

Dana College

and

Trinity Seminary

1886 -- 1936

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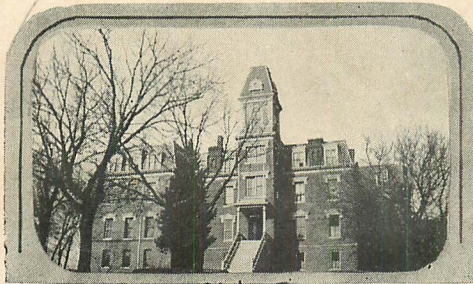
DONOR: JOHN W. NIELSEN

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Dana College and Trinity Seminary

A Retrospect over Half a Century of
Usefulness and Growth

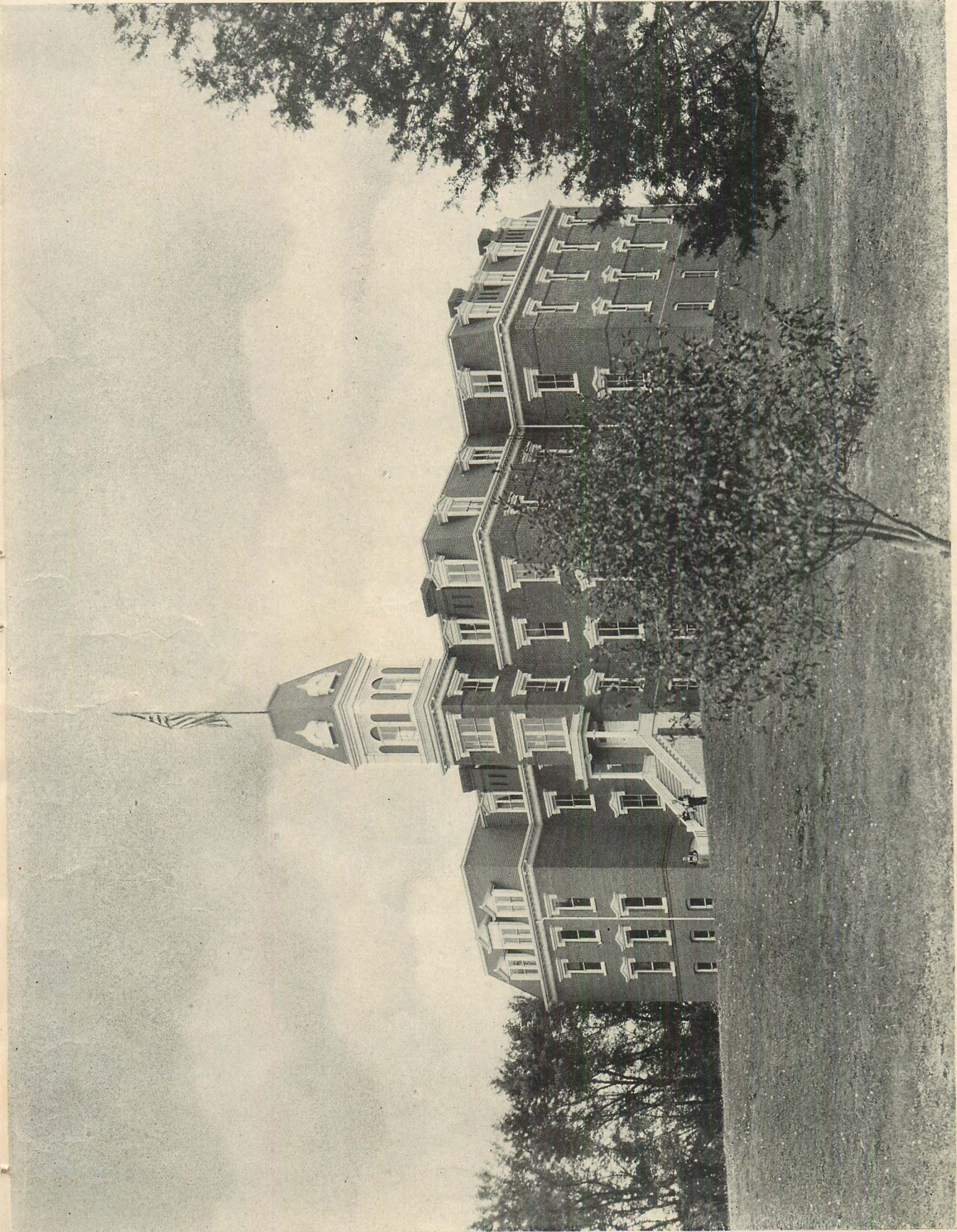
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H. Skov Nielsen, Editor



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Dana College and Trinity Seminary
Blair, Nebraska



"The Old Main"



*O the venerable Pastor emer.
A. M. Andersen, father and
founder of our school, and
to all others who have served
or who are serving, this ef-
fort is respectfully dedicated.*

A Brief Historical Sketch

When the earliest Danish-American High School had been built at Elk Horn, Iowa, in 1878, the need for a similar institution began to be felt also among the Danish people then within the Norwegian-Danish Conference. The subject was discussed orally and in writing, but no action was taken at the time.

Another idea advanced about that time was the possible placing of a Danish professor in the Conference theological training school, Augsburg



Where School Work Was Begun

Seminary in Minneapolis. When a request for such a concession was turned down by the Conference convention at Rock Creek, Iowa, in 1881 the thought of a separate Danish school—and of a separate Danish Lutheran Synod—came to the fore. At a district meeting in Omaha in the fall of 1882 the question of Folk High School work was discussed at some length; but it was not until after the organization of the new synod that school work was actually begun, and then at first only to train men for the ministry.

It was in the fall of the year 1884 that the Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church Association—popularly known as the Blair Synod—was organized at Argo, Nebraska, by men formerly connected with the Norwegian-Danish Conference, numbering nine pastors with nineteen congregations. This same meeting decided to take steps to establish a theological training school and named a committee to work with the matter. Members of this committee

were: Pastors A. M. Andersen, H. P. Berthelsen, G. B. Christiansen, and laymen G. A. Boje and P. T. Jacobsen.

Late that same year Pastor A. M. Andersen, then serving a small Danish Lutheran church at Blair, Nebraska, began in his own home to prepare men for service in the holy ministry. His earliest pupils were: The brothers N. S. and A. S. Nielsen, P. M. Petersen, and Johannes Petersen (Naarup).

On May 19, 1885, the school committee of the new synod met at Hastings, Nebraska, to consider ways and means to build a theological seminary. With the committee met the synodical president, Pastor H. Hansen, Pastor M. C. H. Rohe, and Mr. A. J. Dahm, then a student at Augsburg Seminary in Minneapolis.

It appears that three different Nebraska locations for the proposed school were under consideration: Omaha, Hampton, and Blair. Assurance having been received through Pastor A. M. Andersen that the citizens of Blair would contribute one-half of the estimated \$6,000 cost of the proposed building, the committee decided in favor of that location. The name Trinity Seminary (Trinitatis Seminarium) was chosen for the new institution, and Pastor Andersen was authorized to initiate a campaign to raise the other half of the amount required to erect the new building.

On July 1, 1885, an open meeting was held in the church at Blair in the interests of the school building program. Present at this meeting were: Pastors A. M. Andersen, Blair; H. Hansen, Hampton; G. B. Christiansen, Council Bluffs; J. Risdahl, Fremont; H. P. Berthelsen, Fredericksburg; laymen Chr. Andersen and H. Andersen, Argo; P. Munk, Craig; L. Nyboe, P. C. Petersen, N. J. Petersen, and Marcus Beck, all of Blair or vicinity; H. Jensen and J. P. Matthiesen of Council Bluffs; students J. Pind, Omaha, and Joh. Petersen, Blair. Pastor A. M. Andersen presided and Pastor H. P. Berthelsen functioned as secretary.

Here the "Trinity School Association of the Danish Ev. Lutheran Church" was organized, articles of incorporation were adopted and signed, and a Board of Trustees elected as follows: Pas-



A. M. Andersen

tor A. M. Andersen, Blair, President; L. Nyboe, Blair, Secretary; M. Beck, Blair, Treasurer; N. J. Petersen, Kennard; Andrew Larsen, Admah; Pastor G. B. Christiansen, Council Bluffs; Pastor J. Risdahl, Fremont. The new Board of Trustees was authorized to proceed with the erection of a building to cost \$6,000, and the president was instructed to advise the citizens of Blair that English classes would be conducted sufficient to accommodate English speaking pupils.

To a board meeting held at Blair on July 15, 1885, it was reported that \$2,300 had already been subscribed by citizens of Blair. The offer of Messrs. Dexter & Kline of a hillside acreage west of town as a building site was accepted, and a building committee was elected. The personnel of this committee were: Pastor A. M. Andersen, Mr. L. Nyboe, and Mr. M. Beck. Later Mr. F. W. Kenny, president of the Blair National Bank, also accepted a place on the building committee.

At the outset it was planned to have the new school building ready for occupancy in the fall of 1885. This, however, was found impossible. Consequently Pastor A. M. Andersen was obliged to continue his school work in his own home another year. Five new students were enrolled, among whom were I. M. Hansen and N. Hansen. A notable fact is that the six men here named, all of whom became pastors in our church, are still living—as is also their venerable teacher.

By October, 1886, the building was so near completion that school could be opened in it. The dedication, however, was postponed until October 21. On that day a large number of people from far and near gathered for the festive occasion. Present were six pastors of the new synod: H. Hansen, M. C. H. Rohe, A. Rasmussen, G. B. Christiansen, A. M. Andersen, and H. P. Berthelsen; and of the English Lutheran General Synod Pastors J. S. Detweiler of Omaha and J. N. Lenker of Grand Island, Nebraska.

Pastor Rohe began with reminiscences from the life of Danish students of theology at Augsburg Seminary in Minneapolis; Pastor Rasmussen dwelt on the words of the prophet Isaiah: "Lord, send me!" as the proper motivation for those who seek the ministry of the gospel; and Pastor Christiansen praised the goodness of God in giving us the new school building. In the afternoon Pastor Detweiler spoke on "The Evangelical Lutheran Church." Pastor H. Hansen, the synodical president, preached the dedicatory sermon, using as his text the words in Luke 9:28-35. Pastor Lenker used Gal. 6:10 as basis for his remarks. Pastor A. M. Andersen read the list of local donors to the building fund and thanked the citizens of Blair on behalf of the Board. After a short address by Pastor Christiansen the festivities of the day closed with the benediction pronounced by Pastor Andersen.

This first school building was designed to provide living quarters for the president as well as office facilities, and class rooms, kitchen and dining room facilities as well as study and sleeping rooms for forty students. It was an almost square brick veneer building four stories high with mansard roof. Though the cost was but \$7,000, of which \$3,000 was subscribed by business and professional men of Blair, it required heroic efforts on the part of the

*G. B. Christiansen*

whom was Chris Hansen of Lyons, Nebraska, the one man who, more than any other, has devoted his life to the service of our school—our present venerable Dr. C. X. Hansen. The instruction was in charge of Pastor A. M. Andersen, who had been formally called as president by the convention of the previous year, assisted by his two nephews N. S. and A. S. Nielsen, themselves students in preparation for the ministry. From the beginning up to 1896 when the present United Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church was organized, it has been figured that a total of 372 students frequented the school. Of these 23 had been ordained to the ministry within our own church.

School life in those early days was vastly different from that familiar to our young folks of today. The first school buildings were devoid of plumbing, heating, and lighting facilities. The rooms were heated by stoves and lighted by kerosene lamps, each individual student being required to supply his own needs of oil and fuel. Instead of the multifarious activities connected with present-day school life there were in those days but the Christian Students' Association and a literary society. In the beginning Mrs. A. M. Andersen, the wife of the president, cooked for the students, but soon a Boarding Club was organized that provided simple but wholesome fare at minimum cost. The limited numbers made it possible for the individual student to become intimately acquainted in the homes of the local church members, and much fruitful spiritual intercourse thus resulted.

In 1889 Pastor A. M. Andersen resigned to accept a call from the church at Hampton, Nebraska, and Pastor G. B. Christiansen of Council Bluffs succeeded him in the presidency of Trinity Seminary. In 1893 the first summer course for women was given, and in the fall of the same year the first addition, the north wing, was dedicated and taken into use. By this time the winter enrollment had exceeded fifty, while seventeen women at-

promoters and very real sacrifices on the part of the impecunious members of the little church to raise the necessary funds. The largest single contribution by a church member was that of Mr. Niels Jørgen Petersen. His original gift was \$200, and when, later, it was found that the cost exceeded the estimate, he added another \$100. Several others are recorded as having contributed \$100 each. Considering the character of the times and the condition of our people then, these were magnificent gifts indeed.

The first student body to occupy the new school building numbered twelve men—the nine of the preceding year and two others, one of

tended summer school each of the first two years. The third and last year only seven women were in attendance.

In 1894 occurred the split in the Danish Church and the formation of the so-called "North Church," which retained and operated the school at Elk Horn, Iowa. The president of that school, Pastor Kr. Anker, established contact with President G. B. Christiansen of Trinity Seminary, and thus began the relations which within two years resulted in the merging of the two churches and a little later also the two schools.

During the first ten years of the life of Trinity Seminary repeated unsuccessful efforts were made to secure the services of a Danish theologian for the young institution. Besides Pastor H. Steffensen, who was selected by the organization meeting at Argo, Nebraska, in 1884, and who was approached a second time a few years later, calls were extended at various times to Pastors Chr. Holt, O. Olesen, in Denmark, and like-times to Pastor P. C. then connected with a logical school in Chisholm, Iowa. During the school year 1893-94 candidate for the Ph.D. at the University of Copenhagen, Denmark, teaching also preparatory department. A. M. Andersen retheology, serving as pastor at Elk Horn. The first Danish theologian to heed our call was Pastor H. O. Frimodt-Møller, who remained with the school until 1902 when he accepted a call from our church at Albert Lea, Minnesota. Later he returned to Denmark, serving as a pastor in the Danish Folk Church until his death in 1935. During the years 1899-1902 Pastor Harald Jensen (Kent) also taught in our Seminary while serving as pastor of the local church and editor of *Danskeren*.



P. S. Vig

When the United Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church was organized in 1896 it was agreed that Trinity Seminary should remain the theological training school of the merged churches. Pastor P. S. Vig was elected president to succeed Pastor G. B. Christiansen who now became president of the new synod. For the first year, however, the theology courses were given at Elk Horn where Pastor Vig was then serving the local congregation. Consequently no school was kept at Blair in the year 1896-97. Pastor A. M. Andersen, who had returned to Trinity Seminary in 1895, moved to Elk Horn temporarily, and Mr. C. X. Hansen, who had begun his teaching career at our school the previous year, improved the opportunity to finish his interrupted course at Midland College, Atchison, Kansas.

*Kr. Anker*

In the fall of 1897 the theological students returned to Blair, and a few others registered there for college work, but the attendance was very small that and the following year, as will be elsewhere shown. The faculty now was constituted as follows: P. S. Vig, President, V. C. Mengers, C. X. Hansen, and A. J. Dahm.

It was soon found expedient to unite the school at Elk Horn with that at Blair, and the convention of 1899 so ordered. Consequently in the fall of that year Pastor Kr. Anker became president of the merged institutions, most of his teachers following him to Blair. As a result of this move the attendance at the Blair school jumped from a total of 21 in 1898-99 to 98 in 1899-1900. The school now became co-educational, with a curriculum that em-

braced academy, college, normal, and business courses.

During Pastor Anker's presidency the first women's building was erected, the first central heating plant installed, the first gymnasium built, the south wing added to the administration building, and the present name of the institution was adopted.

In 1905 Pastor J. P. Jensen succeeded to the presidency of the combined schools. Himself a graduate of Trinity Seminary in 1900, he had served a few years in the ministry and then studied at Mt. Airy and elsewhere to prepare himself for this work. He entered upon his new work with vigor and devotion, but his health soon gave way, and he died in office April 8, 1908.

Pastor S. C. Eriksen, the third Danish theologian to take up work in our school, arrived from Denmark in 1905 to become a teacher in the theological seminary. After the death of President J. P. Jensen Pastor Eriksen became the head of Trinity Seminary, and the administration of Dana College was entrusted to Prof. C. X. Hansen. This relation continued until 1909 when Eriksen resigned to become pastor of the Emmaus Church in Racine, Wis-

consin and Hansen assumed full charge of the administrative affairs of the institution. Pastor P. S. Vig became Dean of Trinity Seminary, with Pastor N. P. Lang as associate.



C. X. Hansen

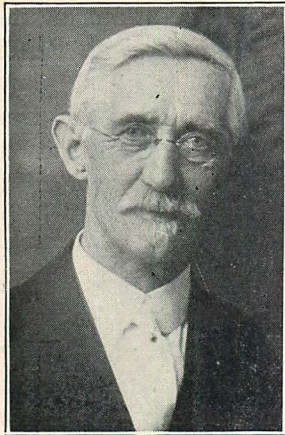
The end the the first twenty-five year period of our school work was marked by a celebration at Blair in 1911. On that occasion a forty-four-page Jubilee Book was published, written in the Danish by Dr. P. S. Vig. To his work we are indebted for much of the information which the present volume contains.

The synodical convention of 1914, held at Greenville, Michigan, saw fit to take steps to again unite Trinity Seminary and Dana College under one head. Pastor H. W. Bondo, then serving as head of the School Board, was elected to the presidency. He, however, declined, and Pastor L. A. Laursen, another member of the School Board at the

time, was selected by the joint Boards in his stead. During Laursen's administration came our country's participation in the World War, during which upward of one hundred and fifty of our students did military duty, many of them in the trenches overseas.

When in 1919 Laursen resigned to return to the ministry as pastor of our church at Laurel, Nebraska, Professor C. X. Hansen again took over the administrative duties. In 1923 Pastor N. P. Lang was made treasurer and business manager of the institution. In 1925 Mr. Ove T. Andersen of Blair, then secretary of the School Board, succeeded Professor Lang as treasurer and business manager, but after a couple of years the duties of that office again reverted to the president.

When Professor C. X. Hansen resigned in 1925 and for a time severed his connection with our school, Pastor Theo. M. Hansen, who for two years previous had been professor of theology in Trinity Seminary, was made acting president. At the 1926 synodical convention, held at Waupaca, Wisconsin, he was elected dean of Trinity Seminary and president of the combined institution. This position he held until the fall of 1929 when he resigned to become pastor of our churches at Denmark, Wisconsin.



L. A. Laursen

For the next two years Prof. Erland Nelson had charge of the administrative affairs of the school as acting president. The synodical convention held at Blair in 1931 elected him president of Dana College for a term of three years, at the same time making Professor J. P. Nielsen president of Trinity Seminary for a like term. In these positions both men have remained until now. Under the new Articles of Incorporation the three-year term of office is affirmed.

The blessing of God, so humbly and fervently invoked by the founders, has rested visibly upon our school during the half century now completed. Though there have been obstacles and difficulties both many and varied—but largely caused by our own human frailties and lack of vision—it was ever made possible for the work to be carried on and forward. Around the first solitary little red brick building on the hill have risen building after building, each a bit more serviceable and convenient than the last, until we now have a campus in which we may justly take pride. The original sole and only course in preparation for the ministry has been expanded into a full college curriculum embracing the liberal arts and many special lines. From the modest beginning with one teacher and a couple of tutors we have been enabled to build up a faculty of scholarly and devoted men and women who command the respect of their colleagues, the devotion of their students, and the confidence of our people. And, finally, for the twelve men who made up the student body in 1886 we now have a group of loyal, eager, and earnest young people numbering well over two hundred.

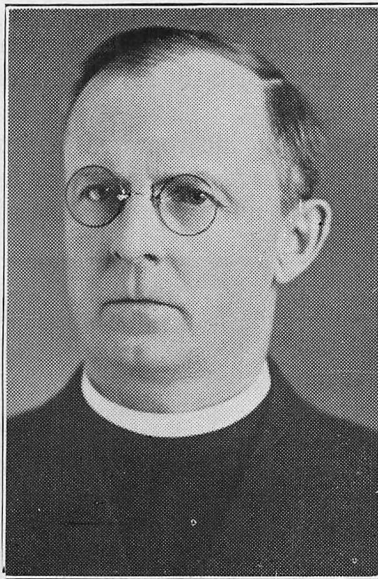
Grateful for the service our school has been permitted to render in the past, we look forward to a future of still greater progress and usefulness, this to be made possible by a continuance of divine favor and the loyal support of our people. Our school has meant much to our church in the past; it will mean still more in years to come. God grant that it may ever remain true to its mission: the building of Christian character and the preparation of our youth to fill their respective places in life!



T. M. Hansen

Evolution of the Plan of Control

While it was a committee named by the newly organized church body that in 1885 took the initial steps toward the building of our school at Blair, the seven trustees who became the incorporators of The Trinity Seminary Association, and as such controlled the early destinies of the institution, were not direct representatives of the Church.



C. C. Kloth

The records show, however, that in the fall of the same year the Church, at its meeting in Council Bluffs, gave formal approval to the Board as then constituted, and of action taken by the Board to date. In 1891 a constitution was adopted for the seminary, and the number of trustees was increased to eleven in order to minimize local influence within the Board and yet comply with the requirements of the state law that at least five members be local resident freeholders. With this modification the control of the institution remained technically in the hands of the Board of Trustees until the expiration of the charter in 1896.

Within the first year of the existence of the school corporation, a smaller Board of Directors was constituted to direct the policies of the institution and to assist the administration in the management of its affairs. This body was at first composed of two men only (the synodical president and Mr. Hans Andersen, Craig). Later the number of members was increased to five, and as such it functioned as long as Trinity Seminary remained a separate institution.

By the time the first ten-year period of incorporation expired talk of a merger with the so called "North Church" was rife, and although a committee was appointed to attend to the re-incorporation of Trinity Seminary, no action was taken. When the merger had been completed, and the new United Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church had been incorporated as such, the affairs of the school passed into the direct control of the Church through synodi-



H. P. Jensen

cally elected Board of Education, the synodical Board of Trustees functioning as such for the institution also.

During the first two years after the merger no separate School Board existed. In his report to convention in 1898 Prof. Vig, as president of the school, emphasized the need of such a Board. This brought about the naming of a "School Committee" consisting of the president of the school and the two censors. The first School Committee named were Prof. P. S. Vig and Pastors C. H. Jensen and N. P. Simonsen. This arrangement continued until 1902 when the School Committee was expanded into a Board of Directors composed of three pastors and two laymen. The first members of this Board were: Pastors J. J. Kildsig, C. H. Schmidt, and A. M. Andersen; laymen Otto Hansen, Blair, and Oluf Bondo, Council Bluffs.

The following men have served as chairmen of our Board of Education: J. J. Kildsig 1902-08; C. C. Kloth 1908-10; H. P. Jensen 1910-18; H. W. Bondo 1918-30; Karl J. Wilhelmsen 1930-33; T. M. Hansen 1933-

When our school again in 1933 became a separately incorporated institution, this synodical Board of Education was by the terms of the Articles of Incorporation made a part of the new Board of Trustees, and by subsequent action its members constitute the Committee on Education within the corporate Board. To further insure the continuance of close relations between the Church and the school the articles of incorporation also provide that the annual business meeting of the school corporation shall be held on Thursday of the synodical convention week, and that the congregational delegates to the convention constitute the legal voters of the corporation meeting. It is also provided that the synodical president is ex officio member of the corporation board.



H. W. Bondo

The first Board of Trustees for Trinity Seminary, as constituted in 1885, was composed as follows:

Pastor A. M. Andersen, Blair, Nebraska, President,
 Mr. L. Nyboe, Blair, Nebraska, Secretary,
 Mr. M. Beck, Blair, Nebraska, Treasurer,
 Pastor G. B. Christiansen, Council Bluffs, Iowa,
 Pastor J. Risdahl, Fremont, Nebraska,
 Mr. N. J. Petersen, Kennard, Nebraska,
 Mr. Andrew Larsen, Admah, Nebraska.

The personnel of the first Board of Trustees for Dana College and Trinity Seminary under the new incorporation was as follows:

Pastors:

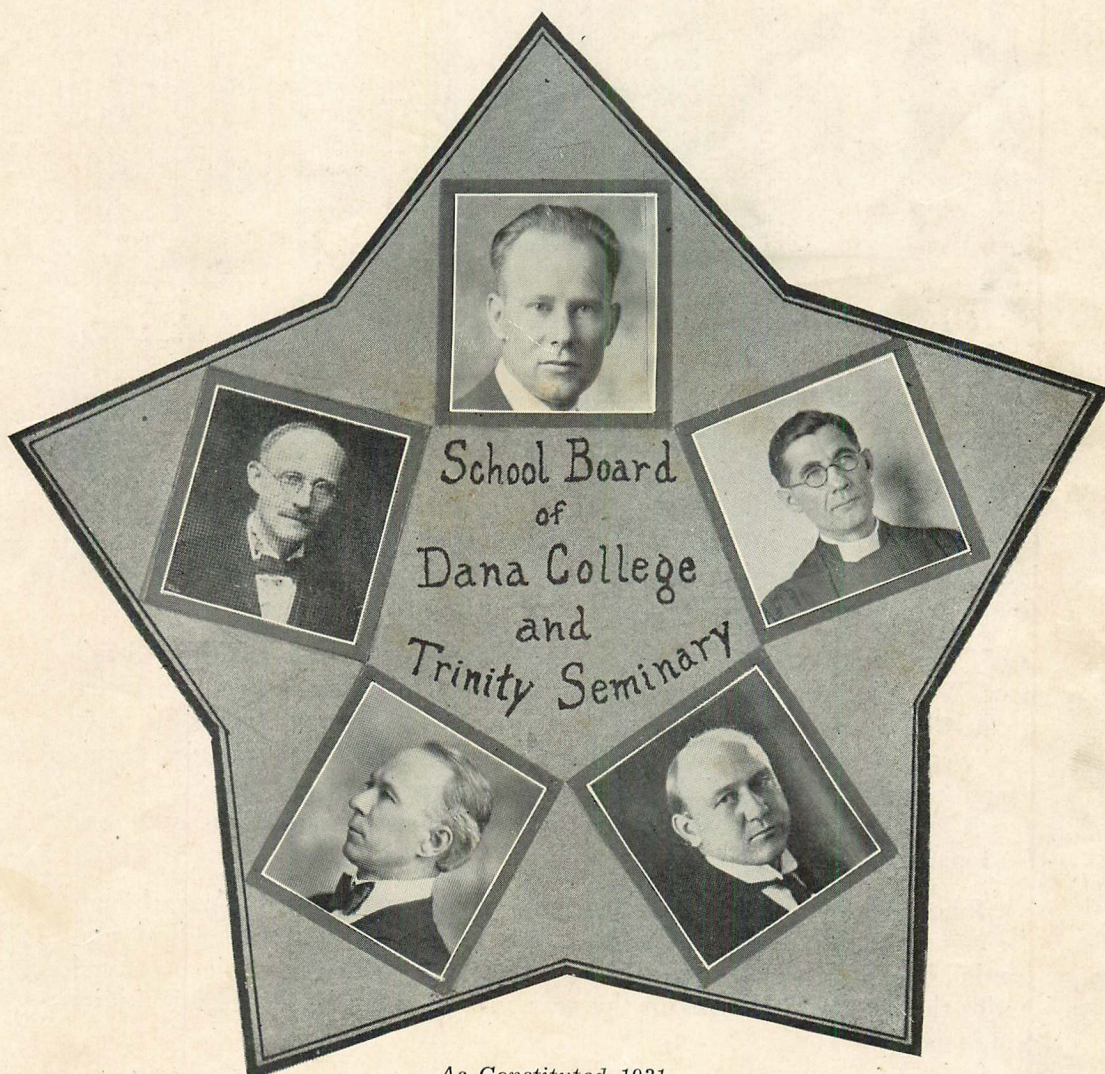
Theo. M. Hansen, Denmark, Wisconsin, President,
 M. G. Christensen, Cedar Falls, Iowa,
 John C. Romer, Minden, Nebraska,
 N. C. Carlsen, Blair, Nebraska, ex officio,

I. M. Andersen, Waupaca, Wisconsin,
Harold C. Jensen, Dannebrog, Nebraska.

Laymen:

N. T. Lund, Blair, Nebraska, Secretary,
K. P. Hundahl, Blair, Nebraska,
M. Beck, Blair, Nebraska,
N. H. Debel, St. Paul, Minnesota,
H. Skov Nielsen, Blair, Nebraska.

The only change to date was brought about by the death of Pastor Harold C. Jensen, whose place has been taken by the present synodical secretary, Pastor M. L. Kirkegaard of Omaha, Nebraska.



As Constituted 1931

H. Skov Nielsen

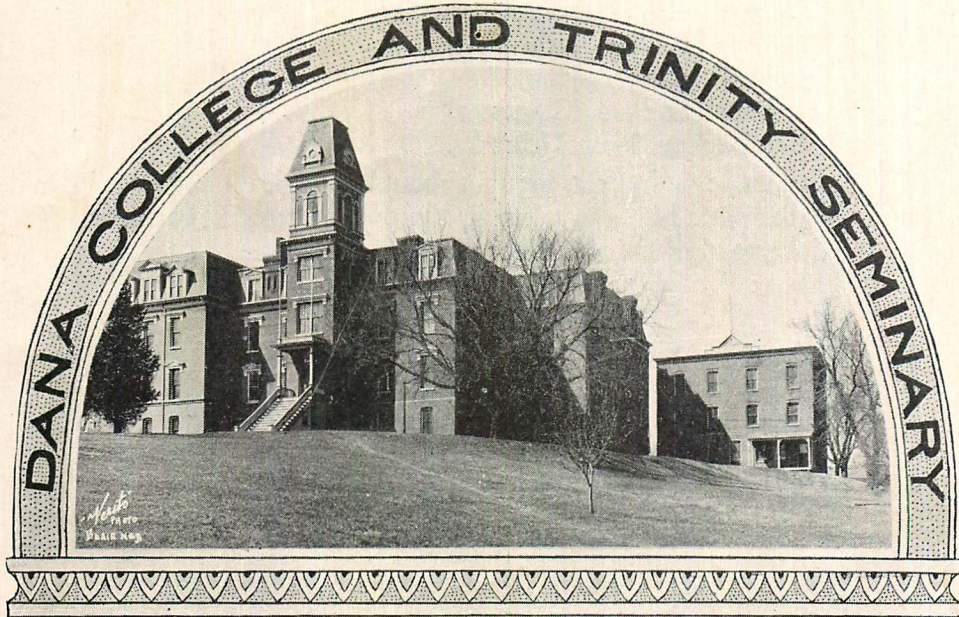
Karl J. Wilhelmsen

J. C. Romer

P. E. James

T. M. Hansen

The Naming of Our School



At the very earliest School Board meeting of record, that held at Hastings, Nebraska, May 20, 1885, the name Trinitatis Seminarium (Trinity Seminary) was chosen for the new institution to be built. At the next meeting, held at Blair on July 1, 1885, the "Trinity School Association of the Danish Ev. Luth. Church Association in America" was organized, which body proceeded to incorporate under the laws of the state of Nebraska, electing seven trustees, five of which were residents of Washington County as required by law.

The school, for the next twelve years, was known, then, as Trinity Seminary. When in 1899 it became co-educational and of a more general character the need of a new name was felt. In consequence the announcements for 1900-1901 went out under the name of Blair College and Trinity Theological Seminary. On the title page of the 1902-1903 catalogue we read "Trinity College and Theological Seminary." The word "Dana" first appears in the catalogue for 1903-1904.

Since then our school has been popularly known as Dana College, though the complete official title of the institution as adopted by the synodical convention held at Elk Horn, Iowa, in 1903, and under which it was incorporated under the laws of Nebraska in the year 1933, is "Dana College and Trinity Seminary."

The picture shows our school plant as it was from 1905 to the initiation of the Greater Dana Program.

Development of the Physical Plant

1. THE OLD MAIN

As elsewhere related the original Trinity Seminary building, which forms the central unit of the present Administration Building, was erected in 1886 at a cost of about \$7,000. It was a four story building sixty by thirty feet, calculated to house forty students and the president's family, besides class rooms and administrative offices. The first story has solid brick walls, the second and third stories are brick veneer, and the top floor is in the form of a French attic. The height of the building is sixty feet, with the tower reaching twenty feet higher.



The Original Trinity Seminary Building

The north wing of the Administration Building was erected in 1893. Its dimensions are thirty-two by fifty feet, its cost about \$6,000. The south wing, thirty-two by seventy-two feet, was erected in 1905 at a cost of about \$9,000.

Theoretically the building should now accommodate a total of one hundred thirty students, but the rapidly increasing demand for class room space reduced the capacity materially.



With North Wing Added

2. *THE FIRST WOMEN'S BUILDING*

The first women's building was a three story brick veneer erected in 1899 near the northwest corner of the main building. It also afforded living quarters for a family. These were occupied first by Pastor Kr. Anker and later by Pastor J. P. Jensen. Previous presidents had occupied rooms in the main building. The cost of this building was around \$3,000. The first central heating plant was located in its basement.



The Old "Gym"

3. *THE OLD GYMNASIUM*

The widening of the scope of the school work and the attending increase in number of students brought a demand for physical education facilities, and in 1902 the first gymnasium was built. It was a frame building thirty by sixty-four feet and cost about \$1,200. It stood at the north edge of the campus just in front of the present Men's Hall.



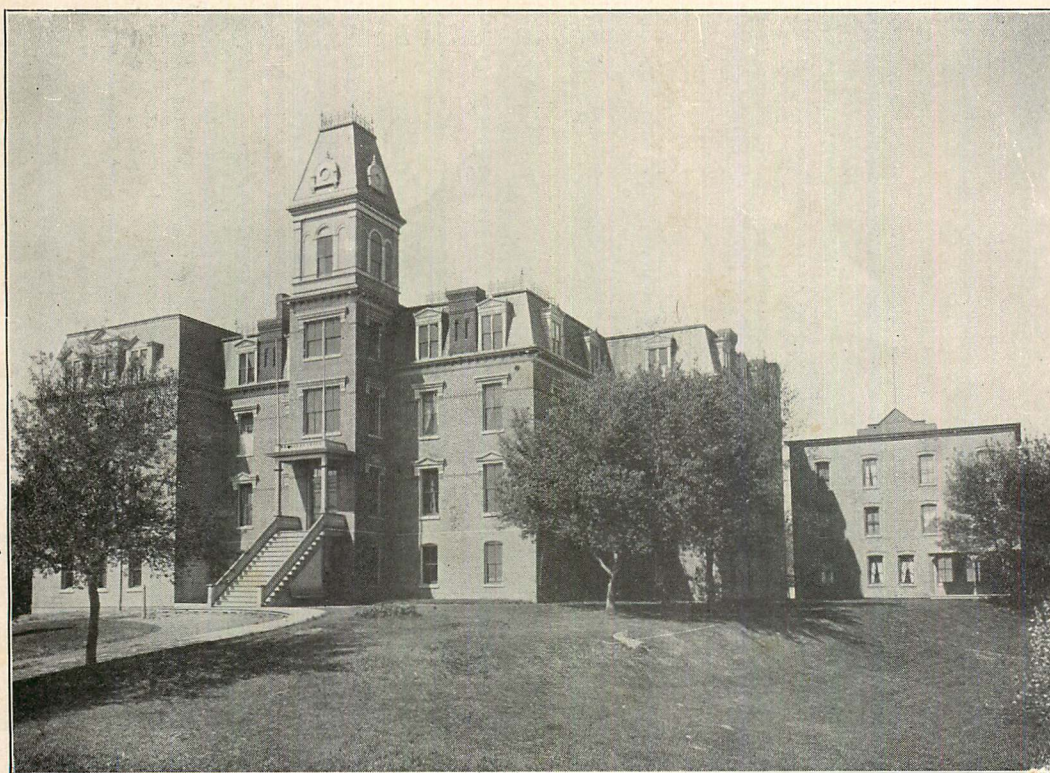
The Bondo Memorial

4. THE BONDO MEMORIAL

The next building to be added was the president's residence, which was erected in 1908 by the Bondo family of Pottawattamie County, Iowa, in memory of Mr. L. C. Bondo, three sons of whom have for many years served in the ministry of our Church.

5. THE HEATING PLANT

The problem of adequate heating facilities gradually became acute; and anticipating the need of additional buildings in a near future a separate boiler house was erected in 1916 at a cost of around \$9,000. It is cut into the hillside to the south of the quadrangle. With the subsequent installation of a second boiler, this plant has been able to carry the heating load satisfactorily up to the present time.



After 1905, Showing North and South Wings and First Ladies' Hall

6. *THE GREATER DANA PROGRAM*

In the year 1917 a drive was made to pay off the synodical debt, which at that time amounted to some sixty thousand dollars, a large part of which was chargeable to deficits in the operation of the school. This effort proving successful almost beyond expectation, our people took new courage and began to look forward to a greater and better institution of learning. Tentative plans for an extensive building program were prepared, and at the twenty-third annual convention, held at Cedar Falls, Iowa, in June, 1919, the Greater Dana Program was launched. A committee of seven was named to plan for the new school and to receive contributions toward the cause.



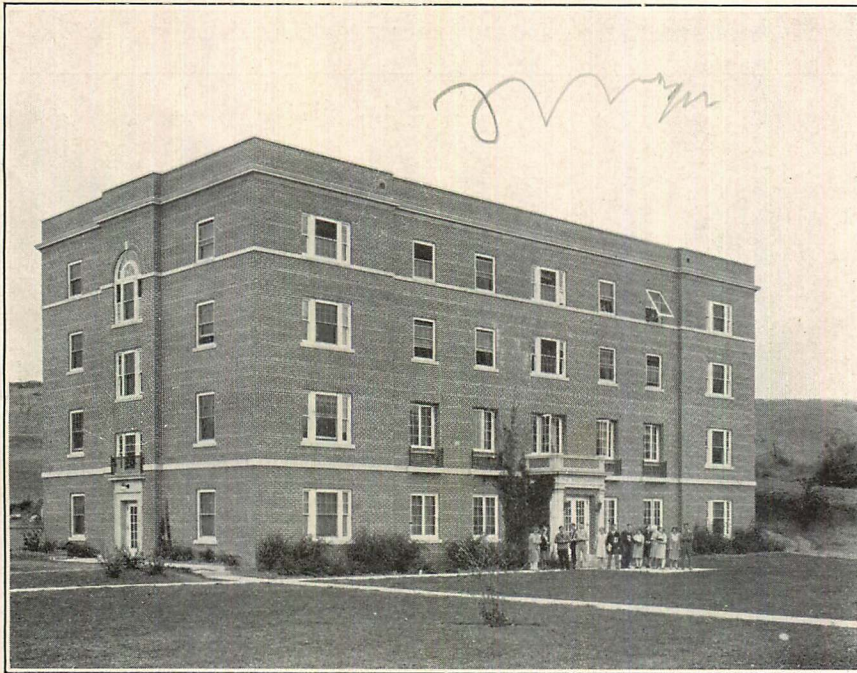
The New Ladies' Hall

In the meantime the question of a permanent location had arisen. Many thought Blair was not an ideal place to build a larger institution of learning. Omaha, Nebraska; Albert Lea, Minnesota; and Racine, Wisconsin; were mentioned as preferences, but especially the cities of Harlan and Spencer, Iowa, made determined efforts to become the seat of the new and greater Dana College. The question was settled in the 1920 convention at Hutchinson, Minnesota, by a vote of 84 for Blair, 60 for Harlan, and 19 for Spencer. The same convention decided by a vote of 155 to 6 to initiate a drive for a fund of one-half million dollars, half of which was to go into a permanent endowment fund and the other half to be used for building purposes.

7. THE NEW DORMITORIES

In 1922 rose the first of the Greater Dana buildings, the new Ladies' Hall with kitchen and dining room facilities connected. The cost of this building was about \$70,000. It provides dormitory facilities for girls, and the dining room will accommodate 250 students.

Four years later the new Men's Hall followed, the cost of which was around \$65,000. In outward appearance it matches the women's building, but it is of somewhat more modern construction. Its capacity is 85 students, besides trunk storage space and office and living quarters for the dean of men.



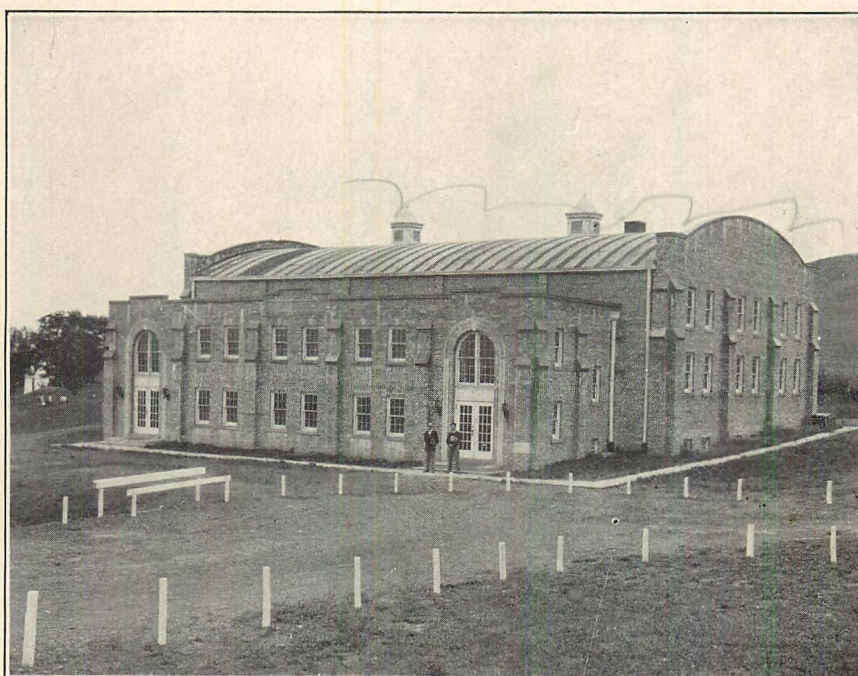
The Men's Hall

8. THE AUDITORIUM-GYMNASIUM

As a part of the Greater Dana program two adjoining tracts of land had been acquired by purchase. One of these was the old Bob Phelps property to the west of the original campus, the other the old Kline residence and acreage lying directly below and to the east. The old dwelling house was taken into use as a professor's residence, and on the southwest corner of the tract was built in 1927-28 the spacious Auditorium-Gymnasium, which a \$15,000 pledge by Mr. Lawrence Thomsen of Cody, Wyoming, had made possible. Mr. Thomsen had come to Dana as a short term winter student and, though almost a stranger, became intensely interested in the future of our school. Unfortunately the economic crisis of 1929 and following years rendered the liberal donor unable, up to the present time, to meet the second half of his pledge. The rest of the \$30,000 which the building cost, was raised by sub-

scription among the alumni in a campaign directed by Pastor M. L. Kirkegaard. In this building is housed the \$4200 Møller pipe organ acquired in 1931. Half the cost of the instrument was a gift of Mr. Møller. The balance is now paid in full.

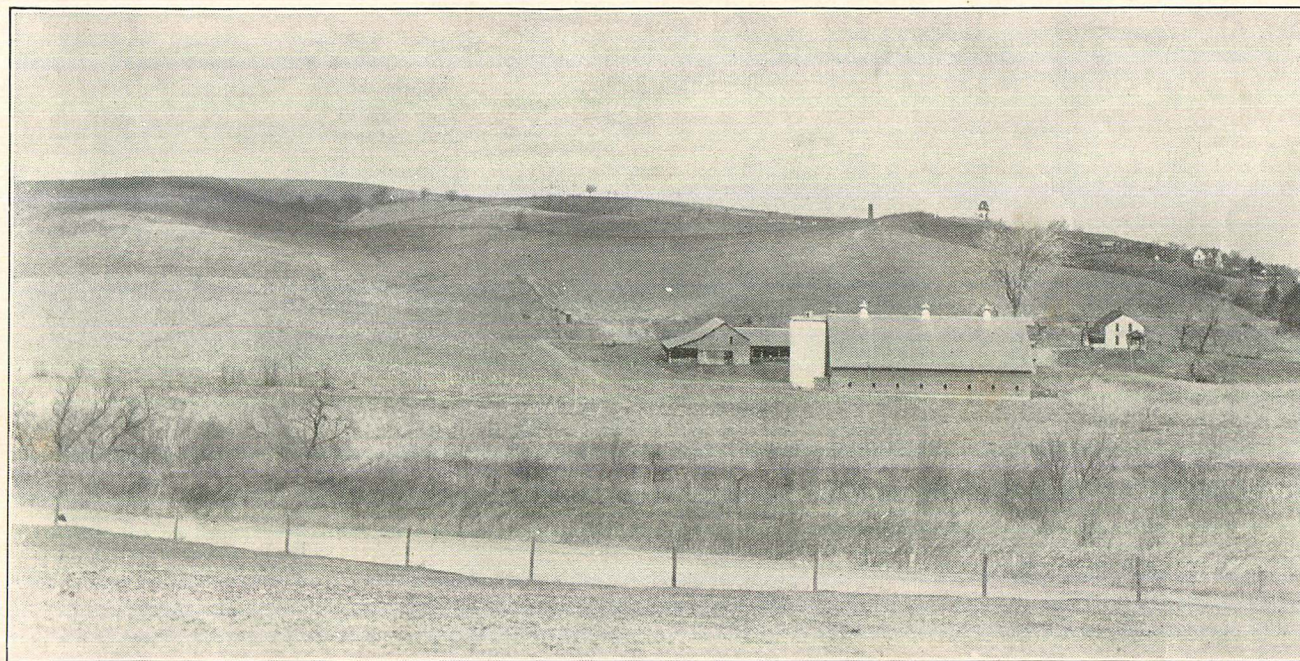
The original Greater Dana plan contemplated also a new administration building to be erected directly in front of the present one; but when hard times cut down the proceeds from the drive this part of the plan had to be dropped for the present. Instead the old main building was thoroughly reconditioned and adapted to present-day needs, and ever since it has served its purpose very well.



The Auditorium-Gymnasium

9. *THE COLLEGE FARM*

The most recent expansion of the physical plant consisted in the purchase of a college farm. For some years efforts had been made to feed hogs and cattle to supply meat for the college kitchen. While considerable savings were thus effected the conviction grew that still greater economy would result from growing our own feed and, to some extent at least, raise our own stock. It so happened that a 102-acre well improved farm adjacent on the south was to be had at a very low figure through bank receiver's foreclosure proceedings, and the Board of Trustees were authorized to make the purchase with endowment funds, the farm to remain the property of the Endowment Fund until the borrowed amount has been returned in full. The total cost of the farm without equipment approximates \$10,000. It was taken over in the spring of 1936 and is now being operated in the interests of the school.

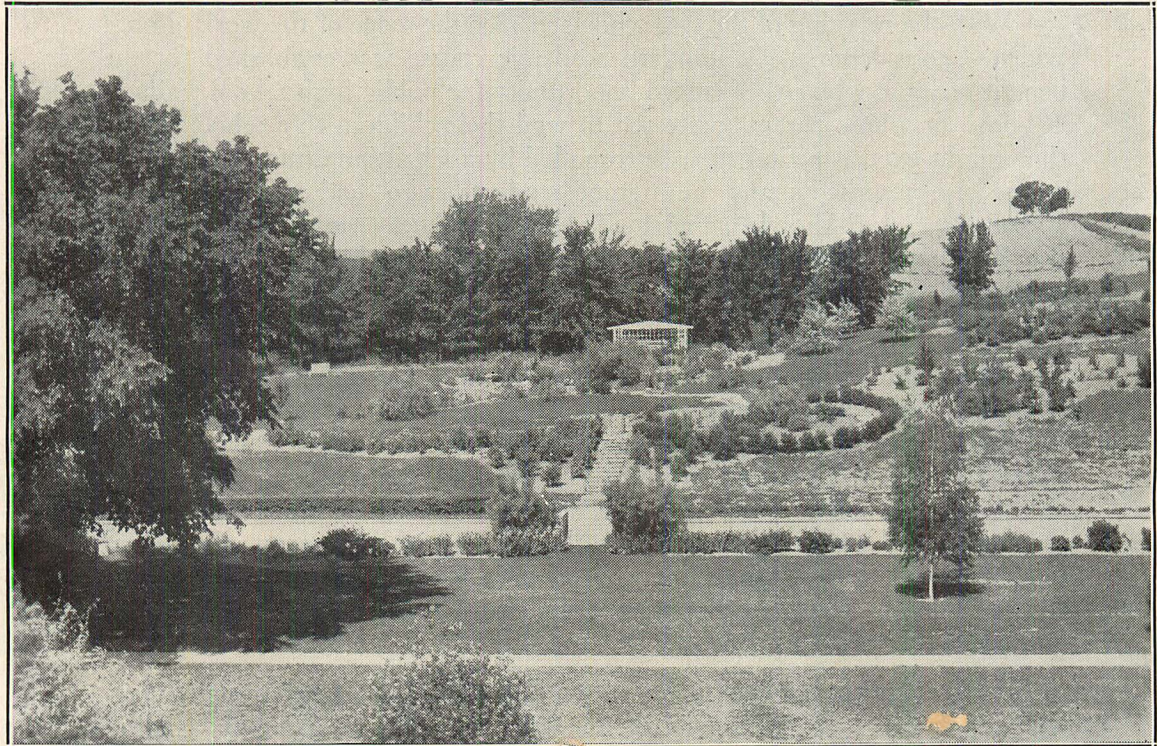


THE COLLEGE FARM

This view of our new college farm is from the Fontanelle Highway southeast looking across the Northwestern Railroad tracks and Cauble Creek to the college tower and the tall chimney of the heating plant in the background to the northwest.

10. *CAMPUS LANDSCAPING*

Keeping step with the building program the school grounds have been developed and beautified in a gratifying way. To a former student who has been away for a number of years a summer visit to the old haunts will hold many a pleasant surprise. Instead of the bare, dusty clay court of former years a pleasing expanse of green occupies the space between the dormitories



The New Park, Looking West

and the Old Main; and on the slope to the west is being developed a small park that bids fair to become the envy of other institutions. Nearly all the trees, shrubs, and flowers planted here are gifts from interested and helpful friends of our school far and near; and practically all the work—as well as much of the planning—has been done by our own students.

Plan and Scope of Our School Work

During a little more than the first decade of the life of our school it remained chiefly a school of theology and preparatory training. To be sure, a goodly number of young men attended without subsequently entering the ministry, but theological training was ever the chief interest and aim. The most important outside work was that with immigrant beginners in English.

With the merging of the two schools in 1899 the scope of the work at once widened considerably. A standard academic course was established for the benefit of those who either lacked opportunity for public high school training at home, or whose parents preferred to send their children to a school where they might expect to find them surrounded by a Christian atmosphere. This course also absorbed many immigrant students who had schooling from abroad but lacked knowledge of the English language. Along with this there was developed a normal course for the training of teachers and a business course for those who wished to enter the field of commerce.

For some years the Junior College idea was stressed, but it was soon found necessary to undertake full four-year courses. In order to do this successfully with the small faculty which our school budget permits it was necessary to definitely limit the number of courses offered. By adhering to such a policy it has been found possible within a few years to develop and successfully maintain full four-year college work at Dana. While a few students had been graduated earlier, it is but within the duration of the present administration that regular full four-year courses have been given. The size of the advanced classes has been growing year by year. This year's graduating class numbered thirty-five students.

Full recognition of the quality of work done at Dana has for many years been accorded by the University of the State of Nebraska and other leading institutions of advanced learning. Lack of sufficiently large endowment, and certain other technical requirements, have stood in the way of accreditation by the North Central Association of Colleges, but it is confidently expected that this obstacle will soon be removed.

Christian Life at Our School

The maintenance of a Christian atmosphere at our school has at all times been a major concern of those to whom its guidance has been entrusted. In the early years this problem was comparatively simple since a large majority of those who attended were young men of positive Christian convictions seeking training for special work in God's vineyard.

In those early days when the number of students was small and living faith was a common attribute, it was but natural that a rich spiritual life should flourish at the school. Besides the daily morning devotions and the weekly public religious meetings at the school the students frequently gathered in larger or smaller groups in the various dormitory rooms for joint prayer and intimate Christian fellowship. And on Sundays, besides taking part in the local church worship, the students were wont to scatter in the various Christian homes to spend the afternoon in singing and sharing the Word of God. Frequently, also, the students would go out—usually two together—to do a bit of missionary work among the unchurched.

With the advent of larger and more complex groups of young people difficulties in the way of this type of life multiplied. However, the aim has been patiently and prayerfully pursued through the years, not without good results. The distinctly devotional character of the daily chapel exercises has been maintained, and attendance was made a requirement, as was also certain hours in religion. Some years ago a regular department of Christianity was established, the head of which also acts as director of religious activities. While the intimate spiritual communion among the students, and with individual local Christians, has necessarily suffered by increase of numbers and changing conditions, Christian fellowship has always been nourished and fostered through gatherings of larger and smaller groups for public or private devotion within the school itself, and attendance at public worship in the local First Lutheran church is expected of all students who do not have other expressed and recognized religious preferences.

The nucleus of Christian life and activity at our school has ever been the Christian Students' Association, which has functioned uninterruptedly through the years and has brought blessings to many. Another important factor is the Foreign Mission Society which sponsors meetings in the interests of missions and is generally active in fostering a missionary spirit among the students.

Where the Money Came From

It has long been realized that a school such as ours can never become self-supporting and operate on the income from its students. Unlike many institutions of learning throughout our land that were built by, and operate on, heavy endowments from philanthropic men and women, Dana College and Trinity Seminary has from first to last been supported largely by the rank and file of our church members. To be sure handsome gifts have been received from time to time from individual friends of our school work—and in ever increasing ratio; the local community also has made substantial contributions for construction purposes; but far the larger portion of the funds needed for expansion as well as for operating expenses has been raised by popular subscription throughout the synod and by contributions from individual congregations or organizations within these.

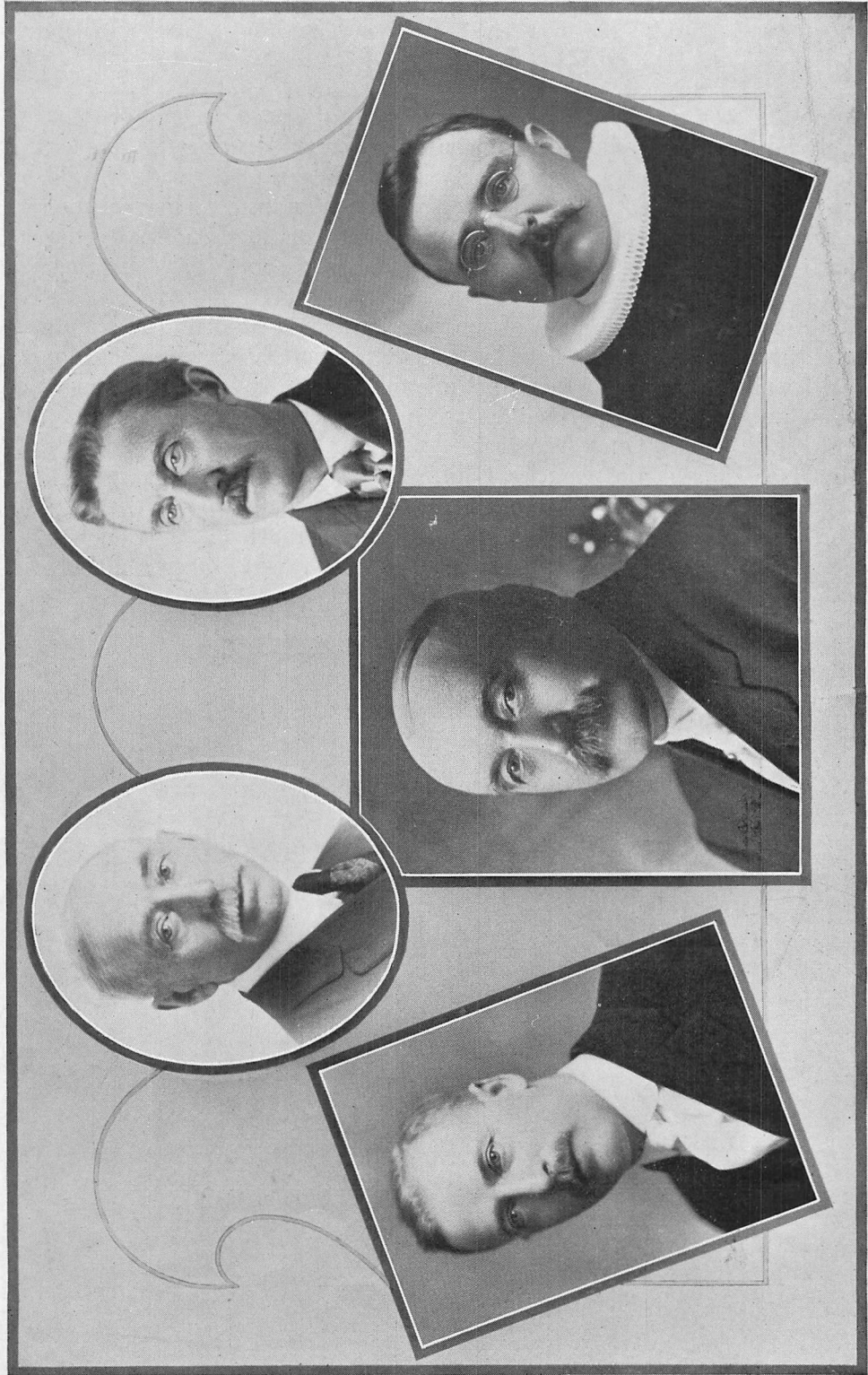
When the earliest school building; estimated to cost \$6,000, was to be erected more than fifty years ago, friends of the cause responded to the call for funds in a truly sacrificial spirit, individual contributions running as high as \$200—a large sum for that day and considering the condition of our people at that time. And thus they responded time and again to meet the growing needs of the school.

In the course of the years, however, a considerable indebtedness had accrued from annual deficits of operation; but in the year 1917 the entire synodical debt totaling more than \$60,000 was wiped out in one mighty surge of synodical loyalty and devotion.

A few years later, when it had been realized that changing conditions demanded increased facilities, our people subscribed approximately one-half million dollars for a school building and endowment fund. Of this amount the first ten thousand dollars was subscribed by the five men who constituted the subscription committee. It is to be regretted that the oncoming economic crisis cut down the total considerably, but the sacrifice was none the less real in most cases.

The annual operating expenses over and above the income from students have from the beginning been met by synodical appropriations apportioned more or less among the individual churches by a quota committee, and more recently by District organization. Since the establishment of an endowment fund the income from same has been a material help toward defraying operating costs, though in recent years this income also has been curtailed as a result of the stringency of the times.

A considerable indebtedness having again accrued, a few years ago a solemn decision was taken not to incur any new debt. This policy has been scrupulously adhered to, though it became necessary to make drastic cuts in salaries. This condition has been gracefully accepted by our loyal and faithful workers. It is to be hoped it will not have to be long endured.



THE "GREATER DANA" SUBSCRIPTION COMMITTEE

Mr. C. Christiansen

Mr. L. Vedsted

Mr. P. N. Kruse

Pastor J. J. Kildsig

Pastor J. A. Larsen

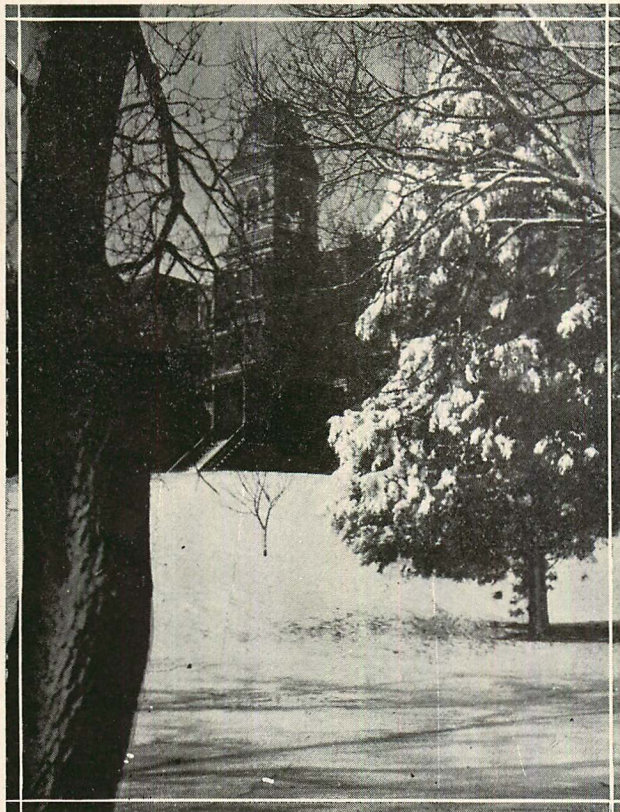
Student Aid

Almost as soon as school work had been begun the need was felt of some form of aid for worthy but impecunious young men desiring to prepare themselves for the ministry. Accordingly appeals began to be made for aid to needy students. The funds thus collected were administered by the head of the school and distributed according to his discretion. It is no mean sum that has come in for this purpose during bygone years, and many are they that have benefited thereby.

More recently the beginnings of separate permanent Student Aid Funds for both seminary and college have been made through larger gifts from individual friends of our school work. While this activity is yet in its infancy, the following gifts for this purpose deserve special mention here:

Pastor J. P. Jensen, Omø, Denmark	\$1,000.00
Mr. Hans Hansen, Los Angeles, Calif.	1,500.00
Legacy of A. G. Larsen and Mary B. Larsen, Cedar Falls, Ia.	3,052.35

The continued growth of these funds will mean much to our school in future years. It is to be hoped that many will follow the fine examples already set.

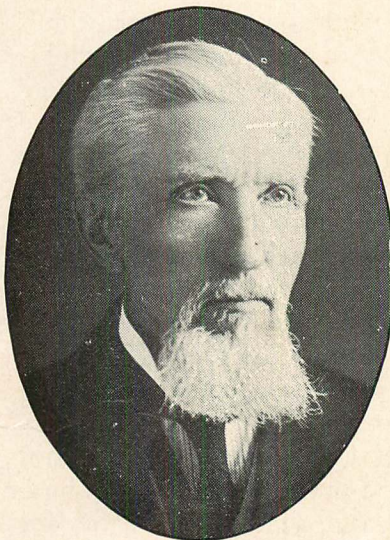


Leadership During the Fifty Years

During the fifty years that our school has crowned the hill in the western environs of Blair eleven different men have occupied the position of president either of seminary or college, or of both together. On the following pages we bring the picture of each of these men together with brief biographical notes, dwelling somewhat at length only on the founder and two others, whose contribution appears particularly notable and outstanding.

A. M. ANDERSEN
(Born March 8, 1847)

The man who fifty-two years ago began in his own home at Blair the training of men for the ministry in our church, and who two years later became the first president of Trinity Seminary, is still living and enjoys fairly good health in the mild climate of southern California.



A. M. Andersen

Anton Marius Andersen was reared in the intensely orthodox-religious community of the so-called "strong Jutlanders" (De stærke Jyder) in Østersnede parish, Denmark, and in a good Christian home.

In his early youth he learned the weavers' trade, but soon the call was felt to prepare himself for work in God's vineyard. After a year at Ryslinge High School and some private study under the guidance of his pastor, Provst Vahl, he emigrated to America in 1872 to enroll as a student of theology at Augsburg Seminary in Minneapolis. After two years of study here he was ordained by Pastor Johs. Olsen at Rock Creek, Iowa, for service in the Norwegian-Danish Conference.

Pastor Andersen's first charge was a newly organized mission church at Dannebrog, Nebraska, and from there he traveled a good deal among his scattered countrymen in Nebraska. After a couple of years of service here he moved to Racine, Wisconsin. Here, besides serving a congregation, he also edited *Kirkebladet*, organ of the Danish element in the aforementioned Conference. He returned to Nebraska in 1882 to serve a little church at Argo, a little later moving to Blair.

As one of the Danish pastors who severed their relation with the Norwegian-Danish Conference Andersen was active in the organization of the new Danish Church in 1884. His active interest in the beginning of school work in our church, and his strenuous and persistent efforts to that end, coupled with the fact that he became the first president of the institution, entitles him to be considered the father and founder of our school.

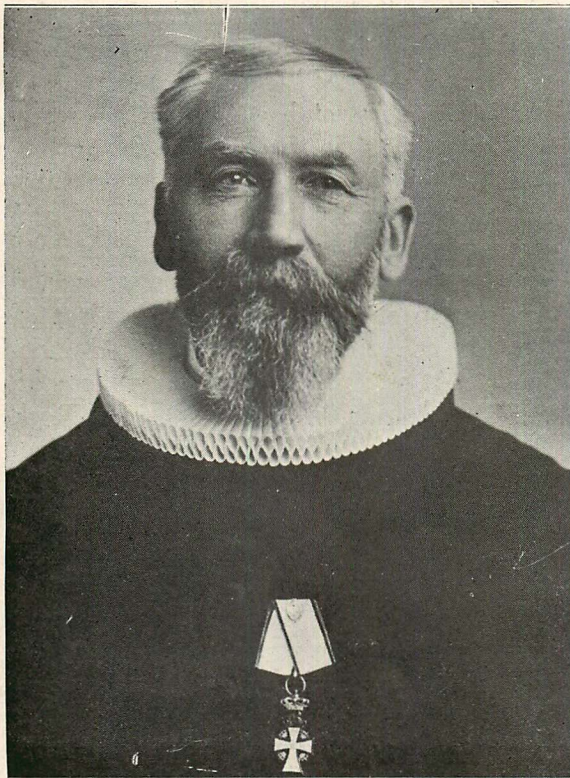
Pastor Andersen's direct connection with the school was, however, comparatively brief, being limited to the first four years as president (1886-1890) and later two years (1895-97) as professor of theology. For a much longer period, however, he rendered important service as president or secretary of the School Board. From 1902 to 1921 he served our church as editor of *Danskeren* and its successor *Luthersk Ugeblad*. In 1930 the king of Denmark awarded him the golden cross of the Knights of Dannebrog for distinguished service among countrymen in America.

Since his retirement Pastor Andersen has resided at Beresford, South Dakota, until the fall of 1935 when he and his faithful helpmeet went to California to make their home at Glendale, near where their two daughters now live.

G. B. CHRISTIANSEN

(October 27, 1851-September 27, 1929)

Gottlieb Bender Christiansen was one of the founders of the Blair Synod and also one of those who took an active interest in the building of our school.



G. B. Christiansen

After serving as a member of the School Board from the beginning he succeeded Pastor A. M. Andersen as president of the institution in 1890, serving as such until 1896 when he resigned to take over the presidency of the newly formed United Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church, a position which he filled for twenty-five years.

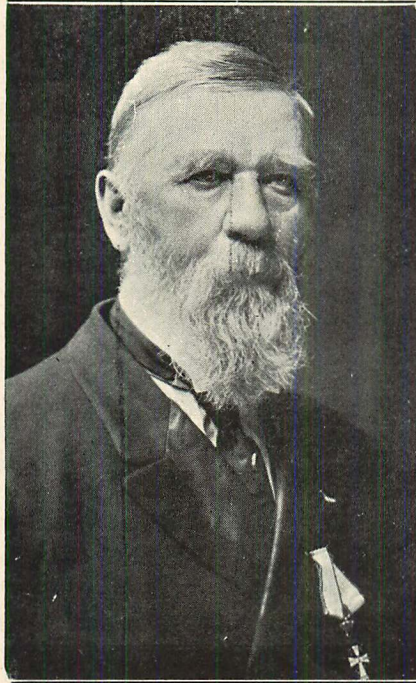
Pastor Christiansen was a man of vision and enthusiasm. His tireless zeal for the spreading of the gospel had much to do with developing interest in missions within our church. He was the first of our pastors to receive the cross of the Knights of Dannebrog in recognition of distinguished service among countrymen in America. During his declining

years he took up residence in the Eben-Ezer Home at Brush, Colorado, though he remained in activity preaching and writing almost to the last. His "Recollections" are an important source of information on matters pertaining to our church.

P. S. VIG

The one man who above all others has made his influence felt upon the theological thinking in our church is Dr. P. S. Vig. Having been connected with our seminary at three different times for a total of about twenty-five years, he had a leading of a large number are now serving our

Peter Sørensen vad, near Egtved, 7, 1854. His parents was obliged to go to as a herder. There was somewhat neglected he attracted attention bitious scholar, and awarded a small stipend from the Feilberg fund, which, meager earnings enabled him to enter Askov Folk High School. After a term of army service he became tutor in the home of Pastor H. F. Feilberg during the years 1878-79, receiving in return for his assistance and guidance in his private studies looking toward service in the ministry among countrymen in America.

*P. S. Vig*

Vig was born at Bøgd-Denmark, November being poor, the boy work at a tender age fore his schooling lected. Nevertheless as a willing and am in 1872 he was a pend from the Holtogether with his abled him to enter School. After a term became tutor in the Feilberg during the ing in return from tance and guidance looking toward serv- among countrymen

Having borrowed the price of his ticket young Vig left his native land in 1879, arriving in Chicago on October 17. Here he was for a time employed to teach religion to the children in Pastor A. S. Nielsen's congregation. He also pursued various other occupations chief among which was that of a presser in a vest factory. While so occupied he met the young woman, Karen Marie Christensen, who later became his wife and mother of seven of his children.

In 1882 Vig returned to Denmark to complete his studies for the ministry. Having passed his examinations in theology he returned in 1884 to America in the service of the Danish American Mission Society, serving on the voyage as chaplain aboard the emigrant ship.

Having been married in Chicago Vig now came to Iowa to serve a small congregation at Bowman's Grove and to teach in the young Danish-American High School that had been built at Elk Horn in 1878. He was ordained the following year at Neenah, Wisconsin, by Pastor A. S. Nielsen, then president

of the Danish Church. Along with his work in church and school during the years 1884-88 he found time also to carry on an active controversy with Danish Baptists and Adventists who were then making inroads on the large Danish population of the community.

In 1888 Vig was called to a professorship in the newly established theological seminary at West Denmark, Wisconsin. In 1892 he resigned from this position as result of a controversy with his colleague, Pastor Th. Helvig—Vig supporting the conservative view of Scripture as the inspired and infallible Word of God. Two years later, after the split in the Danish Church, Vig was called to head the new theological seminary of the "North Church" then being established at Elk Horn, Iowa. This school having been united with Trinity Seminary in 1897 Vig moved to Blair to assume charge of the merged institution.

Having resigned in 1899 Vig returned to Elk Horn to serve the local congregation and to direct the school there. Having lost his wife he married Oline Olsen of Cedar Falls, Iowa.

From 1902 to 1905 Vig again served as professor of theology at Trinity Seminary. The next four years he was pastor of the church at Luck, Wisconsin, until he in 1909 returned to Blair to resume for the remainder of his active life his twice interrupted work of training men for the ministry in our church.

In 1921, when our United Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church celebrated the twenty-fifth anniversary of its founding, Prof. Vig was honored by the faculty of Luther Theological Seminary at St. Paul, Minnesota, by having conferred upon him the degree of Doctor of Divinity, while his services among Danish immigrants in America was recognized by His Majesty the King of Denmark by the granting of the golden cross of the royal order of the Knights of Dannebrog.

In 1926, when Dr. Vig had reached the age of seventy-two years, our synodical convention elected him professor emeritus with a pension of \$1000 per year for the remainder of his life. He, nevertheless, continued to render service as long as the state of his health permitted. He died on March 21, 1929, leaving behind him his second wife, four sons of his first marriage, and seven sons and one daughter of the second union.

Besides his notable contribution to the life in our church through his teaching and preaching, Dr. Vig did a good deal of writing. His literary interests ran largely along two distinct lines: controversial theological writings, frequently directed against some sect, and Danish-American biographical and historical work. He made notable contributions to the monumental work "Danske i Amerika," and a large quantity of historical manuscripts unpublished at the time of his death were taken over by the Danish-American Archives at Sohngaardsholm, Denmark.

KR. ANKER

While Pastor Anker's direct connection with Dana College and Trinity Seminary was of comparatively brief duration, his achievement in the field of Danish-American church school work is so notable, and his influence upon our church life so considerable, that he merits special mention here.

*Kr. Anker*

This remarkable man was born October 29, 1848, on the island of Funen, Denmark. As a young man he frequented both Danish and Norwegian Folk High Schools, later receiving training at Askov for mission work among emigrated countrymen in America. Having passed his examinations in theology before Professors P. Madsen and Skat Rørdam of the University of Copenhagen, he sailed for America in July, 1881. In September of the same year he was ordained at Muskegon, Michigan, by

Pastor A. S. Nielsen, then president of The Danish Church.

For about a year Pastor Anker, with wife and three children, lived in Chicago, doing missionary work among the Danish people on the South Side. In 1882, he came to Elk Horn to assume charge of the Danish-American Folk High School and of the local congregation as successor to Pastor H. J. Pedersen. Here he remained for the next seventeen years, and here his most important work was done. In 1890 he purchased the school in order to be free to realize his ideal of a Danish Folk High School combined with an American Normal School and College. Four years later he turned the school over to the newly established "North Church," remaining, however, as its executive head.

After the merger of the "North Church" and the so called "Blair Synod" into the United Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church—an accomplishment with which he had much to do—Anker in 1899 became president of the combined schools at Blair. Here he at once set about organizing co-educational general college work alongside that of training men for the ministry. During

his administration the first Ladies' Hall was built, also the first Gymnasium; and the south wing of the Administration Building was erected.

Having retired from the presidency in 1905 Anker served for one year as pastor of the Blair church, after which he returned to Elk Horn to engage once more in educational work as leader of Elk Horn High School and College. Three years later he made an extended visit to Denmark, after which he became pastor of the church at Lincoln, Nebraska. Here he served ten years, retiring then from regular service to devote himself to lecturing and Bible School work. In May, 1921, the cross of the royal order of the Knights of Dannebrog was conferred upon him in recognition of his distinguished service to countrymen in America.

After the death of his wife Anker made a second journey to the land of his birth and then took up residence for his remaining years in the home of his daughter, Mrs. A. Th. Schultz, in Racine, Wisconsin. Here he passed away on November 16, 1928, at the age of eighty years, leaving behind five children to mourn their loss and to honor his memory.

J. P. JENSEN

(February 24, 1871-April 9, 1908)

Jens Peter Jensen was one of the many young men, born of Danish parents under German rule in North Slesvig, who emigrated to America to escape service in the German Army.



J. P. Jensen

Arriving in 1890, he worked a couple of years in Nebraska on farms and at the carpenter trade, but in the fall of 1892 he enrolled as a student at Trinity Seminary to begin the course of studies that led him first into the ministry and a little later to the presidency of our school. He succeeded Pastor Anker in 1905; but his service was short. His early death in 1908 caused deep sorrow throughout our church.

S. C. ERIKSEN

S. C. Eriksen received his academic and theological training in Denmark and came to America in 1905 to become a professor of theology at Trinity Seminary. At the death of President J. P. Jensen in 1908 Eriksen became the head of the Seminary faculty. He resigned, however, a year later to become pastor of the Emmaus Church in Racine. Later he returned to Denmark and entered the service of the Danish Folk Church.



S. C. Eriksen

C. X. HANSEN

(Born November 8, 1869)

The man who has served our school the longest and who also has the distinction of being its first American born president, is Dr. C. X. Hansen. Born on a farm near Lyons, Nebraska, he was a member of the first student body at Trinity Seminary in 1886-87, later finishing his college course at Midland College, Atchison, Kansas.

Hansen began his teaching at our school in 1894. He served as President J. P. Jensen's executive head of the institution until 1914 and 1925. In recent years he has served as head of the teacher training department.

There is no one with so many of our young people at our school as has Dr. Hansen; and there is probably no one who holds so large a place in their hearts.

In 1921 the faculty of Augustana College, Rock Island, Ill., conferred upon him the degree of L.H.D.

*C. X. Hansen*

long career of teaching at our school. At the death of President J. P. Jensen in 1908 he became executive head of the institution, serving as such until 1914 and 1925. In recent years he has served as head of the teacher training department.

who has been in touch with so many of our young people at our school; and there is probably no one who holds so large a place

in the hearts of our young people at our school; and there is probably no one who holds so large a place in their hearts.

L. A. LAURSEN

(November 25, 1865-May 21, 1929)

(See Picture on Page 12)

Laursen had received teacher's training in Denmark but emigrated in his youth, coming to Racine, Wisconsin, in 1892, where he taught parochial school in the Emmaus congregation for many years, at the same time pursuing studies in theology. Having been ordained in 1908 he was soon elected to the School Board, and when in 1914 a man was sought as head of both Seminary and College, the choice fell upon him. He retired in 1919 to re-enter the ministry. He died in 1929 while serving the Pella Church in Omaha, Nebraska.

THEO. M. HANSEN

(Born May 25, 1886)

Theodore M. Hansen was one of our own young men, educated for the ministry at our own school, and then after a few years of pastoral experience selected for special training to fit him for a position as teacher in our theological seminary.



Theo. M. Hansen

After a period of study, including a year in Denmark, Hansen took over the position for which he was trained. Soon, however, events transpired which made him executive head of the school, first provisionally, and then in 1926 as regular president by vote of the synodical convention at Waupaca. At the same time also he was made dean of the seminary upon the retirement of Dr. P. S. Vig. In the fall of 1929 he resigned to become pastor of our church at Denmark, Wisconsin. For the last several years he has served as president of our synodical Board of Education, and he is now chairman of the new Board of Trustees for Dana College and Trinity Seminary.

ERLAND NELSON

The present head of Dana College was born July 28, 1897, at Ruskin, Nebraska, and confirmed in our church there. He was educated for the teaching profession, and in 1926 he became head of the commercial department at Dana.

*Erland Nelson*

After the retirement of President T. M. Hansen in the fall of 1929 Nelson was asked to take over the duties of his office temporarily. Having shown marked administrative ability he was elected acting president by two successive synodical conventions, and then in 1931 he was made president of Dana College.

Besides doing considerable field work and other service in the interests of our school during summer months Nelson has pursued advanced studies at the University of Chicago and elsewhere, and by special arrangement he has done part time work at the University of Nebraska during the past school year to complete residence requirements for the doctorate.

J. P. NIELSEN

Born in Denmark in 1877 Jørgen Peter Nielsen came to America at the age of two with his parents to grow up on the farm in Pottawatomie County, Iowa. In 1901 he entered Trinity Seminary to prepare himself for the ministry, graduating in 1904. After three years of pastoral work in Philadelphia and one and one-half years as principal of Brorson High School at Kenmare, North Dakota, he went to Japan to assist Pastor Winther in our mission work there. In this field he labored for eighteen years, the last several years as president of the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Tokio. In 1927 he was called to a professorship in our own Seminary, and since 1929 he has served as its president.

*J. P. Nielsen*

Men and Women Who Served

TEACHERS OF THEOLOGY

A. M. Andersen	1884-1889; 1895-97
G. B. Christiansen	1889-1896
A. S. Nielsen	1894-1895
P. S. Vig	1896-99; 1902-1905; 1909-1927
V. C. Mengers	1897-1899; 1925-1926
H. O. Frimodt-Møller	1898-1902
J. N. Lenker	1899-1903
Harald Jensen (Kent)	1899-1902
Kr. Anker	1899-1905
J. P. Jensen	1903-1908
S. C. Eriksen	1905-1909
V. W. Johansen	1908-1909
N. P. Lang	1909-1925
Theo. M. Hansen	1922-1929
C. B. Larsen	1926-
J. P. Nielsen	1928-
H. C. Jersild	1930-1934
Paul Nyholm	1935-

Theological subjects were taught also at different times by the following men: A. J. Dahm 1890-1893, Svend Juul 1893-1894, A. Th. Schultz 1906-1907, C. C. Kloth 1905-1906, M. L. Kirkegaard 1925-1926, James N. Lund 1929-1930.

EARLY TEACHERS OF SECULAR SUBJECTS

N. S. Nielsen	1884-1887
A. S. Nielsen	1884-1895
A. J. Dahm	1889-1893; 1896-1898
Svend Juul	1893-1894
C. H. Schmidt	1890-1891
P. Rasmussen	1892-1893
L. Pedersen	1892-1894
A. W. Lund	1892-1896
C. X. Hansen	1894-1896; 1897-1898



FACULTY OF DANA COLLEGE AND TRINITY SEMINARY
AS CONSTITUTED 1910-1912

From left to right, seated: P. S. Vig, Nellie Falk, N. P. Lang. Standing: Chas. E. Gaydou, C. X. Hansen, Petra Jensen, Amanda Hansen, Caroline Johnson, A. Sinamark, N. T. Lund.

COLLEGE TEACHERS

Liberal Arts Department

C. X. Hansen	1899-1925; 1926-
H. W. Foght	1899-1902
Mathilda Berg	1899-1903
Sigurd Anker	1902-1905
Hilda Herfordt	1903-1905
Marie Jensen	1904-1906
N. T. Lund	1905-1915
Caroline Johnson	1906-
A. Peitersen	1909-1910
A. Sinamark	1910-1912
Petra Jensen	1909-1912
Nellie Falk	1910-1912; 1913-1915; 1917-1918; 1920-1932
Carrie S. Nielsen	1912-1913
Agnes Kleven	1914-1915
Miss Lingquist	1913-1914

V. C. Mengers	1913-1917
Marie Brandt	1917-1922
Annice Johnson	1919-1920
Ellis V. Nelsen	1912-1913
Hans C. Jersild	1919-1923
Paulus M. Falck	1919-1923
S. S. Loft	1913-1914; 1916-1920; 1921-1922
Paul Nyholm	1922-1925
Agnes Petersen	1923-1924
Thanning Andersen	1923-1925
C. A. Stub	1923-1924; 1931-1933
Tillman M. Sogge	1924-1926
G. Lundberg	1925-1927
L. C. Bundgaard	1925-1928
M. L. Kirkegaard	1924-1929
Astrid M. Hansen	1924-1927
A. D. Jensen	1926-1927
N. Overgaard	1926-1927
Margaret Jørgensen	1926-1930
A. H. Sanden	1927-1930
C. Sølling Fynboe	1927-1930; 1934-
Ruth P. Rasmussen	1929-1930
Arthur F. Nelson	1929-1930
Winston Hansen	1930-1931
E. E. Popcke	1930-1932
Ida J. Rude	1931-1932
S. Milton Thomsen	1931-1934; 1935-
Anna C. Wind	1932-
H. F. Swansen	1932-
G. H. Hartwig	1933-
Luther Lyndrup	1934-
William Thomsen	1934-

Commercial Department

Edw. Stephensen	1899-1900
Fanny Gates	1900-1901
Myrtle Fuller	1901-1902
Louise Langstaff	1902-1904
Chas. E. Gaydou	1904-1905; 1910-1914
H. L. Johns	1906-1907
N. H. Debel	1907-1910
Marinus Poulsen	1914-1915
M. L. Kirkegaard	1916-1921
Ruby Nelson	1922-1924
Elizabeth Jacobsen (Zander)	1923-1925
Marcus Beck	1924-1925



College Faculty 1923-1924

Erland Nelson	1926-1929
Nellie Vail	1930-1931
J. E. Bartley	1931-1935
J. C. Brown	1935-

Music Department

Alice M. Foght	1899-1901
Emma C. Larsen	1900-1901
Anna Nielsen	1902-1903
Gertrude Mead	1904-1905
Amanda Hansen	1905-1914
Agnes L. Nielsen	1914-1918
Carrie Sinamark	1918-1923
Helen Andersen	1923-1924
Lillie Allen Kyde	1922-1925
Waldo B. Nielsen	1924-1930
Lena Ellsworth Dale	1926-1927
Ida Hansen	1927-1930
Gunnar J. Malmin	1930-
Dorothy Brann Malmin	1930-

Besides those here named a considerable number of men and women have taught special subjects in the various departments of our school during the years. Some of these were advanced students, others were people of the surrounding community.

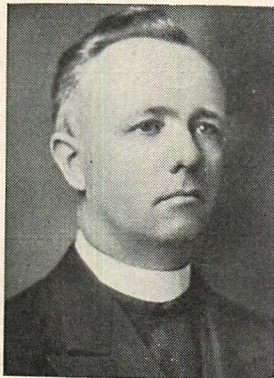


*Corner of Campus with Dr. J. P. Nielsen's
Residence in Background*

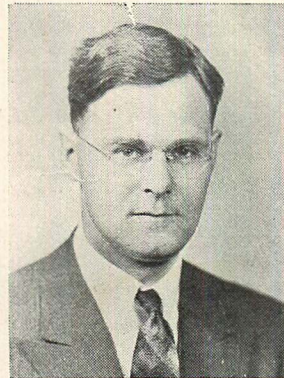
Present Workers at Our School



J. P. Nielsen, Th. D.
President of Trinity Seminary
Dogmatics, Old Testament



C. B. Larsen, S.T.D.
New Testament, Christian
Ethics, Apologetics



Paul Nyholm, Th.C.
Church History, Practical
Theology

TRINITY SEMINARY

A biographical sketch of Professor J. P. Nielsen will be found on page 40.

Professor Larsen received some of his preparatory training at our own school, finishing his college course at the University of Nebraska before entering Trinity Seminary. Having been ordained to the ministry in 1920 he served for a number of years as missionary pastor among countrymen in Australia. He also served churches at Worcester, Massachusetts, and Penn Yan, New York. In 1926 he was called to his present work as professor of Theology at Trinity Seminary.

Professor Nyholm received his academic and theological training at the University of Copenhagen, coming to America in 1922 to become professor of Danish Language and Literature at Dana College. Having done graduate work at the Garrett Biblical Institute and Northwestern University he accepted ordination to the ministry in 1926. After serving churches at Jewell and Des Moines, Iowa, and Dickson, Alberta, Canada, he was called in 1934 as professor of Church History and Practical Theology at Trinity Seminary, taking over the work at the beginning of the school year 1935-36. More recently he has also been made head of the religious department in the college and director of religious activities at our school.

DANA COLLEGE

For biographical sketch of Professor Erland Nelson see page 40.

Miss Johnson is a graduate of the Nebraska State University and has taught at Dana College since 1906 except for a period of furlough to pursue graduate work at Universities in Denmark and Germany.

See page 38 for biographical sketch of Professor C. X. Hansen.

Professor Brown is the youngest member of our college faculty in point of service having joined us in the fall of 1935. He has his training from the University of Nebraska, with additional graduate study at Columbia University.

Professor Thomsen grew up in Milwaukee and was a member of our church there. After graduating from the State Teachers' College in his native city he came to Dana in 1931 as Dean of Men and professor of Physics and Chemistry. After a year's furlough to do graduate work in science at the University of Wisconsin he returned to Dana in the fall of 1935.



Erland Nelson
President of Dana College



Caroline Johnson, M.A.
German, Latin



C. X. Hansen, B.A., L.H.D.
Education



J. C. Brown, B.Sc. M.A.
Commerce



S. Milton Thomsen, M.S.
Dean of Men Chemistry

Professor Malmin has his B.A. from Luther College, Decorah, Iowa, his B.M. from St. Olaf, Northfield, Minnesota, and he has done graduate work at Northwestern University. From Drake University at Des Moines, he came in 1930 to become head of our Music Department and leader of the Dana A Cappella Choir.

Miss Wind has been with us since 1932 as Dean of Women and professor of Biology. Reared in a Danish Lutheran home, she is a graduate of the University of Minnesota, with graduate work for the M.A. at Columbia University.

Professor Swansen is a Norwegian Lutheran by birth. His under-graduate work was done at Luther College, Decorah, Iowa, and his advanced work at the Universities of Minnesota and Iowa. With a wealth of teaching experience he came to Dana in 1932 as head of our History Department.

Professor Hartwig has studied at several of the leading schools of our land and has his M.A. degree from Harvard. He also has wide teaching experience including work in the English Departments of St. Olaf College at Northfield, Minnesota, and Wittenberg College, Springfield, Ohio. From the last named position he came to Dana in 1933.

Professor Lyndrup is a native of Greenville, Michigan, and grew up a member of our church there. Educated at Michigan State College he came to Dana to take up his present work at the beginning of the school year 1934-35.

Having received his early education in the primary and secondary schools of Denmark Professor Fynboe took his college course at Luther College, Decorah, Iowa, and has done graduate work at the University of Nebraska. He came to Dana in 1929 but left us temporarily to engage in business. He returned in the fall of 1934.

Professor Olson is a graduate of St. Olaf College, Northfield, Minnesota, and served as Freshman Coach at his Alma Mater until his coming to Dana in 1933.

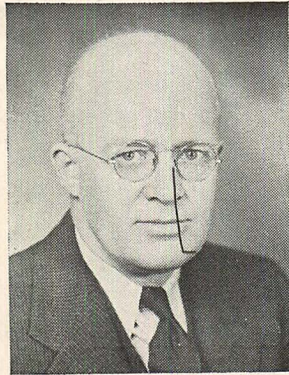
Having studied at the Memphis Technical Art School of Memphis, Tennessee, and the Cleveland School of Art, Cleveland, Ohio, Mr. Thompsen became a member of the Dana staff in 1934.



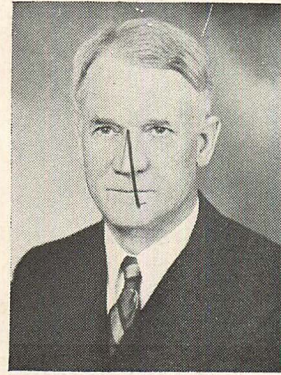
G. J. Malmin, B.A., B.M.
Voice, Choir, Theory of Music
Orchestra



Anna C. Wind, M.A.
Dean of Women
Biology



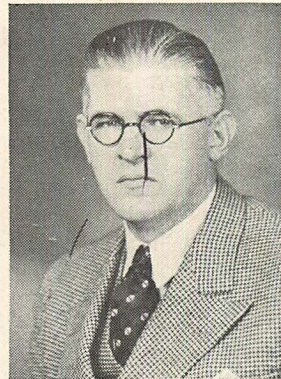
H. F. Swansen, M.A.
History



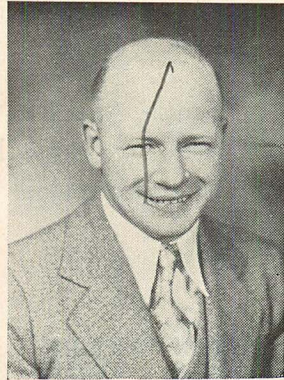
George H. Hartwig, M.A.
English



Luther Lyndrup, M.S.
Mathematics, Chemistry,
Physics



C. S. Fynboe, B.A.
Danish Language and
Literature



Rufus Olson
Coach of Athletics



William Thompsen
Art



Dorothy Brann Malmin
Pipe Organ, Piano, Violin



Dorothea Jensen
Librarian

Mrs. Selby is a graduate of the Chicago Art Institute and has experience as Art Supervisor in the city schools of Omaha, Nebraska, and Davenport, Iowa.

Dorothy Brann Malmin, wife of Professor G. J. Malmin, is a graduate of the music department of Drake University, Des Moines, Iowa. Besides her music teaching she assists the Dana Choir as soloist.

Miss Jensen has had wide experience in Danish American educational work, having taught at Brorson High School, Kenmare, North Dakota, and at Elk Horn College, Elk Horn, Iowa, as well as also in public schools. She has held her present position since 1926.



First Row: *Mrs. Winifred Selby, Instructor; Paul Hansen, Secretary; Jean Larson, Instructor.*

Second Row: *Wesley Andersen, Instructor; Merrill Truax, Chef; Arthur Mehrens, Instructor.*

Third Row: *Marius Goldbeck, Custodian; Mrs. Truax, Matron; Carol Larsen, School Nurse.*

Our Students

Elsewhere in this volume it has been related from what modest beginnings our school has grown, and the names of some of the very earliest students have been recorded. Under this heading we shall endeavor to give a comprehensive view of the growth of the student body and the changes of complexion which the years have brought.

As already stated the original purpose to which our first school building was dedicated was to train men for the ministry among Danish immigrants in America. Consequently the students of the earliest years were almost exclusively men who felt called to that particular work, and also practically all men who were born across the sea. While the scope of the work gradually widened, it was not until after 1899, when the college proper was established, that larger and more varied groups of young people were attracted. The recorded attendance figures for the period when the school operated under the name of Trinity Seminary are as follows:

1886-1887—12 students
1887-1888—14 students
1888-1889—15 students
1889-1890—21 students
1890-1891—32 students
1891-1892—39 students

1892-1893—50 students
1893-1894—72 students
1894-1895—55 students
1895-1896—48 students
1897-1898—25 students
1898-1899—21 students

During the year 1896-1897 no school was kept at Blair, the seminary having been temporarily moved to Elk Horn, Iowa. The figures for the years 1892-1895 include attendance at summer school for women.

Up to this time the school had been operated mainly as a theological seminary and preparatory school and was attended by men only during the regular school year. When the United Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church was founded in 1896 by the merging of the two constituent synods it was decided also to merge the two schools, Trinity Seminary at Blair, Nebraska, and Elk Horn High School and College at Elk Horn, Iowa. The theological course was given the first year at Elk Horn. In the fall of 1897 the theological students returned to Blair. They were fourteen in number, and there were that year eleven men doing preparatory work here. The records for the second year show fifteen theological students and six others.



SEMINARY CLASS OF 1926 ON ORDINATION DAY

Chr. Justesen, H. Madsen, J. Christensen, S. S. Kaldahl, J. H. Tennesen,
E. Mengers, S. S. Loft, (Dr. N. C. Carlsen), P. Nyholm, A. R. Petersen

With the opening of school in 1899 a new era began. Elk Horn College, being no longer operated as a synodical institution, all classes of students came to Blair. From this time on our school was co-educational and embraced general academic, normal, business, and college courses. The attendance record from that time on is as follows:

<i>Year</i>	<i>College students</i>	<i>Seminary students</i>	<i>Total</i>
1899-1900			98
1900-1901	98	9	107
1901-1902	82	11	93
1902-1903	81	9	90
1903-1904	118	11	129
1904-1905	130	5	135
1905-1906	109	4	113
1906-1907	103	5	108
1907-1908	95	6	101
1908-1909	137	6	143
1909-1910	149	9	158
1910-1911	172	12	184
1911-1912	180	13	193
1912-1913	181	17	198
1913-1914	168	18	186
1914-1915	176	22	198
1915-1916	141	17	158
1916-1917	125	9	134
1917-1918	104	10	114
1918-1919	66	7	73
1919-1920	129	8	137
1920-1921	142	4	146
1921-1922	164	9	173
1922-1923	169	7	176
1923-1924	152	12	164
1924-1925	158	8	166
1925-1926	143	10	153
1926-1927	137	12	149
1927-1928	147	11	158
1928-1929	134	18	152
1929-1930	111	14	125
1930-1931	147	13	160
1931-1932	140	12	152
1932-1933	137	12	149
1933-1934	164	10	174
1934-1935	200	11	211
1935-1936	221	11	232

The complexion of the student body has varied almost as widely as its numbers. From the beginning the students were almost exclusively immigrants from Denmark, to whom the rudiments of English had to be taught along with other branches of learning. As the years progressed this class dwindled, especially as restrictions were placed upon immigration, and the number of American born students increased rapidly. Also the introduction of business, normal, and liberal arts courses tended to diversify the attendance. It was but a natural consequence, then, that the Danish language, at first the principal vehicle of instruction at the school, gradually faded into the background. And while constant efforts have been made to preserve and develop interest in the national heritage of our people, Danish must now be taught our young people as a foreign language.



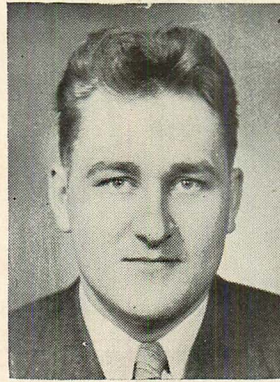
Class of 1922

CLASSES OF 1936

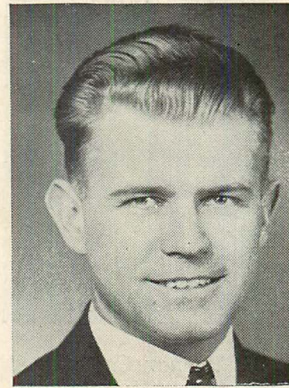
SEMINARY SENIORS



Wesley Andersen



Ervin Bondo



George Robertson



William Larsen



Ingward Olsen



Johan Peterson



Alvin Petersen



Emil Pedersen

LIBERAL ARTS COLLEGE



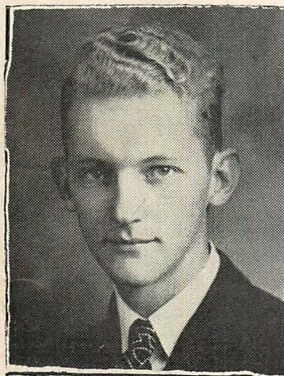
Verner Carlsen



Ruth Johnsen



Rudolph Knudsen



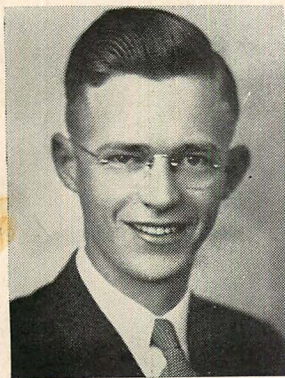
Andrew Staby



Inga Schultz



Anker Jensen



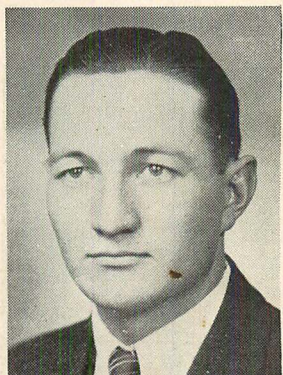
Arne Voetmann



Marian Peterson



Edward Larsen



Walden George



Margaret Johnson



Irving Tange

Harold Hurd

Jack Sides

TEACHER TRAINING SCHOOL



Bernadean Otto



Laurentze Rasmussen



Elaine Brandt



Dora Nelson



Nellie Rose Wilkins

Malvern Larsen

Ruth Pagh

SCHOOL OF COMMERCE



Margery Nelson



June Jorgensen



Elna Jensen



Erma Nielsen



Gladys Hansen



August Pedersen



William Andersen



Edward Steen

UNDERCLASSES 1935-36

SEMINARY



Clarence Jensen (Middler), Erhardt Nielsen (Junior),
Dolliver Thogersen (Junior)

COLLEGE JUNIORS



Top row: Stanley Bach, Laurice DeLaurant, Shirley Larson.
Second row: Ernestine McCain, Katherine Neldeberg, Einer Olsen.
Third row: Harold Qualsett, Ellen Rasmussen, Ruth Vig.

SOPHOMORES



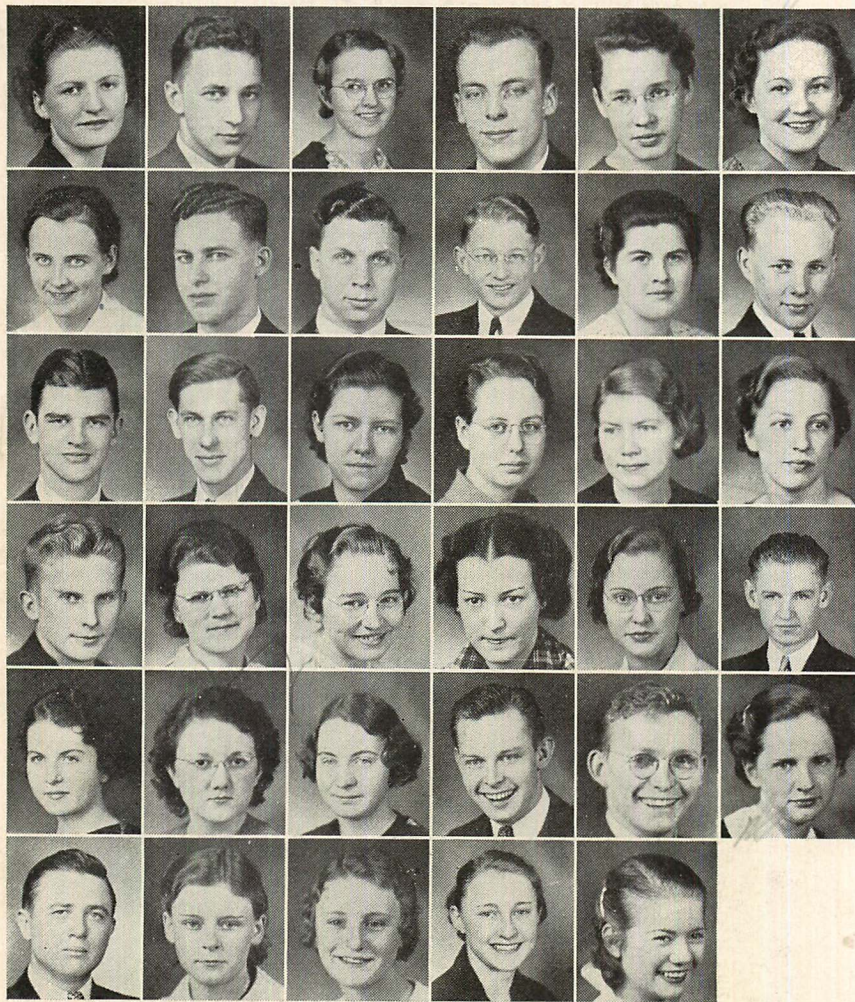
Top row: Monroe Bixler, George Brill, Berdette Erickson, Earl Fries, Carl Gebuhr, Edwin Haals. Second row: Marian Hanson, Theodore Hansen, Elva Hewett, Lila Jeffers, Irene Jensen, Ivan Johansen. Third row: Franklin Jorgensen, Rubena Jorgensen, Rodney Juhl, Stanley Larsen, Earl Laursen, Paul Mehrens. Fourth row: Eloise Morris, Robert Morrow, Lucille Neve, Marvin Nygaard, Raymond Olsen, Ruth Pagh. Fifth row: Lewis Patrick, Eleanor Petersen, Emery Petersen, Amy Rasmussen, Walter Rasmussen, Kathryn Sas. Sixth row: David Simonsen, Lillian Smith, Lela Sondergaard, Neil Sutton, Carl Wildrick, Doris Sigler.

FRESHMEN



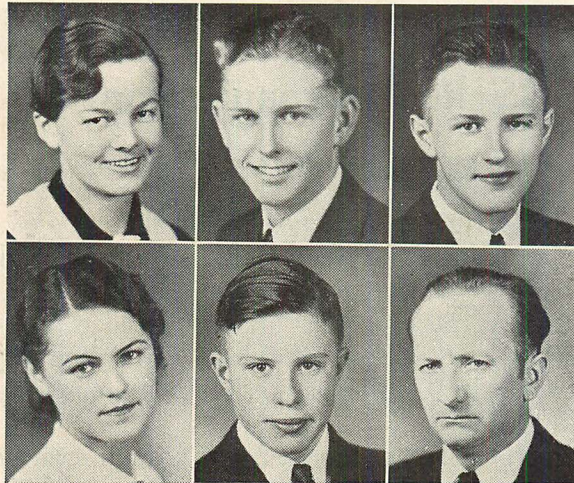
Top row: Beulah Beard, Marjorie Boyer, Edwin Bro, Marian Butterfield, Eric Christensen, Martha Craig. Second row: Mark Davis, Norman Dyhrberg, Margaret Flynn, Rita Foley, Erika Freudendahl, Irene Glasnapp. Third row: Irene Halstead, Dorothy Hancock, Edward Hansen, Leland Hansen, Mildred Hansen, Ralph Hendricksen. Fourth row: Evelyn Hofling, Ellen Houtwed, Rhoda Iden, Adelaide Jensen, Clarice Jensen, Ethel Jensen. Fifth row: Inger Jensen, Levi Jensen, Ella Juul, Adolph Kloth, Evelyn Larsen, Lillian Larsen. Sixth row: Sherwood Laustsen, Richard Lincoln, Esther Magnussen, Maxine Martins, Joyce McLeod, Howard Mickelsen.

FRESHMEN



Top row: Marie Mikkelsen, Robert Mortenson, Eleanor Mumm, Aster Neve, Florence Neve, Una Nielsen. Second row: Carol Oleson, Irvin Olsen, Andrew Pechacek, Eldridge Petersen, Evelyn Petersen, Julius Peterson. Third row: John Poucher, Elmer Rasmussen, Irene Rasmussen, Martha Rasmussen, Anna L. Rosenberg, Dagny Rosenberg. Fourth row: Steve Sadlon, Lily Sandbeck, Marjorie Seltz, Inga Siersbeck, Agnes Simonsen, Quinton Simonsen. Fifth row: June Smith, Marjorie Smith, Evelyn Sorensen, Ethan Svendsen, Harold Thayer, Mildred Thomsen. Sixth row: Paul Tyson, Louise Warren, Leone Watson, Jean Wilson, Marjorie Y'Deen.

WINTER STUDENTS 1935-36



Top row: Christine Anderson, Harry Rasmussen, Victor Schmidt. Second row: Vivian Sorensen, Warren Von Essen, Alfred Petersen, B.A. (graduate student).



A DORMITORY ROOM THIRTY-FIVE YEARS AGO
(Pastor) H. M. Hansen Professor H. W. Foght

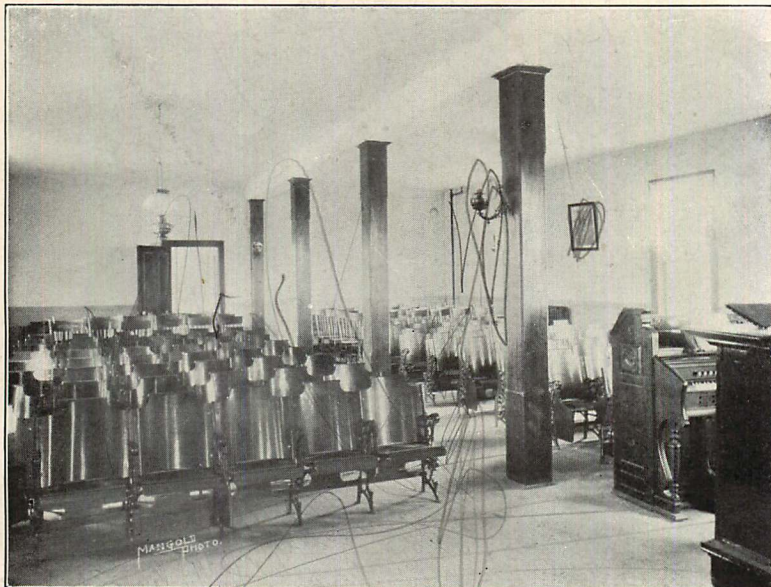
School Organizations

THE BOARDING CLUB

The very earliest formal organization within the walls of our school was probably that of the students' Boarding Club. When the work of caring for the physical needs of the students became too heavy for Mrs. Andersen, the president's wife, the students proceeded under the leadership of N. S. Nielsen (now Pastor emeritus N. S. Nielsen of Selma, Calif.) and with Miss Maren Andersen (the present Mrs. Otto Hansen of Blair) as housekeeper, to organize a students' Boarding Club.

It is not, however, until 1890 that we find a written record of the activities of the Boarding Club. On October 6, 1890, the students of Trinity Seminary met to organize for the year, electing August W. Lund, president; I. Gertsen, vice-president; P. Rasmussen, treasurer; and Frits Andersen, secretary. As auditors H. J. Hansen and A. C. Weismann were chosen.

Under this arrangement each student paid in a stipulated sum (usually \$25) at the beginning of the semester as operating capital. Then the officers would proceed to engage the necessary help and purchase supplies and fuel for the kitchen. The school furnished the facilities gratis. At the end of the



The Old Chapel in the North Wing

period an accounting would be made and each member charged his proportionate share of the cost, this at times running as low as thirteen cents per day.

This arrangement prevailed until 1899 when the school became co-educational. Since then the school has furnished board to the students residing there.

From the beginning of the school year 1895-1896 J. P. Jensen, who later became president of the institution and died in office, acted as manager of the Boarding Club.

THE STUDENT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Among the very earliest organizations within the school was the Student Library Association (Studenterbibliotheket). This organization was formally effected in a meeting of the student body on the evening of February 19, 1892, when a committee consisting of students A. C. Weismann, L. Pedersen, A. Lund, and I. Gertsen, together with Prof. A. J. Dahm, was elected to draw up



A Reading Room in Early Days

rules and regulations and to make out a tentative list of books to be acquired for the new library. An initial capital of \$28 was raised with which to purchase books. Donations of books were received from Denmark, from Lutheran Book Concern, Columbus, Ohio, from Augsburg Publishing House, Minneapolis, from the Augustana Book Concern, Rock Island, Illinois, as well as from several individual donors.

It appears from the records that in the fall of the same year the Board of Trustees took steps to establish a school library in connection with Trinity Seminary, but the Student Library continued to function separately until 1899. The last meeting of the organization on record is that of February 13, 1899.

THE STUDENT BODY ORGANIZATION

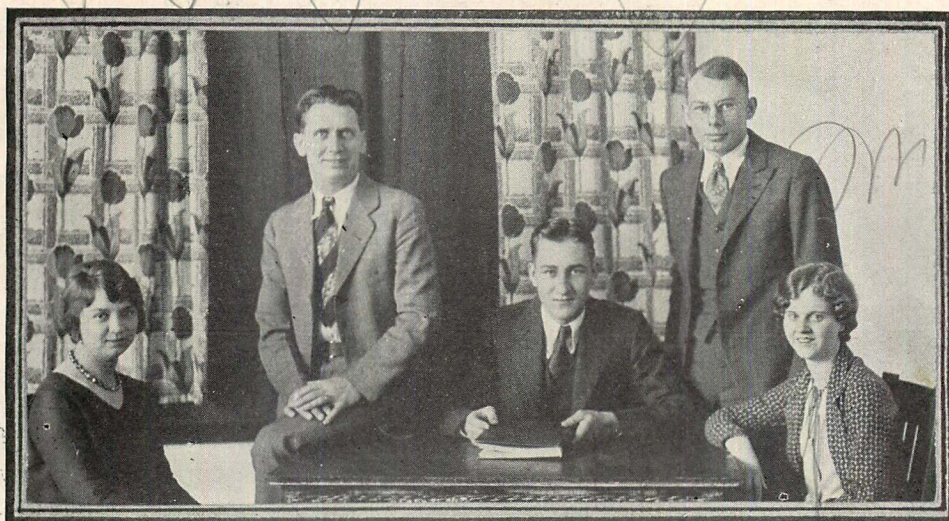
As early as November 26, 1886, we find mention of "Studentforeningen" (Student Body Organization) but here also the preserved records go back only to 1890, and the first constitution appears to have been adopted in 1896. It was approved by President G. B. Christiansen February 28, 1896. The purpose of the organization as stated in Article II of the original constitution was as follows: 1. That the name of God may be honored and the members instructed in the truths of the faith and built up on the foundation of the Church. 2. That the members may learn to participate intelligently in the meetings as leaders, secretaries, or as ordinary members.



Student Body Officers 1925-1926

The oldest preserved record is of the meeting of January 17, 1890. It is in the hand of L. Kier as secretary. The earliest officers mentioned are those elected at a meeting held on January 31, 1890, when Aug. Lund was elected president, L. Madsen vice-president, and M. Brock secretary. Alternate meetings were held in English as early as 1890. The records carry only to December, 1897, though the organization doubtless continued to function up to 1899.

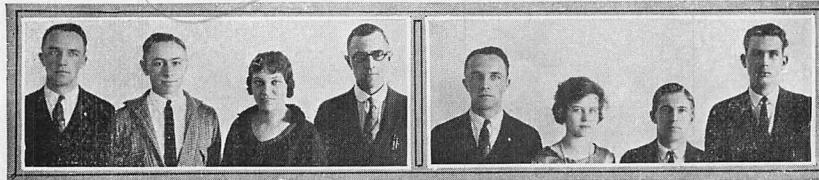
In recent years the organization has been revived under more modern forms. The college year book for 1925-1926 carries names and pictures of the officers of the organization, for those two years.



Student Body Officers 1931

THE STUDENTS' CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION

This organization, originally known as "Trinitatis Seminariums kristelige Studenterforening" dates from the beginning of the college proper in 1899. Up to that time the Student Body organization had functioned chiefly as a Students' Christian Association with some features of the literary society as



Officers 1925-1926

well, meetings having been held alternately in the Danish and the English languages. The membership roster for the year 1899-1900 contains fifty-four names. From the beginning this organization functioned in both languages. In 1924 the constitution was revised, and from 1925 the records are kept in English exclusively. On September 28, 1927, the name of the organization was changed to "Luther League."



Luther League Group 1931

THE DANISH LITERARY SOCIETY

At the beginning of the school year 1893-1894 a Danish Literary Society was organized under the name "Dansk Foredragsforening." According to the rules of the organization closed meetings were to be held each Monday evening from eight-thirty to ten o'clock. The program consisted of fifteen-minute lectures and five-minute readings by members in alphabetic order.

The career of this organization appears to have been short, the last meeting recorded being that of February 19, 1894, though literary work was carried on each year thereafter under varying forms.

The first officers were: P. Rasmussen, president; L. Kjølner, vice-president; and N. Bentsen, secretary. The last on record are: F. Andersen, president; J. Hansen, vice-president; L. Pedersen, secretary.

TRINITY SEMINARY LITERARY SOCIETY

This organization came into being at the opening of school 1894. At the organization meeting held on October 8, a committee consisting of Professors A. Lund and H. Platz together with student J. J. Dalbo was appointed to draft constitution and by-laws. Prof. Chr. X. Hansen was the first president and J. Madsen the first secretary. The last meeting recorded is that of March 6, 1896. This organization functioned only in English.

"THE FOUNTAIN"

"The Fountain" was the name of an English literary society that appears to have been organized during the school year 1897-98. The first meeting of which record has been preserved is that of October 29, 1898. Officers were then named as follows: President, J. P. Nelson; vice-president, C. C. Christiansen; secretary, J. K. Jensen. The last meeting recorded is that of March 4, 1899, when Eduard M. Nielsen functioned as secretary.

"THE HESPERIAN"

When the school opened in the fall of 1899 as a co-educational institution steps were at once taken to organize both English and Danish literary societies. At a preliminary meeting held on October 20 by call of Professor H. W. Foght it was decided to organize an English society, to meet every other Saturday night (later changed to Friday). Professor Foght and students N. P.

*"Hesperian"*

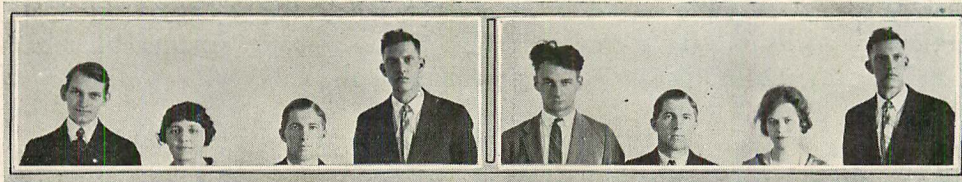
Sorensen and J. P. Nielsen were elected to draw up constitution and by-laws, while Miss Bjerre, N. P. J. Nielsen, and Henry Bondo were appointed the first program committee.

At the first regular meeting of the society, held on October 28, officers were elected as follows: N. P. Sorensen, president; Ed. Stephensen, vice-president; Marie Fritzen, secretary; H. W. Bondo, treasurer; N. P. J. Nielsen, marshall; Mrs. H. W. Foght, chorister.

In the minutes of the meeting of November 1, 1899, the name "The Blair Hesperian" first appears, the constitution so providing having in the meantime been adopted. From 1908 the name appears in the secretary's records as "The Hesperian Literary Society," under which name the society has continued its important cultural work among our students up to the present time.

"DANNEBROG"

This—the time-hallowed designation of the national banner of Denmark—was the very appropriate name chosen for the new Danish literary society that came into being within our school just before the close of the past century. The first meeting on record was that of December 16, 1899, and the first officers elected were: N. P. J. Nielsen, president; Ed. Stephensen, vice-president; Anna Petersen, secretary; H. M. Hansen, treasurer; J. Jacobsen, marshall; Prof. Frimodt-Møller, chorister (Musikdirektør); Chr. Hansen, critic.



Officers of "Dannebrog" 1925-1926

The society met Saturday nights, alternating with "The Hesperian," but in 1912 the meetings were transferred to Friday nights. According to the revised constitution of 1905 the aims of the society are: "To promote knowledge of Danish and other Scandinavian literature; to provide opportunity for practice in the use of the Danish language; and to perpetuate the memories of the mother country." These aims the "Dannebrog" Society has faithfully pursued under increasing difficulties through the years.

In this connection is to be mentioned also "Dannevirke," a Danish literary society for winter term students only, and their teachers. This society was organized in 1924 and appears to have functioned for five consecutive years.

Another Danish organization of temporary significance only was "Lyskasteren" of 1910.

THE DEBATING CLUB

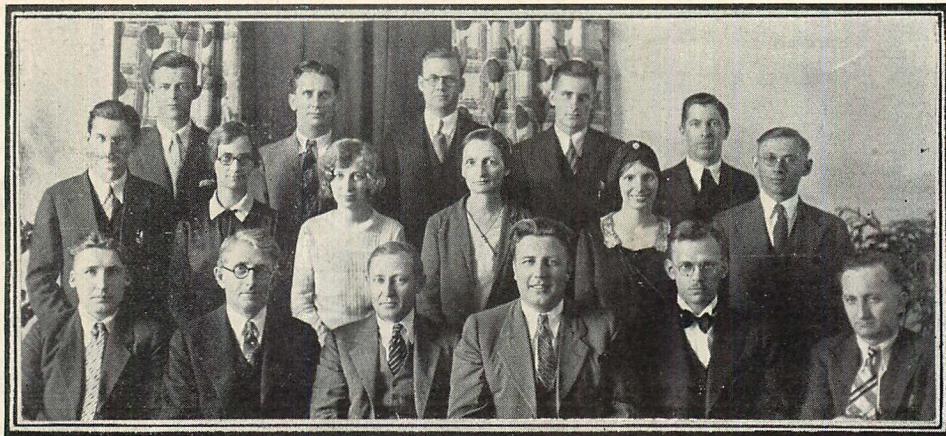
Early in 1920 the Dana College Debating Club was organized with Elmer J. Bonnesen as president, Chr. Justesen as vice-president, J. M. Girtz as secretary, and Smith Kirkegaard as treasurer. Roy Lang was designated sergeant-at-arms.

*Debate Squad 1933*

In 1927 the Debating Club was re-organized into the Alpha Chapter of the National Forensic Society Alpha Sigma Phi. This organization, besides establishing an enviable record in inter-collegiate debating, has attracted attention by publishing for several successive years a debaters' manual that has found its way into numerous schools throughout the country.

NORDIC READING CIRCLE

Nordic Reading Circle (Nordisk Læsekreds) was organized in 1923 by Prof. Paul Nyholm, who was at that time serving in the capacity of Danish

*Nordic Reading Circle 1931*

instructor at Dana. The purpose of the organization is to foster taste and love for Scandinavian literature through direct contact, and to afford opportunity for discussion of books read.

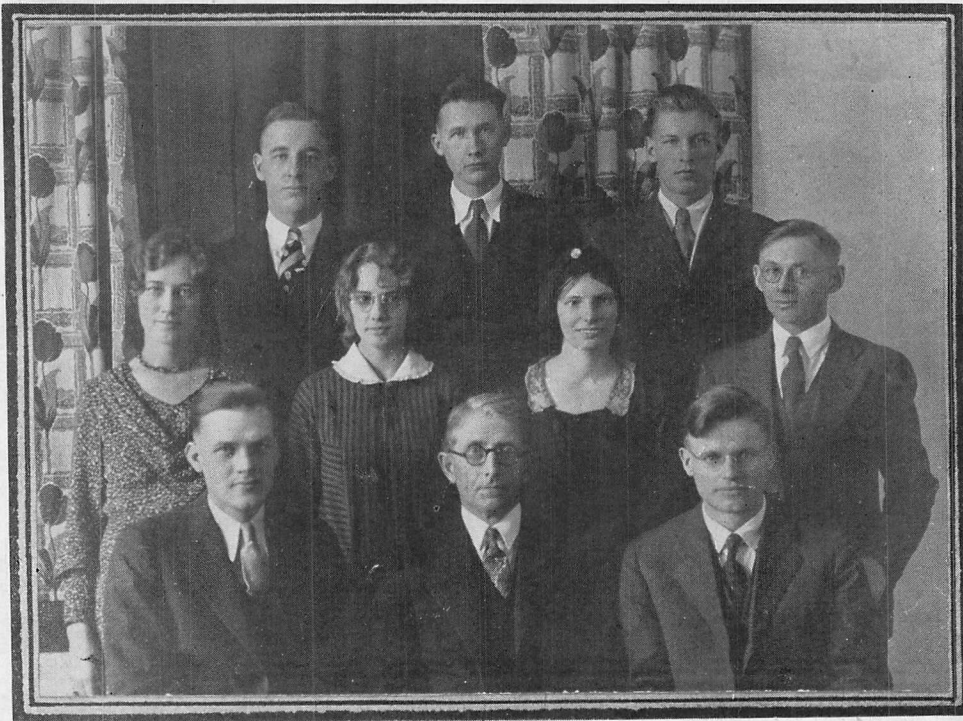
As originally conceived, the Danish language only was to be used; but as the years went by it became necessary to meet changing conditions. Today most of the books read are translations into English, and the discussions are carried on largely in that language.

The Circle, which is open to students and teachers alike, meets once each month in the various homes represented—and at times with outside friends—refreshments being served at the close of the discussion.

THE NORTH SIDE MISSION

At various times through the years, and under varying forms, local mission work in the community and nearby places has been undertaken by teachers and students of Dana College and Trinity Seminary. One such enterprise was the North Side Mission in Blair, organized in 1924 to take up Sunday School work among the unchurched population of that part of the city.

Our picture shows the North Side Mission workers of 1931.



DANA COLLEGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Under the leadership of Professor H. F. Swansen the Dana College Historical Society was founded in the fall of 1932. The main objects of this organization are to cultivate interest in the study of history and to encourage the collection and preservation of records and documents for the use of generations to come.

Present officers of the organization are: Walter Rasmussen, president; Irving Tange, vice-president; Marian Petersen, secretary; Emery Petersen, treasurer.

THE FOREIGN MISSION SOCIETY

An organization which has done much to promote Christian life among our students is the Foreign Mission Society. Originally organized under the name of Trinity Seminary Foreign Mission Society (Trinitatis Seminariums Hedningemissions Forening) the group set about creating and stimulating missionary interests within the student body, as well as outside the school,



Mission Society 1931

especially by sponsoring meetings at which some outside speaker discussed the problems of the missions field and appealed to the young people to heed Christ's "great commission." This organization has remained through the years, and is still, an important influence for good at our school.

THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

The Dana College and Trinity Seminary Alumni Association came into being in a meeting held during the synodical convention at Blair in the year 1911 when our school was celebrating the twenty-fifth anniversary of its founding. Officers were elected as follows: Rev. H. W. Bondo, president; Mr. N. H. Debel, vice-president; Rev. Atlef J. Hansen, secretary-treasurer. At the first regular annual meeting of the Association held in 1912 a constitution drafted by the officers with the aid and counsel of Professors P. S. Vig and C. X. Hansen, was adopted. The first membership roster contained fifty names.

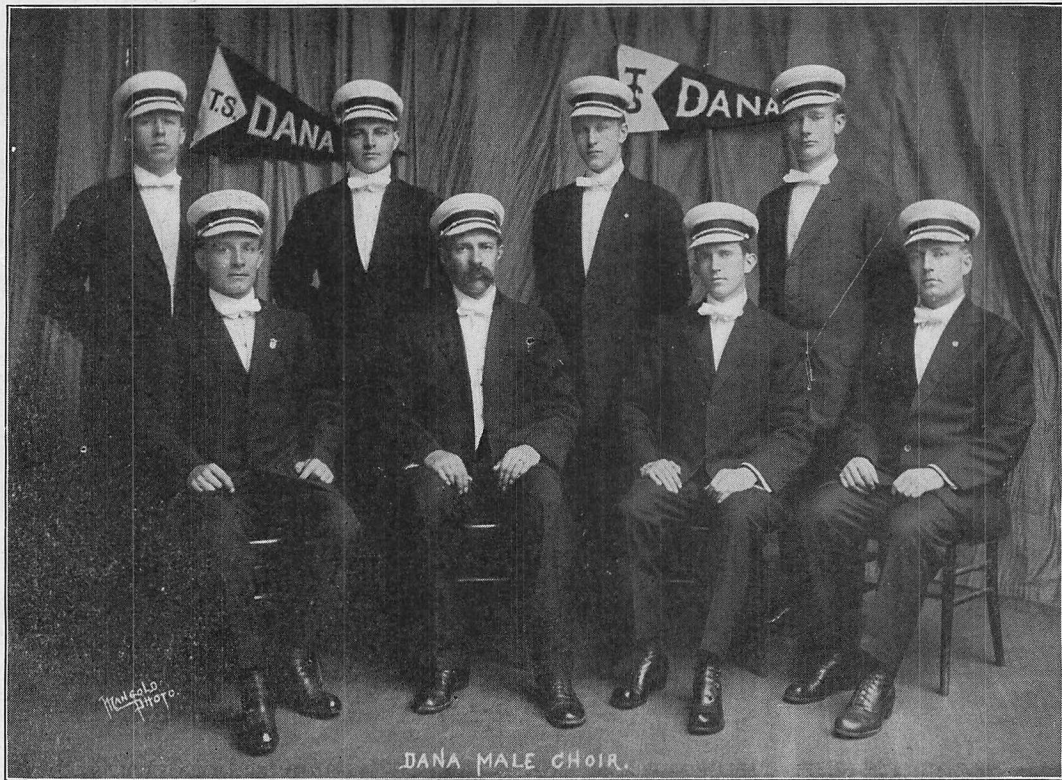
Besides giving loyal support to their Alma Mater in a general way the Alumni Association sponsored the building of the Auditorium-Gymnasium in 1927-28. It may be counted upon to figure prominently in the future development of our school. Present officers are: Professor J. P. Nielsen, president; Pastor Cornelius Hansen, vice-president; Pastor H. Irving Petersen, secretary; Mr. Marcus Beck, treasurer.

MUSICAL ORGANIZATIONS

Music in its various forms has played an important part in life at our school from the very beginning. At first the efforts were purely spontaneous

but in more recent times vocal and instrumental music has had a regular place in the school curriculum and musical organizations have been maintained from year to year.

In 1914 Miss Agnes Nielsen (now Mrs. Silas Andersen of Minneapolis) organized the Dana College Choral Union, which in later years has become so widely and so favorably known as the Dana College A Cappella Choir. Under succeeding instructors, Miss Carrie Sinamark and Miss Helen Andersen, the choral work was continued, and short concert tours were made among the congregations in territory adjacent to that of the school.



MEN'S OCTETTE FROM 1913

Frank Nielsen J. H. Vammen J. P. M. Magnussen K. M. Matthiesen
Theodore Lund N. T. Lund Franklin Rasmussen N. P. Nielsen

It was, however, under the leadership of Professor Waldo B. Nielsen (1924-30) that the work was developed and expanded into its present form. The first tour of the A Cappella Choir proper was made in the spring of 1925 through Iowa, southern Minnesota, and southeastern South Dakota. The following year the tour included Chicago, Racine and other Wisconsin points, Minneapolis and Hutchinson, Minnesota, besides a number of the Iowa District churches. In 1927 the Nebraska churches were visited and likewise



Dana Choral Union 1924

a few in Iowa, Minnesota and South Dakota. The 1928 tour covered much the same territory as that of 1926 with the addition of Kansas City and certain other points south.

It was in the year 1929 that the first Denmark tour was made. Leaving Blair on May 25, and giving concerts on the way east, the choir sailed on June 13 from New York together with upward of five hundred of our church people, partakers in the first joint synodical excursion to Denmark. On the 4th of July the choir sang at the great Danish-American celebration in Rebild Park, following which a very successful tour was made through Denmark until the return trip began on August 7.

Under the present director, Professor Gunnar J. Malmin—like his immediate predecessor a former pupil of Dr. Melius Christiansen, the good work has been continued and further developed. Each spring a concert tour of varying extent has been made, and in the summer of 1935 the second Denmark tour was undertaken. This, too, proved an unqualified success from every viewpoint, even including the economic. The singers met large and appreciative audiences everywhere, and the Danish press was unstinting in its praise. Again the choir participated in the Rebild celebration of the 4th of July, though this time the day was somewhat marred by rain. A special

feature of this second Denmark tour was a reception given the choir in Copenhagen by Mrs. Ruth Bryan Owen, United States Minister to Denmark.

The choir now owns and operates its own busses and is thus independent of transportation companies of all kinds within the limits of our own continent. For the summer of 1936 a tour of the Pacific District has been planned.



The A Cappella Choir 1935-36

ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES

During the early years of our school athletic activity was confined to spontaneous out-door exercise and games, occasionally supplemented by volunteer gymnastics under the direction of some immigrant student with military training from Europe.



Basketeers of Thirty-Five Years Ago

When the first gymnasium had been built in 1902 physical training classes for both men and women were organized, usually under student tutors, and intra-mural basket ball and other in-door games were begun. At times some very fine calisthenic work was done, as evidenced by successful exhibitions given. With the erection of the new auditorium-gymnasium in 1928 athletic activity naturally increased. In recent years some track work has also been developed.

The earliest developed, and hitherto most successful, athletic activity at Dana is basket ball. As early as 1910-14 we find effective basket ball teams coached by Charles E. Gaydou. 1915-16 the work was in charge of C. M. Paulsen (now deceased). 1918-23 Paulus Falck coached the teams, 1924-25 Thanning Andersen, 1925-26 L. C. Bundgaard.

The first football appears to have been played in 1897, when some Trinity Seminary students, coached by Professor C. X. Hansen, took part in a game



Girls' Gym Class 1923-24

with the local Y. M. C. A. At New Year 1900 a game was played which cost one of the players a broken leg. After that football was never mentioned for a great many years.

In 1926, upon petition from the student body, permission was granted by the School Board to organize for football, though under certain restrictions. During the first years the Dana elevens earned the appellation "scoreless wonders", but more recently our "Vikings" have established enviable records of sportsmanship and prowess.

In recent years the following men have been employed as coaches and directors of athletics:

G. H. Lundberg 1926-27, L. C. Bundgaard 1927-28, C. S. Fynboe 1928-30, C. C. Jones 1930-32, Rufus Olson 1932-.

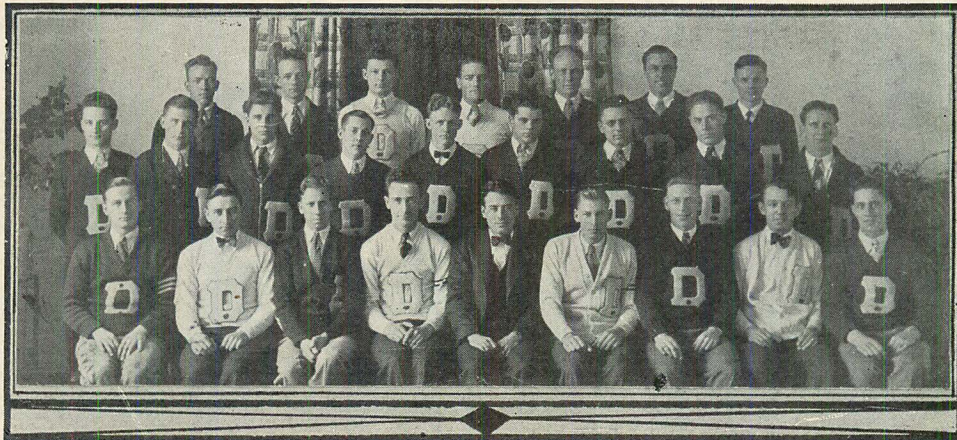
Besides the various forms of inter-collegiate athletic competition an extensive program of intra-mural games and sports is carried out each year, thus providing opportunity for athletic training for all, men and women alike.



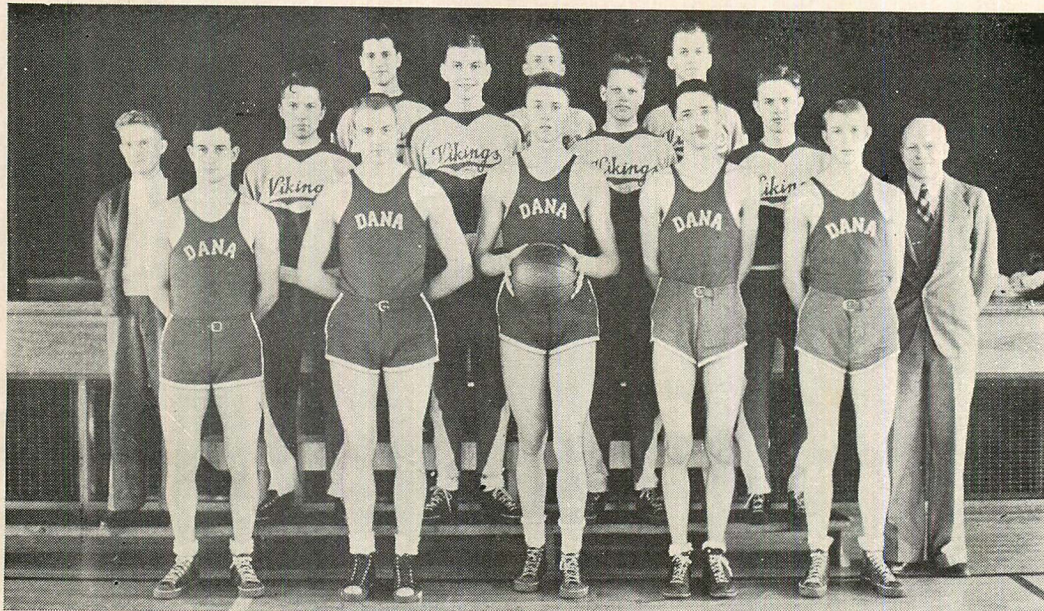
Basket Ball Team of 1925-26

THE "D" CLUB

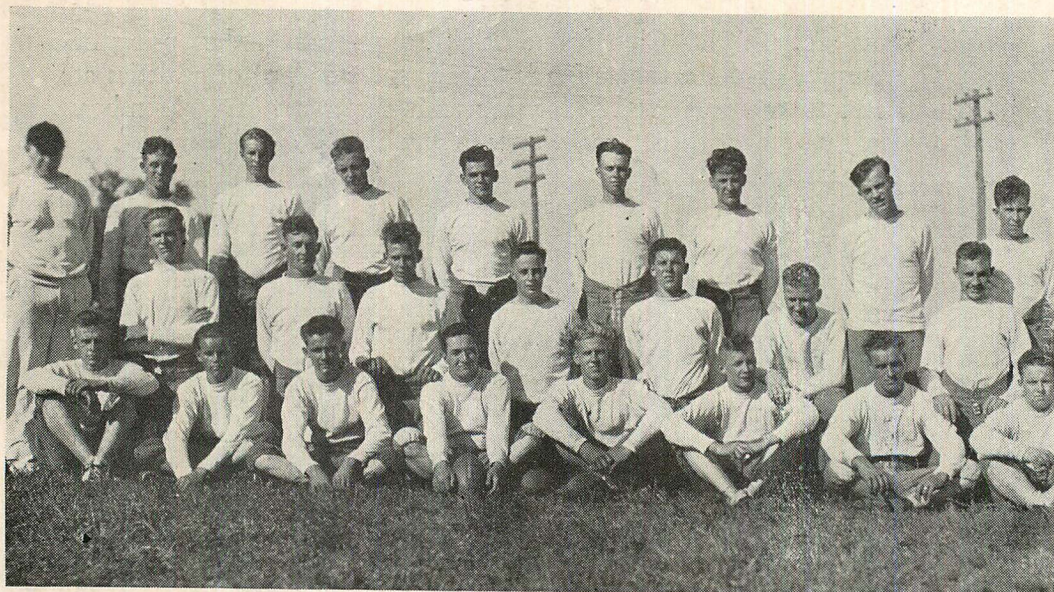
The Dana College "D" Club was officially organized in the spring of 1929. The purpose of the organization is to raise the standard of athletics at our school and to promote good fellowship among our athletes. Members are all students who have earned their letter in any branch of athletics.



Dana "D" Club 1931



Basket Ball Players 1935-36



Football Squad 1935

THE ATHLETIC COUNCIL

An Athletic Council was organized during the school year 1926-27 to promote clean and wholesome sports and to function as the executive body of the Dana athletic department. At first it was made up of two faculty members and two representatives of the student body together with the athletic coach and the college president. Later it was changed to one teacher and three students together with the president and the athletic director.

SCHOOL PUBLICATIONS

In early years various sporadic attempts were made to publish a school paper, most frequently in conjunction with some literary activity; but it was not until 1920 that a regular school paper was begun. The *Hermes* has now functioned these many years as a true messenger from our school and has, doubtless, helped to build up interest in our school work as well as furnishing a medium for expression of student life and an outlet for literary talent within the student body from year to year. From very modest beginnings a very creditable semi-monthly paper has been developed.

For a number of years a school annual has been published under the name of *The Danian*.



Hermes Staff 1930

Hail Dana

MAGNUS CHRISTENSEN

WALDO B. NIELSEN

1. While yet our land was wil - der - ness And stur - dy pil - grim
 2. To all who would thy truths em - brace Thy mes - sage true im -
 3. And when we launch our lit - tle barks On Des - ti - ny's deep

reared With brawn - y arm his low - ly home, A flow'r di - vine ap -
 part; Be thou their guid - ing star thru - out To man - hood mold each
 sea, As i - vies to thy walls do cling, Our hearts will cling to

peared: O hail, fair Dan - a, hail to thee! Our song to thee we
 heart. O hail, fair Dan - a, hail to thee! Thy chil - dren guide a -
 thee. O hail, fair Dan - a, hail to thee! Though time thy walls may

sing: May al - ways we thy name re - vere While truth to us be dear.
 right; May they in faith and hope and love, Praise Him who dwells a - bove.
 claim Thy spir - it live, an - oth - er throng Rise up and sing our song.

A Tribute in Verse

By IDA JOHNSON, Brooklyn, N. Y., a Former Dana Student

*In the far North, near the realm of eternal snows,
Dwelt a war-like people of mighty valor;
The ocean was their cradle; the roar of battle their slumber-song;
Conquest was their desire; pillaging their ceaseless joy.
Savage were they and wild;
Proud as the pines on the hilltops,
Free as the deer in the woods;
Called no one master;
Born to rule over men.
Fearless, brave, laughing at death;
Sons of the North; fierce as the howling tempest,
Stern as unbending steel, strong as the towering mountains,
Straight as the beech in its prime,
Followers of gory Mars,
Conqueror, tyrant, War-God.
Far and wide over sea and land
Spread the fame of the war-like Norsemen;
How merciless, cruel, and bloodthirsty were they;
How greedy for spoils; how rapacious for power;
Even as the lion for prey;
How ferocious in combat;
Fiery and wild as the tiger;
Cunning and shrewd as the jackal.
And from the North to the South,
From the East to the West,
From sea-girdled Brittany to mountainous Gaul,
From the steppes of Russia to the coasts of Spain,
Rose a prayer like the gust of a stormy wind
"O Lord, save us from the fury of the Norsemen."*

*Long were the years ere that prayer was answered by heaven;
Gory the world with blood and weary the hearts of the victims.
Then, behold! In the land of the war-like Norsemen
Rose a strange symbol—the symbol of love and forgiveness;
Around it an aura of radiance;
The white light of heavenly truth;
Its arms stretched out as if in prayer;
A cross—the throne of the Prince of Peace.
When its light struck the temple of Mars,*

*It trembled on its foundations; it rocked; it fell;
 It crumbled to dust;
 It was wiped from the face of the earth,
 And its place did know it no more.
 The earth shook with its fall, and over the face of heaven
 Blazed in letters of fire the words:
 "King of Kings and Lord of Lords,
 Son of Man and Son of God,
 Creator, Ruler, Sustainer,
 Comforter, High Priest, Redeemer,
 Eternal, Unchangeable,
 Yesterday, Today, and Forever."
 His glory did lighten the earth
 And the sky and the sea,
 For He is the light of life
 From eternity unto eternity.
 No longer did the bloody vulture of war
 Hover over the northlands;
 The gentle dove of peace spread her wings
 Over mountain and dale, over river and plain,
 And Love was the ruler of all.*

*The stream of life flowed on
 Into the vast ocean of eternity;
 Frail ships of life sailed its storm-tossed waters;
 Many sank 'neath its waves
 Into a fathomless grave;
 But ever the stream flowed on;
 And ever new boats sailed on,
 Gallantly breasting the tide,
 Till clogged was the stream
 And its waters hidden from sight.
 Then venturesome spirits spread sail
 And fared forth on uncharted seas
 To far-off realms
 Where Nature alone was king;
 Where Solitude brooded;
 Where Silence reigned;
 Where the copper-skinned savage glided eagle-eyed,
 Thirsty for blood;
 Where the beast of prey prowled by night;
 And the pestilence walked by day;
 Where Terror stalked their footsteps;*

*And death lay in ambush.
To this land came the valiant Norsemen;
Not to plunder and pillage, not to burn and destroy;
But to take from the earth, as their sires from the sea,
The unmeasured wealth of the virgin soil,
The fabulous treasures of lumber and ore;
To build homes for themselves and build temples to God,
Giver of bountiful gifts,
Preserver, Protector, Defender,
Merciful Father,
Ruler of all.*

*To the western land beyond the seas,
Vast, impenetrable, ocean-girdled,
They came, strong, courageous, pulsing with life;
Clear-eyed, clean-limbed, sturdy as oaks,
Fearless, resourceful, conquerors still.
The forest gave way before them; it yielded
Its trees for homes;
The earth gave for sustenance
Gifts of her infinite treasures.
Providence prospered their efforts;
Prosperity smiled upon them.
Towns nestled in the valleys
Like large flowers of many-hued colors;
Cities sprang up by river and bay;
Mighty monuments to man's ingenuity;
And in city and town, on hill and on plain
Towered monuments mightier than mighty cities.
Monuments with heaven-soaring spires,
Ever pointing upward to the throne of God,
Omnipotent, Omniscient, Omnipresent,
Lord of the universe,
Source of all wisdom,
Creator of all*

*The swift feet of the years
Glided softly over the sands of time;
Progress swept the land
In a triumphal march from sea to sea;
The torch of knowledge flamed
In the murky darkness of ignorance,
From the bleak north to the sun-swept south,*

*From the storm-swept Atlantic to the placid Pacific,
Wisdom's temples lifted their shining pinnacles;
And Culture began her beneficent reign.*

*In the forest-covered reaches of the West,
The land of endless vistas,
The desire for learning grew
Like the thirst of a wanderer in the desert;
The mysteries of nature challenged man's intellect,
Stirred his imagination,
Fired his soul;
The challenge was like a trumpet call
To the conquering Vikings;
The army of knowledge claimed their allegiance,
And they flocked to its banners,
But these Vikings fought not with brawn, but with brain,
Not with sword, but with pen,
Not with force, but with faith;
And they triumphed.
When the nineteenth century neared its eighty-fifth year;
When Nature changed the verdant robes of summer
For the russet garments of autumn;
When faith languished in the shadow-filled land of doubt,
A dream winged its way from hope's ethereal spheres
To earth and became reality;
And behold! 'Midst hills and dales on western plain,
Beside a river's brink,
Uprose fair Dana, ivy-clad,
Majestic, tower-crowned.
It was the substance of a dream,
A flower from wisdom's soil;
It was the hope of coming years,
The goal of year-long toil.
Sacrifice was its foundation,
Faith, hope, and love its cornerstones;
Its tower, ever pointing to'rd the heights,
Is a perpetual pæan of praise,
A tribute in prayer,
A symbol of worship,
Of Him who is of knowledge the source,
In whom dwelleth all wisdom,
In whom is the well-spring of truth
And the glory of perfection
Ever and forever, world without end.*

*And as the ever-rolling years
Beat out the march of time,
While sun and moon their course pursue;
While stars the sky illumine;
While rolls this sphere in ether mists;
While time shall still endure;
Shall Dana stand, a monument
To truth's eternal might;
She must not fail; she must not sink
Into oblivion's sea;
She must not totter on the brink
Of failure's ignominy;
She must go on; she must stand firm;
Though storms their fury wreak
Against her tower-crowned walls;
She must not perish in the strife;
Her banner must not fall;
She must not own defeat her lord
Nor feel depression's yoke
Crush out her life; her spirit break;
Her portals close for aye;
She must rise up in eagle flight
To greater victories;
She must diffuse the radiant light
Of wisdom's verities.
She was conceived in viking minds,
Built up by viking hands;
And 'round each viking heart she twines
Affection's tender strands;
She is of us; we are of her;
She lives in memory's shrine;
She is our pledge, our hope, our all,
A beacon light to shine
Far down the ages, till the world
And time shall be no more;
Till life's last battle has been fought
On death's dark, dismal shore;
Till love divine shall sovereign be,
Enthroned at Christ's right hand;
Till in God's vast eternity
We find joy's morning-land.*

