

The Deaf Lutheran

A MISSIONARY MONTHLY

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of Missouri, Ohio, and Other States*

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Just for Today

Lord, for tomorrow and its needs
I do not pray;
Keep me, my God, from stain of sin
Just for today;
Let me no wrong or idle word
Unthinking say;
Set Thou a seal upon my lips
Just for today.

Let me both diligently work
And duly pray;
Let me be kind in word and deed
Just for today;
Let me in season, Lord, be grave,
In season gay;
Let me be faithful to Thy grace
Just for today.

In pain's and sorrow's cleansing fires
Brief be my stay;
Oh, bid me if today I die,
Come home today!
So for tomorrow and its needs
I do not pray;
But keep me, guide me, love me, Lord,
Just for today.

SAMUEL WILBERFORCE OR SIBYL PARTRIDGE

"President of Our Synod"



Dr. J. W. Behnken

The triennial convention of our Church met in Fort Wayne, Ind., from June 18 to 28. The delegates discussed policies of education, of mission-work at home and abroad, in the cities and in institutions, publication, periodicals, doctrine, practice, finances, and many more things

pertaining to the work and welfare of Christ's kingdom. Dr. J. W. Behnken was reelected President of our Synod at this convention.

Tell Thy Brother His Faults

It is a difficult task to warn a brother, or neighbor, of the error of his ways. Such service frequently provokes friends and neighbors to anger. This fact, however, should not discourage us from doing our duty. A blind man walking toward a pit needs our warning. A friend or neighbor who is walking into everlasting ruin through the service of certain sins needs our advice even more. God says to you in the Bible, Lev. 19:17: "Thou shalt not hate thy brother in thine heart. Thou shalt in any wise rebuke thy neighbor and not suffer sin upon him." Again He says, Matt. 18:25: "Go and tell him his fault."

If the members of your family or your friends are interested only in seeking wealth, earthly success and glory, or the pleasures of this world, it is your duty to show them the true value in life and lead them to Jesus, who is able to give everlasting treasures and joys. If you see your friends or neighbors despising the preaching and teaching of God's Word, it is your duty to show them the wrath of God against this sin and to remind them of His warning, Gal. 6:7: "Be not deceived; God is not mocked." If you see your relatives living in disagreement and quarrels, it is your duty to warn them according to God's Word, that they may receive a change of heart and follow Jesus in a service of love, charity, and forgiveness. Giving such service is the greatest thing you can do for your friends and will receive a gracious reward from God. Therefore gain thy brother for Jesus. O. C. S.

WHEN people speak evil of you, live so that nobody will believe it.

Studies in Luther's Catechism

THE SECOND ARTICLE

"From thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead"

Jesus will come again. He may come any moment. "Of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but My Father only," Matt. 24:36. And in order that we sleep not and do not grow careless, the good Lord, in His mercy, gives us signs of His coming.

A War-Crazed World

Of this the Lord Jesus speaks in Matt. 24:5, 6: "For many shall come in My name, saying, I am Christ, and shall deceive many. And you shall hear of wars and rumors of wars. . . . For nation shall rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom; and there shall be famines and pestilences and earthquakes in divers places." We see it all fulfilled today. Think of the many false teachers who deceive many, of the terrible wars now raging especially in Europe and China, of the earthquakes of which our daily papers tell us so often. Surely these are the last times.

A Pleasure-Mad World

Jesus says: "As it was in the days of Noe, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of Man. They did eat, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark; and the Flood came and destroyed them all. Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded; but the same day that Lot went out of Sodom, it rained fire and brimstone from heaven and destroyed them all. Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of Man is revealed," Luke 17:26-30. Is this not true of our day? Indeed, Judgment Day is near!

A Gospel-Filled World

Matt. 24:14 we read these words of Jesus: "And this Gospel of the Kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come." Also this is fulfilled now. In all the world the Gospel is being preached. Our Lutheran Hour, too, brings this Gospel to all parts of

our United States and to many other countries. Indeed, "the end of all things is at hand," 1 Pet. 4:7. Compare our times also with what is written 2 Tim. 3:1-5; 2 Thess. 2:3-12; 1 Tim. 4:1-3, and you will say with John: "It is the last time," 1 John 2:18. And then lift up your head, for your redemption is drawing nigh, Luke 21:28.

Watch and Pray

In the last book of the Bible the Lord Jesus says: "Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watcheth," Rev. 16:15. And Luke 21:36 we read: "Watch ye therefore and pray always." Oh, what manner of persons we ought to be in all holy conversation and godliness, 2 Pet. 3:11, and live soberly, righteously, and godly in this present world, Titus 2:12!

Work While It Is Day

The end of all things is near. Let us work while it is day, while the world stands. Eagerly bring the word of salvation to a sin-sick world, so that on the Last Day many may with joy go before the judgment-seat and with the Lord Jesus and all His saints enter the everlasting home of glory, and "live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, even as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true."

J. L. S.

Soul Poison

"One church is as good as another to me," said a neighbor to Farmer Frank one evening. "Not to me," said Farmer Frank. "Jesus said: 'Beware of false prophets,' and that means also, 'Beware of false churches.'"

"They all look pretty much alike," said the neighbor.

"So does a mushroom that you can eat and one that is poison. Many people have died because one mushroom looked just like the other to them."

"But no church would poison you," said the neighbor.

"Yes, it may," was Farmer Frank's answer. "Suppose it tells you that Jesus is only a man, and that is all, or that not all of the Bible is the Word of God. That's soul poison. And, sad to say, some churches have very much of this kind of poison."

Handicaps of the Deaf Seeking Employment

The greatest handicap of a deaf person is not the one nature gave him but the lack of confidence and understanding from those with whom he comes in contact. He is a victim of fate and of circumstance. He has to sell himself with the earnestness of a highly geared salesman.

When a deaf man marries, he usually selects a deaf woman for his wife. Thus, if he has regular work, he feeds not one but two handicapped persons, which is something society likes to praise.

But a deaf man without a job suffers a double burden. He is deprived of the sun of his silent world—work. This double burden is double again if he is married.

I trust that the powers that be were sincere when they proclaimed national employment week and had handicapped people in mind, too. Unfortunately some facts stand out like a sore thumb. The United States Government is unwilling to give a deaf man a chance in the postal service. And the shame that is W. P. A.'s, in the regulations which permit a supervisory head to jump to the conclusion that a deaf man combined with a shovel is an engine of destruction instead of construction.

In this fair city of ours the Civil Service Commission looks askance at a deaf applicant, forgetting that William Wendt, our capable comptroller, is himself deaf. Garbage and rubbish collection and park care are considered too hazardous for deaf men. Possibly no one has ever heard of the deaf dynamite blaster who plied his trade for forty-five years, without accident, and then retired.

Truer words were never spoken than those of John H. Lasher, State N. Y. A. administrator: "The cripple does not create the problem; we create it by our attitudes toward him."—*Rev. A. O. Leisman, in the Milwaukee Journal, April 28, 1940.*

The Main Figure

An artist cut out of wood the figures of our Lord Jesus and the twelve apostles. He fastened them all into a big frame with screws to make a picture. You could take any one

of the apostles out of the picture by just loosening the screw of that piece. But if you loosened the screw that held the Lord Jesus to the board, then all the apostles became loose also and dropped off.

The artist made it that way on purpose. He wanted to teach something. No doubt it was this: Take Jesus out of the Bible, then the apostles and all their teaching and the entire work of the Church would fall apart and become worthless.

IN THE EDITOR'S MAIL

Duluth-Superior Field.—This field has enjoyed good progress during the past few months. We have closed the first school-year in Devils Lake where it was possible for us to have weekly classes instead of the former monthly gatherings which had been conducted at the school for more than 25 years. Our enrolment at the close of the school term was 97 pupils. This includes some former graduates of the school who are now employed at the institution and are helping as Sunday-school teachers. The confirmation classes are so arranged that we usually have a large class one year with a smaller class of such children as for various reasons could not join the large class, who were confirmed or baptized the following year. Since we are preparing a large class to be confirmed in the spring of 1942, this left us the smaller class for the past May. The members of this year's class were: Edna Surber, confirmed; Maxine Linson, baptized; Maxine Hayward, baptized; Richard Scofield, a beginner in the school, baptized. Our records show that, since the work of our Church was begun in the Devils Lake school, 16 younger children have been baptized and 126 children were received by the rite of confirmation. 18 of this last group also received Holy Baptism on the day of confirmation.

The attendance at services in Minot and Bismarck, N. Dak., has improved, and in both cases we are happy to learn that children of our Devils Lake classes attend these services while home from school. In general we can report a steady improvement in the children's church attendance during the summer months. In Anamoose the parents of such children were kind enough to furnish transportation, so that we could count six Devils Lake schoolchildren in our audience. We wish to thank the parents of these children who thus have given them the opportunity to come to our summer services.

The authorities of the State Hospital in Jamestown, N. Dak., have always been kind and courteous to us. Until recently, however, the number of deaf in this institution has been small. Lately we had nine deaf who attended our services. It is to be regretted that lack of time makes monthly visits to this institution an impossibility.

Our Port Arthur deaf have also given us the usual warm welcome. Our last meeting there was attended by nine deaf. We certainly appreciate their cooperation.

Since our time has been taken up very much with the work at the Devils Lake school, we were forced to reduce the number of services at some of our other preaching-stations, particularly at Duluth and Superior. However, we are thankful to God that there has been no decrease in attendance in these two cities despite the fact that services have been held at irregular intervals. Cloquet, only a short distance from Duluth, showed a substantial increase in the number of deaf at the services.

As in former years, our Devils Lake school-work is being continued during the summer months by mail. A number of children have already sent in their month's work to their pastor, and it is surprising to see how even the younger children are attempting to keep up their Sunday-school work by mail.

William Frederick, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Anderson of Grand Forks, was baptized on April 8 and Loren Arlis, son of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Anderson of Makoti, N. Dak., received Holy Baptism on March 27 at Minot. May God be with both children and parents and lead them on to their home in heaven!

When we left Duluth last fall, the deaf of the Twin Ports gave their pastor and family a farewell party and gave him a suitable and very useful gift—a traveling-bag. The idea prompting this gift was that the pastor could in future make use of it when, on his return trips, he holds services for them. Last spring the deaf of Fargo, also not wishing to be outdone by others, gathered in their pastor's home for a house-warming and gave him a much-needed gift. It is hoped that the enthusiasm which the deaf have shown will continue, so that this field will, by the grace of God, prosper as it has in the past. W. F.

Mission for Blind and Deaf.—We have gathered a group of 31 deaf in the territory around Gladstone and Escanaba, Mich. An outdoor meeting and picnic with this group has been planned for August.

In July we attended the convention of the American Workers for the Blind in Indianapolis. We had the pleasure of meeting many librarians and teachers with whom we have been corresponding for many years. Promises of their cooperation were received. We also found time to visit with our fellow-worker Rev. Wm. Gielow. On our way to Indianapolis we met a new group of deaf in Frankfort. We hope to conduct services for them again.

A *Messenger* reader living in Connecticut sent us this message: "I receive much comfort from reading your magazine and eagerly await the arrival of each new issue."

Another wrote: "This is to inform you that my friend passed away suddenly. He enjoyed your *Herald* as much as I do."

The following letter was received from a reader of the *Braille Messenger* in Saskatchewan, Can.: "For a long time it has been my desire to drop you a few lines. Truly, the reading of the pages of the *Messenger* has been blessed by our Lord to my soul's heavenly comfort. It was through the reading of the *Messenger* that I was enabled to see the line of demarcation between Law and grace. When I am finished with my copy, I pass it on to a deaf-blind friend living in Wellington,

New Zealand. She, in turn, passes it on to others who enjoy its contents.

"How I long to praise God more and more for His great love wherewith He hath loved us and given us everlasting consolation and good hope through grace! Let us ever give thanks unto the Father, who hath made us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light.

"May God richly bless and guide you by His heavenly grace and wisdom as you continue to act as our beloved editor! Beloved of God, continue to cling to the good old Book, which alone can save. Christ is indeed the fulness of the Godhead bodily, and by Him all things both in heaven and earth exist." O. C. S.

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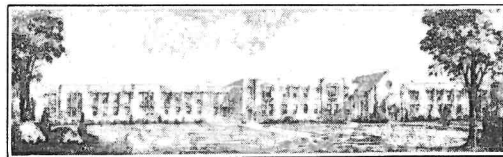
Minister to the Deaf and the Blind

Rev. O. Schroeder, B. D., 1648 E. 85th St., Chicago, Ill.

These ministers preach in more than 200 cities in our land; they conduct classes in religion at many State schools for the deaf. You will find them ready to serve you; call upon them or write to them. The deaf need God's Word.

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