, and the "introductory trial offer" for buying the film will be guaranteed only through November. We think the Synod ought to buy a copy or two and make it available to churches and church organizations. Perhaps it could be handled through the Board of Parish Education.

A Bach Film ?

Louis de Rochemont Associates of New York is now researching the possibility of making a story of Johann Sebastian Bach, the great German organist and composer, the subject of its next film for Lutheran Church Productions. A great portion of Bach's music was composed for Lutheran church worship, and he is recognized as the father of modern music, the first of the three great "B's," (with Beethoven and Brahms). There are also some wonderfully dramatic elements in the career of this artistic giant, and extraordinary human interest values. Bach was born in Eisenach 270 years ago, was orphaned early, and ruined his eyes copying manuscripts of music by moonlight. He had about twenty children, most of whom died young. He had a passion for the music of the Dane, Buxtehude, and one time walked fifty miles to hear him play. At Leipzig, where he composed most of his sacred music, he was court musician to Prince Leopold; later, to the Duke of Weissenfels, the King of Poland, and the Elector of Saxony. The year before he died (1749) two eye operations left him totally blind and destroyed his vigour. But within twelve months, his sight was suddenly restored. A week or so later, a seizure of apoplexy killed him. His rise to the position and fame due him has been quite recent, and really began when another great Lutheran, Mendelssohn, took up his cause in 1829. An enormous volume of work survives him — passions, concerti, a "coffee-contata" which was a protest against excessive use of the beverage (!), as well as other secular and many sacred contatas, piano inventions, overtures, toccatas, fugues, etc. His life is good material for a human and inspiring story-telling, and we hope the film will be made. It will be a public service.

U. S. Pays the Freight

Many people like to give to charities, to voluntary agencies, and to social relief work of many kinds but deplore that such a large percentage of their gift goes into "overhead." Recently Congress passed a fifteen million dollar appropriation which will pay the freight costs on relief shipments by such agencies as Lutheran World Relief. LWR has, since 1948, received over two million dollars from the government as reimbursement for relief supplies shipments to Germany, Austria, France, Korea, etc. During the recent session of Congress, this generous policy had been threatened; the House voted to cut the amounts. Largely through the efforts of Senator Hubert Humphrey, (Minn.), the full amounts were restored. It is good to know that this policy will keep "overhead" costs, administrative and distributive costs, at a minimum.

Helpful Preaching

Preachers should try to preach as helpfully as they can, of course. Sometimes it seems they are too helpful. Their parishioners do not feel the need to return again for many weeks.

PAGING YOUTH AELYF DOIN'S

(Continued from Page 8)

Lavern Larkowski, and Anil Jha also spoke. The Kimballton Youth Choir provided special music. The meeting was followed by folk-dancing on the church lawn.

Great Plains District Camp and Convention A Report by Mary Jo Christensen, Vice President.

The Great Plains District of AELYF held its camp and convention at Nysted, Nebraska, August 1 through 7.

The societies represented included Davey, Cordova, Kronborg, Nysted and Omaha. Cozad, Nebraska and Denmark, Kansas, were also represented by their pastors, Thorvald Hansen and Willard Garred, respectively. Pastor Arnold Knudsen and Pastor Harris Jespersen were also present.

Anil Jha was our special guest this year. He certainly added spice to our week of camp by telling about his country, India, and by helping our cook prepare an Indian dish for one of our meals. I'm sure that we all enjoyed his presence very much. He played a very important part in the success of the camp.

Our theme this year was "GROWING TOWARD SPIRITUAL HAPPINESS." Our discussions on this topic proved to be interesting and inspiring.

Our crafts included wood-working, glass etching, leather tooling, and film-developing. We also had many games of volley-ball, baseball, and badminton to add spark to the schedule.

On Saturday morning we held our convention. Topics discussed included PAGING YOUTH, Operation India, and next year's work-week-end. We voted to send \$50 to Operation India and we also have our next work-week-end pretty well underway. **Our election resulted in the following new officers: Karen Andersen, President; Elaine Jensen, Secretary; and Carol Ann Beyer, Fifth Member of Board.**

Following this meeting we went down to the Loup River for a picnic lunch. Our banquet was held on Saturday evening.

On Sunday morning we all attended the worship and communion service conducted by Pastor Arnold Knudsen and Pastor Thorvald Hansen, in the Nysted Church.

We, of the board, sincerely hope that everyone went home with a better understanding of God and a feeling of responsibility to God and to his world.

All these somberly moral people whose characteristic is renunciation completely forget what is essential. It is not morality, however indispensable and respectable that is . . . The essential is the joy, the splendor, the magnificence of each man, of all men. Virtue is only a means. The essential is life — splendid life. There is no greater mistake than to imagine the Eternal looking with a pleased smile at these pale little virtues. What the Eternal loves is life — beautiful, powerful, intense — and everything which can strengthen it, make it last in the world, strong and active.

—Pierre Ceresole.

Prayer

O FATHER GOD, make us brave, so brave that none may know that we have sorrow. Help us to be of a good courage, neither afraid of the future nor dismayed at the present. Make us so to conquer sorrow that it may be lost in a deeper joy and an ever-abiding peace. Help us to straighten after pain as a tree straightens after rain, shining and lovely again.

May we face the world with eyes quiet with the reflection of a quiet soul and with a spirit peaceful with the willing acknowledgment that Thy way is wise. Grant that in quietness and confidence may be our strength.

Dear Father, we thank Thee that in the past when we have known sorrow Thou in Thy great kindness and love hast given not only relief but quiet joy and peace. We thank Thee that through the experience of Thy help in the past there is a deep assurance that there need be no anxiety for the present. Help us in the darkness of our sorrow to keep our sight, help us to see aright, to see that out of the dark comes light. God make us brave. Amen.

—Constance Rumbough.

District III Convention

The District convention of District III of the American Evangelical Lutheran Church will be held at the Danish Evangelical Lutheran Trinity Church, Francisco and Cortez Street, Chicago, Illinois, September 23rd, 24th and 25th.

Rev. Eilert C. Nielsen.
District President.

In accordance with the above announcement a cordial invitation is extended to the congregations, pastors and friends of District III to be our guests during the District convention.

The Danish Evangelical Lutheran Trinity Church,

Folkvar Knudsen, President.
Erik K. Moller, Pastor.

Please send all registrations to: Miss Margrethe Thomsen, 4836 West Ferdinand Street, Chicago 44, Illinois, or Pastor Erik K. Moller, 2846 Cortez Street, Chicago 22, Illinois, on or before September 20th, 1955.

CONVENTION PROGRAM

Friday, September 23

8:00 p. m.—Opening Service, Rev. Robert S. Heide

Saturday, September 24

9:00 a. m.—Morning Devotion, Rev. Marvin Nygaard

9:30 a. m.—Business Meeting

1:30 p. m.—Business Meeting Resumed

7:00 p. m.—Women's Mission Society

8:15 p. m.—Young People's Meeting, Rev. Ivan Nielsen

Sunday, September 25

10:30 a. m.—Worship Service and Holy Communion

Rev. Eilert C. Nielsen and Rev. Erik Moller

2:30 p. m.—Rev. Paul Wikman and Dr. Johannes Knudsen

Coffee will be served at the Danish Lutheran Children's Home, 3320 Evergreen Avenue, after the meeting.

Carl Peter Højbjerg

It is indeed fitting that the remains of Højbjerg should be buried at Nysted, Nebraska. There, I believe, he spent some of his best, and most difficult years.

To my mind he was the great teacher. During my many years in colleges and university, he was easily one of the greatest I met.

Permit me to thank the people who have contributed toward the monument. May I especially thank Rev. Enok Mortensen who wrote the inscription, and Rev. Harris Jespersen and Mr. T. S. Hermansen who made the necessary practical arrangements.

Alfred C. Nielsen.

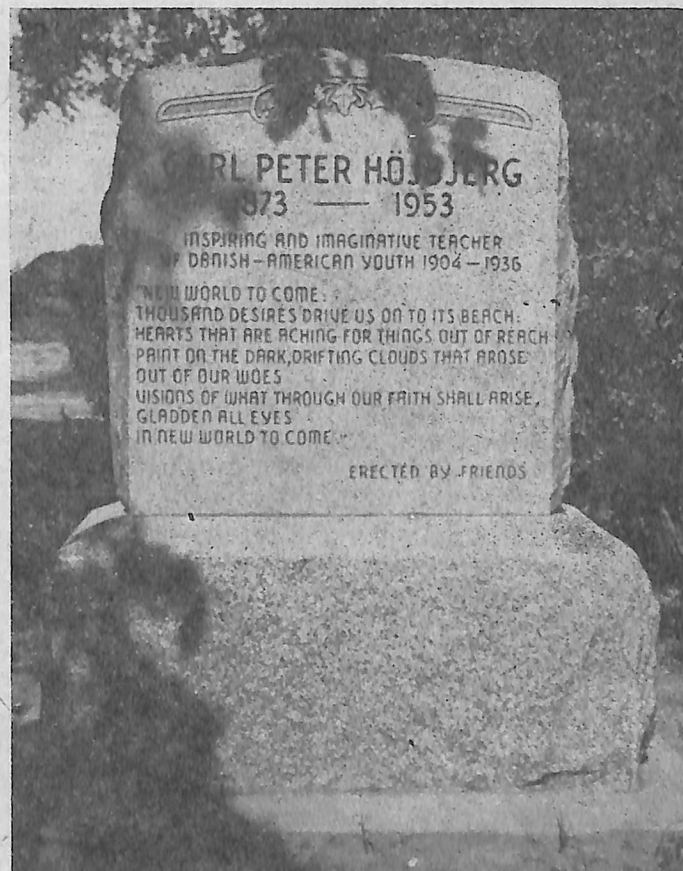
CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE C. P. HØJBJERG MONUMENT

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Nissen, Marquette, Nebraska	\$1.00
Mr. and Mrs. Nels Wodder, Marquette, Nebraska	1.00
Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Farstrup, Omaha, Nebraska	2.00
Rev. and Mrs. Marius Krog	5.00
Rev. Alfred Jensen, Des Moines, Iowa	2.00
George Christensen	1.00
Mr. and Mrs. R. Nussle, Chicago, Illinois	5.00
Mr. Paul Sloth, Chicago, Illinois	5.00
Mr. and Mrs. Viggo Jensen, Newell, Iowa	2.00
Mr. and Mrs. Herluf Bollesen, Grand Island, Nebraska	1.00
Mr. and Mrs. M. Grobeck, Omaha, Nebraska	2.00
Chris Sandahl, Omaha, Nebraska	1.00
Holger and Marietta Strandkov, Kimballton, Iowa	2.00
Mr. and Mrs. August Sorensen, Ringsted, Iowa	2.00
Mr. and Mrs. Johannes Pedersen, Alden, Minnesota	1.00
Carl Laursen, Des Moines, Iowa	2.00
Mrs. Julius Jensen, Ringsted, Iowa	1.00
Svend Marckmann, Pasadena, California	1.00
Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Due, Exeter, Nebraska	2.00
Mrs. Ida Madsen, Dannebrog, Nebraska	1.00
T. N. Hermansen, Des Moines, Ia.	1.00
Thora Strandkov, Brush, Colorado	2.00
Johanna Paulsen, Dannebrog, Neb.	1.00
Nanna Goodhope, Viborg, S. D.	1.00
Mrs. Fred Bisballe, Royal Oak, Michigan	2.00
Alfred Nielsen, Des Moines, Iowa	2.00
Mrs. L. C. Bundgaard, Withee, Wis.	2.00
Rev. and Mrs. Alfred Sorensen, Cedar Falls, Iowa	1.00
Mrs. Esther A. Nissen, Kimballton, Iowa	2.00
Mrs. L. C. Laursen, Enumclaw, Washington	1.00
Jens Christian Jensen, Pasadena, California	2.00
Carl Thomsen, Marquette, Nebr.	2.00
Niels Laundsen, Solvang, Calif.	2.00
Mrs. Betty L. Wiebe, Enumclaw, Washington	1.00
Rev. and Mrs. Ottar Jorgensen, Minneapolis, Minnesota	2.00

Rev. and Mrs. P. Rasmussen, Drumheller, Canada	2.00
P. S. Munk Pedersen, Washington, D. C.	2.00
Rev. and Mrs. J. J. Lerager, Brush, Colorado	2.00
Mr. and Mrs. Otto Larsen, Marquette, Nebraska	1.00
Mr. and Mrs. Arild Olsen, New York, New York	5.00
Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Bodtker, Portland, Oregon	2.00
Mr. and Mrs. Chris S. Jorgensen, Glen Ellyn, Illinois	4.00
Mr. and Mrs. Harold Jensen, Lexington, Kentucky	2.00
Mr. and Mrs. Guilford Nissen, Marquette, Nebraska	5.00
Mr. and Mrs. Chris Feddersen, Marquette, Nebraska	2.00
A Friend from Chicago, Illinois	2.00
Mr. and Mrs. Ove Jensen, Luck, Wisconsin	1.00
Mr. and Mrs. Chris Jacobsen, Marquette, Nebraska	5.00
Rev. and Mrs. A. E. Frost, Salinas, California	2.00
Mr. and Mrs. Jens Larsen, Poplar, Montana	5.00
Rev. and Mrs. Holger Nielsen, Cedar Falls, Iowa	1.00
Mr. and Mrs. Edward Jensen, Junction City, Oregon	1.00

Mr. and Mrs. Peter B. Petersen, Marquette, Nebraska	2.00
Harold and Cora Gravengaard, Marquette, Nebraska	1.00
Matilda Thomsen, Marquette, Neb.	1.00
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Nielsen, Marquette, Nebraska	5.00
Mr. and Mrs. Rex Hermansen, Marquette, Nebraska	1.00
Mrs. Alma Johansen, Fort Worth, Texas	1.00
Otto P. Nissen, Marquette, Nebr.	5.00
Svend U. Hansen, Solvang, Calif.	3.00
Viggo Thomsen, Aurora, Nebraska	2.00
Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Stauning, Lincoln, Nebraska	1.00
Mr. and Mrs. Chris B. Nielsen, Exeter, Nebraska	2.50
Leif Hermansen, Marquette, Nebr.	1.00
Harold Rasmussen, Marquette, Nebraska	1.00
Victor Trukken, Kimballton, Iowa	1.00
Mrs. Christine Christensen, Waterloo, Iowa	2.50
Mrs. Esther Laursen Randolph, Fulton, Missouri	2.00
Marie Williamsen, Marquette, Neb.	1.00
Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Hansen, Hampton, Nebraska	5.00
Mr. and Mrs. Chris Thomsen, Central City, Nebraska	2.00

(Continued on Page 16)



Carl Peter Højbjerg, well known among us, passed away on October 28, 1953, at Virum, Denmark. His ashes were brought to the United States of America and were buried in the cemetery belonging to St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Nysted, Nebraska, on July 5, 1954. Many of Højbjerg's friends have collaborated in erecting a memorial stone at the head of his grave, which will be dedicated on September 11, 1955 at 2:30 in the afternoon. Friends are invited to be present.

To The Editor

Concerning the Editor's "Opinion and Comment"

We know the California climate is most unusual, but that it would so affect my good friend, Rev. Verner Hansen, the Editor of LUTHERAN TIDINGS, to write with such vigor about the deeds and misdeeds of the 78th Annual Convention of the Synod at Kimballton, Iowa, is more than I had expected. I especially love the pep talk about our Synod and I quote: "which is really only beginning to wake up and flex its muscles," to which I would comment that it is too bad it has taken us 78 years to reach such a state of physical well being and mental exuberance.

Your conclusions, historically speaking, which you arrive at are not quite convincing. One cannot read the early records from the Synod without marveling at the home mission activities carried on by our pioneer pastors. This is true both before and after the schism of the eighteen nineties, although the loss of the Inner Mission Group, who always has had a zeal for missions, undoubtedly had its effect upon our Synod. Be that as it may, Pastor Kjølhed reports in 1908 well over 20,000 baptized members and 119 congregations and preaching places. Our statistics from 1954 show 21,847 baptized members and 86 congregations and preaching places. We have lost many congregations but the ones we have kept have grown and a few new ones have been added. However, observed objectively one can hardly be overwhelmed by our progress numerically speaking during the past 45 years.

But I do share with you, Mr. Editor, the hopes of a new spirit among us, even to the extent that I believe each district should sponsor a home mission project, a task which the church is called by its Lord to do. Here in Iowa we should start plans for the work south of Highway 218 in the Cedarloo area, and North Cedar needs a full time pastor if we are to serve these people as we should. This we must do, speaking in terms of growth, to offset the possible loss of several weak and small congregations which the Home Mission Council knows very well that we have. But where are the pastors we need for these new fields? That is our weakness.

But in spite of weakness I want our Synod to remain intact and grow. That is why I am for affiliation. I may be wrong, but I believe we would gain in strength by joining the other 32 Synods in the United Lutheran Church in America. In this respect, we who are for affiliation, are not like the defeatists who talk vaguely about "all Lutheran unity" which to me means merger. I doubt very much the 32 Synods in the ULCA are ready to take that plunge. Neither am I.

Whatever we do as a Synod, I really

don't expect us to fall apart right away. There is still some vitality left in the "old boy" even if he is 78 years old However, I do recall that Pastor Dorf once wrote, "Isolation means death" and I believe his warning should be well taken. I sometimes have the feeling, and others share it with me, that we in the AELC don't quite seem to belong anywhere. The belief that we as a group are so unique that we have "nothing to learn from other Lutherans" and "that we alone know what the Word of God is" etc., is not a healthy attitude. It is sectarianism. The Lutheran household of faith has room for Grundtvig and there is where he belongs. So do we.

The most disturbing remark in your article, Mr. Editor, is the insinuation, printed in bold type, that there was at our convention attempts at **parliamentary tricks**. To whom do you refer? To the 157 willful ones that voted for affiliation? Or do you refer to the chairman and the assistant chairman of the convention? If there was a calculated attempt at trickery it was news to me, and I noticed Dr. Erling Jensen was re-elected by 242 votes, for, and, 21 against, and Pastor Eilert Nielsen withdrew as a candidate before the beginning of the convention. I do not always agree with the ruling of the chair but I have found our chairman to be remarkably honest and fair. A bit stubborn perhaps — but who wants a push-over?

In regards to conventions of the past the less said about how free some of them were from mistakes and tricks the better. I still hear pastors, not so ancient either, recall how one chairman only recognized those with whom he agreed when pertinent issues came upon the convention floor.

In my estimation the discussions at Kimballton were kept at an unusually high level considering the important issues involved. I see absolutely no good reason for the Editor to write, and I quote: "To my knowledge, this is the first convention in our history when even the shadow of suspicion has been seen." (Of parliamentary tricks, I suppose.)

It must not be forgotten that the recommendation read Saturday by Rev. Harald A. Petersen and signed by Pastors Thorvald Hansen and Peter D. Thomsen, plus the capitulation of Dean Jorgensen, led many to believe that the minority or those against affiliation had had a change of heart. The next step would naturally be a motion to reconsider the report from the Committee of Lutheran Church Relations. It was perhaps a wrong conclusion to reach, but I do not see why it should be considered a trick or unethical.

Saturday morning I was approached by some delegates who felt very certain, because of conversations outside of the business session that the minority or at least some of them had changed their minds on the question of affiliation. I advised them against

bringing up the matter of reconsideration.

And in conclusion, Mr. Editor, I agree with you that if there were any parliamentary tricks either by delegates, pastors or chairmen they should be exposed. However, we had better have on hand some pretty conclusive proof before we throw around with such accusations. There has been too much of that kind in America in recent years. It's fully as dangerous as parliamentary tricks.

Holger O. Nielsen.

Editor's Note: We accept this reproof. There are, unquestionably, two (or more) ways of looking at what happened, and we are happy to let the Vice President have the last word.

The First Year — It's a Success

Last August, a group of the Young Adults of Luther Memorial Church at Des Moines formed a new organization which we call our Young Adult Group. As stated in our constitution, the purpose of this organization is: "To better serve the social and spiritual needs of the Young Adults Group . . . and to help further the aims, goals, and projects of the church and community."

After a couple of organizational meetings, we embarked on what we think was a very successful year. Some of the highlights of the year were: 1) Our Hallowe'en Party. We entered a darkened basement only to lose our shoes and to be invited to crawl through soggy cracker crumbs and wet towels. The evening included: dunking for apples, musical chairs, and many other hilarious games. 2) Christmas activities. This turned out to be our first money-raising campaign. In two nights' work we made enough stryfoam decorations to give our treasury a needed shot in the arm. We also took on the responsibility of the Children's Christmas Tree party. 3) Parent Education. We had a very inspirational talk by Miss Hoorigan, State Supervisor of Elementary Education. 4) Tour of Merediths (publishers of "Better Homes and Gardens" and "Successful Farming,"—approximately fifty people enjoyed this delightful and educational tour through one of the nation's largest publishing houses. 5) June Family Picnic — about 70 of our young adults and about 20 of their offspring turned out on a beautiful June evening for a picnic. Everyone enjoyed the evening, which was topped off with group singing and devotions. 6) a ball team — The most active segment of our group this summer has been our softball team which played twice a week in a Des Moines softball league. The last game was July 18 when our team was crowned champion with a record of 12 victories and 3 defeats. 7) Met with Kimballton group — On Sunday, July 24, we invited the Kimballton Young

OUR CHURCH

Des Moines, Iowa. Dean Peter Jorgensen and his wife, Jean, celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary on September 2.

Hartford, Connecticut. Pastor George Mellby was installed as pastor of our church here August 21 by District President Viggo Hansen. Pastor Mellby moved to Hartford from his former pastorate in Ringsted, Iowa.

Alden, Minnesota. Harvest Festival has been planned here for September 18, at which time the congregation will dedicate its new Parish Hall. Pastor Harold Petersen of Askov, Minnesota, has been invited.

Des Moines, Iowa. Luther Memorial Congregation here will participate in a Lutheran Spiritual Life Mission September 25-29. Plans include an every-member visitation by teams, special services daily, with speakers invited from all participating synods. Representing our Synod will be the Rev. Richard Sorensen, Waterloo, and the Rev. H. O. Nielsen, Cedar Falls. Visitation will include calling on prospective members for school and church, and a workshop for branches of church work to be held September 25.

Minneapolis, Minnesota. The Young Adult Club of St. Peder's Church voted recently to sponsor a refugee family from Europe.

Ruthton-Diamond Lake, Minn. Pastor Alfred Sorensen, Cedar Falls, Iowa, was speaker at special meetings in the churches here dealing with Home Mission activity, August 31 and September 1.

Ringsted, Iowa. The young people here invited the congregation to a "Family Night" recently, with Anil Jha, student from India, as special speaker. The program also included reports from convention delegates, and organ music by Miss Rita Petersen, Minneapolis.

Withee, Wisconsin. Pastor Clayton Nielsen has been granted a week's leave to tour District IX, and to visit the district convention to be held in Wilbur, Washington.

Cedar Falls, Iowa. Pastor H. O. Nielsen, newly elected Vice President of

Adult Group to an all day picnic at Springbrook State Park in Guthrie Center, Iowa. The day was spent with all of us getting better acquainted with the members of the other group.

The plans for the coming year are now in the making, and from all indications, it's going to be an even better year! We feel we have filled a definite need in our congregation, and we have taken a natural place in the church.

The Executive Board.

our Synod, will mark the 25th Anniversary of his Ordination on September 17. (This also happens to be his birthday.)

Badger, South Dakota. Pastor Vagn Duus, Alden, Minnesota, and Pastor Ronald Jespersen, Danevang, Texas, recently served in the vacant church here and Lake Norden during August. Pastor Duus is a former pastor here, while Pastor Jespersen's wife comes from this community. The District Meeting will be held at Lake Norden this year, and the new pastor, John Enslemann (now of Grayling, Michigan) will be installed at that time, later in September.

Tyler, Minnesota. The 10th Annual Folk Meeting will be held at Danebod here October 4-9. Principal speaker will be Mr. Knud Hansen, principle of Askov Folk School of Denmark. Further announcement will appear later.

Correction — In Valdemar Jensen's article, August 20, the sentence "I have lived this" should read: "You have read this, but I have lived it."

Laboratory Announced

CHICAGO, Sept. 1 — (NCCCA) — Wasted time, frequent bulldozing of a minority who remain unhappy about decisions, and unused capabilities of many church members plague the committees and boards that run America's Protestant churches, says the Rev. W. Randolph Thornton, director of the department of administration and leadership of the National Council of Churches.

What to do about this will be the subject of the first interdenominational church laboratory on group relations to be held at Green Lake, Wisconsin, March 11-14, 1956. Mr. Thornton, chairman of the planning committee, says, "Intelligent individuals commonly act ineptly when in groups unless they have some kind of training. A group of ten Ph.D.'s around a table may be just as inefficient as any ten people which the pastor might bring in off the street to do the same job. This," he says, "is why so many people get bored and lose interest in committee meetings."

The laboratory is intended to improve this situation and thus develop stronger lay leadership in churches. It is designed for bishops and denominational administrators, executives of councils of churches, pastors, and directors of Christian education.

The laboratory is sponsored by the National Training Laboratories, Washington, D. C., a unit of the adult education services of the National Education Association. The basic program, Mr. Thornton says, will be to teach

1. How to make a committee more effective,
2. How to make an individual see himself through the eyes of a group,
3. How to make each member of a

committee realize that at some point he is a leader of the group,

4. How to put one's self in another's situation and understand the other fellow's viewpoint.

5. How to help people to listen to the other fellow. "Usually we don't hear the other fellow," Mr. Thornton says, "because we're too busy getting ready for what we want to say next and hoping he'll get through soon so we can say it."

Mr. Thornton adds that as churches in this country are constituted today, "more and more decisions are being made by committees or groups rather than individuals. It is therefore important that each individual learn how to be an effective member of such a group. This emphasis on groups does not eliminate individuality but instead increases the importance of individual differences and their expression. This puts the emphasis on the historic Protestant tradition of the priesthood of every believer, on the inherent dignity of every individual as a member of the church, a person created by God."

The laboratory staff will include Richard Beckhard, New York, meeting management consultant; Lee Bradford, Washington, D. C., director, National Training Laboratories; George Corwin, New York, national secretary of youth work of the Y.M.C.A.; Jack R. Gibl, associate professor of psychology, University of Colorado; Gordon Lippitt, Washington, D. C., assistant director, National Training Laboratories; Rev. Charles Stinnette, Episcopal College of Preachers, Washington, D. C.; the Rev. Mr. Thornton; Mrs. Cynthia Wedell, research director, Episcopal Laboratories on the Church and Group Life, Washington, D. C.; Daniel West, famed Boy Scout leader.

NEWS BRIEFS

600 EXPECTED AT LUTHERAN ASHRAM AT BANFF, CANADA

Chicago — (NLC) — The 1955 Ashram of the Lutheran Student Association of America will take place at the University of Alberta School of Fine Arts at Banff, August 27-September 2, it was announced here. It will be the first Ashram held in Canada.

According to LSAA, over six hundred college and university students from all over North America are expected to gather for worship, study and fellowship. Ashram — a word from India, signifies "corporate spiritual quest."

The main theme of the 1955 gathering will be "The Role of the People of God," the LSAA announced.

It will be developed in Bible Study, centering about I John, as well as in a series of platform presentations dealing with "the Role of the People of God in the Academic Community, the Parish Community and the World Community."

The Bible Study will be directed by

Professor Krister Stendahl of the University of Uppsala, Sweden, and of Harvard University. Chaplain of the Ashram will be the Rev. Henry Horn, student pastor of Cambridge, Mass.

Among the speakers at the Ashram will be the Rev. Herbert Wolf of Michigan State College; the Rev. John Sardeson of Cornell University; and the Rev. M. A. Thomas of the Syrian Orthodox Church in Travencore, India.

The Rev. W. A. Mehlenbacher of the Canadian Lutheran Council, and Dr. Donald R. Heiges, executive secretary of the National Lutheran Council's Division of Student Service, will be the Ashram preachers.

Prior to the Ashram, August 23-26, the Council of the Lutheran Student Association of America, will hold its annual meeting at Banff. The Council, comprising some sixty students, represents Lutheran students in fifteen regions throughout the U. S. and Canada.

DANES TO BUILD NEW CHURCHES

Copenhagen, Denmark — (NLC) — A total of 18 new Lutheran churches are to be built in the suburbs of Copenhagen during the next ten years, according to Church News from the Northern Countries.

The need for these as well as several new churches in other parts of Denmark was ascertained by a joint commission of Denmark's Ministry of Church Affairs and the (Lutheran) Church of Denmark, the report said.

After a two-year study the commission also proposed to change the law which requires that any new Danish church must be fully paid and free of debt before it is dedicated and, instead, suggested that up to one-half

of the construction costs, if not covered by public funds, may be raised on a loan basis to be paid off from church taxes.

According to the commission's proposal, the State would still be expected to supply one-half of the costs for new church buildings, the report added.

The survey done by the commission found that the greatest need for new church buildings was currently observed in the rapidly growing new suburbs of Copenhagen, where it said, at least 18 new churches must be built within the next ten years.

LUTHERAN-METHODIST UNION ENVISIONED IN DENMARK

Copenhagen, Denmark — (NLC) — A union of Lutheran and Methodist Churches in Denmark was envisioned here by the Rev. Georg Saermark, one of the Danish Methodist leaders.

Writing in "Oekumeniske Nyheder," official publication of the Danish Ecumenical Council, he predicted that "the day of union will come — perhaps in the next generation."

"Although the Methodist Church has preserved its individuality, it has been influenced by the Lutheran State Church in Denmark, just as the latter has received impulses from the Methodist Church," the Rev. Saermark stated.

He added that for the time being certain differences in doctrine and practice would prevent organic unity, but urged that mutual relations between the two churches should even now be taken up for discussion by their leaders.

ALFA HOPES TO DOUBLE GOAL, SEEKS 50 CARLOADS OF WHEAT

New York — (NLC) — Fifty carloads of wheat — double the amount raised last year — is the goal of the third annual All Lutheran Food Appeal, according to the Rev. Ove R. Nielsen of Minneapolis, director of ALFA.

Interviewed while conferring here with officials of Lutheran World Relief, the material aid agency of the National Lutheran Council, Mr. Nielsen was highly optimistic over the prospect for this year's appeal in seventeen states for farm commodities of wheat, corn and beans.

Pointing out that farmers in the south central states began to harvest their wheat in July, he said the first carload contribution to ALFA is expected to arrive before the end of the month.

He added that wheat will be harvested in the upper midwest in August and September, and predicted a "better than normal" crop in Minnesota, North Dakota and Montana.

Mr. Nielsen said that some 5,000 volunteers will participate in this year's program, which includes a steering committee for each state as well as

area, county and community committees.

The All Lutheran Food Appeal is a joint effort of the church bodies participating in the National Lutheran Council and of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.

More than 50,000 American farmers responded to the 1954 appeal with gifts of farm commodities and cash donations totalling \$657,727, and Mr. Nielsen is confident that close to \$1 million in food and cash will be realized in 1955.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE C. P. HØJBJERG MONUMENT

(Continued from Page 13)

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I am a member of the congregation at _____

September 5, 1955

Name _____

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