

Lutheran Tidings

PUBLISHED BY THE AMERICAN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Inalienable Rights

*W*hy is the earth a jungle, ravaged by war, hideous with injustice, saturated with brother-blood? Because man will not admit his brotherhood, will not live and let live, much less live and help live - - - Slowly - so slowly - he learns that the injury of one is the hurt of all, that injustice backfires; that no man, no clan can be happy and free alone. How blind he is not to see that if we live by fear, and not by faith, life ends in endless feud, and that to deny the rights of others is to lose our own.

Joseph Fort Newton.

Pastors' Conference In California

— By The Editor —

The annual Pastors' Institute in Des Moines is an event eagerly anticipated by most of our ministers, and it is not surprising to learn that similar gatherings are held in other church groups. During the first week in September, it was a privilege for all of our California pastors to be invited to take part in the Pastoral Conference of the Augustana Church in the California district. The meeting was a three-day event held at one of the resort hotels in beautiful Yosemite National Park, and Augustana was kind enough to pay the bills, including those of the six or eight officers of the ULCA and also of one man from the Suomi (Finnish) Synod. The setting may not seem to be ideal for serious work, with the swimming pool, tennis courts, and the incredible scenery of Yosemite adjacent, but the meeting turned out to be of some significance, nevertheless. The conference had the period from 2 p. m., until dinner reserved for recreation, and two sessions in the evening made it possible to have a long working day encompassing the recreation hours.

From our synod came all the regular pastors, A. E. Farstrup, Niels Nielsen, Owen Gramps, Paul Nussle and Verner Hansen. The four synods of the 4-way merger were present, and the conference was unique in that this was quite possibly the first gathering at this level of representatives of all four bodies for purposes of social acquaintanceship and for purposes of discussing the possibilities and the problems of the coming merger.

Several sessions were devoted to this. The President of the California District of the ULCA led one session, and the President of the Augustana District led another, and panelists presented phases of local and synodical and intersynodical work. Major differences in approach in such fields as Home Missions were revealed. For example, one synod believes in supporting the initial, preliminary phase of a new mission work, and depends on the field itself to carry the burden from then on. The other synod depends on the field itself to provide the initial beginning, and the synod then provides the support and funds for the secondary expansion. This is a major difference in approach which must be reconciled in the merger negotiations.

Each morning and each evening Matins and Vespers were conducted out of the new Service Book and a Communion Service on the final night of the confer-

ence also followed the unfamiliar liturgy and practice of the new hymnal. The hymns sung had evidently been chosen with care so as to be as representative as possible, and it was good to start the whole conference off with a Grundtvig hymn sung in full voice by about 100 pastors present.

One paper presented was a major effort by Pastor John Arthur, Augustana, who is campus pastor at Stanford University. It was a liturgical study devoted to a discussion of the association of confession and absolution with the eucharist as it is found in the new Service Book. Pastor Arthur pointed out that the new Service Book assumes group confession and absolution to be the norm (rather unusual in our synod where most pastors pronounce individual absolution). He also pointed out that "the practice in the Reformation and pre-Reformation centuries was to have weekly Communion and occasional Confession; in our day it has become the norm to have weekly confession and only occasional Communion." Pastor Arthur was not entirely satisfied with the new liturgy.

The major discovery made by our own District VIII pastors was the fact that the other groups are taking the coming merger much more for granted than we are, and are planning for it more concretely. California may perhaps be the place where the intermingling of the synods can most easily be accomplished, since so many Californians are uprooted peoples who are accustomed to change. This may not be so true of our own synod people; but it is true among the pastors of District VIII that the merger is a consummation, in the poet's words, devoutly to be desired. This experiment in ministerial fellowship is one indication of how smoothly the merger can take place in some areas.

LAY WORKERS

Dr. Torrey in one of his sermons tells this story: "Some years ago I was trying to persuade a young attorney to become a soulwinner in Christ's kingdom. But the lawyer said: 'I am not called to the ministry.' I opened my Bible and read Acts 8:4: 'They therefore that were scattered abroad went everywhere, preaching the word.'"

"The lawyer replied: 'Yes, but those were the apostles.' 'Will you read the first verse of the chapter?' I asked him. So he read: 'They were all scattered abroad except the apostles.'"

Thus Christ Himself organized the first Laymen's Missionary League.

Selected.

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The Ministry Of Administration

Pastor W. Clayton Nielsen

Text: I Corinthians 12:27-30—Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then workers, of miracles, then healers, helpers, administrators, speakers in various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret?

Also: Colossians 1:9-12 — And so, from the day we heard of it, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, to lead a life worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to Him, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God. May you be strengthened with all powers, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy, giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.

"Administrative Duties Cut Pastor's Time"

This was a headline in a recent issue of a Lutheran weekly. The article went on: "Time consumed in church administration is the cause of general complaint among pastors, findings in a national survey showed." "Seminaries ought to prepare laymen for service as church business managers," was suggested by pastors to the group which surveyed. The situation would also be improved, the pastors agreed, if more congregations provided the help of a parish secretary, a parish worker, a director of religious education, or an associate pastor. Listen to another comment by a busy pastor: "Too much time lost in office and administrative duties! I know it, but the work must be done, and I cannot get help from the congregation." "Only if men are free from the office will they give more time to study....more time to people, less to paper....." was the conclusion of Rev. Charles Carroll, retiring secretary of the Department of Theological Cooperation in the National Lutheran Council, who made the survey.

Listen to the opening words of one of our own home mission pastors, in his summer report to the Home Mission Council: "One of the plaguing problems in an old congregation is the existence of a type of organization which places all of the responsibility on the minister and the congregational president. In spite of continued reference to the need for a new type of administration which will provide a wider distribution of responsibility, involving larger numbers of our members, the tacit assumption still remains that — after all — those things are the minister's job, and he gets paid for doing that."

These words by one of our own pastors, and by a national survey, show this: **The ministry of administration is probably one of the most misunderstood ministries in the church.**

The text from Corinthians deals with a number of ministries (about which we have heard in our morning

A Message To The Seattle Convention Under The Theme: The Ministry of The Church. Pastor Nielsen is From Withee, Wisconsin.

devotions through the week) among them: the apostolic ministry, the teaching ministry, the ministry of mercy, as well as the ministry of administration.

Let it be said that all these derive from the basic Christian ministry, the ministry of the proclamation of the Gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, in whom we live and move and have our being.

Let us consider together, this morning the Church's Ministry of Administration. You and I — We are the church, we are of the body of Christ, as Paul suggests, we are of the priesthood of all believers. Thus, it is we, who are the church, pastors and laymen, together, who have the task of administration.

Just what is administration?

It is the organization of work within the congregation.

A course in church administration for a seminary student would normally include: a pastor's professional life, Christian education, community relationships, development and administration of program, leadership in worship, and pastoral duties. This is a specialized pastoral administration. The church's ministry of administration includes BOTH pastor and congregation. It is a means — whereby a Christian group can do its work in a spirit expressive of its Lord.

WE NEED TO ORGANIZE SO THAT WE WILL NOT BE PERPETUALLY BUSY. This is the theme of much writing concerning church administration. We need to organize SO THAT GOD'S WORK IS EFFICIENTLY DONE. The ministry of administration is important to both PASTORS and LAYMEN.

WHY?

From an earthly standpoint, THE REAL POWER OF THE CHURCH RESTS IN ORDINARY PEOPLE, IN THE PRIESTHOOD OF BELIEVERS.

Functionally, the church has lost its faith in the laity — so it would appear to the careful observer. And they have lost faith in themselves.

That is why a pastor can write as the home mission pastor wrote to his Home Mission Council.

We need to catch a vision, a vision that GOD MAY BE GLORIFIED THROUGH THE COMMON TASKS WHICH ARE OURS, a vision of the joys of Christian service, a vision that to each person is given some gift by which we may serve — in and through the church.

We need to be conscious of the fact that laymen and laywomen are the ones to help a church to grow vitally. It is amazing how people respond to our opinion of them.

While it may be easier to get them to believe they have no ability than to get them to believe they are richly endowed — If you have faith in people, they will have faith in themselves.

Let me give you an example: About a year ago, a pastor invited two of the ladies in his congregation

to help with some of the routine work in his office. One of them, who had a little office experience, now types most of the stencils for mimeograph work. The other (a widow), who had never even seen a mimeograph, now does nearly all of the mimeograph work. Neither considered herself particularly capable, but both responded to the pastor's opinion that here was a task she could do. (And each does her task well.) This type of thing can and should be expanded. Responding to another's idea of yourself can also apply to asking young men to teach a Sunday school class. The members of our education committee, in asking some of these young men, some of whom may never have served their church before, have often been surprised to find that some of them were just waiting to be asked; and, further, that some of these young men do a much better job than anyone thought possible.

There is a great, vast, untapped potential in nearly every congregation! Never write off anybody's usefulness, for each one is a child of God, with God-given talent, and with a capacity for joy in service. Our churches need to make use of all the talent we have if we are to bring the Good News of Jesus Christ to those who do not now belong to our churches.

Part of church administration is **THE DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING OF THE CHURCH'S PROGRAM**. Every church has a program of some kind. Is your church's program relevant to the Gospel? Is mine?

We need to know the answer to this question — Is our program a Christian program, or is it just "activity?" A Christian church at every moment and in every action is engaged in the task of bringing the Good News of Jesus Christ to bear in its own life and in the community which it serves. As Dr. Rockwell Smith, Professor of Rural Church Administration, at a leading Methodist seminary has said, "Every movement is a movement for or against Christ, and every act of the church should invite and prescribe a Christian commitment to those both within and without its fellowship." If the church's program, your church's program, and my church's program, is relevant to the Gospel, it must show the way of Christ in every phase of its program.

The church's program — there are four ways to plan it:

1. The first is to build it around the **ORGANIZATIONS**, each with particular interests and pressures. Out of the interaction of these organizations, a program emerges, just as Topsy grew. For example, the church school or the women's group may become a pressure group. Why? Because we have not taken into account the desire of the man and woman in the pew, the desire to take a real place of leadership. While the morning service gets to be a "preacher's service," the Sunday School belongs to the lay people. It is theirs.

2. Sometimes the church's program is dictated by the pastor. This is apt to be a more-rounded program than one which just grows, but, as a rule, it presents only the pastor's own interests.

3. Sometimes the program is handed down by the

denomination, by the synod. While this tends to be the most rounded program, it is often least relevant to the local situation.

4. None of the three is ideal, but the ideal can come when these three — organizations interacting, pastors suggesting, synods supplying ideas — when these three inter-act creatively.

We have some kind of program — may it be the best possible.

What about the leadership? There are patterns of leadership available in any group — we must discover this leadership. You have it in your congregation, I have it in mine; let us find it, and use it. In fact, it has been suggested to home mission pastors, and it is applicable to all of us, **USE YOUR MEMBERS OR LOSE THEM**.

The purpose of the church's ministry of administration is to **APPLY THE GOSPEL MOST EFFECTIVELY**. This can be done only when pastor and congregation work together most efficiently, so that the pastor may spend his time doing what he was trained to do — the counseling, the studying, the preparing of sermons, the directing of the congregation's worship, the pastoral work, the recruiting of lay leadership; and so that the laymen and laywomen may do the many tasks which they can do best, or at least as well as the pastor: the ministry of music both in instrument and in voice, the survey work, the ushering, the publicity and public relations work, the office routines, the financial programs, the stewardship programs, the selecting of curricular materials, the church school work, and much of the actual visitation, the evangelism.

Often we pastors have sinned in this respect, we have tried to do all the work ourselves; often you laymen have sinned by saying: that the tasks which you should be doing are "the pastor's job."

This means that we pastors have been wasting our time, for we have neglected the work for which we were trained; but, worse, we have **cheated** a layman or women from doing a Christian task, a Christian task for his church, a Christian task to the glory of God.

As pastors, we need to simplify our own loads by using the great wealth of talent that often lies hidden in our midst.

The business affairs of the church are opportunities for **experience in Christian discipleship**.

As pastors and laymen working together, or rather, as the Body of Christ, working together, we can also accept and tolerate differences, for within the fellowship of the church, this can be done in a finer way than anywhere else. Christian discipleship includes concern for people, it implies that we are more concerned with other **PEOPLE** than we are with our own **opinions**.

In a sense, the church's ministry of administration becomes a laboratory, a laboratory for the educational and worship life of the church. Here we try tentative experiments which may, in God's good day, release creative powers that will redeem the world. Here we practice the witness and graces of Christian charity, in which alone lie man's hope.

"Of Grace and Growth"

A MINNESOTA CENTENNIAL play-pageant depicting the part played by the Lutheran church in the state's growth during the past 100 years will be presented in eight Minnesota cities this fall, involving participation by 14 church bodies representing nearly a million Lutherans in some 2,100 Minnesota congregations.

The Rev. Otto E. Schmidt, St. Paul, general chairman, said a cast of more than 100, including a 60-voice choral group, will take part in the production, "Of Grace and Growth."

Scriptwriter and director is James S. Kerr of Minneapolis. Kerr is associate editor of ONE magazine, published by the Joint (Lutheran) Youth Publications Council.

He has written and produced more than 60 plays for church groups, primarily in his native Canada. The production, he says, will span a "century of spiritual growth, of concern for mankind... recalling to our minds and hearts God's wonderful grace and care to the people of Minnesota."

The opening performance will be at 8 p. m., Thursday, October 23, at Rochester. Two performances are scheduled at Duluth: 8 p. m., October 24, and 4 p. m., October 25.

A single performance is set for 4 p. m., Sunday, October 26, in the St. Paul auditorium. The pageant will be presented at 4 and 8 p. m., October 27 at Albert Lea, 8 p. m. October 28 at Willmar, 8 p. m. October 29 at Fergus Falls, 4 and 8 p. m. October 30 at St. Peter and 4 p. m. Sunday, November 2, in the Minneapolis auditorium.

Additional performances may be scheduled in some of the cities.

Rehearsals will begin September 20 in Minneapolis. The cast will include Lutheran students from the University of Minnesota and nine Lutheran educational institutions: Augsburg college, Minneapolis; Bethany college, Mankato; Concordia college, Moorhead; Concordia college, St. Paul; Dr. Martin Luther college, New Ulm; Gustavus Adolphus college, St. Peter; Northwestern Lutheran Theological seminary, Minneapolis; and St. Olaf college, Northfield, all of Minnesota, and Wartburg college, Waverly, Iowa.

The play-pageant will consist of a series of flashbacks, depicting the growth of Minnesota Lutheranism from its beginnings in the early 1850s to the present day.

All levels of Lutheran activities will be covered, including education, evangelism, missions, music, social action and medicine.

Each participating educational institution will portray a specific activity of the Lutheran churches. Prof. Paul O. Manz of Concordia college, St. Paul, will direct the choral group, made up principally of students at the college.

Plans for the pageant were launched last fall by

Minnesota Lutherans To Present Centennial Pageant in Eight Cities

an intersynodical group of Twin Cities Lutherans headed by Mr. Schmidt, pastor of Como Park Lutheran church, St. Paul.

Six committees comprising 110 Twin City area persons representing the 14 participating church bodies have been handling preparations. Local committees are in charge of arrangements in the six cities outside the Twin Cities area.

Church bodies taking part are **American Evangelical Lutheran Church**, American Lutheran Church, Augustana Lutheran Church, Evangelical Lutheran Church, Lutheran Brethren, Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, Lutheran Free Church, National Evangelical Lutheran Church, Evangelical Lutheran Synod (formerly Norwegian Synod), Slovak Evangelical Lutheran Church, Suomi Synod, United Evangelical Lutheran Church, United Lutheran Church in America and Wisconsin Synod.

Committee chairmen, all from the Twin Cities area, are: auditorium, the Rev. Lester Stine, St. Paul; finance, Stan Tollefson, Minneapolis; pageant, the Rev. Evald J. Conrad, Minneapolis; and Dr. W. A. Poehler, St. Paul, co-chairmen; public relations, the Rev. Karl Hichradel, St. Paul and the Rev. Armin Deye, St. Paul, co-chairmen, and transportation, the Rev. John Steen, St. Paul. Mrs. W. L. Holmen, Minneapolis, is secretary-treasurer.



James S. Kerr

WHOOPS!

Your Editors (and I use the word loosely!) want to make this very clear: any similarity between this publication and former ones by the same name are purely coincidental! All errors and blotches, etc., are entirely our fault — there is nothing wrong with the church printing equipment, but the operators need more practice! Also, because I was in a hurry I find that there are duplications of information, so please, those of you who have articles over your name, excuse it won't you? We promise to do better next time! Also, I am sure there are other events coming up in September than we have listed on the calendar on the back of this issue, but they are not known at this writing, so please watch your Sunday Bulletins.

(Names withheld to protect the guilty)

(Note in the Newington, Connecticut, Messenger.)

The size of a man can be measured by the size of the thing that makes him angry. **J. K. Morley.**



OPINION AND COMMENT

Carl, our church custodian, looked down on us from the top of the ladder he was using to change a burned-out light bulb, and said, "I don't see what all the rush is about down there in Arkansas."

"What do you mean rush?" we said, rather sharply. "It's been four years since the Supreme Court decision, and it has been almost 100 years since the slaves were freed. This is a rush?"

"In one way, maybe not. But let's take it easy and avoid all this trouble."

"Carl, if you were Negro and had a ten year old daughter four years ago, she would have had a good chance at an equal education if things had been rushed. But she would now be 14, and her chance at a good education rapidly disappearing. Wouldn't you say things ought to be rushed for her sake? Before it's too late?"

"Sometimes a few have to be sacrificed for law and order and peace," said he.

"In this case, the few, in my mind, are the segregationists, not the Negroes. The segregationists are the ones who are disregarding law and order."

"Pastor, why did God create all the different races if He didn't want them kept separate?"

"God created the human race. The races evolved. I can't believe it is God's plan that one color should dominate the world. In fact, if I read all the signs right, I think that in about half a century the whites will no longer be dominant. They are a small minority, after all, considering the whole world. That's another reason we should promote the spirit and ideal of a democracy which protects the minorities!"

"Well, no matter what you say, it disturbs me to see Negroes and Chinese and whatnot coming to our church. Before we know it they will be coming to our folk-dancing group, too. What then?"

"Carl, you are way behind times. They have already come, and I think they enjoyed themselves."

"Pastor, would you want your daughter to grow up and marry a Negro?"

"Carl, would you want your daughter to grow up and marry a Faubus?"

"We're getting nowhere, and I'm willin' to drop the subject.... There, guess that takes care of that light bulb. It was flickin on and off like it was about ready to pop, so I thought I'd put in a new one."

"The spirit's willing, but the flash is weak, eh?"

"Huh? Say, speaking of flashes, I see another Vanguard goofed. How come our rockets sputter out after getting off the ground about twenty feet? I've seen some autos on the freeway do better than that."

"I don't know, Carl, don't ask me. I'm waiting for

the day when they put an atom engine in one. That ought to get up there to the moon."

"Say, that's an idea. Why don't they try that?"

"I'm sure they are. We don't hear everything that's going on. Denmark won't even let our atom subs into her harbors — think what a furor there would be all over the world if we turned an atom rocket loose."

"Guess you're right."

"The new issue of Christian Century* has a lot in it about Denmark, by the way. The writer calls her piece 'Folk Church in a Welfare State' and it's real interesting reading. It explains a lot of the reason why 'Danish Churches' can no longer succeed in America. For example, in Denmark, the young people, it seems, no longer even care much for getting married in the church. One out of 20 country people go to church Sundays and in Copenhagen, only 1 out of 100."

"I don't believe it, pastor. I been in churches in Denmark that were full."

"Maybe so. But if the church holds 300 and the parish holds 10,000, that is still not very many."

"We could have more in our churches over here if we were more friendly to strangers. I don't think Lutherans are very warm toward others, and especially not Danes."

"I see in one of our Lutheran papers that they are called 'God's frozen people'," we said.

"Well, pastor, it seems to me that Lutherans do a pretty good welfare job. That's one place where they are not cold."

"Yes, Lutherans take the lead in welfare institutions, just like the Methodists are out in front on hospitals. But what happens, then, when we live in a welfare state like Denmark and the church doesn't have to take on such work?"

"Foreign missions is the answer. There is welfare work that needs to be done outside the country."

"Right, and Danes were among the first missionaries in some places of the world."

"Let's adjourn the Mutual Admiration Society.... How did you like the Seattle convention of the synod, pastor?"

"You can read about it in Lutheran Tidings! Seriously, I thought it went quite well, and people seem about ready to accept the merger when it comes. They are not in any great hurry about it, because there are features which we all dislike."

"Such as?"

"It is going to be pretty hard, for one thing, to give up the idea that Grand View is my school. I have always wanted my children to go there. But now I am going to have to start building up some loyalty in them to a nearby Lutheran college. This cuts pretty deep."

"I can see that. How are things going with the building program down in Des Moines?"

"Again, I refer you to Tidings. Don't you read it, either? Plans are ready for the gym, but the dormitory is some years off."

"Say, pastor, I was reading about a rich man who wanted to do something for his college, so he wrote

We are Reaching Jewish People With the Gospel

H. CONRAD HOYER

"Not many persons that I know could give a more convincing Christian testimony!" This comment was made to me by a friend after hearing a Hebrew-Christian layman from Long Island tell how he came to believe in Jesus Christ as his Lord and Saviour. I, too, had heard the laymen speak and I agreed. Four other Hebrew-Christians told how they had come to Christian faith and each was an inspiration. All in all, it had been a good evening and our faith had been enriched by the testimonies we heard. These Hebrew-Christians were all active members of New York Lutheran Churches.

These personal witnesses gave added meaning to the encouraging information concerning the work of our New York churches, serving in the midst of 2,500,000 Jewish people, in the world center of Jewish population. One-fourth of all the Jewish people in the world live there.

With more than 300 Lutheran Churches in New York people were asking: "What are these churches doing to share the Gospel with their Jewish neighbors?" To learn the answer Pastor L. W. Halversen, New York area secretary for the Christian Approach to the Jewish People of the National Lutheran Council, mailed a questionnaire to 292 parish pastors in the New York area. More than half of them replied and more than half of those who replied, reported that they had Hebrew-Christian members in their congregations. Churches that had any members of Jewish ethnic origin usually had more than one. Two congregations had twenty or more Hebrew-Christian members. Sixty per cent of the Hebrew-Christian members had been received during the past five years.

The study revealed further that ninety-two congregations "sought for Jewish people as for all others" in their evangelism outreach and 51 more did so "to some extent." Only 13 congregations "did not seek for them" and only two pastors thought that a "Jewish inquirer" would not be welcome if he asked for church membership.

A similar study mailed to 160 Philadelphia area Lutheran pastors showed similar results. The number of Hebrew-Christians in Philadelphia was smaller, but nearly half of the 80 churches replying to the questionnaire had Hebrew-Christian members. A majority of the churches were actively "seeking them, together with all others" and only one congregation was not seeking them at least "to some extent." In

to them telling them he wanted to give a lot of money to one of the departments, but he couldn't remember which one he excelled in. They wrote back suggesting that he endow a new dormitory, since he slept in most of the classes."

We were still laughing as Carl carried the ladder away.

Optimism from the Office of the Division of American Missions of The National Lutheran Council. Dr. Hoyer is Executive Secretary.

Philadelphia, as in New York, more than half of the Hebrew-Christians have united with the church during the past five years.

While the facts are not startling they give a solid answer to the question many people ask: "Are we reaching Jewish people with the Gospel?" In view of the millions of Jews in New York, and the hundreds of thousands in Philadelphia, these hundreds represent only a trifle. Yet, they show the possibilities and they indicate a trend.

Jewish people are not "singled out" in this outreach, but neither are they "left out." They are regarded as people in the neighborhood, outside the fellowship of the Christian Church who ought to be included, together with all others, in the evangelism outreach of the Christian congregations. Those who respond to that outreach are received into the congregations in the same manner and on the same basis as any others.

Christians of Jewish ethnic origin take their place of service and responsibility in the congregation like any other member. The man whose testimony we referred to in the opening paragraph is a Sunday school leader. Another whom we know is an usher; another is on the Executive Board of the Conference. This identification with the congregation's life is so complete that in many instances pastors do not know which of their members are of Jewish background, as many pastors reported, and usually they do not really care. Because of this the actual number of Hebrew-Christian members is probably considerably higher than the report indicates. They find that it really does not matter in the Christian Church "For there is neither Jew nor Greek....for ye are all one in Christ."

"He Descended into Hell"

Art thou come hither to torment us, thou
Whose name we dare not speak within our graves?
A dread taboo makes numb, will not allow
Praise or the humble prayer that shocks and saves.
Why art thou come? We had grown used to doom.
- Eyeless, we groped our way through well worn gloom.
But thou, a searing light, hast burned our door,
Disclosed the limits of our funeral caves.
Now death is darker than it was before;
The soul is wakened and in fever raves.
Angered the heart, when thou didst show thy face,
But oh, bereft, since thou hast left this place.
And yet, out of the kingdom of this wrath,
Since thou hast come, and gone, there is a path...

Edith Lovejoy Pierce.

Our Women's Work

MRS. AAGE PAULSEN, EDITOR

Beaver Crossing, Nebraska



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Minutes of Annual Convention of the WMS of the AELC

DATE:

Thursday, August 14, 1958. Friday, August 15, 1958.

PLACE:

AELC Convention, St. John's Lutheran Church, Seattle, Washington.

OPENING:

The meeting was opened at 6:30 p. m. by the singing of two verses of "How fair the Church of Christ shall stand." Mrs. C. S. Fynboe led us in devotions, reading the 17th Chapter of John, after which we sang, "Lord, I Wish to be Thy Servant."

Miss Stockholm extended a sincere welcome to the many women who very nearly filled the beautiful sanctuary of St. John's Church. She expressed her joy that we, upon this our first convention after the adoption of a new constitution, could meet in as far away a place as Seattle, Washington, and still have so many delegates registered. She further expressed hopes for a fruitful meeting with our deliberation made in a true Christian spirit.

ROLL CALL:

The secretary, Mrs. Thyra Nussle, was asked to call the roll of registered delegates. Districtwise WMS was represented by the following number of delegates: District I—None, District II—8, District III—9, District IV—21, District V—10, District VI—11, District VII—6, District VIII—10, District IX—13. This made a total of 88 plus four Executive Board members and the District president of District IX. This gave us a grand total of 93 registered votes.

AMERICAN LEPROSY MISSION:

Miss Stockholm now introduced Mrs. Thomas Hunt, representing the American Leprosy Mission. She spoke briefly seeking to create interest in their work and she made a plea for our support.

MINUTES:

Previous to convening time packets had been distributed to all the women of the convention. These had been assembled by Mrs. C. S. Fynboe and Mrs. Esther Madsen of District IX. Miss Stockholm voiced appreciation for this job well done. The packet contained, among other things of interest, mimeographed copies of the minutes of the 1957 WMS National Convention, the new Constitution, as well as various reports to this year's convention. This made superfluous the reading of the 1957 minutes.

Correction: One correction on Page 5, line 3 in our Financial Report was made to read: "asked that the following designation of funds in her report be entered." Upon motion the minutes were accepted.

FINDINGS COMMITTEE:

President's report: Miss Ida Christensen, Chairman; Miss Reeta Petersen, Mrs. Ernest Nielsen, Mrs. Hans Meyer, Mrs.

Aage Paulsen, Mrs. Robert Fallgatter, Mrs. F. G. Brandes, Mrs. Verner Hansen.

District President's report: Mrs. J. P. Petersen, Chairman; Miss Ann Christiansen, Mrs. Lillian Stub, Mrs. Anton Nielsen, Mrs. Paul E. Wikman, Mrs. Lester Raymond.

Financial report: Mrs. C. S. Fynboe, Chairman; Mrs. Harald Madsen, Miss Mabel Petersen, Mrs. Anker Ericksen, Mrs. Einar Farstrup, Mrs. Lovel Vaag, Mrs. Emil Jensen, Mrs. Ela K. Nielsen (ex officio).

FINDINGS COMMITTEE'S REPORT ON PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Mrs. Oda Sorensen, vice president, presiding.

1. The committee joins the president of WMS in thanking for the love and dedication which prompted our women to organize 50 years ago. The committee moves that the women of the AELC join our president in a prayer of thanks for the work of the women of WMS in the past and for God's blessing in the continuation and broadening of this work.

This motion was passed, and Miss Stockholm complied by leading us in this prayer of thanksgiving and hope.

2. The committee moves that Recommendations 1 and 2 be adopted.

RECOMMENDATION 1. That the convention express its appreciation to the members of our Jubilee Committee for their efforts in making our Golden Jubilee Anniversary a festive and memorable year by giving them a rising vote of thanks and instructing the convention secretary to send each member a greeting from the convention.

This was passed and the committee members were extended the convention's rising vote of thanks.

RECOMMENDATION 2. That the convention, in a similar way, express thanks to Mrs. Peter Thomsen and Mrs. A. A. Bodaski for writing their Jubilee pageants, which added greatly to the festivities wherever they were presented. Greetings and thanks, also, to Mrs. Fylla Kildegard, publicity director for the Jubilee Committee.

This was passed and the rising vote of appreciation extended.

3. The committee recognizes the need for correlation of local, district and national organizations.

The committee moves that we accept Recommendation 3.

RECOMMENDATION 3. That the Constitution Committee be requested to draft a model constitution for our local groups to correlate with the District and National constitutions, and to present it to the 1959 convention for approval.

Several spoke to this point and we sensed a confusion in the minds of our women through the many questions raised.

This was accepted.

4. The committee moves the adoption of Recommendation 4-A (By-Laws).

RECOMMENDATION 4. That the following amendment to the National Constitution and By-Laws also be presented for adoption at the 1959 convention.

A. By Laws, Article IV.

Section 1. Delete: "The Nominating Committee shall—" etc.

Section 2. The following Standing Committees shall be appointed for two-year terms: 1. Fellowship; 2. Education; 3. Finance; 4. Christian Service.

Section 3. The president shall appoint the following Special Committees: 1. Constitution; 2. Publication.

Section 4. The president shall appoint a Nominating Committee of three members to serve one year.

Motion was made, seconded, and carried that the above be approved.

RECESS:

Regretfully time had passed and so little had been accomplished. Motion was made, seconded, and carried to recess until Friday at 6:30 p. m.

RECONVENING DATE:

Friday, August 15, 1958.

PLACE:

In view of the need for more than the allotted time to conduct the volume of unfinished business yet on our agenda, Miss Stockholm, together with Mrs. Fynboe, had made arrangements for our convention to reconvene in the recreation room of the Norse Home, 5311 Phinney Avenue.

OPENING:

The meeting reconvened at 6:30 p. m. Unfortunately, we were without hymnals so singing had to be dispensed with. Mrs. Thyra Nussle led the devotions. She used the symbolism of the WMS Golden Jubilee Banner of St. Stephen's Church Women of Chicago, Illinois, as her topic.

ADDITIONAL VOTING RIGHTS:

Attention was called to the fact that pastors' wives not registered as delegates also had voting rights. This gave us six additional votes. Grand total now standing at 99.

ELECTION:

Miss Emilie Stockholm, president, presiding.

PRESENTATION OF BALLOT:

Vice president (2 years), Mrs. Nanna Mortensen, Tyler, Minnesota. Mrs. Alma Jorgensen, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Secretary (2 years), Mrs. Ardis Petersen, Askov, Minnesota. Miss Reeta Petersen, Gowan, Michigan.

Treasurer (2 years), Miss Ellen Andersen, Trinity, Chicago, Illinois. Miss Ida Christensen, Cedar Falls, Iowa.

Mrs. F. G. Brandes of Askov, Minnesota, announced that Mrs. Ardis Petersen had changed her mind and did not wish for her name to be placed in nomination. The chair called for nomination from the floor. The name of Mrs. F. G. Brandes was placed on the ballot for the office of secretary.

ELECTION RESULTS:

Vice President: Mrs. Nanna Mortensen, 39; Mrs. Alma Jorgensen, 39. First ballot.

Secretary: Mrs. Ardis Petersen, 2; Miss Reeta Petersen, 59; Mrs. F. G. Brandes, 16.

Treasurer: Miss Ellen Andersen, 33; Miss Ida Christensen 45.

Vice President: Mrs. Nanna Mortensen, 40; Mrs. Alma Jorgensen, 39. Second ballot.

CONTINUATION OF FINDINGS REPORT ON PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Mrs. Oda Sorensen, vice president, presiding:

Because of lack of time for necessary study the chair called for motion to refer points 5-6-7 and 10 to the constitution committee for further study and to report their recommendations to our 1959 WMS convention. This was moved, seconded and carried.

5. The committee moves the adoption of Recommendations 4-B (Constitution) with the deletion of Section 4. The committee feels that our organization is not ready for this section.

B. Constitution — Article VI — Officers.

Section 1. Add to first sentence—"and they shall serve as the Executive Committee of the National WMS Board."

Section 2. All officers shall be elected by this organization in convention assembled for the term and in the manner determined by the By-Laws. (no change)

Section 3. Add: The District Presidents shall be members of the National Board.

Section 4. The Chairman of the Standing Committees and the Special Committees shall be members of the National Board.

6. The committee moves that the Districts be encouraged to make corresponding amendments in their District Constitutions.

RECOMMENDATION 5. That corresponding amendments be made in the District Constitutions.

7. The committee moves that Recommendation 6 be accepted.

RECOMMENDATION 6. That a correlating set of Standing Committees be included in the model constitutions for local groups and that the Key Women be members of the local board.

10. The committee does not recommend multiple votes.

RECOMMENDATION 9-A. That Article I of the By-Laws be amended at our 1959 convention to permit multiple votes if a full delegation from a local group cannot be present at the annual convention.

8. The committee moves that WMS change its name to The American Evangelical Lutheran Church Women.

RECOMMENDATION 7. That the 1958 convention adopt the amendment presented by District III, namely that WMS change its name to: The American Evangelical Lutheran Church Women.

This point was discussed at some length, but because changing our name would also necessitate a change of our Article on Membership, motion was made and carried to also refer this very important point to our Constitution Committee for further study with recommendations to be made to our 1959 convention.

9. The committee recommends that the local groups be encouraged to carry the same name.

RECOMMENDATION 8. That the local groups be encouraged to carry the same name as the national organization. (This will give the local groups a feeling of being an integral part of the national and district organizations).

Point 9 was included in the above, point 8, action.

11. The committee notes the statistics on membership with interest and hopes for the support of additional groups in the coming year, so that 1959 may find a greater percentage of our AELC church women active in the work.

This point was accepted.

12. The committee notes the need for budgeting of our income and recommends the adoption of Recommendation 9-B.

RECOMMENDATION 9-B. That the Budget and Finance Committee be requested to present a budget to the 1959 convention for the year 1960. After some discussion this was passed.

13. The committee moves the adoption of Recommendation 10.

RECOMMENDATION 10. That the convention authorize the treasurer to set up our fiscal year to run from January 1 to December 31. In order to effect this revision, the next annual report should run from January 1, 1958 to December 31, 1958.

Our treasurer, Mrs. Ela K. Nielsen, explained her reasons for having suggested Recommendation 10. Motion was amended to read: "January 1 through December 31 in both instances. This was passed.

14. The committee notes the need for assistance to the outlying districts for travel expenses and moves the adoption of Recommendation 11.

RECOMMENDATION 11. That the Budget and Finance Committee prepare a plan for an equalization fund and present it to the 1959 convention.

After some discussion recommendation 11 was passed.

15. The committee concurs with the president that WMS needs to strengthen its public relations among the women of our church, this to be done particularly through more personal contact by correspondence between the Board, District Presidents and Key Women. The committee feels that the points referred to in the recommendation are too numerous, in some cases not applicable or too general, to be of value as a recommendation to the Executive Board.

RECOMMENDATION 12. That the convention endorse the above suggestions, requesting that they be carried out, in so far as possible, by the Executive Board.

Time after time, during our deliberations, we find that it frequently is lack of funds which keeps us from acting favorably upon various recommendations. Such was also the case with this recommendation.

16. The committee concurs that the chief concern of WMS is not fund raising but rather the strengthening of our missionary program locally. The committee moves the adoption of Recommendation 13 with two minor changes as included below.

Proposed Changes in the Constitution of the American Evangelical Lutheran Youth Fellowship

PRESENT CONSTITUTION

Article I — Name

The name of the league shall be the Danish American Young People's League.

Article II — Purpose

Building upon a Christian foundation the DAYPL shall endeavor to serve as an integral part of the Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church of America, and shall help the young people of the church to attain a rich and healthful way of life.

Article III — Organization

A. The DAYPL is an organization of the Young People's Societies of the congregations of the Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church of America.

B. Young People's Societies, not now members, may be admitted to membership by the national board provided the laws of said applicants are not contrary to this constitution. Concerning young people who desire to become a part of DAYPL, but who cannot do so through active participation in the society of a local congregation, may become members of DAYPL by joining the "Unattached society" or in the case of students at Grand View College by joining the "Grand View DAYPL Society."

C. These societies are to function within district organizations as well as the national organization.

D. District constitutions shall not be contrary to this constitution.

Article IV — Function

The function of the league shall be through the action of the national board to secure for itself a unified method of procedure in dealing with matters pertaining to the work of the young people such as arrangements for national conventions, excursions, lecture tours, publications, procurement of support for our schools, and advancement of any design that will enhance the Christian life and folk life of our youth.

Article V — The National Convention

A. 1. National convention shall be held annually, on the first Thursday after the first Wednesday in November.

2. It shall constitute the highest tribunal and final authority of the organization.

3. Any local society may extend an invitation to DAYPL convention. Acceptance or rejection shall be made by the convention.

4. The convention shall elect its own officers.

B. Voting Privileges

1. Each member of the national board shall have one vote.

2. Each society shall have the right to two delegates with one vote each.

3. If any district has only one delegate present, he shall have three votes. If there are only two delegates from a district, each shall have only two votes.

PROPOSED CHANGES

Article I — Name

The name of the youth fellowship shall be the American Evangelical Lutheran Youth Fellowship.

Article II — Purpose

Building upon a Christian foundation the AELYP shall endeavor to serve as an integral part of the work of the American Evangelical Lutheran Church, and shall help young people to attain a rich and healthful way of life.

Article III — Organization

A. The AELYP is an organization of the Youth Fellowships of the congregations of the American Evangelical Lutheran Church.

B. Youth Fellowships not now members, may be admitted to membership by the national board, provided the laws of said applicants are not contrary to this constitution.

C. The local Fellowships of AELYP are to function within district organizations as well as the national organization.

D. District constitutions shall not be contrary to this constitution.

Article IV — Function

The function of the AELYP shall be to secure for itself a unified method of procedure, in dealing with matters pertaining to the work of the young people, and advancement of any design that will enhance the Christian life and fellowship of the youth.

Article V — The National Convention

A. 1. The annual meeting or convention of the members of AELYP shall convene in the fiscal month dating from October 15 to and including November 15 of each year at such time or place or in such manner as may be determined at the preceding Annual Convention.

2. The Annual Convention shall constitute the highest tribunal and final authority of the organization.

3. Any local Fellowship may extend an invitation to the Annual Convention. Acceptance or rejection shall be made by the convention or by a committee appointed by the Convention.

4. Same.

B. Voting Privileges

1. Same.

2. Each chairman or head of each committee and editors of publications within the organization shall have one vote.

3. Each member of each district board shall have one vote each.

If more than two delegates from a district, the general voting rights shall prevail.

4. Each pastor of the synod shall have one vote.

5. Each district officer or authorized representative shall be entitled to one vote.

Article VI — The National Board

A. The National Board shall consist of five members: president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, and a fifth member.

B. The first four named above shall be elected for a period of two years at the national convention, term of office to begin at the adjournment of the national convention. President and treasurer shall be elected during the even numbered years, and the vice president and secretary shall be elected during the odd numbered years.

C. The first four officers shall be nominated by a committee consisting of one representative from each district chosen by the delegates of the respective districts. Nominations may also be made from the floor of the convention.

D. If a member vacates his office before his term has expired, the board shall appoint someone to fill the office until the following convention.

Article VII — Duties of the National Board and Individual Officers

A. 1. It shall be the duty of the president to serve faithfully the interests of the league, to correspond as frequently as may be necessary with the governing bodies of the various district leagues and the local societies, and to submit an annual report concerning the activities of the league to each annual convention of the respective district leagues, the annual synodical convention, and the annual convention of DAYPL.

2. It shall be the duty of the vice president to assist the president and to perform in case the president is incapacitated.

3. It shall be the duty of the secretary to take care of the correspondence as directed by the president, to keep records of the minutes of the board meetings, and the annual reports and protocol of the national conventions.

4. It shall be the duty of the treasurer to collect all dues, to keep an account of all receipts and disbursements, and to present an audited treasurer's report to the national convention and the annual conventions of the district leagues.

5. It shall be the duty of the fifth member to represent the synod on the national DAYPL board.

B. 1. The national board shall be the executive authority and shall carry out decisions made by the national convention.

2. It shall give direction and stimulation to the young people's work by furnishing plans and materials.

4. Each pastor of the synod shall have one vote.

5. Each Fellowship shall have the right of two delegates with one vote each.

6. (Same as 3 in old constitution.)

7. No one person shall have more than three (3) votes.

Article VI — The National Board

A. The National Board shall consist of five members: president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, and synod advisor.

B. The first four named above shall be elected for a period of two years at the annual convention, term of office to begin at the adjournment of the annual convention. President and treasurer shall be elected during even numbered years, and the vice president and secretary shall be elected during the odd numbered years. The synod advisor shall be provided by the synod.

C. Same.

D. If a member vacates his office before his term has expired, the board shall appoint someone to fill the office until the following convention. If a member vacates his office taking a "leave of absence," the board shall appoint someone to fill the office until the member's return.

E. The annual meeting of the board shall be held within thirty days after adjournment of each annual convention, subject to the call of the president.

Article VII — Duties of the National Board and Individual Officers

A. 1. It shall be the duty of the president to serve faithfully the interests of the Fellowship, to correspond as frequently as may be necessary with the governing bodies of the various district Fellowships and the local Fellowships, and to submit an annual report concerning the activities of the Fellowship to each annual convention of the respective district Fellowships, the annual synodical convention, and the annual convention of AELYP.

2. Same.

3. Same.

4. Same; add "Fellowships" for "leagues" in last line.

5. It shall be the duty of the synod advisor to represent the synod on the national AELYP board.

B. 1. Same.

2. Same.

3. It shall have the power to appoint and organize committees to further its work.

4. It shall appoint editors and committees pertaining to the publications of DAYPL.

5. It shall arrange national conventions in cooperation with the host societies.

6. It shall be the duty of the national board to work in close cooperation with the district advisors.

Article VIII — District Advisors

A. 1. Each district shall elect a resident pastor of the district to act as an advisor.

2. The incumbent district board shall place nominations for advisor to be elected by the district convention.

Article IX — Duties of District Advisors

A. 1. Each advisor shall work in close cooperation with his district board and shall assist the local societies whenever possible. The district advisor shall be a member of the district board with the responsibility of representing the church in all decisions made and actions taken.

2. He shall make a report to the young people's district convention and to the district church convention. He shall have the right to make recommendations to said conventions.

Article X — District Boards

A. The members of the district board shall be lay people.

B. The district board shall work in close cooperation with the district advisor and the national DAYPL board.

Article XI — Receipts and Expenditures

A. 1. The national board shall submit a budget to the national convention.

2. The national board shall submit a request to the synodical board of DELCA for financial aid whenever specific projects are undertaken requiring such financial aid.

B. 1. An assessment committee, consisting of the national board and one representative from each district, shall have the right to make assessments upon the individual societies, such assessments to be paid to the national treasurer before May 15th, on the membership of October 1.

2. The district representative on the assessment committee shall be elected by the delegates from their respective districts attending the national convention.

3. Any society which fails to remit its dues after a period of one year loses its right to vote at national convention, failing to remit for two consecutive years, upon notification by the national board, loses its membership. The national board may suspend this rule in cases where they deem it advisable.

C. Disbursements are made by the national board according to its best judgment.

Article XII — Amendment

A. Amendments to this constitution must be made at the national convention and can be enacted provided that said changes do not invalidate, or prove contrary to the intent of Article II, and provided that they receive two-thirds majority of the votes cast.

B. Proposed amendments must be published six weeks prior to the national convention.

Article XIII — Ratification

A. This constitution shall be in effect immediately upon its ratification at the national convention.

3. Same.

4. Same except, substitute "AEYLF" in place of "DAYPL."

5. Same except, substitute "Fellowships" for "societies."

6. Same.

Article VIII — District Advisors

A. 1. Each district shall elect an ordained minister residing within the district to act as an advisor.

2. The district advisor shall be a member of the district board.

Article IX — Duties of District Advisors

A. 1. Each advisor shall work in close cooperation with his district board and shall assist the local Fellowships whenever possible. He shall represent the church in all decisions made and action taken.

2. He shall make a report to the Fellowship's district convention and to the district church convention.

Article X — District Boards

A. The members of the district board shall be lay people, except for the advisor.

B. The district board shall work in close cooperation with the local Fellowships and with the national board.

Article XI — Finances

A. 1. The national board shall submit a proposed budget to the national convention.

2. The national board may submit a request to the synodical board of AELC for financial aid whenever they deem it necessary.

B. 1. Special assessments may be made on the active Fellowships by action of the national convention, and shall be conducted by the national board.

2. Omit.

2. Any Fellowship which fails to remit its dues after a period of one year risks losing its right to vote at the national convention. The national board shall have the final authority in this rule.

C. Same.

Article XII — Amendment

A. Same.

B. Same.

Article XIII — Ratification

A. Same.

District V Convention

Our friends in Dalum — we thank you from the bottom of our hearts! Your hospitality was unsurpassed and we enjoyed every moment of our visit. We only wish we could have stayed longer to become better acquainted with all your wonderful people. Maybe it was the setting — or perhaps because we were such a small group, or then again, maybe, it is because you live so far away from us that this meeting had such an unusually rich quality. Yes, this convention had the true flavor of what I feel a convention should have. Such a glorious feeling of good will prevailed that we truly felt the presence of the Holy Spirit among us at our meetings and worship services.

When we arrived at the church we were greeted by Pastor Rasmussen and Rev. Gordon Miller and his wife. The church looked so good to us after having traveled so far over hill and dale with many miles between homes and towns. The red and white church is of Danish architecture and it stands majestically between carefully planted trees. This country does not naturally produce many trees and there are not many that are not planted carefully with loving hands. A few poplar groves here and there are all we noticed. But the rolling hills which were golden with ripened wheat and black with rich plowed soil made a picture we shall long remember.

Our meeting was opened with the lusty singing of "Come Thou Almighty King" and even though the group was small it was not lacking in spirit. Rev. Gordon Miller then led us in devotions after which Rev. Robert Hermansen gave us one of his very inspiring and wonderful messages. His manner and style is such that it captures every second of our attention.

The business meeting was opened by our district president Rev. Clayton Nielsen and he was re-elected which proves he is very satisfactory in the post he fills. Gail Christensen was named secretary for the convention and she did a very fine job. No heavy issues were on the agenda so our business meeting had a cheerful aspect which is not generally characteristic of convention meetings. A delegate's remark following her report, "Now I can relax and enjoy the convention." became a standing joke.

Friday evening we heard Dr. Alfred Jensen's impressions of the synodical convention at Seattle. It was indeed very entertaining!

Saturday, business meetings continued in a happy spirit, and as I am agreed that more emphasis be placed on evangelism, I was especially happy about the decision to publish guides for devotions in the home.

After a favorable WMS meeting on Saturday afternoon the Dalum folks had thoughtfully arranged a guided tour of the Dinosaur Valley for us. Their cars lined up in front of the church and then we were taxied through the coulees and along the Red Deer River. We saw coal mines and hoodoos and

rode up and down and around the hills until the girls screamed it was just like a roller coaster ride! We stopped to pick up petrified wood and pieces of bone that were likely pieces from the ancient dinosaurs.

Saturday evening in a program honoring the Golden Jubilee of the Women's Mission Society we were honored by performances of local talent. And what talent! Dalum can indeed be proud of its youth. Not only is each and every child gifted but they are so very courteous and well mannered. The film "Partners in India" was also shown and I hope you will all have an opportunity to see it sometime.

Sunday was a very festive day with church services in both the Danish and English languages, the Danish service being conducted by Pastor Rasmussen. He has much to be proud of in this community and church that he founded, and it is a joy to hear him — he still has such a powerful deliverance of his thoughts and inspirations.

Dr. Alfred Jensen spoke to us again in the afternoon and just after supper he showed us the film from the Lutheran World Federation meetings in Minneapolis. The convention closed with an excellent message from Rev. Harold Petersen of Askov. At the coffee table that evening there were the traditional speeches of thanks, etc., and here is where I will leave off with a sincere thank you again to Dalum for welcoming us so warmly and for treating us so royally. Your meals were superb — they really have good cooks in Canada — and everything was done with such ease and efficiency. Our meeting in Dalum will never be forgotten. Mange, mange tak!

Hertha Hansen.

The Faith of a Child

An unbeliever one day was greatly troubled in his mind as he sat alone in his quiet room on a Sunday morning. His little daughter, his only near relative, had gone to Sunday School. He had often told her "There is no God"; and to impress this godless untruth upon his daughter he had posted cards on the wall with the inscription: "God is nowhere." Yet his unbelief gave him no satisfaction.

On this Sunday, when his daughter had come home, she began to speak to him of the heavenly Father and His great love in Christ Jesus, a lesson she had heard in Sunday School that morning. He pointed her to one of the cards on the wall and said, "Read that."

She could not read fluently, and so she spelled out the words very slowly: "G-o-d-i-s-n-o-w-h-e-r-e." Then she said: "God is now here; isn't that true, Daddy?"

The heart of the infidel, who had turned from God when his beloved wife had been taken from him, was greatly touched by this reply of his child. At last he said: "Yes, my dear, that is true; God is now here." His unbelief had been overcome by the firm faith of the little child.

Selected.

Two AELC Students Get Lutheran Brotherhood Leadership Awards

Two 1958 high school graduates who are members of the American Evangelical Lutheran Church have received \$150 Lutheran Youth Leadership Awards from Lutheran Brotherhood, fraternal life insurance society with headquarters in Minneapolis.

They are Elsa K. Muller, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Erling U. Muller, 3308 Forty-seventh Avenue South, Minneapolis, and Alice V. Olsen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Albert V. Olsen, Route 1, Ruthton, Minnesota. Both will enroll this fall at Grand View college, Des Moines, Iowa.

Selection is based on scholastic and leadership achievements, as well as outstanding participation in school and church activities. Award winners are chosen by youth work leaders of the various Lutheran synods.

The Lutheran Youth Leadership Awards are part of Lutheran Brotherhood's 1958 scholarship program totaling \$83,000. Of this amount, \$25,000 was set aside for the newly-inaugurated Lutheran Brotherhood Faculty Fellowship awards to teachers at Lutheran colleges and seminaries.

The program also provides for scholarships to students at Lutheran seminaries and junior and senior colleges, and to Lutheran graduate nurses.

LWA Receipts at 49 Per Cent of \$3,610,000 Goal

New York — (NLC) — Contributions to Lutheran World Action in the first eight months of 1958 amounted to \$1,769,134 or 49 per cent of the \$3,610,000 that is being sought for emergency activities at home and abroad.

The Rev. Rollin Shaffer, assistant director of the annual LWA appeal of the National Lutheran Council, reported that three church bodies had contributed more than half their quotas as of August 31.

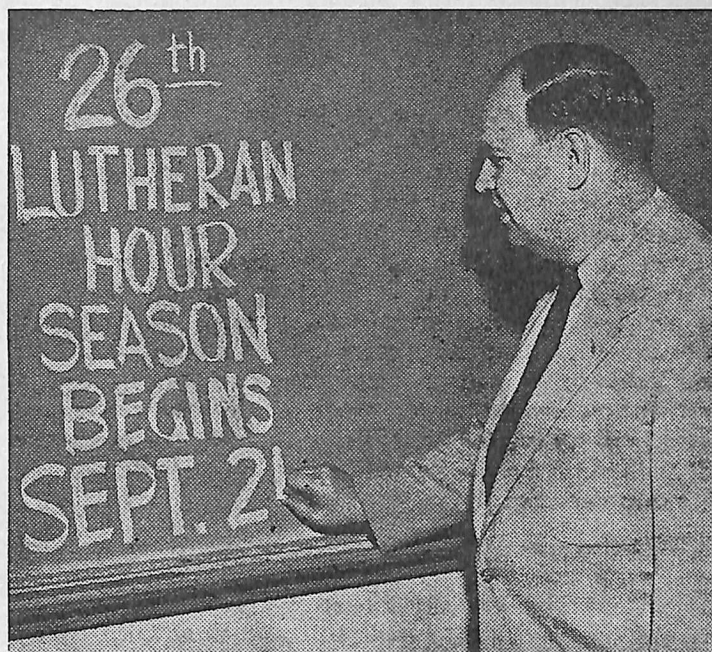
The American Lutheran Church turned in \$365,133 or 56 per cent, the Augustana Lutheran Church \$225,060 or 55 per cent and the United Lutheran Church in America \$897,488 or 53 per cent.

LWA's complete report for the eight-month period follows:

Church Body

United Lutheran Church	
Evangelical Lutheran Church	
American Lutheran Church	
Augustana Lutheran Church	
Lutheran Free Church	
United Evangelical Lutheran Church	
Suomi Synod	
American Evangelical Lutheran Church	
Undesignated	

TOTAL



Dr. Oswald Hoffmann

26th Lutheran Hour Season Opens Sept. 21

The 26th broadcasting season of The Lutheran Hour, a global radio ministry sponsored by the Lutheran Laymen's League, will begin on Sunday, September 21. A Lutheran Hour rally in the Ford Auditorium, Detroit, Mich., at 3 p. m., September 21 will observe the new season opening.

The world's most wide-spread radio program, The Lutheran Hour is now broadcast in 59 languages into more than 100 countries over more than 1,250 NBC, Mutual and independent stations of 68 lands.

The Rev. Dr. Oswald Hoffmann of New York City, beginning his fourth season as the regular speaker for the English program, will present the topic, "Christ Crucified." He also will be the Detroit rally speaker.

The sole purpose of The Lutheran Hour is expressed in its motto, "Bringing Christ to the Nations." It is sponsored by the Lutheran Laymen's League, 102,000-member international affiliate of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.

The program was inaugurated in 1930 over 32 stations of the CBS network with the late Dr. Walter A. Maier as speaker. After the first series of broadcasts, it was temporarily discontinued because of uncertain financial support and CBS adoption of a ban against religious programming.

Goal	Receipts	Per Cent Goal
		8-31-58
\$1,683,174	\$897,488.03	53
730,236	228,475.77	31
650,537	365,133.42	56
407,151	225,060.00	55
53,679	14,786.00	28
40,074	7,800.00	19
27,351	13,351.91	49
17,798	6,172.81	35
	10,866.48	
<hr/> \$3,610,000	<hr/> \$1,769,134.42	<hr/> 49

District I Convention

District I of the American Evangelical Lutheran Church will hold its annual convention at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, 30 West Hartford Road, Newington, Connecticut, September 26-28.

All congregations are asked to be represented by delegates (one for every 35 voting members) and all pastors are asked to be in attendance. Others who may desire to attend will be welcome.

The convention will open with a service on Friday evening and will close on Sunday afternoon.

Theodore J. Thuesen,
District President.

District II Convention

District II of the American Evangelical Lutheran Church will meet for its annual convention at Central Lutheran Church in Muskegon, Michigan, September 26-28. The opening meeting will be on Friday evening, September 26, and the closing meeting on Sunday afternoon, September 28.

All pastors of the District are expected to be in attendance and the congregations are reminded to elect and send delegates, one for every twenty-five voting members or fraction thereof. Everyone interested in attending this convention shall be welcome.

Beryl M. Knudsen,
District President.

District III Convention

District III of the American Evangelical Lutheran Church will meet for its annual convention at Bethania Lutheran Church, 1350 Orchard St., Racine, Wis., on September 26-28. The opening meeting will be Friday at 7:30 p. m., the closing meeting at 2 p. m., Sunday afternoon.

All pastors should be in attendance and the congregations are reminded to send delegates, one for every 25 voting members of their membership.

The program for the convention is presented below. All interested in attending these meetings shall be welcome.

Also this year there will be a special Youth Workshop in connection with the convention. We hope for a big turn-out.

Paul E. Wikman,
District President.

Invitation to Young People's Workshop

In conjunction with the meeting of District III Convention to be held in Bethania Lutheran Church, Racine, Wisconsin, an invitation is extended to the Young People of the District to come and participate in an all day Workshop to be held on Saturday, September 27. Registrations for this Workshop should be sent to Miss Karen Ernst, 1627 Liberty St.

The Young People's Group,
BETHANIA LUTHERAN CHURCH.

District VII Convention

The annual convention of District VII of the American Evangelical Lutheran Church will be held at Cordova, Nebraska, October 3-5, 1958. The convention will begin on Friday afternoon at 3 o'clock and will close with an early supper on Sunday evening.

All congregations of the District are urged to send delegates. Each congregation is entitled to send one delegate for every ten voting members or major fraction thereof.

May we assemble at Cordova in October for a good and fruitful meeting in God's name and to His glory.

Thorvald Hansen, President.
District VII, AELC.

INVITATION

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church of Cordova, Nebraska, extends a cordial invitation to all pastors, delegates and friends to attend District VII convention to be held here October 3-5, 1958. We would appreciate having your registration at least a week in advance so that we can provide housing for all of you. Also, will those coming only for Sunday please notify us? The ladies of our church will be planning the menus and would like to know how many to prepare for.

Please send your registrations to: Mr. Vernon Jensen, Beaver Crossing, Nebraska.

May God bless the fellowship of our meeting.

Aage Paulsen, President.
Folmer Farstrup, Pastor.

District VIII Fall Meeting

Solvang, California
October 17, 18 and 19
Friday, October 17

3:30 p. m.—Coffee social hour
4:00 p. m.—Address: A. E. Farstrup,
Vice President, AELC

6:00 p. m.—Supper
8:00 p. m.—Address: Carl Segerham-
mer, President of the Cal-
ifornia Conference, Au-
gustana

Saturday, October 18

9:30 a. m.—Bible Hour, Devotions:
Paul Nussle, Salinas
10:45 a. m.—Address: Owen Gramps,
Watsonville
12:00 Noon—Luncheon
1 to 3 p. m.—Open period for visiting,
sight-seeing

3:00 p. m.—Coffee social hour
4:00 p. m.—Address: Aage Moller,
Solvang

6:00 p. m.—Dinner
8:00 p. m.—Musical Program; Ad-
dress: Verner Hansen,
Los Angeles

Sunday, October 19

9:45 a. m.—Danish worship service:
Niels Nielsen, Fresno
11:00 a. m.—English worship: Ken-
neth Senft, preaching
12 Noon—Dinner

2:00 p. m.—Address: Kenneth Senft,
Vice President, California
Synod of the ULCA

12:00 noon—Luncheon

Dansk Nytaar

The Editor of DANSK NYTAAR, Dr. P. C. Nyholm, announces that back copies of the Danish Language Christmas annual are available from this address: DANSK NYTAAR, Blair, Nebraska. The 1954 edition is not available, but copies can be had for the years 1955, 1956, 1957 and 1958. The 1956 edition has a much-used list of birthdays and other data about ministers in the two Danish-background synods, while the 1958 edition contains other biographical material.

The Ministry of Administration

(Continued from Page 4)

We do this as members of Christ's body, inspired by His Spirit, filled with the joy of Christian service. As Paul reminds us, in a verse preceding our text, "To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good." All the ministries of the church are important; each is one of the means to a glorious end. If we serve our Lord with gladness, we shall begin to experience here the Christian victory, we shall be assured of the success of our service . . . success because we do these things to His honor and glory.

As we serve the Lord with gladness, let us remember the famous words of Paul which immediately follow our text for today, the famous First Corinthians Thirteen, the chapter on love. Hear a paraphrase of some of the words of that beautiful chapter: Whatever our ministry, and however well we perform it, it is empty unless we have love, God's love, in our hearts. For unless we do these things unto the glory of God, they are only loud noises that call attention to ourselves.

The ministry of administration is a part of our Christian stewardship — the living of the Christian life in our daily activities, our responses to God's infinite love; it is a part of evangelism, for others look at us to see what the Christian life implies, and our lives become the Bible they read.

We can do our tasks to God's glory, only because through the grace of God have we received the transforming gifts of forgiveness and love. We must reflect this love which he has given us; we must reflect His love in doing His task for us, in serving as administrators in his church.

To use the words of our second text, "May you be strengthened with all powers, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy, giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in light."

May each one of us know the privilege, the joy, and the final success, through Jesus Christ, who gives us the tasks to do and the strength to do them. May each one of us share in the ministry of administration, so that our church may serve Him better.
Amen.

OUR CHURCH

Chicago, Illinois. A special Stewardship program will be held September 21 here, with Synod Stewardship Secretary, Harry Jensen, as guest speaker, both in the morning and in the evening.

Danevang, Texas. The Fall Festival here will be held on November 6-9, with Pastor Enok Mortensen of Tyler, Minnesota, as guest speaker.

Withee, Wisconsin. The new church here will be dedicated October 12. Dr. Alfred Jensen will speak at the afternoon meeting, after the morning service and dedication. Former pastors of the congregation will speak at informal sessions later in the day.

Minneapolis, Minnesota. Two laymen conducted worship on a recent Sunday while Pastor Ottar Jorgensen was vacationing. Iver Jorgensen and Laurice Austin shared in the worship leadership, with Mr. Austin preaching.

Nysted, Nebraska. Guest speaker at this year's "Septemberfest" was Dr. Ernest Nielsen, President of Grand View College, on September 14.

Newington, Connecticut. (Formerly Hartford). On September 26, a Friday, the new pastor, Holger Nielsen, will be installed at the opening services of the District I Convention.

Tyler, Minnesota. Danebod Church here has opened its doors to a nearby ELC church which is in need of a place to worship. The two congregations will share the church on Sundays, with the ELC service taking place of the customary Danish service early Sunday mornings. The ELC congregation was formed years ago because there was no English-speaking Lutheran church in the community, and the present arrangement is an interesting twist

of history. Union services will possibly be held at least on Thanksgiving Day. The Harvest Festival took place September 7, with Pastor Calvin Rossman of Ruthton and Diamond Lake, as guest speaker.

Muskegon, Michigan. This congregation is host to the District Convention starting September 26, but already this month has celebrated an event of some significance, the 85th Anniversary of the church. The date, September 14, marked the beginning of a six-week period of expansion effort for the congregation, as funds will be gathered for the building program. This "Building Expansion Crusade" will end October 31.

Acknowledgment of Receipts by the Synod Treasurer

For the month of August, 1958

Towards the Budget:

Unassigned: (by congregations)	
Perth Amboy, N. J.	\$ 150.00
Solvang, Calif.	300.00
Marquette, Nebr.	400.00
Cordova, Nebr.	300.00
Menominee, Mich.	51.25
Racine, Wis.	300.62
Bridgeport, Conn.	100.00
Clinton, Iowa	300.00
Muskegon, Mich.	125.00
Newark, N. J.	60.00
Ruthton, Minn.	181.50
Perth Amboy, N. J.	150.00

To correct May, 1958 report, receipts from Rev. Erik Moller was for Pastors' pension contributions, not Budget Unassigned (30.00)

For Children's Home, Chicago, Illinois:

Ladies' Aid Society, Grayling, Mich. 5.00

For Santal Mission:

Solvang, Calif., for general purposes	1.00
Solvang, Calif., for Harold Rib-er's work	15.00
Ruthton, Minn.	5.00

August Budget Receipts from
Congregations\$2,414.37
Previously acknowledged41,295.86

Total to date\$43,710.23

Other Budget Receipts:

1958 — 2 % Withholding:	
Ludington, Mich.	\$ 12.50
Dagmar, Mont.	26.03
Ruthton, Minn.	9.20
Solvang, Calif.	30.08
Fredsville, Iowa	18.50
Withee, Wis.	15.00

Synod Treasurer—
for Synod President, year to date 73.20
for Synod Secretary, year to date 3.75

Contributions — 1957 base:
Rev. Harold Olsen 10.00
Rev. Clayton Nielsen 54.00
Rev. Erik Moller (Correction of May report) 30.00

Total for month\$ 282.26

Previously acknowledged ---- 2,402.41

Total to date\$2,684.67

Total receipts for 1958 Budget, to date, 8-31-58\$46,394.90

Received for items outside of Budget:

For Lutheran World Action:

Salinas, Calif.	\$ 75.00
Menominee, Mich.	12.80
Racine, Wis.	29.60
Ludington, Mich.	187.00
Dagmar, Mont.	10.00
Ruthton, Minn.	75.80

Total receipts during August, 1958\$ 390.20

Previously acknowledged ---- 7,042.66

Total to date, 8-31-58\$7,432.86

For Santal Mission:

Racine, Wis.	\$ 5.00
Marinette, Wis., Sunday school	22.45
In memory of Lauritz Feddersen, Dannebrog, Nebr., from his grandchildren	7.00
AELC convention offering	261.53
Mr. and Mrs. Julius Petersen, Cordova, Nebr., for Ribers' work	5.00
Miss Dagmar Miller	5.00
In memory of Clara Petersen, Owen, Wis., by Sina Petersen, for Harold Ribers' work	10.00
For general purposes	10.00
From West Denmark, Wis., Ladies' Aid, in memory of Knud Christensen Thorsmark, Luck	3.00
In memory of P. Brun Petersen, Marquette, Nebr.	3.00

Total\$ 331.98

District IV Home Mission:

Received from District Treasurer for St. Paul Ev. Luth. Church, Cedar Falls	200.00
North Cedar Lutheran Mission, Cedar Falls	50.00

Total\$ 250.00

District V Home Mission:

For St. Mark Ev. Luth. Church, Circle Pines, Minn., from West Denmark Luth. Church	46.00
From Bone Lake Lutheran Church	23.01

Total\$ 69.01

For Faith and Life Advance:

Racine, Wis.	\$ 34.00
Ruthton, Minn.	30.00

Total\$ 64.00

Received from 81st Annual Convention:

General offering	\$ 278.81
Registration Fees	253.00

Total\$ 531.81

For Annual Reports:

Salinas, Calif.	\$ 5.00
Muskegon, Mich.	6.00

Total\$ 11.00

M. C. Miller, Treasurer
P. O. Box 177,
Circle Pines, Minnesota.

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 _____ September 20, 1958

Name _____

New Address _____

City _____ State _____

PETERSEN, ANDREW K. 6-4

TYLER, MINN.