

Lutheran Tidings

PUBLISHED BY THE AMERICAN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH



The ordination service at the recent 83rd Convention of the AELC at Waterloo, Iowa, was inspiring as always. President A. E. Farstrup, acting for the first time in his office as Ordainor, is shown standing before kneeling candidate Everett Nielsen. Gathered around are the pastors of the synod who, shortly thereafter, performed the impressive rite of the laying on of hands.

Johanne Dupont-Hansen

1881 - 1960

The violets are blooming, George,
The robin's on the wing,
A haze of light is dawning, George,
A blessed day, in spring.
We'll see and hear the tune, George,
Of life restored in hope — to you.
The sun, the stars above us, George,
Each blessed day are true.

And there was light,
Though sightless he and sad, forlorn.
Her voice of hearty, gentle urge
Indeed to him was borne.
Past and beyond the darkness,
full and free,
It pledged the comfort of sweet sympathy.

The violets are blooming, George,
— O blessed be the voice
That turned a gloomy prophecy
To lightsome hopes and joys!

The hand that touched the tuneful string
Might lose the cheer, the lilting ring,
Unless by love inspired.
So love she gave, a wife indeed,
And held his hand, and never tired,
Nor failed in trust from day to day.
— So now at last, her crown is won,
Her heroine's task with grace is done.
God rest her heart, then, well content.
Such love is never idly spent,
No kindly thought is lost.
Her voice of cheer
In blithe refrain
We hear in memory again:

The violets are blooming, George,
The robin's on the wing.

J. Christian Bay.

Editor's Note: J. Christian Bay, 89, librarian emeritus of the John Crerar Library in Chicago, was a long-time friend of the George Dupont-Hansens. Mrs. Dupont-Hansen died recently, and this poem is Mr. Bay's tribute to the memory of his friend, and the friend of many in the synod. George Dupont-Hansen's name is on the music books which have been used in almost all our synod churches. He was for many, many years organist of our Trinity Church in Chicago.



New AELC President

Anders Ejnar Farstrup of Solvang, California, became president of the American Evangelical Lutheran Church in the election held at the 83rd Annual Convention of the Synod in Waterloo, Iowa, in August.

Pastor Farstrup, 51, has been pastor in Solvang since 1952. He was born near Exira, Iowa, May 19, 1909, and is the first American-born president of the synod. His education has been at Grand View College and Drake University, in Des Moines, Iowa, and at the University of Southern California, Los Angeles. He was ordained June 11, 1933, and began his ministry as pastor for congregations on two sides of the state line separating Marinette, Wisconsin and Menominee, Michigan. In 1939 he moved to Los Angeles where he was pastor until called to be chaplain and instructor at Grand View College in 1947, where he remained for five years.

His hobbies are fishing and gardening and calls himself a "golfer-in-the-rough." He is married to Ragnhild (Madsen) of Aarhus, Denmark, (April 11, 1933) and there are two children, Ruth, 25, and Alan, 19. Ruth is a student at Iowa University in the graduate department of speech and drama. Alan attends Grand View, a sophomore.

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The 83rd Convention of the AELC is shown here during business sessions on August 12, at Waterloo, Iowa. Presiding is Assistant Chairman Harold Olsen, left. Addressing the convention in his office as Chairman of the Board of Education is Dr. Erling Jensen, Ames, Iowa, who was presiding officer during most of the convention. The convention secretary, Pastor Calvin Rossman, Ruthton, Minn., is seated at the table.

Highlights and Sidelights

83rd Annual Convention of the AELC

— Editorial Report —

WE ENDED our report in the last issue with a mild plaint that our convention worship services have become liturgical to an extent that seems outside our AELC tradition. Together with this must be mentioned, however, that both lay people and ministers are in recent years paying much more attention to the theology of the messages heard at the morning and Sunday worship. Our observation was that there were fewer comments at Waterloo of the type: "Wasn't that a fine message!" and more comments of the type: "Well, what did you think of Pastor's point about?" This would seem to indicate that our people are taking the whole matter of the worship more and more seriously. Ministers may tend to be more liturgical, but this

does not prevent them from also being more theological and doctrinal. (We do not hold with those who maintain that one must be either/or.) Probably the whole merger atmosphere has made us aware of a new churchmanship and challenging theological concepts.

Last issue carried the opening sermon by Dr. Johannes Knudsen. Our private judgment is that this message started the convention off on an exceptionally high plane. It was a difficult opening address to make. No one knew yet what the mood of the convention was. No one could know which currents were strong and which were mere eddies. It was Dr. Knudsen's task to set the convention in motion, and to attune it to the sound of the Holy Spirit. He recognized his responsibility and was more than adequate for it.

Another highlight came early in the business session. Following a recommendation from the President's Report, the convention voted approval of the committee's motion that "congregations finding themselves serving a changing world be urged to adjust themselves to render the best possible service under the circumstances to white and colored alike in order that God's grace and salvation in Christ may be mediated through His Church." Our remoteness from this situation is a thing of the past, and there was not one vote or voice raised in protest against the motion. Sometimes high points at the convention are not easy to reproduce back home, as delegates bring their reports and try to convert decisions into follow-up action. This will be undoubtedly true in this instance. But congregations can not very well ignore completely decisions made unanimously by the synod convention.

Another decision that (besides the merger vote) was near-unanimous was the decision to give the Board of Education permission to build a new gym in Des Moines at Grand View College. There was one hand raised in protest. This lonely soul is commended for his strength of conviction, but one feels certain that wisdom was on the side of the majority. The gym is long overdue. If we are to maintain a college, it is our responsibility to do so with a realistic sense for what it takes. There was some good discussion on the matter, but the overly cautious were won over by a well-organized presentation of data and pictures and plans. It ought not to be difficult to sell \$300,000 worth of bonds to our own people. Only 1,200 people buying \$250 worth will do it; 300 people buying \$1,000 will also do it. These debentures will be sound, and will return a handsome interest.

A report was given on the Faith and Life Advance, noting that about five per cent of the pledges have proved to be worthless. (This is low, compared to the expected loss judging from the experience of others.) Some deaths have occurred and the estates have not made good on the pledges. Some people have moved, joined other churches, and thus ex-

plained that they did not feel any longer bound by their pledges. (One cannot help wondering if the same explanation was given to the grocer or doctor.) It was also explained that the drive for funds from Des Moines business had fallen short of the anticipated goal by \$33,000, but that some hope still exists.

The pastoral shortage continues to plague us. Only one candidate was up for ordination. Announcement was also made of the withdrawal from full-time pastoral ministry of the Los Angeles pastor. On the other hand, two congregations also withdrew, which helped the vacancy problem created by the retirement of Pastor Viggo Hansen and Holger Strandkov (since the last convention). The one candidate was Everett Nielsen who is familiar to LUTHERAN TIDINGS readers from his work as editor of *Paging Youth* (see page 10). The ordination was, as always, a highlight. The intimation was given by the candidate's brother (and will be printed in the next issue). The ordination was the first performed by Pastor A. E. Farstrup, who was elected ordainor early in the convention. That election, incidentally, was one of the most interesting votes taken in Waterloo. Dr. Jensen, in his report, had recommended that the ordainor of the synod be the president of the synod (or vice versa). There was no way of knowing for sure who the new president would be, at the time of the election of ordainor. And there were those who would like to have elected Alfred Jensen ordainor. Following Dr. Jensen's own recommendation, the convention ultimately selected the man it felt was going to become the new president. Opposing him on the ballot was Pastor Ottar Jorgensen, a rather reluctant candidate who garnered almost as many votes as Pastor Farstrup on the first ballot. Election came on the next ballot, and this was followed by a wholehearted vote to make the election unanimous.

There were many social highlights during the convention. The Parish Education Banquet on Friday night, with an outstanding address by Pastor Robert Hetico of the Finnish (Suomi) Church, the appearance



Pictured above are the four officers of the Synod Board: Pastor Willard Garred, Hampton, Iowa, Secretary; Pastor A. E. Farstrup, Solvang, Calif., President; Mr. Michael Miller, Circle Pines, Minn., Treasurer; and Pastor Holger Nielsen, Newington, Conn., Vice President.

of Ruth Youngdahl Nelson, the thoughtful and touching closing address by the retiring President on Sunday night — these will all be remembered by grateful delegates. The special "dinner" at which time was taken to honor Dr. Jensen was likewise notable, and will be dealt with elsewhere in this issue.

The merger vote must be looked upon as the supreme moment, however. The convention faced a grave decision, and the future hung on the result. If the vote had gone another way, it would nevertheless have been momentous in the story of our Synod. We must thank God that He has chosen us to forward His work in what ways seem best to us. We gather to appraise such factors in our life and mutual work which appear to us to be decisive, and then we go into motion. Sometimes it is slow motion; but under our faith we are convinced of the assistance of His Spirit.

We now have a synod board with a new man at the controls. When we bring our recent synod history under the judgments of retrospection, is it not true to conclude that our administrations have always acted on the side of caution and conservatism? The conventions, it would seem, have been impatient and eager and optimistic and sacrificial to a point beyond what has been requested. And the congregations have backed them up by supporting our recent major endeavors beyond expectations, as well as by over-subscribing all recent synod budgets. Our new president and our new vice president are men of conservative record and mien. It is this reporter's hope that the synod board will be as progressive and daring as it seems our conventions and our synod want to be. No one knows how much our people can and will do, unless they are challenged. Our impression is that the synod has been champing at the bit, and only needs to be let out in order to go far. No major request by the administration has ever been denied in recent years (except the affiliation movement with ULCA some years ago, which merely strengthens our point).

Thanks are due to many who gave us the 83rd convention. The Waterloo congregation, certainly, as well as neighboring congregations, whose praises can hardly be overdone; the convention officers who put in all that overtime, with no thought of fringe benefits; the choirs and soloists — yes, even that trio on closing night who did the impossible by singing a "solo" (as announced by the master of ceremonies) — all these deserve our gratitude. Our final thought takes us upward in thanksgiving to God for opening the portals of His Kingdom and giving us a place in it, as single souls, as members of our beloved synod, and now as part of that larger Lutheran Church which will be His working tool.

POSSESSED

Even a little Christianity personally possessed is worth an infinite amount of Christianity externally copied.

— Harry Emerson Fosdick.

Home Mission Workshop-Conference

On the Monday following Synod Convention seven home mission pastors and fourteen lay representatives of home mission congregations gathered at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Cedar Falls, to spend ten hours of study and discussion under qualified resource persons on matters relating particularly to home mission congregations. Sponsored by the Home Mission Council, the purpose of the conference was to bring together the pastor and one or two lay leaders from each of our home mission congregations for the purpose of leading them more fully into the meaning and implications of our Christian faith and vocation through teaching and demonstrating the practical application of the Christian message in our daily walk in our kind of world and in the parish where God has called us to witness and to serve, and to send these leaders back to their churches with hearts, minds and wills prepared by the Holy Spirit for intensified stewardship and evangelism programs and more faithful personal witness for our Lord.

The objectives of the conference, as stated in the announcement of the workshop, were to give guidance and encouragement to home mission pastors and congregations in using the best evangelism methods, and in using the best stewardship approaches, through giving helps to pastors and lay leaders in specific evangelism procedures and programs, and in specific stewardship procedures and programs by providing tools and techniques for the purpose of strengthening and intensifying through-the-year evangelism and stewardship programs in each home mission congregation.

Pastor Peter Thomsen, synodical evangelism secretary, in his opening worship sermonette, emphasized the spiritual impetus for home missions. Pastor W. Clayton Nielsen, chairman of the workshop-conference, presented the present situation in the AELC as regards means, personnel, problems and needs. He pointed out that six congregations receiving home mission aid in 1955 are no longer receiving such aid, that seven new congregations are home mission congregations today, with only St. Mark Church at Circle Pines appearing on the list in 1955, at that time without its first resident pastor. In addition to the themes covered directly in the workshop-conference, Pastor Nielsen encouraged, in every congregation, regular self-analysis, annual every-member-visitation, functioning evangelism committees, and adequate assistance for the pastor so he can be free from office routines and extra-congregational responsibilities, in order that he can have proper time for guidance, visitation and study, and attend the special meetings devoted to his special needs. He also mentioned that in other Lutheran groups, home mission congregations are challenged to become self-supporting in one-to-five years, though this is not always possible.

The Rev. J. Bruce Weaver, Director of Evangelism in the United Lutheran Church in America, next introduced the new "Resource Book in Evangelism," and explained fully its purpose and use. Two of the laymen remarked concerning this presentation, "We're really glad we stayed for this meeting. It gave us just what we needed!" The Resource Book in Evangelism

(Continued on Page 16)

Baptized Into Christ

DEAN AXEL C. KILDEGAARD

MAYWOOD, ILLINOIS

— Galatians 3:27 —

Twenty per cent of Americans will move this year. Although I suspect that the percentage is somewhat lower with respect to church people, certainly many of you are not strangers to this experience. One month ago, my family and I tore loose our roots and moved from Des Moines to Maywood, Illinois. These roots had been nourished and allowed to grow within the life of one community and congregation for twelve years. As when a plant is transplanted, all the tiny feeder rootlings were violated and, as the plant, we too wilted physically and emotionally through the experience. But our lives have been well watered by the concern and welcome of new neighbors and the shock of the uprooting shows promise of being overcome. It is not my intention to give a report or an analysis of our personal move to Maywood that preceded the seminary and was in accord within our convention decision of last year. But while this is not an experience to be envied, it does have relevance for our meditation this morning. It is an experience that many of you will recognize.

Old patterns and old ways are comfortable and painful to change. Our lives are established therein and change is as for the plant a shock. Even among those of us who are most committed to the anticipated merger of our church with three other Lutheran bodies, there remains a gnawing pain which in honesty spells out a certain hesitancy. Were I to describe my own attitude toward the primary concern of this convention, it would have to be stated in paradox, in terms perhaps of a reluctant eagerness. Hungry for the new but nostalgic with respect to the past. It is in this context that we may now turn to consideration of our oneness in Christ through our baptism.

Earlier in the third chapter of the letter to the Galatians, Paul discusses the relationship between the law and the Gospel, not in terms of two different covenants or ways of salvation, the one now having supplanted the other, but rather suggesting that the grace which we know in Christ is the consistent and eternal purpose of God. The Gospel, in Paul's meta-

This was one of the messages heard in the morning worship services under the theme "You Are All One In Christ Jesus."

Others will follow in later issues.

phor, is likened to a will that is made which no one amends or supplements once it has been ratified. That will or promise he identifies with the inheritance given to Abraham, and laid hold of by him by faith in the anticipation of the Christ. The law, which may be considered in terms of the necessary definition of human relationships came much later. The law was itself both necessary and good — but never in the same category as the promise. In the law there is no hope for salvation, there is no righteousness. The law is simply a description of the ways in which we fallible and weak men may live our day to day lives in expectation of Christ. Herein the Spirit does neither live nor work. A human prescription is thus supplied, but never a divine Gospel. Herein our hope may never be placed.

The church as we know it in our common language and thought is both a community of faith and an organization defined by laws governing our common relationships. Often we confuse these two aspects of the church and when we describe our church to others, we begin to speak in terms of those laws. Much of the consideration which we will give to the question of the proposed merger will be devoted to this aspect of the definition of the church. It is both legitimate and necessary; but it may not be the most essential. The church is also defined in and by the Gospel and this is not something which man has given or derived. When our church was young, its history was less encumbered by constitutions and convention decisions. If you should read the history and the writings of our church in its earlier days, you would be impressed by the allusions to and the dependency upon the Spirit. It was not always, I am convinced, God's Spirit, but nevertheless in this day of highly organized and efficient planning, or attempts thereat, there was a spontaneity and daring which is in sharp contrast with our own behavior.

I realize that part of this contrast is in the spirit of the age— and not confined to the church. The two recent political conventions gave evidence of organizational proficiency to such a degree that the viewer at home wondered if one spontaneous moment or action was possible. The proper and accepted method of human relationships today is to leave nothing to chance. It might be said that our times may be described as being lived under a new, sophisticated and most subtle yoke of the law. The vision and the radical trust which faith implies is so easily dimmed and diverted by another inheritance: one that is becoming the new science of our day, that of human relations.

The church is an organizational structure defined

and described by law — and it is so necessarily. But the church is even more significantly defined in and by the Gospel. It is always called back to its genesis through the Word in which it was born and through which it has ever been nourished. That word may at times be comforting but it is rarely comfortable. That word gives us security but it rarely confirms our own securities. That Word is Christ into whose life and death we are grafted in our baptism. This is the other dimension that distinguished the Church from all other human organizations. This is the dimension in which we must again and again find and define ourselves, lest we be no longer a church. In these two aspects of the definition of the church are to be found the law and the Gospel. . . . In the law there is no hope for salvation; there is no righteousness — that may be found only in the Gospel.

There are times in the life of a church when this distinction is put on edge. The relationship which God establishes through Christ with man always has its fruition in the relationship between man and neighbor. Sometimes these two relationships become confused. We confuse our friendship and natural affinities with those to whom in faith our lives have become linked with the Gospel itself. Certainly the two are inseparable: the God given hope in Christ and the heart warming love which grows between my fellow member in Christ and myself. Sometimes it may be that in the organic reality of the Christian life these need not be distinguished. But the danger then arises that our faith becomes provincial and loses the breadth and grandeur wherein we may grow. The fruit becomes more central than the vine and friendship supplants the Gospel. This is not said to belittle the natural ties and love that many of us bear toward our own church and the friends that God has given to us in our church. Nevertheless, it is a characteristic of all idolatry that it seeks to worship values that God has given rather than the Lord Himself. Man is an idolatrous creature — which is simply another way of saying that he clings to the values known from the past. He says in effect: "Thank you, God, now I won't need you anymore." The Gospel in contrast invites us to live in and by the promises of God, won for us in the victory of Christ, to be fulfilled in a frightening future.

It is this spirit that has impressed me in the annals of the early days of our church. The situation in which we live has changed so radically over the past fifty years, that it would be sheer nonsense as well as sacrilegious to seek to recreate and recover the values to which our fathers gave themselves. That too would be idolatrous and a violation of the Spirit which God gives. The reluctance to change and to say farewell to old patterns of relationships may be an expression of thanksgiving to God. But worship that is alive implies that there must also be an eagerness to live within the Spirit which is the hope of the Gospel. To enable us so to dare, there is the further consolation that God's good news always does bear fruit and that new relationships as vital and satisfying as those known in the past will be ours in the future.

Through our baptism, we are members of the

church. This is true in the obvious sense of our thus being members of a particular organization, but it also means far more than this. We are thereby members of His body, participants in the Gospel. Not by our structures nor our accomplishments are we to be so reckoned. God has given this entrance, this manner of our participation in the Gospel. In and through our baptism, we have put on Christ. We have allied ourselves with the future; we have become clothed in the promise which He bestows. This is the very nature and mark of a Christian, that his life as it is grafted into the life, death and resurrection of our Lord witnesses with eagerness to the future. To put on Christ means nothing less than to be a promise-bearer, God's promise-bearer.

In the human sense the future itself is corroded with threats and insecurity. The fears of plague, war and poverty are constant companions and in no sense shadowy imaginations. But God's promise transcends and nullifies these in and through those who in baptism have put on Christ. Differ though we may in all our earthly opinions, from politics to morality, yes even to theological definitions, here in our baptism we are one. Our oneness is not of our own contrivance but has its source in the victory of Christ over death; His victory over man's attempt to break Him. We are ONE, not because we decide to enter into a new church structure but because Christ is one and we have become the bearers of Christ. Because of our oneness in Him, given as the promise of the Church, we seek one another — and our neighbors in Christ.

Human structures remain necessary for the weakness and the sin of the human creature. They demand a certain human respect and appreciation in the same fashion that the fruits of faith from the past are to be revered. But they may never be worshipped nor be considered the basis of the church. The law is, even as Paul wrote, for our sin, but our righteousness is in Christ. Reluctant in remembrance of yesterday's frailties as well as yesterday's gifts of grace, we are yet even more eager as our lives are lived in Him. Members of His body by our baptism, we are secure within the eternal love of His and our heavenly Father. Amen.

WHAT A LIFE

Lincoln has given me a sense of the majesty of noble human living, a glimpse of the meaning of life itself, of what lies hidden in the souls of the high and humble alike; a great faith in my race and in my country. What a life to study, what noble integrity, what high courage, what delicate justice and melting pity! What loyalty to the ideal, what common sense and practical capacity touched by poetry, what heights of vision and valleys of melancholy, what tear-freighted humor!

Joseph Fort Newton,
In River of Years (Lippincott)

There's a difference between good sound reasons and reasons that sound good.



Dr. Alfred Jensen, left, congratulates Pastor A. E. Farstrup on his election as new president of the AELC during the convention at Waterloo, Iowa, in August. Dr. Jensen had served for 24 years in the office, and was ineligible for re-election this time because of an age restriction in the synod constitution. Dr. Jensen was named President Emeritus by the convention. His term expires December 31. At a "testimonial" dinner for Dr. Jensen, several synod members, representing segments and phases of our work, recognized his long years of leadership. The convention passed the following resolution:

Resolution

Dr. Alfred Jensen has served as president of the American Evangelical Lutheran Church for twenty-four years. His retirement, which is occasioned by a Constitutional limitation of service, deprives the church of his leadership at a time when there is yet a strong call upon his ability and experience. It also comes at a time, however, when the fruits of his work are increasingly evident.

From a low ebb of organizational strength in the years of the great depression and toward the end of the period of language transition, the American Evangelical Lutheran Church has grown to a much more favorable situation. This has been due to many factors, but outstanding have been the tireless efforts and the complete dedication of Dr. Jensen. His insight, experience and boundless energy have made valuable contributions to our growth and consolidation. His vision and determination have raised our sights. His Christian devotion has helped us realize the ever constant need of building on the true foundation. His wise counsel, even when wrapped in gruffness, has

been proved by many subsequent developments.

In the relation to other churches and church councils Dr. Jensen has been an able and respected representative of our church. Amsterdam, Cleveland, Minneapolis and Oberlin are milestones in this march of representation. National Lutheran Council and the Joint Commission on Lutheran Unity have become almost as routine as our synodical activities. We can be proud of the results and of the understanding and affection that have accrued to our church on the part of other churches, due, in large measure, to the efforts of our president.

The time has come to give thanks for a completed service. We do this from the fullness of our hearts. Our gratitude for what he has been and for what he has accomplished is very great. Our affection makes it hard for us to say good-bye. But our wishes for continued close relations and for health and happiness in a well-deserved otium are as strong as can be.

Thank you, Alfred Jensen, and God bless you!

Our Women's Work

MRS. AAGE PAULSEN, EDITOR

Beaver Crossing, Nebraska



Report

I attended an Editorial Consulting Committee meeting (representatives of the four Synods) at the Augustana Lutheran Church Women's headquarters in Chicago, August 8. Plans were made for the coming six issues of the new merger magazine, LUTHERAN WOMEN. The magazine will contain supplementary material for the monthly programs found in the program packets published jointly by ALCW and ULCW and titled, "Programs — September 1960-August 1961."

I also attended our National WMS Convention at Waterloo, Iowa. It was suggested that we urge all our groups to use the programs as much as possible in planning their own "planned programs" for the coming year, and to urge them to bring their LUTHERAN WOMEN magazine along to the meetings. It is hoped that all our women will become acquainted with the new magazine.

Mrs. Neuman, from ULCW, gave a most interesting talk on the effectiveness of committee organization in the local Lutheran Church Women, and that more and more groups are trying free will contributions rather than the "bake sale, bazaar, big dinner" route. She was asked many questions by an interested audience.

We heard a panel discussion one evening. Mrs. Enok Mortensen acted as moderator, Mrs. Harris Jespersen, Dean Axel Kildegard, Miss Norma Due, Miss Emilie Stockholm as panel members. We were also privileged to have Mrs. Ruth Youngdahl Nelson as guest speaker for Saturday evening. I hope to have some of the articles for future issues of "Our Women's Work" page.

E. P.

Prayer

God grant me the serenity to accept things I cannot change, courage to change things I can, and wisdom to know the difference.

Sleep

The early Christians gave expression to faith in the risen Christ in many ways. One of these seems especially to testify to the power of Him who rose on Easter morn. They gave their graveyards a name, which we translate "cemetery," and which in Greek, is said to mean "sleeping places."

The Easter event made them aware, as it should us, that death is but the prelude to a new and greater life in the presence of God.

T. C. H.

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MRS. ARTHUR JOHNSON.....Vice President

MISS REETA PETERSEN.....Secretary
Gowan, Michigan.

MRS. FOLMER FARSTRUP.....Treasurer
Cordova, Nebraska.

Let's remember to contribute to our special projects — the Mary Seeley Knudstrup Scholarship Fund and Home Missions.

What is Poetry ?

"Poetry is that impassioned arrangement of words, whether in verse or prose, which embodies the exaltation, the beauty, the rhythm and the truth of life."

Richard Le Gallienne.

"Poetry is a grouping of words, phrases and ideas that have always loved each other, but never got together in that combination before."

Author Unknown.

(Taken from "Christ and the Fine Arts")

Wrecker or Builder ?

I saw them tear a building down,
A gang of men in a busy town.
With a ho-heave-ho and a lusty yell
They swung a beam and a building fell.
I asked the foreman, "Are these men skilled
As the men you'd hire if you had to build?"
He gave a laugh and said, "No, indeed!
Just common labor is all I need.
I can easily wreck in a day or two
What builders have taken a year to do."
And I thought to myself as I went away,
Which of these roles have I tried to play?
Am I a builder who works with care,
Measuring life by the ruler and square?
Am I shaping my deeds by a well-made plan,
Patiently doing the best I can?
Or am I a wrecker who walks the town
Content with the labor of tearing down?



Paging Youth

American Evangelical Luth.
Youth Fellowship

EDITOR: EVERETT NIELSEN

512 East Washington Avenue
Bridgeport 8, Connecticut

Ecumenical Youth Conference Report

Lausanne, Switzerland: On July 23rd, the European Ecumenical Youth Conference was opened. The conference was directed and "guided" by what Bishop Hans Lilje called a group of "Ecumenical experts." They wanted us to forget our individual ties and form one big happy family. One expression was to be the Holy Communion service which would display our unity and our "oneness in Christ." Some of us (Lutherans, Methodists and Episcopalians) could not join in the "display of unity" because we believe that Holy Communion is much more than a "display of unity" and should not be used to gain publicity for the Ecumenical movement.

Many good things did come from the conference, however, and the experience of participating in a conclave of over 2,000 youth was wonderful. It is my hope that several AELC youth can attend the North American Ecumenical Youth Conference in Michigan in August, 1961.

The Lutherans from Asia, Africa and the USA went to a rest camp near Zurich, Switzerland, after the conference to get a little rest after a hard summer of traveling and to evaluate the summer. My particular group had five free HOURS in the first twenty-four DAYS.

On July 28th, the Lutheran Youth Exchange was officially over, and we left for the four corners of the world. In this exchange, I learned to know people from every continent, from over forty lands, and have personally visited four great European nations, being eight in all.

Over the Typewriter

Keith Davis is home after a long and interesting trip. He expresses his thanks to all who made it possible for him to attend these meetings. He is now available for lectures and can be contacted by writing him at Grand View College in Des Moines, Iowa. He has purchased a film strip on the Lausanne Assembly for the library and it is available for use. Write to the Grand View College Film Library if you wish to have it, paying only for the postage.

School is open, and the plea in our newspapers is to "Drive Carefully." This is directed not only to parents, but also to our young people who drive to high school. Remember, you were too young to know better once, too. Watch for youngsters darting out from behind parked cars, bushes and buildings. Driving is a moral responsibility!

Elections do not apply only to adults. When you elect new LYF officers, do so wisely. And, send in their names to the AELYF office!

Davis Reports on Europe

June 25, 1960: We arrived in Hannover, Germany, after a very interesting trip by train and boat from Denmark. A few German youth leaders met us and informed us of a six hour layover before going on to Berlin. After eating, we wandered around the city, finding, quite by accident, Bishop Hans Lilje's home church. A man from Yugoslavia showed us around some more of the city, taking us to see a wonderful fireworks display at the closing night of the Continental Fair. We were supposed to have had tickets, but the man waved aside the guards with some words about "Americans" and we were allowed in.

Just in time, we arrived back at the bus station to board the bus for Berlin. We thought we would have had to fly in because of the difficulty in obtaining permission to cross the Soviet zone. Another complicating factor was that our government does not recognize the East Zone (called the DDR which means "German Democratic Republic") and traveling through is not the safest thing in the world. However, one of the Germans took care of our visas and passports. At exactly 2:20 a. m. on July 26th, we passed behind the IRON CURTAIN.

Actually, the trip was rather uneventful. We stopped once in the middle of the "DDR," but after the bus was repaired, we were on our way again. We met a 25 truck convoy of Russian soldiers on the way, which was quite a sight. We arrived in West Berlin (occupied by American allies) and were once more in "Free-country."

We stayed with families the first five days in West Berlin, attending youth meetings, classes, lectures, and sight-seeing tours around both West and East Berlin (the latter also occupied by the Soviets). The family with whom I stayed was wonderful. The father is a teacher in a reform school and has a fascinating life history. He had been removed from his teaching position during World War II by the Nazis, and told me all about the war as it came to Berlin.

The second week we lived in a large house with youth from the Eastern zone. This was the most enriching experience of the entire exchange. We held informal talks with youth, with important people in the German church, with refugees and with government officials. We also met a wonderful man who is our Lutheran World Federation representative in Berlin.

Again, we boarded the bus for our trip back to Hannover. This time our trip was during daylight, and we saw much of the land. We saw the farms, 100 per cent of which are collectivized, and people working in the fields. At one point we saw 25 people working in a small field with a ring of armed soldiers around them. Again, the meaning of freedom was made very clear.

From Hannover, we went to Hohensolms Castle near Frankfurt where we met with the entire group of sixty involved in the exchange. The weather was bad, the beds worse, no hot water, and the food was nowhere comparable to that in Denmark. But out of this dreary scene came some of the most wonderful discussions all summer. Problems like "why am I a Lutheran?" "the church today," etc., were discussed.

District I Convention

The district meeting will be held at St. Stephen's Evangelical Lutheran Church, 120 Pleasant Avenue, Fords, New Jersey, September 23-24-25. The congregation cordially invites delegates, pastors, members and friends of District I of the AELC to attend this meeting which will be conducted in our new church.

The congregations are requested to send one delegate for every 35 voting members or fraction thereof. Please register early. The district meeting starts with worship service Friday evening at 8 o'clock. There will be registration of guests before and after the church service.

Holger O. Nielsen, District President.
42 West Hartford Road,
Newington 11, Connecticut.

Mr. C. A. Miller, Local Con. Chm.
Apt. G-2, 585 Rahway Avenue
Woodbridge, New Jersey.

Dr. Henry Whiting to Address Convention

On Saturday evening, September 24, District I will be privileged to hear an address by Dr. Henry J. Whiting, "The Christian Home in the Suburban Community." Dr. Whiting, 50, is



Dr. Whiting

the Executive Director of the National Lutheran Council, and has a long record of service in his field. He is a former Maryland pastor and was in 1941-45 the Executive Secretary for Lutheran Welfare for the state of Wisconsin. He held a similar post in Minnesota from 1948-53, and then spent two years as Director, Department of World Service, for the Lutheran World Federation. He is married and has three children. He was one of the speakers at a recent synod convention of the AELC.

CONVENTION PROGRAM

Friday, September 23

8:00 p. m.—Worship service by Pastor Everett Nielsen of Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Bridgeport, Conn.

Saturday, September 24

9:00 a. m.—Devotions conducted by Pastor Donald Baron of Newark, N. J.

10:00 a. m.—Business meeting.

12:00 Noon—Dinner.

1:30 p. m.—Business continued.

3:00 p. m.—Coffee break.

3:20 p. m.—Business continued.

5:30 p. m.—Supper.

7:00 p. m.—Meeting of Women's Mission Society.

8:00 p. m.—Address by Dr. Henry J. Whiting. Topic: "The Christian Home in the Suburban Community."

Sunday, September 25

10:15 a. m.—Early Danish worship service with holy communion.

11:15 a. m.—English worship service with holy communion. Sermon by Pastor Holger O. Nielsen, District President, Newington, Conn. Pastor K. Kirkegaard-Jensen, Edison Township, liturgist.

12:30 p. m.—Dinner.

2:00 p. m.—Address by Pastor Ove R. Nielsen, Assistant Executive Secretary of Lutheran Welfare, Inc., New York, N. Y.
After the meeting coffee and farewell.

District II Convention

District II of the American Evangelical Lutheran Church will meet for its annual convention at Bethany Lutheran Church, Ludington, Michigan, September 23-25. The opening meeting will be on Friday evening, September 23 and the closing meeting on Sunday afternoon, September 25.

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.

Howard Christensen, Dist. Pres.

INVITATION

As the host congregation to the District Convention, District II, this year, Bethany Lutheran Church of Ludington, Michigan, extends a cordial invitation to the members and friends of our district congregations to be our guests during the days of September 23-25.

Please send all registrations to Alfred Larsen, 510 5th Street, Ludington, Michigan, by September 20 if possible.

William L. Klemm, President.

John Christensen, Pastor.

District III Convention

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Dwight, Illinois, extends an invitation to all delegates, pastors and visitors of this District to be her guests during the District Convention, September 23, 24 and 25.

In order to secure a place to stay for all who want lodging, please register as soon as possible by writing to Mr. Alvin Sondergaard, 410 So. St. Louis, Dwight, Illinois.

Ivan E. Nielsen, Pastor.

Alvin Sondergaard, President.

INSTRUCTIONS

Congregations are to elect delegates for the business meeting on the basis of one delegate for every 25 voting members or fraction thereof. Each congregation is requested to present a written report of its activities during the past year. The opening meeting will be Friday evening and the closing program will be an after dinner speaker on Sunday.

Ivan E. Nielsen, District President.

District IV Convention

District IV (Iowa District) of the American Evangelical Lutheran Church will meet in convention September 16-18, 1960, at St. John's Lutheran Church, Ringsted, Iowa. Each congregation is requested to send one delegate for each 50 voting members or fraction thereof.

An invitation from St. John's Lutheran Church appears below this announcement. You are asked to honor the request for registration by September 10, 1960, so that housing may be arranged for your delegates and visitors.

May God grant that this meeting may serve to strengthen and enrich us in His grace and wisdom.

Harold E. Olsen, District President.

INVITATION

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Ringsted, Iowa, herewith extends an invitation to all churches of the Iowa District to assemble in convention as our guests September 16, 17 and 18.

Please send your registrations to Mrs. Axel Thomsen, Ringsted, Iowa, by September 10, 1960.

We are looking forward to having you as our guests and to a happy and fruitful convention experience.

James W. Johnson, President.

Carlo Petersen, Pastor.

CONVENTION PROGRAM**Friday, September 16**

- 2:00 p. m.—Opening devotions. Message: "We Are the Church," Rev. Alfred E. Sorensen.
- 2:30 p. m.—Convention business session called to order.
- 3:00 p. m.—Afternoon coffee.
- 3:30 p. m.—Business session resumes (Rev. Riggert, ILCM, 4:30).
- 6:00 p. m.—Supper.
- 8:00 p. m.—Worship service. Message: "The Church and Social Missions" by Rev. Richard H. Sorensen. Liturgist: Rev H. E. Olsen.

Saturday, September 17

- 8:00 a. m.—Breakfast.
- 8:30 a. m.—District WMS business meeting.
- 8:45 a. m.—Men's meeting. Message, "The Church and

Parish Education" by Rev. Ronald Jespersen.

10:00 a. m.—Business session resumes (Luth. Wel. Soc. of Iowa, Mr. Marck, 10:15).

12:00 Noon—Dinner.

1:30 p. m.—Panel presentation on "The Church and Stewardship" by Rev. Joseph Sibert, layman, Rev. Vagn Duus, layman.

3:00 p. m.—Coffee.

3:30 p. m.—Final business session (elections, adoption of budget).

6:00 p. m.—Supper.

8:00 p. m.—Evening program. Theme: "The Church and Her Youth," Rev. Charles Terrell, presiding.

Sunday, September 18

10:30 a. m.—Morning worship with holy communion. Sermon by Rev. C. A. Stub, "The Church and Evangelism." Liturgist: Rev. Carlo Petersen.

12:30 Noon—Dinner.

2:30 p. m.—Afternoon program. Message: "The Church and America Missions" by Dr. Alfred Jensen, synod president.

3:45 p. m.—Closing devotions by Rev. Willard R. Garred, synod secretary.

4:00 p. m.—Lunch hour.

Rev. Harold E. Olsen, Dist. Pres.

Rev. Carlo Petersen, Host Pastor.

Mr. James Johnson, President, St. John's Lutheran Church.

District V Convention

District V convention will be held September 30-October 2, at Alden, Minnesota. We urge the attendance of all pastors and delegate so as to make this an inspiring and fruitful convention.

Robert Hermansen, Dist. Pres.

INVITATION

First Lutheran Church, Alden, Minnesota, extends a cordial invitation to members and friends of District V to the District Convention Friday, September 30 to Sunday, October 2.

We ask you to please send in your registration, at least one week in advance to Mr. John Jensen, Alden, Minnesota, or Rev. H. P. Jorgensen, Alden, Minnesota.

Rev. Holger P. Jorgensen, Pastor.

Harry Lindorff, President.

District VI Convention

Diamond Lake Lutheran Church, Lake Benton, Minnesota, hereby extends an invitation to all delegates, pastors, and visitors to be our guests during the District Convention, September 9, 10, 11. Those who

wish lodging should write to either Pastor Calvin Rossman, Ruthton, Minnesota, or Gunnar Johansen, Verdi, Minnesota, as soon as possible.

May God bless our meeting and fellowshiping together.

Calvin Rossman, Pastor.

Gunnar Johansen, President.

INSTRUCTIONS

Congregations should elect delegates for the business meeting on the basis of one delegate for every 25 voting members or fraction thereof. Each congregation should be prepared to give a report of their activities during the past year.

Calvin Rossman, District President.

CONVENTION PROGRAM

Friday, September 9

8:00 p. m.—Lecture by Rev. Marius Krog.

Saturday, September 10

9:00 a. m.—Devotions, Rev. Calvin Rossman.

9:30 a. m.—Business session.

2:30 p. m.—WMS business session. (Will be held as soon as district business is finished.) Will plan something for the men during this time.

8:00 p. m.—Movie "Broken Mask." (Tells a forceful story about the masks of prejudice, produced by National Council of Churches).

Sunday, September 11

10:00 a. m.—Worship and holy communion at Diamond Lake, Rev. Enok Mortensen preaching. Worship at Danebod, Tyler, Dr. Alfred Jensen preaching.

2:30 p. m.—Lecture, Dr. Alfred Jensen.

At noon Sunday, dinner will be served to those coming from all congregations except Diamond Lake, Ruthton and Tyler. People, except delegates, from these three congregations are invited to bring a picnic lunch and coffee will be served free. Total cost of convention is \$3.00.

District VII Convention

The annual convention of District VII of the AELC will be held September 30 through October 2, at St. Ansgar's Lutheran Church, Lindsay (Rosenborg), Nebraska.

Each congregation is entitled to one delegate for every ten voting members or major fraction thereof. We hope that the congregations will be well represented by delegates, pastors and guests. Congregations are reminded that their district dues should be sent to the district treasurer, Mr. Chris Nelson, Exeter, Nebraska, six weeks prior to the convention.

Pastors, delegates and guests are urged to register in advance with the host congregation according to the instructions given below in the invitation from St. Ansgar's.

We look forward to seeing many of you at the convention and we pray that we may worship, work and share together to the glory of God.

Thorvald Hansen, District President.

INVITATION

St. Ansgar's Lutheran congregation, Lindsay (Rosenborg), Nebraska, invites district pastors, delegates and friends to be its guests during the annual convention of District VII, which begins on Friday evening, September 30 and closes on Sunday evening, October 2.

St. Ansgar's is located five miles east and 3½ miles north of St. Edward, Nebraska.

Registration and requests for housing, which will be provided for the delegates, pastors and guests, should be sent at least one week before the convention. Those requesting housing should, if possible, state the expected time of arrival. Directions to the lodgings will be given upon arrival at the church.

Kindly register with Mrs. Francis Lloyd, Lindsay, Nebraska.

We shall stand ready to bid you welcome, to meet your needs and to do all we can to make your stay pleasant and the convention a good one.

Greger W. Andreasen, President.

Clarence W. Thorwald, Pastor.

CONVENTION PROGRAM

Friday, September 30

8:00 p. m.—Communion service. Sermon: Pastor Harald Ibsen, Marquette; Liturgy: Pastor Clarence Thorwald, Rosenborg.

Saturday, October 1

9:00 a. m.—Morning devotions, Pastor Lavern Larkowski, Hay Springs.

9:30 a. m.—Business session.

1:30 p. m.—Business session continued.

7:00 p. m.—WMS business session.

8:15 p. m.—WMS sponsored program.

Sunday, October 2

11:00 a. m.—Worship service. Sermon: Pastor Folmer Farstrup, Cordova. Liturgy: Pastor W. Clayton Nielsen, Omaha.

3:00 p. m.—Panel discussion on merger, "Today's Position and Tomorrow's Possibilities." Moderator: Pastor W. Clayton Nielsen. Panelists: Dr. A. W. Young, President, Central States Synod, ULCA; Pastor Robert Johnson, representing the Augustana

Lutheran Church; and Dr. Alfred Jensen, President, AELC.

7:30 p. m.—Lecture. Pastor Erik Moller, Danevang.

8:30 p. m.—Coffee and farewell.

District IX Convention

INVITATION

Trinity Lutheran congregation takes pleasure in inviting the members and friends of District IX, American Evangelical Lutheran Church, to the annual convention of the District, September 23-25, 1960, to be held in Trinity Lutheran Church, Wilbur, Washington.

Trinity Lutheran congregation will provide housing and meals for all registered participants in the convention. Will all pastors, delegates and other guests kindly mail their registrations to Mrs. Victor Lauritzen, Wilbur, Washington, not later than September 18, 1960.

We are looking forward to fellowship with all our friends of District IX and to a fruitful and inspiring convention.

R. W. Daniels, President.

Mrs. Nick Mager, Secretary.

Upon invitation of Trinity Lutheran congregation, the annual convention of District IX, AELC, will be held at Trinity Lutheran Church, Wilbur, Washington, September 23-25, 1960.

All congregations of District IX are urged to send as many delegates as possible and to bring a written report of the past year's activities.

Jens C. Kjaer, District President.

CONVENTION PROGRAM

Theme: THE HOLY CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Friday, September 23

8:00 p. m.—Women's Mission Society business meeting. Pastoral conference on practical aspects of the coming LCA merger.

Saturday, September 24

9:00 a. m.—Opening devotions by Pastor Arnold Knudsen.

10:00 a. m.—District business meeting.

12:00 Noon—Lunch.

1:00 p. m.—Committee meetings.

2:00 p. m.—Business meeting.

6:00 p. m.—Dinner.

8:00 p. m.—WMS program, Pastor Carl Laursen, speaker.

Sunday, September 25

10:00 a. m.—Morning worship with installation of Pastor John Enselmann, Dr. Jens Kjaer of-

ficiating. Holy communion administered by the Pastors Ted Thuesen and Carl Laursen.

12:00 Noon—Lunch.

Tour of Grand Coulee Dam.

4:00 p. m.—Round table discussion on the Lutheran Church in America, by the pastors of the district.

6:00 p. m.—Dinner.

7:30 p. m.—Closing service, sermon by Pastor Ted Thuesen.

Dr. Lund-Quist Resigns as Executive of LWF

Geneva, August 10 — The Rev. Dr. Carl E. Lund-Quist resigned as executive secretary of the Lutheran World Federation at an officers' meeting on August 3. The resignation of the 51-year-old churchman was announced by the Rev. Dr. Franklin Clark Fry, president of the federation, in a letter to all staff members:

"I have the regretful duty to inform you that our true friend and trusted executive secretary, Dr. Carl E. Lund-Quist, resigned from his post 'for reasons of health' yesterday at a meeting of the officers. It was not a hasty decision, he told us, but one that he had arrived at more than two months ago after mature consideration of his own future and of what he regards as the best interest of the federation.

"Happily this unwelcome surprise does not mean that Dr. Lund-Quist is suffering from a new attack of illness. All of us who are with him feel that he looks and acts better than he has for some time. His five months of rest and recuperation have done him substantial good. We look forward hopefully and even confidently to years of future activity for him in other assignments in Christ's Kingdom. He had made this startling move only because he conscientiously believes that the executive secretaryship of the Lutheran World Federation demands a man who is not impeded by restricted vitality or physical handicap of any sort.

"To fill the breach, Pastor Kurt Schmidt-Clausen has been appointed as acting executive secretary to serve until the next meeting of the LWF Executive Committee, which will probably take place in June 1961. I am confident that you will loyally uphold his hands and will do everything in your power to enable him to carry his new and weighty responsibility well for the good of our beloved Lutheran Church and, far higher still, to the glory of God. We greet Pastor Schmidt-Clausen as the new chief of staff for the months ahead. He has pledged to give his best and he deserves our trust."

Dr. Lund-Quist was elected LWF executive secretary in 1952 at the time of the Hanover Assembly. Before that, he had been acting executive secretary for almost a year, following the death of Dr. S. C. Michelfelder. Dr. Lund-Quist holds honorary degrees from several American colleges and was awarded the Order of Merit by the German Federal Republic in 1957.

"Light Time" Makes Debut

NLC's New TV Program for Children

Begins in September

One of the most ambitious ventures ever undertaken in the field of religious television programming for children will be launched in September by the National Lutheran Council through its Department of Radio and Television.

Entitled "Light Time," a filmed series of 39 fifteen-minute programs is being distributed on a free public service basis to 150 stations from coast-to-coast for weekly showings during 1960-61. Thirteen re-runs are slated for next summer to round out a full year's schedule of telecasts.

Miss Betty Barth, secretary of the NLC's department and supervisor of the TV project, said here that the series is directed specifically to the non-church-associated child between the ages of 8 and 12 years. The programs, she added, are oriented "to heighten the child's awareness of God in the hope that he may thus become involved in closer relationship with Him."

Total budget of "Light Time" amounts to \$365,000 for scripts, production, promotion and distribution, Miss Barth reported.

The financing is underwritten by three bodies which participate in the Council's Radio-TV Department, the American Lutheran Church, Augustana Lutheran Church and Evangelical Lutheran Church. Other members of the department are the Lutheran Free Church and United Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Cooperating in the presentation of the series will be the Broadcasting and Film Commission of the National Council of Churches. The BFC will promote the programs among the member bodies of the interdenominational agency.

"Light Time," according to Miss Barth, is the product of several years of extensive research, planning and experimenting. Chief emphasis, she said, centered on efforts to determine the most effective means of combining a Christian message with wholesome entertainment to reach children through the important medium of television.

In the process, two pilot films were produced and rejected before the concept and format of "Light Time" eventually evolved and was adopted.

Preparations for the project included exhaustive study of existing children's TV programs from various parts of the country. Child educators were also consulted and provided complete analysis of the age group for which the program is intended.

Enlisted, too, were church authorities on parish education, theologians and radio and TV experts.

"The purpose of 'Light Time' is to present Christian concepts within a framework of experience with which the child will identify and, hopefully, to motivate him to attend Sunday school," Miss Barth said. To this end, all the programs discuss topics which originate in a problem, need or interest of children in the 8-12 age group.

"Although the series is planned primarily for children who do not go to Sunday school or church, we believe the church-related child will derive value from the programs as well," she added. "We offer this series in the hope that it will entertain, instruct and show forth some of God's Light to all children who watch Light Time."

Miss Barth said that a variety format was chosen for the show in the conviction that it has the most popular appeal for children. Also, she said, "it allows great latitude in the content of each program and freedom to use many effects and techniques for most effective presentation of the Christian message."

Any one program, she pointed out, may use a number of production techniques, such as live action, animation, film inserts or art work, or, on the other hand, may consist of only one — whichever is deemed most suitable to put across the program's objective.

Topics that will be explored on the program include stewardship of talents, reaction to ridicule, disappointment and failure, thankfulness, accepting responsibility, brotherhood, respect for adult authority, Christian love, forgiveness, honesty, group pressure, self control, envy, compassion, loneliness, injustice, inferiority, fear, gossip and similar concerns.

The host or central character of the series is Jim Stewart of Chicago. Mr. Stewart won this year's TV Emmy Award from the Chicago Chapter of the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences as best children's performer for his popular TV show "Here's Geraldine" on Station WBKB-TV in Chicago.

"Jim is a favorite with children and the eight- to twelve-year-olds who have previewed 'Light Time' have reacted enthusiastically to him," Miss Barth said. "He appears in every show and brings to the

series a warm and sympathetic personality with which children readily identify."

Heard but not seen on the programs is Jim's wife, Rosemarie "Bud" Stewart, who provides the characters and the voices of two brand-new puppets, Digby the Duck and Reggie the Rhinoceros, created especially for the NLC show.

"Although Digby and Reggie do not appear in every show," Miss Barth said, "they appear when it is felt that they can lend their particular talents in presenting a problem and the Christian concept which applies to the problem. Children find it easy to sympathize with and participate in the feelings of these appealing-puppet characters."

Another member of the cast is Kenny Bowers, an outstanding comedian with many years of experience in the theater and television. He has the role of Stewart's kind-hearted but often humorously mixed-up friend.

In addition, Miss Barth said, guest stars will also be featured on "Light Time." One of these will be the noted pianist, Roger Williams, whose record albums have sold more copies than any other instrumentalist and whose music appeals to persons in every age group. Mr. Williams, the son of a Lutheran pastor, stopped in Chicago after a recent nationwide concert tour to film his appearance on the show.

Writing and filming of the series is being done in the studios of Fred A. Niles Productions, Inc., the largest film producer in the Midwest. Mr. Niles, who last year won an Emmy Award as best creator of commercials, this year was named best producer of shows receiving national exposure.

The Niles company has provided a complete creative staff and technical crew to guarantee professional work, from animation to live dramatic action, from sound quality to lighting level. Included are the services of Tom Rock as director, Jack Whitehead as cameraman and Sid Seigel as music director, under the personal supervision of Mr. Niles.

Much of the music and songs in "Light Time" are original compositions created for the series by Mr. Seigel. Consideration is being given to possible future release of the music in a special record album.

Each program opens with an animated portion showing rays of light to symbolize the series' Christian message. In this setting, the theme song, "It's Light Time, It's Light Time... The Right Time is Light Time" is sung to the accompaniment of a 26-piece orchestra as an introduction to a program which the sponsors hope will be watched each week by thousands of children throughout the country.

In offering the series to a maximum of 150 stations, exclusive to one station in an area, the NLC's Department of Radio and TV is asking that the program be scheduled for showing from 4 to 6 p. m., on weekdays and 9 a. m., to 2 p. m., on Saturdays.

OUR CHURCH

Editor's Note: Church bulletins from now on should no longer be sent to Los Angeles, but should be sent to:

LUTHERAN TIDINGS
c/o Pastor Thorvald Hansen
Cozad, Nebraska

Fords, New Jersey. Does anyone need a new beautiful altar cloth? In Edison we have built a new church with a modern interior, and the altar is of such a design that we cannot use our altar cloths. We have several; one has never been used as yet, it a beautiful, finely crocheted one, three yards long; another has been on a few times, is embroidered with "Hedebo" and designed in "tongues" so that the length may be varied. If you are interested in obtaining any of these altar cloths we would appreciate it if you would give us a donation toward our new church pews, instead. If interested, kindly write to Mrs. K. Kirkegaard-Jensen, 120 Pleasant Avenue, Fords, New Jersey, for further details.

Los Angeles, California. Emanuel Church here has just received an estate, as sole heir of Karen Madsen, evaluated at about \$15,000, including a house and bank accounts of over \$4,000.

Des Moines, Iowa. Luther Memorial congregation welcomed Anders Tyrberg, of Vittsjo, Sweden, an International Christian Youth Exchange sponsored by the congregation and by the Harold Petersen family with whom he will live. He is 18 years old, and will remain in the United States for one year.

POSTMASTER: If undeliverable as addressed, attach Form 3579, give new address, and return entire paper at transient second-class rate (P. M. 355.343; 355.334; 158.22) to
LUTHERAN TIDINGS, ASKOV, MINNESOTA
Return Postage Guaranteed

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, ASKOV, MINNESOTA.

September 5, 1960

I am a member of the congregation at _____

Name _____

New Address _____

City _____ State _____

PETERSEN, ANDREW K.
TYLER, MINN.
RT. 2
6-4

Brayton, Iowa. Plans have been opened to bidders on the new church to be built here, and under the present blueprints, the cost would be about \$83,000. It is hoped that revision of the plans will make it possible to build the church for about \$65,000. Joseph Sibert is pastor.

Home Mission Workshop-Conference

(Continued from Page 5)

is expected to be available in printed form about September 20, and it is to be hoped that adequate presentation of this handbook may be made in all districts of the synod, not only for home mission congregations. The importance of the work of the laymen, and the importance of adapting all ideas to the local situation were emphasized. Nearly all lay persons who do evangelism work, after being adequately instructed, are enthusiastic.

During the noon hour, host pastor Harold E. Olsen explained the work being done in Cedar Heights. At all times, there was freedom for questions, discussion and interchange of ideas.

The first half of the afternoon found synod stewardship secretary, Mr. Harry Jensen, presenting approved stewardship understandings and methods in the use of time, talents and means. Four different handbooks and packets totaling nearly five hundred pages were distributed during Harry Jensen's forceful and faithful presentation. The every-member visit, the cottage-meeting, the development of adequate budgets, and the like found time for discussion. During this discussion, Pastor Paul Nussle, Salinas, California, shared with the participants the practical implementation of some of these ideas as practiced in St. Ansgar's congregation.

The latter half of the afternoon gave opportunity to each home mission pastor to share briefly the strengths, weaknesses, problems and insights of his particular situation. Under the moderatorship of Pastor Ivan Nielsen, the following pastors told of their work: Vagn Duus, Robert Fallgatter, Owen Gramps, Harris Jespersen, Joseph Sibert, Theodore Thuesen and Harold Olsen.

A dinner-meeting centered around the administration and coordination of the work of the congregation concluded the meeting. The church's ministry of administration includes both pastor and congregation. We need to organize so that we will not be perpetually busy, so that God's work is efficiently done. The church's program should come from three sources, each contributing its share: organizations interacting, pastors suggesting and the synod supplying ideas, these three interacting creatively.

It was suggested that the pastor should be able to spend his time doing what he was trained to do: counseling, preparing sermons, pastoral work, studying, directing worship, recruiting and training lay leadership; and that laymen and laywomen should do the many tasks they can do best, such as the ministry of music, ushering, office routines, church school work, survey work, publicity and public relations, select-

ing curriculum, and much of the actual visitation.

Two pastors, Harold Olsen and Paul Nussle, presented their present plans of congregational organization, both of which increase the efficiency of the work of the pastor, involve the participation of the lay workers, and make it possible to operate modern churches in our present decade. Both programs put more responsibility in the hands of the church council, use larger councils than common in many congregations (one uses eighteen members, divided into boards of deacons and trustees, with a chairman of the council and one of each of the boards, making a three-man executive committee which can work closely with the pastor). Active committees, doing important work, are important in both plans.

Tired after a week of convention, plus an added day of intensive study, the nearly thirty persons returned to their congregations, enriched and inspired.

—Contributed.

A Card of Thanks

Dear Friends of Our Synod:

Words cannot express our heartfelt thanks and appreciation to friends throughout our Synod, and for the many expressions of sympathy we have received since the passing of our beloved husband and father. And also for the beautiful floral piece sent us from the American Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Christian S. Hasle
Mr. and Mrs. Folmer C. Hasle
and Karin
Junction City, Oregon.

Porto Novo Mission

During the absence of Mrs. Nanna Goodhope the writer is happy to acknowledge receipt of the following donations for microscope for Dr. Menon:

Mrs. A. T. Larsen, Missoula, Mont. ...\$10.00
A friend in Luck, Wisconsin 5.00
Mr. and Mrs. Chris B. Nelson, Exeter,
Nebraska 5.00
A friend in Luck, Wisconsin 5.00
Betina Ladies' Aid, Ringsted, Iowa.. 10.00

Total\$35.00

Attention Pastors and Church Councils

Synod Report books and Minutes books are handled (since 1957) through the office of the Synod President, 1232 Pennsylvania Avenue, Des Moines 16, Iowa.

Also, since 1957, we have had a policy of no returns of books for credit. When you make out your statistics, order no more books than you can sell or give away. Extras may be ordered from the Des Moines office.

W. R. Garred, Secretary.