

The Northwestern Lutheran

Rev C Buenger
65 N Ridge
Jan 27

The Lord our God be with us, as He was with our fathers; let Him not leave us, nor forsake us. 1 Kings 8:57.

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CHURCH DEDICATION

(Wisconsin Synod German Hymnal 262:
Gott Vater aller Dinge Grund)

Thou Whom as Lord of all we own,
Within these hallowed courts make known
Thy Father-name immortal.
How blest and holy is this place!
Our hearts Thy Holy Word embrace;
Thy House is Heaven's portal!

Dwell thus with us
Pardon sinners
Make us winners
Of salvation,
Ever Thine in consecration.

Thou Lord of Glory, Son of God,
This House of Prayer is Thine abode.
O may it bring Thee pleasure!
Thy Living Word shall here resound,
And blessings manifold abound,
Peace, joy in endless measure.

Onewess, cleanness
Grant us ever,
Gracious Savior,
Do Thou bless us.
Let not pain and fear distress us.

O Holy Spirit, precious Light,
Reveal Thy glorious visage bright.
Illumine us with its splendor!
Descend on us in fire divine,
That we on earth as lights may shine,
And faithful service render.

Hear us! Cheer us!
Guide our teachers,
Lead our preachers,
Gracious Spirit,
Till Christ's Kingdom we inherit.

O Triune God, we sing Thy praise!
Here young and old their hymns shall raise
To glorify and bless Thee!
We thank Thee for this gift of Thine!
To Thee we dedicate this shrine,
Hearts, hands, and tongues confess Thee!

May we sing Thee
Songs victorious, —
Anthems glorious
While we wander,
Till we reach Thy Temple yonder.

Translated from the German.

Anna Hoppe.

The way we walk in is strait and narrow, and
therefore not easy to our enemy, the corrupt flesh.

— John Bradford.

OUR FATHER'S LOVE

Heb. 12:1-3

Heb. 12:6: For whom the Lord loveth He chasteneth

"Christ was delivered for our offences (sins), and was raised again for our justification" (Rom. 4:25). That makes us children of our heavenly Father, and He deals with us as though we had never sinned. As such children we have trials, troubles, sickness, sorrows, pains, etc. Because of them the thought involuntarily arises in our minds: If I am a child of my heavenly Father, if He loves me, if He rules all things in heaven and on earth, why do I still have to suffer? The devil puts fuel to the fire of these thoughts by telling us it is because we are not children of God, because He doesn't love us, because He has forgotten us. As a result we often get ourselves into the most abject gloom, misery, despondency and despair. Or, as our 12th chapter of Hebrews has it: we do not "run with patience the race that is set before us," (1) that is to say our Christian life of faith. We are wearied and faint in our minds. (3) We have our "hands hanging down, we have feeble knees, and make no straight paths for our feet"; (12-13) which is only a picture of despondency and despair. As long as we listen to the false witness of the devil we will feel that way and get ourselves deeper and deeper into the mire of misery and unhappiness (Ps. 27:12).

Now, God hasn't left Himself without witness. Let us listen to Him in His precious Witness: the Bible, and get the true meaning of our trials and troubles.

The first thing God calls our attention to in this portion of Hebrews is the fact that we are not alone. "We are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses." Witness of God's children with trials and troubles like yours and mine, but who walked by faith in the witness that God has given concerning these very trials. In the 11th chapter we have a whole catalogue of them. And they are by no means all. There we see Abel, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Sarah, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, Rahab, Gideon, etc., all under trial and fire of tribulation walking by faith that their heavenly Father knows what is good for his child. They endured and received the realization of their faith: joy, blessedness. They "looked unto Jesus as not only the author (beginner) but also finisher of their faith. They trusted Him for justification and sanctification, for all. They did not judge by reason, but trusted the witness of the blessed Word

and promise of our Father who is in heaven: In their trials they did not give way to the root sin: unbelief, no faith; but resisted unto blood against that sin out of which all other sins come. They fought against sin which so easily beset them by "looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of their faith." They looked unto Him and therefore did not become weary and faint in their minds, in their faith. They trusted that He that hath begun the good work in them was also perfecting it, though they did not always understand by reason just how He was doing it. They walked by faith.

They did not forget, but "remembered the exhortation of their Father," which speaks unto them as unto children on this wise: "My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of Him: for whom the Lord loveth He chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom He receiveth." When we forget that we are sons, which is identical with saying, when we do not look unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith, then we interpret our trials and troubles as though they were punishment. If we keep in mind, however, that Jesus bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that He suffered the punishment that we deserve, that there is therefore now no condemnation (punishment) to those that are in Christ Jesus (Rom. 8:1), we will not despise the chastening of the Lord. We will look at the chastening, the trials, the tribulations from the point of His Word of witness, from the point of faith, from the perspective of His love, and we shall by faith see that He is dealing with us as with sons and daughters. We will see He is dealing with us out of love, not hate, not lovelessness as the devil would have us believe and interpret such trials and chastening. Since it is a mark of our Father's love let us not become weak and faint because of such chastenings; let us not "let our hands hang down, and be of feeble knees and walk about as though we had no purpose in life, but rather looking unto Jesus make straight paths for our feet, lift up the feeble hands, knowing that in the pierced hands of Him who is ruling all things in heaven and on earth, and so also in my life, all things must work together for good" (Rom. 8:28; Matt. 28:18).

If we look at chastening as a mark of our Father's love, "that we might not be condemned with the world" (1 Cor. 11:32), in short if we keep looking at Jesus, the love of His toward us, we will patiently endure the chastening, and we begin to appreciate the sonship. We appreciate the value of a Father that does not let us go on in our waywardness, but has so much love for us that he chastens us that we might not lose, but be partakers of his holiness (10). With our earthly fathers, who shows the greater love, the one that lets his child go on in its inborn waywardness, or the one that chastens his child? The answer is simple, and to bring this home to us lest we forget it, the Lord here

uses this very experience that we have all passed through.

He says: Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected (chastened) us, and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits (our heavenly Father) and live? For our earthly fathers for a few days chastened us after their own good pleasure (as they thought best); but our heavenly Father, always for our profit, our good; why? That we might be partakers of His holiness. What is that? The joy and bliss in Jesus for time and eternity. In short, that we might be happy. Our heavenly Father does not want us to miss the happiness He has prepared for us. He must be seemingly cruel to be kind so we do not lose it. Now no chastening at the time it happens seems to be joyous but heavy, nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness (joy in Jesus) unto those which are exercised thereby. Greater joy. So look unto Jesus. Walk by faith. Chastening is a mark of your Father's love, not lovelessness.

W. F. B.

COMMENTS

A Faulty Comparison "We may differ in our way of treating the men who are in darkness, but we should not differ as Christian people and as men of God in giving our testimony, and it does seem to me one of the great faults of the present day is this, that we have too many who claim to be followers of the Lord Jesus Christ who are not willing to expound the Word of God as it is written in this Book, who are not willing to let the light shine that men may see.

For my part, I look upon the church a great deal as I do upon a hospital. We would not want a hospital that would have a sign outside that would say "We want everybody here except the sick." I say, let them come in. I am like the former brother that spoke here, I would preach at the very gates of hell if I had a chance."—Rev. Simon Peter Long, D. D. (United Lutheran Church), chairman of the Convention of the National Christian Association, quoted in the Christian Cynosure.

The men who are in darkness to whom the speaker refers are the members of secret societies. The speaker is perfectly right when he declares that as Christians we should not differ in giving our testimony against lodgery, but he employs a faulty comparison to defend the practice of receiving lodge members into the church.

It is one thing to preach the truth to a man, and quite another thing to accept a man into Christian fellowship, especially to the fellowship at the Lord's Table.

The former no Christian preacher will ever refuse to do, the latter, Holy Scripture forbids us to do in

the case of every one who is impenitent or who persistently adheres to false doctrines. "Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offenses, contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and **avoid them.**"

2 Cor. 6:14 we read: "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? and what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty."

Christian fellowship is for those only who by word and deed confess Christ with us. To fellowship one who, as does the lodge member, refuses to come out from among those who deny Christ, is to deny our own confession of Christ and our testimony against that which is un-Christian and anti-Christian. J. B.

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Missouri Synod A few items from the reports on the convention of the Missouri Synod may not be without interest to our readers:

Elected: President, Dr. F. Pfothner; Vice-Presidents: First, Rev. F. Brandt; Second, Dr. W. Dallmann; Third, Rev. H. Daib; Fourth, Rev. J. W. Miller.

The deficit of \$600,000 led to the adoption of the following recommendations:

1. The recommendation providing for an educational campaign and for systematic, regular, and frequent collections of moneys from every individual to be at once begun throughout Synod.

2. The recommendation requesting the District presidents and their finance committees to co-operate heartily with the officers of Synod in wiping out the present large deficit and in avoiding a recurrence of deficits, so Synod would not neglect the unusual opportunities which the Lord had given it just at this time by means of the pure Gospel to extend the kingdom of God.

3. The recommendation to have the Board of Directors add at least one more man to Synod's fiscal office who shall give his full time and attention to Synod's financial affairs.

4. The recommendation providing for an annual fiscal conference, composed of the President and one financial officer of each District, to review and discuss the financial situation of Synod and to make such recommendations to the various Districts as will help them solve their financial problems.

\$222,200 were appropriated for the mission work of thirteen districts of the Synod. \$1,500,000 are to be raised for the Church Extension Fund.

Prof. G. Mezger, D. D., was definitely released for service at the seminary at Zehlendorf, Germany.

The education of lady teachers for service in the Christian day schools at Seward and Edmonton, provided the number of female students does not exceed 20 per cent of the total enrollment, was approved.

\$25,000 were appropriated for mission work in the Ruhr District; a subsidy of \$55,000 was granted for the Budget of the European Free Church and \$3,500 for Alsace.

Committee No. 14, on Publications, reported that the total worth of our Publishing House during the past three years had increased from \$963,056.59 to \$1,176,177.33. The total cost of the new building and of remodeling two of the old buildings exceeded \$500,000. The debt on the Publishing House is \$171,000. The net profit of the past three years was \$533,120.74. Of this sum \$320,000 was paid over to the Synodical Treasury.

The position of the Synod on the lodge question was defined in the following resolutions:

"WHEREAS, Present-day conditions demand a reaffirmation of our position on the lodge question, therefore be it

Resolved, That Synod go on record as being as firmly as ever opposed to lodgery because of its un-Christian and anti-Christian character; and be it further

Resolved, That we hold it to be the solemn, sacred, and God-given duty of every pastor properly to instruct his people on the sinfulness of lodgery in denying the Holy Trinity, the deity of Christ, the vicarious atonement, and other Scriptural doctrines, and to induce his congregation or congregations to take action against all members who after thorough instruction refuse to leave the lodge; and be it further

Resolved, That we deem it the duty of every fellow-Christian, fellow-pastor, and especially of the officials of Synod to admonish all pastors who neglect their duty in this respect; and if Christian admonition has been administered in the spirit of Matt. 18 without the proper results, the officials of Synod shall bring such cases to the attention of the synodical District for further action; and be it further

Resolved, That if congregations, after having received due instruction, refuse to take action against lodge-members, Synod shall deal with them and eventually refuse them Christian fellowship; and be it further

Resolved, That Synod earnestly request the various synodical Districts to carry out the above resolutions and faithfully to assist their congregations in eradicating the lodge evil.

Resolved, That we recommend to Synod that a Lodge Information Bureau be created by Synod to furnish information, advice, and literature concerning lodges; and be it further

Resolved, That in order to clear up a number of questions of congregational and synodical practice, suggested by Overtures 407 and 408, which your Committee could not sufficiently consider for lack of time, and to attain that uniformity in practice which is still lacking, your Committee recommends that the President of Synod appoint a committee of nine capable and trustworthy men from various parts of Synod who shall give these questions further study and make suitable recommendations to Synod at its next session and thus assure to our whole Church the blessed fruits of such continued study and discussion of this important question; to which end also this committee shall be instructed to draw up the results of their deliberations and to submit them to the various larger pastoral conferences for discussion; and be it finally

Resolved, That this committee be instructed also to make the necessary recommendations to cover Overture 408 regarding the election of synodical officials"

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As to the Christian day school, the Synod voted

1. To express sincere appreciation to the many pastors who have faithfully taught school, and to encourage all pastors to continue to establish and teach such schools wherever possible.
2. To urge congregations to call a teacher at the earliest possible moment.
3. To encourage mission boards to assist congregations financially in establishing and maintaining day-schools and in engaging teachers.
4. To encourage pastors, teachers, and officers of the congregations in which Christian day-schools exist zealously and faithfully throughout the year to strive to bring ever more children under the influence of the Christian day-school.
5. That pious and gifted boys be constantly sent to our teachers' colleges.
6. That professors in all our higher institutions seek to instil into their students a spirit of sacrifice and a spirit of love for the Christian day-school.
7. That congregations be encouraged to pay their teachers sufficient salary to enable them to live without worry, devote their entire time to their work, and be in a position to attend conferences and summer-schools.
8. To encourage teachers, in the interest of greater efficiency, especially in teaching religion and giving their pupils a Christian training, to continue private study and to attend conferences.
9. To express appreciation of the fact that teachers are not resigning in alarming numbers, as was erroneously assumed.
10. To express sincere appreciation of the faithful work of the General School Board and its Executive Secretary.
11. To recommend that no assistant to the Executive Secretary be employed, but that the Board of Directors exercise discretion in providing for temporary assistants.

J. B.

MRS. MCPHERSON AND MCPHERSONISM

The last month, particularly the last ten days, the front page of the country's newspapers has carried the name of Aimee McPherson. No item of news has ever so monopolized the papers as has this one, as far as the West is concerned. Her alleged kidnapping and her escape from her captors across the Mexican line near Douglas, Arizona, has been the topic of conversation of millions in the West.

Mrs. McPherson numbers her followers by the thousands. It is significant, however, that she has recruited the great bulk of them from among the Protestant churches. "Four-Square Gospel" adherents (for so she terms her teaching) were for the most part formerly Methodist, Baptists, Presbyterians, Lutherans. Yes, many Lutherans.

As to her alleged escape from kidnappers, the majority here in the West are frankly skeptical. They back up their pyrrhonism by asking, "Why did her secretary, Mrs. Schaeffer, wait several hours before reporting her disappearance? And why has she been so nervous on every occasion since? Why are reporters kept from seeing her?" Again they ask, "Why was a \$25,000 reward for her safe return several times offered and as often withdrawn?" The old-time Westerner and those that know the desert and mountain country, especially that in Mexico at Agua Prieta, cannot understand many a thing. He asks, "How is it, when she reports that she stumbled along for many hours through the night over rocky and thorny desert country, that her clothes and especially her shoes show hardly a tear or scratch?" He also cannot understand that an intelligent woman, wise to the world, should be unable to say whether her last place of confinement was a house or a tent-house, for she claims to have been held there several days, and her eyes were not covered.

The serious Christian has some questions in addition to these. He wonders how it is that she is so willing to forgive and pray for those she says kidnapped her and subjected her to hardships, while in almost the same breath she announces that her attorneys are preparing two suits for \$200,000 each against newspapers for libel. He thinks of, "Vengeance is mine, saith the Lord," and looks at Mt. 5:38-42. He cannot quite understand the aeroplanes dropping roses and the roses strewn at her feet for her step at her return. He cannot quite understand that, while Jesus Christ was anything but a publicity man and an advertiser, Bruce Barton to the contrary notwithstanding, Mrs. McPherson, who claims to be His disciple, should lose no opportunity for advertising herself. Photographs? The papers carry photographs of her on the train, leaving the train, in bed, preaching, even praying. He also asks how it is she has all the property pertaining to her sect in her own name, when there is a congregation that is organized and might hold it in their name, seeing they paid for it? And again how it is, that although she came to Los Angeles some six years ago in an old car, she is now rated one of the wealthiest women on the Coast? The serious man also wonders about her divorce.

What is there to be said about her religion? Much indeed. For one thing, it is spreading very fast. Her brand of faith is making tremendous inroads into the membership of other churches. With the churches

other than the Lutheran this is largely the fault of modernistic teachings within them, for Mrs. McPherson claims to be a Fundamentalist among Fundamentalists. And it is true, as the writer testifies from hearing, that she occasionally delivers a sermon that is Scriptural. It is peculiar to note, that the bitterest enemies she has are those that teach almost identically the same doctrine as she does.

Now, if she occasionally speaks Scriptural truth, why are we opposed to McPhersonism? For many reasons. To begin with, Paul discountenances a woman's preaching, for he writes to Timothy 2:12: "I permit not a woman to teach." Then we object to the unsound sentimentality of her preaching: super-added to the extravagance of the religious enthusiast comes the sentimentalism of a woman, amounting very nearly to vulgar slush. On her tongue are continually expressions like, "Jesus, Dearest," etc.

Coming to doctrine: she insists on Baptism by immersion, whereas Scripture leaves the mode of baptizing free; indeed, Jesus Himself gave us a definition of the word "baptize" as meaning "pour." Compare Acts 1:5 with 2:17. To her the Lord's Supper is but bread and wine. Bread is but a "symbol" of the Lord's body. With her it is: "This signifies my body; this signifies my blood." But the Lord said, "This is my body. This is my blood of the covenant." Who has given her permission to change the wording? With Luther we say: "These words, This is my body, still stand fast over against all enthusiasts and fanatics."

Of course, she is an advocate of the bluest of blue laws to make the world safe for McPhersonism. Then she is a millennialist of the craziest sort, that is, she believes and teaches that Jesus Christ will come before the Judgment Day and set up an earthly kingdom in which He and the saints will reign a thousand years. With them she also teaches that the Jews will be returned to Palestine and will set up a kingdom there and be converted as a nation to faith in Christ. In this she shows, like all millennialists, that she understands not the term "kingdom of heaven," for of it Jesus says, that it is within us; and again that it is not of this world. In the second place she shows that she does not understand the term "Israel"; for the Lord defines "Israel" as being the spiritual children of Abraham; see Rom. 9:10-11; also Gal. 3:7 and 29.

What she is best known for, however, is her claim that divine healing ought to be practiced. She is careful to disclaim that she does the healing. She lays the healing in the Lord's power and asks the gift for each by prayer. The prerequisite is, however, that the sick come to be healed "holy and clean" and that they "must believe with all their heart that they will be cured"; if they feel better after the prayer, their faith made them whole; if there is no cure, of course it was "because of lack of faith." Regarding sickness she has been bold enough to state that no Christian really ever

has any business to be sick. She denies that Paul's malady was sickness of any sort. She conveniently overlooks cases like that of Trophimus, "left sick at Miletus" by Paul; and Timothy with his weak stomach, to say nothing of his wine drinking, must have been weak in the faith.

Her main heresy, as Pastor Richard Hope of Los Angeles in a paper on "McPhersonism" points out, is that she teaches a "double curse" (sin and sickness) and a "double cure" (scourging and crucifixion). She says that when Adam and Eve sinned, a double curse descended upon mankind: sin and sickness came hand in hand. In other words, she puts sickness on the very same plane as sin. This is a lamentable error, one she was led into by her emphasis of divine healing. If sin is on the same plane as sickness, if they are twin brothers, then manifestly to be sick is sin; and to be sick calls for God's punishment. But who will subscribe to such a terrible doctrine? (Do we begin to see why Paul in the inspiration of the Holy Spirit suffered not a woman to teach?) On the other hand, if sickness and sin are a double curse, then that is teaching that the Lord sent sin into the world, for we do know that He sends sickness 1 Kings 24:11ff; 2 Kings 5:27 and many other places. How much more terrible is this consequence of McPhersonism? It is as clear as day that sin is the root of all evil, and that out of this root grow all the curses: sickness, death, trouble, sorrow.

For this "double curse" she had to find a "double cure"; so she divides Christ's suffering. She says that since Isaiah says in the 53rd that we are healed by his stripes, therefore Christ's scourging at the hands of the soldiers was the healing of all our sicknesses. His scourging was the release from that curse. Then, of course, the cross was the propitiation for our sins. What arbitrary exegesis! Read Is. 53:5 and you will see how plainly the prophet speaks of being healed in spirit: it is our transgressions for which the Lord suffers stripes.

Sheep's clothing and false prophets! Beware, lest we be torn and robbed! Beware of one Aimee Semple McPherson, and if the world is gone after her!

Z. A.

MEETING OF THE MINNESOTA DISTRICT

The Minnesota District held its bi-ennial meeting in Gibbon, Minn., June 23rd to the 29th, as the guest of Immanuel's Congregation and its pastor, Rev. H. Boettcher. A church service at 10 a. m. on the opening day in which President Im. Albrecht delivered the sermon (Mt. 28:20) opened the meeting. At 2:30 p. m. Vice-President J. Plocher conducted a short devotion, after which President Im. Albrecht called the meeting to order in the name of the Triune God. 62 pastors, 9 professors, 11 teachers, and 66 lay delegates were present.

On Friday evening an English church service was held. Rev. W. Lehmann of Darfur preached on education (Gen. 24:6). Rev. G. Albrecht preached the sermon (Ps. 87) in the German service on Monday evening, and Rev. W. Petzke of Frontenac the confessional address (Ps. 40:16-17).

June 27 was Synodical Sunday. Most of the delegates went to New Ulm for the dedication of the addition to the boy's dormitory.

Three morning sessions were devoted to the German paper of Prof. W. Henkel of our Seminary at Wauwatosa: "What can we learn for Our Work in the Church from the Training of the Twelve for their Apostleship?" Synod expressed its thanks and appreciation for this timely and instructive paper by rising. It is to be printed in German and English in pamphlet form and to be attached to the synodical reports.

Rev. W. Haar, Sr., was elected to serve as chaplain for all the meetings. The discussions were held in the German language, but each delegate was permitted to speak in the language in which he could best express himself. All motions and committee reports were offered in both languages. The office of English secretary was created. Greetings were exchanged with sister districts in session.

Six pastors, three teachers, and two congregations were received into membership.

All the officers were re-elected with the exception of Secretary E. Sauer, and Statistician G. A. Ernst, who resigned. Re-elected and retiring officers were given a vote of thanks for their work in behalf of the district. The present officers are: Rev. Im. Albrecht, President; Rev. J. Plocher, 1st Vice-President; Rev. H. Boettcher, 2nd Vice-President; Rev. A. Koehler, German Secretary; Rev. W. Lehmann, English Secretary; Rev. P. Bast, Recording Secretary; Mr. H. Kurth, Treasurer; Rev. W. Lehmann, Statistician.

Board for Home Mission: Pastors A. C. Haase, Chairman, W. Schulze, P. Horn, Messrs. Kelm and Schulze.

Delegates to the Synodical Conference: Rev. Im. Albrecht (Rev. J. Plocher); Prof. R. Albrecht (Prof. H. Palmbach); Congregation at St. Peter (Congregation at Mankato).

Delegates to the Joint Synod: A.—Mankato District: Rev. E. Birkholz (Rev. L. Brandes), Congregation at Jordan (at Mankato); Redwood Falls District: Rev. Hy. Boettcher (Rev. J. Bauer), Congregation at Echo (at Redwood Falls); Red Wing District: Rev. A. Krueger (Rev. W. Petzke), Congregation at Lake City (at La Crescent); Crow River District: Rev. C. Schrader (Rev. W. Haar, Sr.), Congregation at Town Lynn (at Rockford); St. Croix District: Rev. P. Bast (Rev. G. Ernst), Trinity Congregation, St. Paul (St. John's, St. Paul); New Ulm District: Rev. P. Horn (Rev. F. Koehler), Congregation at Sanborn (at Lake Benton). B.—At Large: Prof. M. Wagner

(Prof. A. Schaller), Rev. A. Sauer (Rev. W. Lehmann), Rev. W. Haar, Jr. (Rev. W. Pankow), Rev. A. C. Haase (Rev. W. Nickels), Congregation at Fairfax (Emanuel, St. Paul), St. John's, Goodhue (Grace, Goodhue), Congregation at Winthrop (at Poplar Grove). C.—Teachers: F. Meyer (H. Luehring), W. Blauert (C. Isberner).

In connection with Prof. Henkel's report as representative of Rev. J. Brenner of the Seminary Building Committee, it was resolved to try to bring the Seminary collection to a close in the district this fall. To that end the finance committee was empowered to appoint a special committee which is to regard the finishing of the Seminary collection as its special work. It is to aid congregations in whatever way it can, even supplying a collector where necessary.

Printed reports of our Educational Institutions were at hand for the delegates. The Board of the Seminary was encouraged to tell more of the work and how it is carried on in its future reports.

Regarding Northwestern College the district went on record as being opposed to the present tutor system for inspection, and recommended that an inspector, with an assistant, if necessary, be appointed. The College Board was also encouraged to find ways and means of remedying the lack of diligence and of proper interest in their studies on the part of the students.

The Dr. Martin Luther College Board was asked to put the boarding students living in town under appropriate supervision of the faculty, also to push the project of building a new recitation hall with all energy. Rev. E. Fritz of the Board showed the crying need of such a building.

The Board for Home Missions, upon organization two years ago, divided the mission field into three districts. Each pastor on the Board was given charge of a district. In this way the work could be done more effectively without unduly burdening the commission. Each pastor reported on the congregations in his district. In all of them good work is being done. Special joy was occasioned by the report of the work at Graceville, Minn. This congregation has a full day school with an enrollment of 23 pupils. The other mission congregations of the district were encouraged to follow the example of the Graceville mission, if at all possible. The Board stayed within its budget without curbing the work in any field.

Institutional Mission work also came up for discussion. Rev. A. E. Frey, Twin City missionary, gave a report of his work, and then told of the institutions throughout the state that ought to be visited by missionaries. He was asked to prepare an article bearing on this work for the synodical reports. The mission board was encouraged to do all it can for this cause.

The Executive for Indian Mission had prepared its usual detailed and interesting report. It showed that

to do successful work among the Apaches a long period of residence is necessary on the part of the missionary. The Executive is encouraged to devise ways and means of achieving this and of putting an end to the numerous changes in this mission. That Superintendent Guenther may do the traveling necessary for successfully conducting the mission, it is suggested that he be relieved of all duties as missionary of the congregation at Whiteriver and the same be put in charge of his assistant. Also that the Superintendent's residence be more centrally located. The Cibecue dwelling ought to be erected there before another man is called. It is considered a necessary step to have and retain a resident missionary in Globe.

Probably none of our missions has made such great strides as our Negro Mission. The following will show this. In the past tri-ennium our Colored Missions experienced a net growth of eighteen per cent. This appears all the more striking to us when we consider that the growth of the Missouri Synod for the same period was only two per cent. It happened more than once that our colored missionaries received 40, 50, and more persons into the church on one day by Holy Baptism or by Confirmation. The total number of souls, or baptized members under the spiritual care of our missionaries is 5,000. Adding 5,500 unbaptized pupils who are attending our day schools and Sunday schools, we have a total of more than 10,000 Negroes who are taught the Word of God by our missionaries. The staff of mission workers consists of 105 pastors, professors, and teachers. Of these 23 are white and 82 colored.

Last year the number of guests at the communion table was 7,446. On an average every confirmed member communed three times during the year, showing us the great desire of our colored brethren for grace and salvation.

Their love to the Savior also shines forth through their liberal contributions. During the past three years the really surprising sum of \$85,000.00 was raised in our Colored Mission. Last year every confirmed member contributed on an average \$11.77, at Yonkers \$29.12. And be it remembered that our Colored Lutherans are as a rule very poor.

We are also glad to hear that our colored fellow-Christians walk as it becometh the Gospel of Christ. Said the tax-collector of Alabama County: "The only good niggers around here are the Lutheran niggers. They have fewer debts, pay their bills more regularly, are more thrifty, and their morality is better than that of any of the rest around here." A North Carolina business man has this to say: "If all negroes would be like your Lutheran negroes, they would be all right." With them the word of Paul finds its fulfillment: "If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature."

A considerable number of chapels and schools has been erected in the past three years. Our new Alabama

Luther College has cost \$48,000.00 and was thought to be large enough for years to come, but it is now already overfilled with students.

What then are the needs of our Negro Mission? Where rapid growth takes place, the needs will increase proportionately. A new dormitory is needed at Immanuel Luther College at an expense of \$50,000. The Alabama Luther College should have an addition, which would cost about \$6,000. In Alabama six simple teacherages are needed, at but \$600 each. Five chapels and schools must soon be erected. Of late the North Carolina cities are spending millions of dollars for negro school houses, and unless something is done very soon, our mission schools there will be a thing of the past. According to a very low estimate \$75,000 will be required for new schools. Owing to a lack of means and men we have been obliged to have unanswered calls from Oklahoma, Texas, and six places in Alabama.

The opportunities for mission work among the negroes who are at our very door are almost unlimited. Of the 12,000,000 negroes in our country six million are connected with no church. And of those who are connected with a church, multitudes know nothing of the grace of God in Christ Jesus. Booker T. Washington asserts that three-fourths of the colored Baptist ministers and two-thirds of the Methodists are unfit either mentally or morally, or both, to preach the Gospel to anyone or to attempt to lead anyone. A large proportion of the church members are just as ignorant of true Christianity, as taught by Christ, as any people in Africa or Japan, and just as much in need of missionary effort as those in foreign lands. The harvest truly is plenteous!

We sincerely hope that the bountiful blessing which God has bestowed on our efforts among the sons of Ham, as well as the great mission opportunities he has given us among them, and the words of Christ, go preach to them, baptizing them, will urge us on to greater desire and zeal to call these lost souls through the Gospel from darkness to light and to translate them into the kingdom of His dear Son.

During the past year \$2,669 were spent for the support of twelve persons in the district. During the same period \$1,624 were spent for the support of fourteen students at our colleges. Their report cards were good.

The Home for the Aged at Belle Plaine at present has 44 inmates. The past bi-ennium 16 persons entered the home, 9 died, and 7 left the Home. One of the inmates departed this life at the ripe old age of 99 years. The Board asks that the Home be remembered oftener with offerings by our congregations.

In memory of the departed brethren: Rev. C. J. Albrecht, Dr. A. F. Ernst, Prof. S. Duin, the assembly arose.

From the Treasurer's report it appeared the district raised \$109,085.44 for our synodical treasuries the past bi-ennium. Although this is a good deal in excess of what was raised the bi-ennium before, the district as such did not bring up its quota of \$2.75 per communicant member. All congregations were urged to make the raising of the \$2.75 per communicant member quota their goal for the coming year. Those who failed to raise the quota last year are to make it up this year in addition. A change in the budget system was also recommended. Namely, that there be two budgets. One for running expenses, the other for new buildings. The past year, it appears, the budget for running expenses has been met, but not enough money was raised to pay for the new buildings. The recommended division of the budget, it is hoped, will call special attention to the building projects undertaken, so that ways and means are adopted to raise the amounts, if necessary, by having special collections. For the new recitation hall at New Ulm the district has raised \$11,948.30.

Considerable time was lent to discussion of the Christian Day School. It was felt there is a lack of proper interest and zeal for parochial schools. To further the cause of Christian education the appointment of another school visitor to serve the districts outside of Wisconsin was recommended. The visiting elder of the conferences were also encouraged to make the advancement of the Christian Day School a part of their official duty. Through school sermons and other means a thorough understanding and interest in our Christian school system is to be aroused and maintained and new schools are to be established wherever possible. To bring about united action throughout the Joint Synod it is deemed expedient to send every visiting elder within the Joint Synod to meetings of said body as an advisory members — for the full time of said meetings. At these meetings at least one day ought to be devoted to a joint meeting of the School Visitor, the School Commission, and the visiting elders to discuss school problems. To arouse more interest in our Christian Day Schools and to serve our present day schools it is recommended that two or three pages should be set aside in the "Gemeindeblatt" and in the "Northwestern Lutheran" for articles on Christian education. This is not to be construed, however, as though the district were opposed to the publication of a special "Educational Journal" for our Synod. The delegates to the session of the Synodical Conference were instructed to have the subject of Christian Day Schools put on the official program of said convention, and, if possible, to find out the attitude of the other Synods and their districts in regard to such schools.

Legacies of the old Minnesota Synod totaling \$9,407.34 are to be transferred for the use of the Church Extension Fund.

The printed recommendation of the General Mission Board regarding conditions under which moneys are to be had from the Church Extension Fund was adopted as applicable to all mission places, not only city missions.

Because it is becoming an issue at present in our district it was resolved that the first paper at our next District Synod be on "Woman Suffrage in the Church." Pastors W. J. Schulze and R. C. Ave-Lallemant are to continue their work. Both are to formulate their arguments in writing, exchange papers, and study one another's arguments on the basis of Scripture. Rev. E. Fritz is to deliver a paper on "The Means of Grace."

The next meeting of the district is to be held the first Monday after the primary, or June 18, 1928. As yet no invitations have been received.

"Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world."

SOUTH-EAST WISCONSIN DISTRICT CONVENTION

The South-east Wisconsin District assembled to discuss God's business at Milwaukee, Wis., June 28 to July 2. The sessions were held at Bethel Church, W. Hoenecke, pastor.

After a brief opening service, the District President, Pastor C. Buenger, took the chair, read the presidential address, and submitted the usual presidential report.

Since the Church exists for the one purpose of preaching the Gospel of the Lamb for sinners slain to a sin-cursed, God-alienated, wrath-deserving world, the District at once proceeded to discuss its various mission activities. Our Inner Mission report was particularly gratifying. A number of promising mission stations have been opened, three hitherto subsidized congregations, Zebaoth, Milwaukee; Nain, West Allis; St. Luke's, Kenosha, have assumed self-support, while the work at all others has progressed in a normal, healthy manner.

To carry on our mission work in a still more aggressive manner, the District decreed to petition the Joint Synod to call a full-time Mission Secretary.

The chairman of our Indian Mission Board, Pastor P. Brockmann reported that 16 workers, 10 missionaries, 2 women teachers, 2 deaconesses, 1 matron and 1 manual training teacher are serving Synod among the Apaches of Arizona. The orphanage at East Fork, large enough to accommodate from 20 to 24 children, was completed last year. The new boarding school for which the Joint Synod last year appropriated \$12,000 is to be built this summer. The government turned over to us its school at Bylas, so that we now have 4 schools with an enrollment of 206 children.

Pastor W. Hoenecke reported that the work among the negroes is progressing very nicely. The Synodical Conference now has 105 workers in this field, ministering to more than 10,000 souls.

The several mission reports served to deepen our conviction that our mission opportunities in all our fields, Home, Indian, Polish and Negro, have never been greater than they are to-day. The Lord in mercy has made our Lutheran Zion the custodian of His saving, sanctifying Gospel. He has placed millions of unsaved before us as a constant reminder of our supreme duty and God-given privilege to "preach the Gospel." It is to be deplored that this vital work is hamstrung among us by that ever-present depressing and distressing shortage of funds. The time has come, in view of the material and spiritual blessings which God has bestowed upon us in such a lavish manner, for princely contributions to the cause for which Christ Jesus bled and died — fitting and preparing sinful men for the companionship of God and angels through eternal ages.

In the morning sessions doctrinal papers were read and discussed. The Rev. C. H. Sieker read a scholarly essay on "John the Baptist." Due to circumstances over which the essayist had no control, he was unable to finish his paper at this year's session. It is to be taken up again at the next meeting of the District.

The Rev. Hy. Diehl presented a paper on "The Doctrine of the Call to the Public Office of the Keys." Feeling that this intensely interesting and eminently practical paper is deserving of wide distribution, the District voted to have it appear in the Northwestern Lutheran. His paper deserves to be read and then — re-read.

The mere fact that both papers evoked lively and lengthy discussions serves to show our attitude over against the precious doctrines of the Book — the eternal verities of religion. Our age is interested in ethics more than in dogmatics, it emphasizes practice at the expense of doctrine. The result of this is a creedless, spineless denatured, sentimental, jelly-fish brand of Christianity. Let us hold fast to our doctrinal discussion in this age of modernism! May God grant us grace ever to stand four-square upon the old platform of "God's Word and Luther's doctrine pure!"

Not a small share of our time and attention was focused upon our educational institutions at Wauwatosa, New Ulm, Watertown and Saginaw. God has heard our prayers. He has made the hearts of many young men willing to serve Him in His vineyard. During the scholastic year 1925-26 the above-mentioned institutions had an enrollment of 652 students. As a result of this large enrollment crowded conditions, conditions which must be remedied in the not far distant future, obtain at Watertown and New Ulm. Pastor Brenner's report on our Seminary project brought great joy to the hearts of all present. According to his report only \$80,000 are needed before building operations can be commenced.

The report of our treasurer, Mr. Chas. Werner, proved that our members are beginning to realize to

an ever-increasing degree the responsibilities of stewardship. From June 30, 1924, to June 19, 1926, the sum of \$141,827.25 was sent, an increase of \$23,613.71 over the preceding biennium. But in spite of this appreciable increase we have fallen short of our budget provisions. We need again and again be reminded of God's gift to make us more liberal. When mankind was hopelessly insolvent and criminally in debt, "God gave His only-begotten Son, that whosoever believeth on Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." When we were slaves of Satan, held fast by the fetters of sin, "Christ redeemed us, not with corruptible things, as gold and silver, but with His precious blood, as of a Lamb without spot and blemish." Isaiah says, "The inhabitants of Zion (the members of King Christ's Church) shall not say, I am sick: the people that dwell therein shall be forgiven their iniquity." Surely the gift-forgiveness of sin — should prompt us to open our purse-strings in a manner joyous as a psalm for Christ and His cause.

Two services were held during the sessions. Vice-President H. Ebert preached at the opening service on Monday evening, basing his remarks on Romans 1:13-17. The Rev. C. Bast delivered the confessional address, and the Rev. H. Wolter, the sermon on Thursday evening. The sermons, one and all, had the true Evangelical Lutheran ring, they were untinged by the spirit of modernism, so prevalent to-day. The Rev. M. Plass served the District as chaplain.

The result of the election of officers was as follows: President, The Rev. C. Buenger; First Vice-President, Rev. H. Ebert; Second Vice-President, Rev. Herman Gieschen; Secretary, Rev. Henry Gieschen, Sr.; Recorder, Rev. W. Keibel; Treasurer, Mr. Chas. Werner; Mission Board: Pastors P. Brockmann, W. Mahnke, J. Jeske and the Messrs. R. Freihube and F. Schroeder; Revision Committee: the Messrs. E. Hass, Hy. Vetter, P. Lucas and J. Ungrodt.

Our General President, the Rev. G. Bergemann, was a welcome visitor in our midst. His kind and thoughtful counsel facilitated the proceedings.

The District voted to publish a brief English Synodical Report in addition to the usual German "Synodal-Bericht." This decision will, no doubt, meet with favor and redound to the welfare of our Church. It cannot be denied that ignorance of Synod's work begets indifference to Synod's work. Many of our synodical problems would automatically be solved if our members were more conversant with Synod's work and needs. It is to be hoped, therefore, that our English speaking members will carefully and prayerfully read the English report which will appear in due time. Pastor W. Keibel was asked to get the English report ready for publication.

The next meeting will, God willing, be held in Bethesda Church, H. Knuth, pastor, two years hence.

We left the District convention strengthened in our determination and zeal to work while it is day, and invoking God to graciously bless our feeble efforts in behalf of our District and our entire Synod.

J. G. Jeske.

NORTH WISCONSIN DISTRICT CONVENTION

The North Wisconsin District of the Joint Synod of Wisconsin and Other States met at Appleton to enjoy the hospitality of St. Paul's Congregation, T. Sauer, pastor, during the days of June 23rd to June 29th, 1926.

Pastor G. Bergemann, Fond du Lac, delivered the sermon for the opening services. He chose to be led by Isaiah 43:1, "Fear not; for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine." These words are to be the guiding influence for all our synodic work. The precious calling of a Christian is clearly set forth. Each individual child of God hears with assurance of eternal love His God deals with him. May these words take hold of every member of our Synod, so that each individual Christian will realize his calling with the privileges, honors, glories, and responsibilities of God's children and His royal priesthood.

The following were elected to serve as officers of the District for two years: President, E. Schlueter, Oshkosh; 1st Vice-President, A. Zich, Green Bay; 2nd Vice-President, K. Toepel, Manitowoc, R. 1; Treasurer, A. Voecks, Appleton; Secretary, G. Boettcher, Hortonville; Recording Secretary, H. Kirchner.

Board for District Mission: P. Oehlert, Kaukauna, 6 years; N. Abendrot, Rhineland, 6 years; H. Kirchner, Stambaugh, 4 years; E. Grabowski, Escanaba, 4 years; W. Wojahn, Coleman, 2 years; W. Michler, Fond du Lac, 2 years.

Board of Auditors: Theodore Boettcher, John Behnke, W. Mueller, A. Herrmann.

The papers read by F. Schumann, Sawyer, and Ph. Froehlke, Appleton, were accepted. It is agreed that both papers will appear in pamphlet form for distribution in our congregations. Pastor Schumann read: "Was heisst Evangelium predigen?" Pastor Froehlke's paper dealt with the theme: What can we do to bring about a greater interest in matters pertaining to synodical affairs among the people of our congregations? The doctrinal discussion which followed Pastor Schumann's paper was an important issue. Not enough time was given to this matter. This is a sad feature in our synodic meetings. The dealing in spiritual matters works blessing to the church. The reading of papers on doctrine and practical questions should not be a mere form, but this opportunity should be utilized and due time taken for thorough discussion. In this way we will be strengthened when unity in spirit and faith become evident. On the other hand a difference of conception of the fundamental articles of

faith may show itself to our surprise. This was brought out during the short discussion of Pastor Schumann's paper.

Pastor Froehlke's suggestions to bring about a greater interest in our synodic affairs were well taken. However, this essay was also dealt with too hastily by the assembled district. This was a grave mistake. He touched some very sore spots; and it would have been of benefit to have considered the details of this paper in open meeting.

Pastor J. Brenner, Milwaukee, reported regarding the new seminary building project. He expressed the hope that building operations may begun this fall.

Pastor E. Moll, Oshkosh, addressed the meeting in the interest of the Lutheran Student Church, Madison.

Prof. R. Jahnke, New Ulm, Minn., related the deplorable conditions existing in the dormitory of Dr. Martin Luther College. It is apparent that the Joint Synod must make provisions to better these conditions in the near future.

The proposition of calling a missionary-at-large was strongly advocated by those in close contact with our mission stations and the District voted in favor.

All missionaries excepting two, reported on their respective fields.

The Fox River Valley and Manitowoc Conferences' Memorials to give individual congregations a referendum vote in the expenditure of large sums of money for buildings of Synod were voted down.

MEETING OF THE MICHIGAN DISTRICT

On the 24th of June the District of Michigan gathered for business at Saginaw, Michigan. Pastor A. Westendorf of St. Paul's welcomed all the pastors, teachers and delegates in the name of his generous and friendly people. Every representative in the Synod received a large-hearted reception from their host. The bells of St. Paul called all the representatives of the District to the beautiful church at 10 a. m. Synod was here opened in the name of God, who created heaven and earth. Dr. H. Wentz of Crete, Ill., delivered the sermon. The venerable Doctor brought God's mind to all in a forceful, thoughtful and Biblical address. From St. John 3:16, which has often been called the Bible in a nutshell, the preacher proclaimed clearly the love of God in Christ Jesus reaching out for the lost world in redemption by blood. According to Scriptures this ineffable love of God was described as immeasurable, inexpressible, so deep, so high, so broad, so long that it is love in four dimensions. It is redeeming love. All Christians experience this love individually and become joyful possessors of the same through faith in Christ Jesus. This faith being the supreme gift of the Holy Spirit. Through the Gospel proclamation God divides the whole world into two

parts, the generation of sinners by birth and the new generation of sinners reborn, saved to the uttermost.— With this sermon the keynote of all our work was sounded in no uncertain tone. From the opening day until the last day one message permeated all the Synod's work, namely: "Brethren, I declare unto you the Gospel, which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand, by which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you." — The service ended, the pastor of the church made announcements and in a body all moved over to St. Paul's Church School. Here the business meetings were opened by the honorable President F. Krauss, Lansing, Mich. Hymn, prayer and Scripture reading again graced the beginning. The presiding chairman then read a brief and pointed report covering the two years just past. All the highspots in the work of the vineyard were touched and treated. He stressed the rich blessings of God showered upon all as an excellent ground for heaven-going gratitude. He noted spiritual progress everywhere, looking through the fieldglasses of holy Scriptures, seeing the fields white unto harvest, few laborers and some already in the field! He called the brethren's attention to the age-old fact that "the Word of the Lord never returns empty" — and that not one of God's children ever pray in vain "thy Kingdom come!" — More intense and extensive work in the first and foremost work of the church was urged, namely in the field and sphere of missions. The president then turned his report over to committee No. 1 for perusal, suggestion and approval. This was done, and in a brief prepared the individual points of the pastoral letter were enlarged on and urged. Here followed the reading of the names of those to serve on the various committees. There were six of these, whose duty it was to look over the various reports from all the branches of the synodical work, prepare briefs which offer criticisms, improvements, suggestions, visions for larger work, recognition of work willingly and well done. The time for the meetings were arranged by vote. So the committees went to work. One of these received the report of our Mission Board. Another took over the report of our successful Negro Mission. Still another the report of progress in the Indian Mission. So in this manner all the phases of the church at work were carefully gone over and from time to time brought before the assembly for discussion as the chairman called for such report to be read by the foreman of each committee. — In this manner no part of the work was neglected for which our congregations give their mission offerings — and no one dare remark, as it is often heard — "I don't know where my money goes."

In the election, which took place out of three candidates approved by secret ballot, Rev. John Gauss, Jenera, Ohio, was elected president. The retiring President F. Krauss immediately gave the chair to the

new chairman and in his leave-taking called Synod's attention to the fact that he had served 21 years in the capacity of President. He thanked for the confidence reposed in him and prayed for the success of the church under her new pilot's guidance. — The new president in return thanked for the confidence given him in the election and begged for the confidence, cooperation and abiding trust of the assembly. Business was again resumed. Preliminaries brushed aside quickly, Synod plunged wholeheartedly into that work, from which the child of God and the herald of the Cross never grows tired, work, in which he sometimes grows weary but never tires of, in which he is often disappointed but never discouraged. In the course of the days many disappointments were noted and many victories were celebrated. Here are some of the glorious victories. The committee on Negro Missions reported that the power of God unto Salvation, the Gospel, was adding daily to the church such as are saved of this benighted race. That is victory. It was reported that the saved negro in all the churches averaged an attendance at the Communion of three times a year. How often do we go? — The colored communicant members averaged \$11.00 per year for the support of his church and the Synod. He loves his birthplace the church, the home of his soul, and shows this love, though he has but very few worldly goods and is deep in poverty. The colored man saved by the Gospel, called out of the darkness into the marvelous light of the Cross, shows his deep gratitude to Him, whose arm saved him and holds him fast and we, who live in the cloudless noonday of the Gospel sun, are we slipping back to the darkness of ingratitude and paganism? — Ingratitude is the direct road to paganism. — Another victory all were jubilant over was this. When the financial report was read it was noted that many congregations had gone over the top in their quota for the Synod. God had given to some congregations the grace of giving. That is victory! — There were churches, who with their pastors, cared and shared. Caring and sharing were visible. It saddened the heart of the church to hear of churches, who failed to bring in their share and who fell below their quota. Why is it that not all the congregations filled full the hand of the Lord outstretched to them? — Why did not all do all to save the perishing and care for the dying? — A head and heart that cares will be a hand that shares.

The report of the mission board was interesting. New missions have been started. In the evergrowing city of Detroit a new mission has been planted. Synod has heard the call: "Arise! Go to Nineveh, that great city, and cry against it, for their wickedness is come up before the Lord." So the district did not, like Jonah of old, arise and flee from the city, but has arisen and fled to the city with the Gospel for refuge and salvation. The Muskegon Mission is growing as

a watered garden. The missions in Detroit are prospering. Slowly but surely the darkness gives way to dawn. "This man and that man is born there." — A church must send or end. The mission of the church is missions. The spirit of Christ is the spirit of missions, and the nearer we get to Him, the more intensely missionary we must become. The church must go to the lost, or go to oblivion. So the District is planting missions, and we want to support them. — The new mission board is composed of Pastors O. Eckert, O. Peters, F. Krauss. Laymembers W. Geiger and Roy Fischer.

A somewhat disappointing report was that of the seminary building. Many congregations have done but little for this great project. Others have worked, but not overworked, not all has been done. In the discussion short talks urged immediate collections, all delays were noted as dangerous, and it was brought home to all that the "King's business requires haste." 1 Sam. 21:8. — May it now be said of each pastor and flock as Daniel said: "Afterwards I arose, and did the King's business." May Paul's ringing admonition be heeded: "Be not slothful in business."

New Ulm's crying needs were visualized to us by her live-wire and devoted representative Prof. Wagner. In a vivid way the need was presented to Synod. So the District pledged her undivided support to this valuable institution. It is one of our cradles, in which are nursed boys for the ministry and the parochial schools. — Here a vision appeared to all, there stood a man and prayed, saying, come over and help us. And after seeing the vision immediately we endeavored to go! — Synod assuredly gathered that the Lord had called us for to preach the Gospel.

Our students, who attended the State College at Lansing, Mich., were commended to the spiritual care of the pastors residing in that city. Parents and pastors of the boys are to notify the respective churches.

In the morning hours of the days of session the assembly listened to readings prepared from the life of Joseph with numerous applications taken from real life among us. Joseph was held up to all as a splendid example of faith and devotion to God under the severe trials of life. These readings were exceedingly instructive and interesting. Pastor C. Strasen of Plymouth, Mich., delivered them.

On Sunday two services were held. In the morning President F. Krauss delivered the sermon. He based his eloquent address on Ephes. 5. The bell of warning rang clearly through the sermon that the times were evil and all Christians must be on guard. Jesus Christ was lifted high as the only hope and help for this age of evil indifference and crude materialism. With numerous questions the speaker thrillingly searched the depth of the minister's life as well as that of Christendom, warning against letting down the bars and opening the doors for tolerance, and stooping to

conquer with modern methods of warfare. The confessional address was given by Henry Haase. Not a few attended the Eucharist, the Supper of the Lord. — On Sunday evening Rev. Geo. Luetke delivered the English sermon. — He treated the subject of the New Testament church, as seen in a vision by Micah the Prophet, basing his address on Micah 4:1-2. — He traced the church as God's masterpiece of love for the salvation of the lost world. It is God's own creation in Christ Jesus, something superhuman, and imported from the skies above to a sinful mankind. It is a church firmly anchored on the rock, which is impregnable and unmoveable, God's Gibraltar for strength. It is founded and established on Christ the Rock of ages. It is a conspicuous church. It is visible to all and shines in unclouded splendor as the sun in the means of grace. The love of God is visualized to us in the preaching, baptismal font and communion service. The means of grace gives birth to the church and alone builds it. It is an evergrowing church. Nothing can stop its growth, for the Lord adds daily to the church such as are saved. — Of Zion it will always be said that this man and that man were born there.

On Monday evening Synod was given the rare treat of a beautiful concert. How these people sang right to our hearts the old chorals and church songs without the accompaniment of the organ. The evening again revealed the hidden treasures of our Lutheran choral and choir. On Tuesday afternoon late the close came with the praying in unison of the apostles' creed, the Lord's Prayer and the singing of "Abide with us dear Jesus." — Pastors and people of St. Paul's were voted the appreciation and gratitude of brethren, teachers and laymen. Royally and willingly with smiles the ladies set and supplied the tables for the diners. May God bless the willing hearts and hands.

Finally it must be mentioned that St. Paul's this year celebrates her diamond jubilee. We wish her peace and prosperity and may the beauty of the Lord be upon her now and evermore! — The hospitality extended to Synod was therefore a part of the congregation's gratitude to God for her long life and well-being. "O St. Paul! Thou art our sister, be thou the mother of thousands."

G. N. E. L.

SEMINARY AND LIQUIDATION OF DEBTS

The Rev. John Brenner,

Milwaukee, Wis.

Dear Brother:

Perhaps you can make use of this (a bill) to boost the Seminary building a little bit. It's not much, but I trust it will help, for my prayers and wishes for success go with it. I want to learn to give, for we surely need to learn.

Respectfully yours for success,

One who is interested.

From the Lutheran Standard:

"Early this season the Norwegian Lutheran Church of America made an appeal for funds for four colleges. Luther College at Decorah, Iowa, and St. Olaf College, at Northfield, Minn., together asked for \$550,000, Concordia College, Moorhead, Minn., asked for \$500,000, and Augustana College at Sioux Falls, South Dakota, for the same amount. On June 1, Augustana had secured more than \$300,000 of the required sum, Concordia had gone over the top with \$550,000, and Luther and St. Olaf together had passed \$1,300,000, with another \$100,000 in sight, the four schools thus securing cash and pledges totaling near \$2,300,000. The Norwegian Lutheran Church, according to the 1926 edition of the Lutheran World Almanac, numbers 299,213 communicant members."

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On June 14th, we reported to the Districts that we were still short \$89,000 of the sum required to liquidate the "old debts," while we had, according to our estimate, sufficient money to build the new seminary. To-day, July 12th, we lack less than \$75,000.

John Brenner.

FROM OUR CHURCH CIRCLES

Central Delegate Conference

The Central Delegate Conference will convene August 3rd and 4th in the congregation of Pastor E. Fredrich, at Helenville, Wis.

Services on Tuesday evening. Confessional address: M. Taras (R. Wolff).

Papers are to be delivered by the Pastors J. Haase, E. Walther, R. Wolff, W. P. Hass.

Early announcement requested.

Theodore Thurow, Sec'y.

Synodical Conference Convention

The 30th convention of the Ev. Luth. Synodical Conference of North America will be held in the church of Pastor Herm. Meier of Lockport, N. Y., beginning August 18th at 10 a. m. Delegates are required to have credentials signed by the president and the secretary of their synod or district synod, and to send one copy to the president of the Synodical Conference, the Rev. C. Gausewitz, 96 Juneau Ave., Milwaukee, Wis., another to the Rev. Herm. Meier, 120 Saxton St., Lockport, N. Y., and a third to the undersigned secretary. Kindly attend to this at once. Each delegate is also requested to write at once to Rev. Meier, informing him of his intention to attend the convention and stating his exact address.

H. M. Zorn, Sec'y.

Fox River Valley Pastoral Conference

According to the arrangements made at Appleton, Wis., June 29th, the Fox River Valley Pastoral Conference will hold its next session in September instead

of in July. The meetings will be held at Bonduel, Wis. (Rev. A. Habermann), September 21st and 22nd.

E. F. Sterz, Sec'y.

St. Croix Pastoral Conference

The St. Croix Pastoral Conference will meet in Redeemer Ev. Luth. Church, Amery, Wis. (Rev. O. P. Medenwald), August 17, 10 a. m. until August 18, 3 p. m.

Papers: "Methods and Means of Exegesis," Rev. W. P. Haar; "Dangers That Threaten the Spiritual Life of our Congregations," Rev. O. P. Medenwald; "Welche Leute sind fuer die vakanten Professorenstellen vorzuschlagen," Rev. L. Meyer.

Confessional address: Rev. R. Ave-Lallemant (Rev. P. Bast).

Sermon: Rev. J. Plocher (Rev. J. Pieper).

The brethren are urgently requested to make proper announcement to the local pastor.

Arthur W. Koehler, Sec'y.

Nebraska District Convention

The Nebraska District Joint Synod of Wisconsin and Other States will convene at Zion Lutheran Church, Clatonia, Nebr., August 18th to 22nd, 1926. A doctrinal paper will be read by the Rev. Prof. E. Bliedernicht of New Ulm, Minn., on a subject of his own choice. Alternate theme, Christ and the Bible by the Rev. W. Schaefer.

Address your requests for quarters to the Rev. E. C. Monhardt before August 15th.

A. B. Korn, Sec'y.

Synodical Conference Delegates

Delegates of West Wisconsin District Synod to Synodical Conference:

Pastor G. M. Thurow (Pastor J. H. Paustian).

Dr. J. H. Ott (Mr. F. Wolff, Jefferson, Wis.).

Paul Froehlike, Sec'y.

Installation

The Rev. M. J. Hillemann, called to the pastorate of St. Paul's Congregation at Marshall, Wis., was duly installed by the undersigned on Sunday Laetare.

Address: Rev. M. J. Hillemann, Marshall, Wis.

Theodore Thurow.

Laying of Cornerstones

On June 27 the cornerstone of the new church of St. Paul's Ev. Luth. Congregation of Wilton, Wis., was laid. Speakers: Rev. Paul Lutzke and Prof. S. Probst.

J. H. Abelman.

* * * * *

On June 27th the Zion Congregation at South Milwaukee was privileged to lay the cornerstone of its new school. A German address was delivered by the Rev. H. Gieschen, Sr., of Milwaukee, and an English ad-

dress by the Rev. W. K. Pifer of Eldorado. May God bless the work begun in His name.

O. B. Nommensen.

Diamond Jubilee

Trinity Sunday marked an epochal event in the history of St. John's Congregation at Jefferson, for by the grace of God this congregation was privileged to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee of its existence. For many months the members had been preparing for and looking forward to this day, and it was a day long to be remembered. May this day rest not only in our memory, but may every thought thereof again tune our hearts to the same jubilant tone of praise and thanksgiving which prevailed on the day of Jubilee and which wrung from our lips the confession: "We are not worthy of the least of all the mercies, and of all the truth, which Thou hast showed unto thy servants," and, "The Lord truly has done great things for us, whereof we are glad!"

The beginning of this congregation lies in the time which we can rightly designate as "hard times" and that for more reasons than one. Not only were the founders of the congregation struggling with might and main to eke out a bare living and put to the utmost to do that, in a spiritual way the road they had to travel was an even harder one. When we hear that 64 families, which founded this congregation, had to remain without a spiritual guide for 7 years, that the prospective coming of any wayfarer who styled himself a Lutheran minister was hailed with delight, this joy in many instances giving place to deepest sorrow when his true character was found out and greater joy prevailed upon his hurried leave — the term "hard times" seems eminently fitting.

Real gala days were those few occasions when a true Lutheran pastor from a neighboring congregation came into their midst preaching a sermon, baptizing the children, and strengthening them in their faith. Such days were few and far between. That not more Lutherans fell prey to the proselyting efforts of the sectarian churches than actually did, and that 64 families were left to organize a Lutheran congregation is, indeed, grace from God.

Its first church, an unpretentious log building, erected two miles east of Jefferson in 1851, housed the fast growing congregation for ten years, when lack of room compelled the members to build a new and larger structure. With wise foresight this church was built in the city. The old church, now incased in brick and other features added, continued to be used for funeral services in the neighborhood and at special occasions until 1913, when lightning destroyed it completely. Immediately steps were taken to rebuild and the same fall the present memorial chapel was dedicated — resting on the same foundation upon which the first building had stood.

The first church in Jefferson served as a home of worship until 1895, when the present stately structure was erected. For the occasion of this jubilee the interior was re-decorated and other improvements made, notably the installation of a new 3 manual electro-pneumatic organ — a program which entailed an outlay of \$27,500, all of which was covered on the day of Jubilee.

The following pastors have labored here: E. Rupnow 1858-63; C. Goldammer 1863-70; B. Ungrodt 1870-81; H. Vogel 1881-1910; H. K. Moussa 1910-24; since 1924 the undersigned. The congregation has a membership of 342 voting and 126 non-voting members. It maintains a full Day School from Kindergarten up through the eight grades and is steadily growing. Three teachers are looking after the training of the young.

Rev. H. K. Moussa, the only living ex-pastor of the congregation, Rev. J. Brenner of Milwaukee, the two sons of the congregation: Rev. E. Frederick of Helenville and Rev. Elmer C. Kiessling of Libertyville, Ill., and Rev. Aug. Zich of Green Bay were the speakers.

The God of our fathers be with us and our children in the future as He was in the past 75 years and lead us to the glorious Jubilee of the Church Triumphant!

O. Kuhlow.

Dedication at New Ulm

On June 27 Dr. Martin Luther College dedicated the addition to the Boys' Dormitory. Owing to the favorable weather a very large number of our fellow-Christians gathered for the celebration from far and wide. The total number of visitors easily exceeded 2,500 people.

Two services were held. In the forenoon President Im. Albrecht of Fairfax, Minn., preached on the passage Ephesians 3:19. In the afternoon Vice-President J. Plocher spoke on Psalm 133, in the German language. Then followed an English sermon by Rev. A. Ackermann. His text was Gen. 32:9-19. The Mixed Choir of the St. Paul's Congregation of New Ulm and the Synodical Male Chorus rendered appropriate selections in both services. An impromptu band, consisting of members of the New Ulm congregation accompanied the congregational singing. The ladies of the local congregation provided the guests with a lunch during the noon recess.

Almost all of our guests took the opportunity to visit the newly constructed building as well as all the other college buildings, especially the recitation building. The new addition is a building 32x65 feet. In the basement there is provided a spacious trunk room, a shower bath, a janitor's store room and a room for storing the athletic goods. The four stories contain 12 bed rooms and 12 study rooms. By omitting closets and supplying each scholar with an individual

steel locker the addition provides room comfortably for 60 scholars. The contract price is \$40,187.54. We are now equipped to provide for a goodly number of students. May the Lord grant that a large number of boys will be willing to prepare themselves for service in His vineyard. B.

Dr. Martin Luther College

The new school year in Dr. Martin Luther College, New Ulm, Minn., will begin September 1. In view of the fact that at the session of the Assignment Committee we had only 15 candidates to supply the 25 calls that had been presented, it is hoped that a large number of young men and women will enroll with us in order to prepare themselves for work in our Christian schools.

For catalog, application blanks and any other information, apply to

E. R. Bliefernicht,
213 South Jefferson Street, New Ulm, Minn.

Acknowledgment and Thanks

The following donations have been received for the equipment of the addition to the Boys' Dormitory, New Ulm, Minnesota: From the graduating class 1926, \$16.00; from E. Lemke, E. Ihlenfeldt, H. Lemke, Greenleaf, Wis., \$12.00; from the children of the Sunday School in Warren, Arizona, \$1.25. To all kind donors I express our sincere thanks.

E. R. Bliefernicht.

Meeting of Board of Trustees of Northwestern College

A meeting of the Board of Trustees of Northwestern College was called for July 9th for the purpose of electing a professor and for such other business as might properly come before this body.

When the meeting was opened it was found that the Local Committee, composed of Dr. T. C. Abelmann, chairman, Dr. Frank Schlueter, and Mr. Oscar Hoyer, had important matters to submit. It was the age-old question of finding suitable dwellings for the members of the faculty. One of our professors was recently ordered to vacate the house he was occupying and that was the eighth time he was compelled to go through this unpleasant experience in a few years. The committee was able to report a number of houses that were available and could be rented, but not one of them was really suitable, some were quite far from the college grounds besides, and all of them were held at high rentals, the lowest at \$480.00 a year. The committee, however, had been able to secure offers to sell from two owners of most desirable houses. The one, at the corner of Richards and Western Avenues is a new house in perfect repair, with a fine, vacant building lot adjoining, and with a double garage, was offered for not more than \$7,800.00; the other is a house on Twelfth Street which has been rented by the Board on previous occasions, is just as near and just as suitable, this was offered for not more than \$7,000.00. It was pointed out that at present we are compelled to pay rent to the amount of \$1,728.00 annually, an outlay that brings no return after it is made. It was further pointed out that the Board was in possession of funds,

the proceeds of which were not designated for any particular purpose but were given with the general provision that they were to be used for the benefit of the college. In view of these facts it was resolved to invest \$15,000.00 of these funds in buying these two houses and making such trifling repairs as would be needed to fit them for our purposes. The Synod would pay the rentals as heretofore, in this case \$600.00 annually for each house, a most reasonable rental according to the best available opinion. But the custodian of funds was instructed to invest these rentals in Watertown Building and Loan stock until the principal of \$15,000.00 was matured; this would most likely be in less than twelve years. After that the college would own the houses and the Synod would no longer pay rent while the funds would be restored intact. In addition the Local Committee would be relieved of the almost impossible task of securing suitable houses everytime a new professor was called or everytime an owner sold a house and gave the tenant notice to vacate.

The Local Committee further reported, as we for some time had reason to fear that they would have to report, that Mr. and Mrs. John Koeninger found the office of stewards for college refectory too exacting at their ages. Most regretfully it was acknowledged that under the circumstances their resignation could not but be accepted; it was a relief to hear that they had consented to serve for another school year with the understanding that the Board secure their successors in the meantime. The notice appearing in this issue of the Northwestern Lutheran will show what steps were taken to meet the situation that will arise next year. It must be understood that the work in our refectory has grown far beyond its former scope, for one thing because the number of students living in the dormitory has reached 180, and for another because our present system of keeping all synodical accounts requires careful and competent work on the part of the steward. The Board realized that this work had been done with exceptional efficiency by Mr. and Mrs. Koeninger and is deeply concerned to have this businesslike and economical management continued under their successors.

The chairman submitted a letter from Professor Sigmund Probst in which Professor Probst resigned his position. Last Fall the Board had met with Professor Probst to discuss with him his problems and it was hoped that he would see fit and be able to continue his work; in his letter, however, he stated that it was not a matter of choice any longer and that he was under the necessity of resigning. In view of his expressed wishes and also in view of the fact that an indefinite leave of absence would hardly serve him, the Board regretfully accepted his resignation and expressed the wish that he would soon regain his vigor. This resignation left still another vacancy in the faculty and it was decided to postpone discussion of this until the list of candidates had been examined and the first election of a professor was completed.

A list of twenty-one candidates had been published and this list was discussed as far as necessary to acquaint the Board members with the qualifications of the candidates, many of whom had previously been on similar lists. In an informal ballot votes were cast for four candidates, though one had received a plurality. In the formal ballot this candidate was elected and his election speedily made unanimous. Accord-

ingly Pastor August Zich, of Green Bay, was designated as professor and President Bergemann and the secretary, living nearest to Green Bay were directed to meet him and to urge the cause of the college for his consideration.

It was now resolved to utilize the published list to make a choice for the professorship left vacant by the resignation of Professor Probst. Pastor Zich had been called to teach principally Greek and German; the new vacancy required someone able to teach the branches of Professor Probst, English, Latin, and some natural science. An informal ballot showed a majority for Pastor Alexander P. Sitz and his election was immediately made unanimous. The committee appointed to see Pastor Zich was asked to meet Pastor Sitz.

Other letters were read and disposed of as they required. There remained the discussion of a persistent rumor that might be most unfortunate in its effect on future enrollment. An excerpt from the minutes can best cover this case:

"During the course of the meeting it was brought out from the records of the faculty secretary that the alarming reports spread through Synod concerning the large number of students who were not promoted at the close of the school year were much exaggerated, though in the case of the Quinta class there was a large proportion of such failures, that is, sixteen out of fifty-five. It was shown that these failures were brought on in branches that were being taught by all professors working in these classes and not in a few branches only that might be charged to the failure of one or two teachers. It was further shown that most of the failures in this class affected business students and others who were not preparing for the service of the church; of these latter there were, as far as the records showed, only three. (It must not be forgotten that

of these failures an appreciable number were such who had been promoted after their first year at the school 'on condition.')

In other classes the proportion of failures was virtually normal. . . . (One) other class had been reported as unusually deficient . . . it showed six or seven failures out of an enrollment of forty-one students."

In the absence of Director Kowalke and Vice-President Ott, the chairman had invited Professor Wm. Huth, secretary of the faculty to attend the Board meeting. Dr. Ott came in after the meeting had begun and remained until the end.

The meeting was adjourned at one o'clock.

H. Koller Moussa, Secretary.

Notice

It will be necessary to have new stewards for the school year 1927-1928 to manage the refectory of Northwestern College. Mr. and Mrs. John Koeninger, after many years of faithful and most efficient service, have agreed to serve for the current year but cannot consent to serve longer. It is desirable to have the new stewards on duty for some time together with the present stewards in order that they may learn the many duties they are expected to perform. For that reason such persons who are inclined to apply for the position should communicate as early as possible with the chairman of the local committee, Dr. T. C. Abelman, 103 North Third St., Watertown, Wis., from whom they will receive further information.

It is considered desirable to put the stewardship into the hands of a competent married couple.

By order of the Board of Trustees,

H. Koller Moussa, Secretary.

COLLECTION ENVELOPES

ORDERS FOR COLLECTION ENVELOPES SHOULD BE SENT IN NOW
IF NEEDED BY JANUARY

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JAN 2, 1927

My Weekly Offering for the Support of
St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church
RACINE, WIS.

"Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come." — 1 Cor. 16:2.

In case you cannot be present on this Sunday, then please put your offering into this envelope and send it, or bring it with you, the next time you attend service.

PRICES FOR ENVELOPES

Monthly Manila Envelopes 12 to a set 4c.
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Weekly Manila Envelopes each set containing 52 Envelopes 11c per set.

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When ordering state plainly just what is wanted, or send sample of the envelope now in use in your church.

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