

The Deaf Lutheran

A MISSIONARY MONTHLY

*Published by the Board of Missions for the Deaf of the Lutheran Synod
of Missouri, Ohio, and Other States*

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No. 7

A Home Without a Bible

What is home without a Bible?

"Tis a place where day is night,
Starless night; for o'er life's pathway
Heaven can shed no kindly light.

What is home without a Bible?

"Tis a place where daily bread
For the body is provided,
But the soul is never fed.

What is home without a Bible?

"Tis a vessel out at sea,
Compass lost and rudder broken,
Drifting, drifting, aimlessly.

What is home without a Bible?

Listen! ponder while I speak,
"Tis a home with Bibles in it,
But not opened once a week!

Bible Reading

Every Christian can and ought to read his Bible through frequently. There is no greater blessing for the human heart than to become Bible-conscious and Bible-centered. Through the Bible we become acquainted with the saints, their joys, daily lives, homes, families, possessions, hopes, faith, successes, failures, trials, tribulations, and their peaceful departure from this earth. In the Bible we see how the guidance of God is always in evidence, how He protects and saves His children, how He corrects and blesses them. It gives a divine outline of the history of mankind. You will sit with rapt attention at the feet of holy men of God telling you of their experiences while journeying about with the Son of God, of His redemptive work, of His power, wisdom, love, and healing, of His sweet comforting promises and assurances of divine grace and help. The Bible says, 2 Tim. 3:16: "All Scripture is given

by inspiration of God and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness." O. C. S.

A Visit to Our Fields on the Pacific Coast

In the fall of 1914 our Board of Missions sent the Rev. N. F. Jensen to the Pacific Coast in order to minister to the spiritual needs of the deaf in that area. Every month he traveled from Los Angeles to Seattle, and on the way he stopped for services also in San Francisco and Oakland, Calif.; Portland, Oreg.; Tacoma and Spokane, Wash. And the Lord of the Church richly blessed this work. To-day we have four full-time missionaries in the West: Pastor A. T. Jonas, Seattle; Pastor N. W. Zellmer, Portland; Pastor G. W. Gaertner, Oakland; and Pastor W. Uhlig, Los Angeles. And the number of communicant members is as follows: Seattle field, 164; Portland field, 142; Oakland field, 169; and Los Angeles field, 82; a total of 557. And all this, by the grace of God, in a little more than 30 years. Surely, our hearts must overflow with praise and thanksgiving to our God, who alone gives the increase, 1 Cor. 3:7.

It was a great pleasure to visit these fields and to see how also here the Word of God does not return unto Him void, but accomplishes that which He pleases, and prospers in the thing whereto He sends it, Is. 55:11. We spent a week in each field, held services and meetings in *Seattle*, Yakima, Tacoma, and Everett, with 165 deaf; in *Portland*, Salem, Vancouver School, Spokane, and Vancouver, with 185 deaf; in *Oakland*, Berkeley School, and San Francisco, with 183 deaf; and in *Los Angeles* and San Diego, with 89 deaf. Thus

we reached 622 deaf on this trip. Then we also attended a special meeting of the deaf in Seattle, of the young people's society of Oakland, and another of the deaf in Los Angeles. We were pleased to meet many of our deaf friends from Minnesota, North and South Dakota, most of whom are taking an active interest in the Lord's work.

We also paid a visit to the Washington State School in Vancouver, the Oregon State School in Salem, and the California State School in Berkeley. At Vancouver we attended the religious class of Pastor Zellmer and at Berkeley the classes of Pastor Gaertner. Also there our work is highly appreciated. One superintendent twice told us that our missionary is doing a "swell job." Of another missionary a superintendent said that he is doing "good work." In all the larger cities we find oral schools for the deaf, and we visited the two in Seattle and also the Portland and Los Angeles schools. Our missionaries are gaining entrance also into these. What blessing now and forever that we can teach these children from youth up the precious Word of God!

On the Pacific Coast we now have four chapels, one each in the following cities: Spokane, Seattle, Portland, Oakland. The last of these was purchased just recently. An ideal location in downtown! And our deaf with their pastor are doing a fine piece of work in remodeling the building. On the first floor we find the assembly hall, and they surely made a bright and cheery place of it. At the present time they are doing the same with the church proper. Up to this time the deaf had put in about 1400 hours after their daily work, and all donated their time and labor. In Los Angeles we have no chapel, but one is badly needed. Heretofore they always had to meet in the afternoon in one of our churches. Some time ago the Lutheran High School Association bought a building, and temporarily our missionary lives there, and our deaf use one of the rooms as a chapel. They made a platform, altar, and lectern, and they feel quite happy about it. Since they have had morning services, the average attendance has increased from 26 in the first quarter to 44 in the second. Now, however, the Association intends to sell the building again, and eventually our deaf congregation will have to move. May our good

Lord soon grant them a church home of their own!

A few items of interest we should like to mention. In one of our cities a couple received instructions and joined the Church. They then persuaded another couple to take instructions. These in turn also brought a couple to church and induced others to bring their children to Christ in Holy Baptism. How wonderful if every member of ours in all the United States would work in this manner! — In another field a deaf member and her relatives pay all the expenses of our missionary doing his work, going from city to city. Surely a worthy example unto others. — Visiting one of the deaf with the missionary, we saw an interesting scrapbook filled with letters, clippings, programs, folders pertaining to our work there, which gives a complete history of that field. — In the Seattle field the deaf have given over \$500 for the Peace Thankoffering, and in the Portland field they have collected over \$100 and expect a goodly sum more. Also our deaf are thinking of our work at large. Let us all show our thanks to God for making the war in Europe to cease and pray that He may soon bring the war in the Pacific to an end.

Upon request of our Board we also visited the Oregon and Washington State Schools for the Blind with Pastors Becker and Schmidt, who are taking up the work there. Pastor Schmidt every Sunday brings six to eight boys and girls, one of them Chinese, to his Sunday school. Furthermore, the Board requested us to stop also in Fresno and see the blind Mr. Graepp, who is doing a great deal in the interest of our work among the blind. We enjoyed our visit with him and his mother and sister.

Thus, by God's grace, the good work among the deaf and blind goes on and on, and many are brought to Jesus and find forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation in Him! Thanks and praise be to our good Lord, who wants all to be saved!

J. L. S.

JESUS has told us that all Christians are brothers. But sometimes we act as though we forget the first *r* in *brother*.

Your unnecessary absence from your church is a vote to close its doors.

"My Sheep Hear My Voice"

True sheep know the voice of their shepherd. It is a sick sheep that will follow a stranger. The goats will follow anybody's voice. But Jesus is the only One whom it is safe to follow in all things. — *D. L. Moody.*

IN THE EDITOR'S MAIL

Minneapolis and Duluth.—Last Dec. 24 Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Johnson of Two Harbors, Minn., brought their little daughter, Hazel Loraine, to our service in Duluth to be baptized into God's family in the name of the Triune God.

Lucy Marie Armstrong, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Armstrong of Minneapolis, was baptized on April 29 at Grace Church in Minneapolis.

May our Lord Jesus, who by suffering and dying upon the cross won salvation for these children and now has given them faith through the Holy Sacrament of Baptism, keep them in true faith all the days of their life.

During the month of May three couples were united in marriage by the undersigned. On May 7 Arthur Cuskey of Minneapolis and Rose Serhienko of North Dakota were married in a simple ceremony in the parsonage of Grace Church. Walter Acker and Mrs. Montgomery were witnesses. John Stiverson of Omaha came to Minnesota to be joined in marriage to Edith Robinson of Robbinsdale in a ceremony at the home of the bride on May 19. On May 26 Albert Arneson and Ramona Dowen, both of Milwaukee, were married in a beautiful ceremony in Christ Church, Superior, Wis. After the wedding friends and relatives assembled at the home of the groom's parents for a reception. May God bless these couples and give them true love for each other and for their God and Savior Jesus Christ.

ARNOLD J. LUTZ

Sioux Falls Field.—The Gospel of Jesus "from cradle to grave" describes the church activity of the Sioux Falls field during the first months of 1945.

Collyn Leroy, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Rudolph Peterson of Cedar Falls, Iowa, was received into the kingdom of God by Baptism in a service held at Cedar Falls on Jan. 12. Herman Buchholz, Jr., was sponsor, and Mrs. Fred Thorne was witness.

Three adults have been admitted as communicant members. At Sioux Falls, Miss Shirley Erdman was received by the rite of confirmation on Palm Sunday; Mrs. Harry Conrad of Watertown, S. Dak., was received by the same rite in a service there on April 19. In a service at Aberdeen, S. Dak., the next day, Mrs. Ervin Smith of Redfield was received through Holy Baptism; Mrs. Ervin Smith and Royce Knapp were witnesses. At the Sioux Falls confirmation service Misses Frieda Brand and Ruth Bjerke beautifully signed the hymn "Thine Forever."

Mr. Fred Harder of Ryan, Iowa, a faithful member and attendant at our Waterloo services, celebrated his first Easter in heaven this year. He fell asleep in Jesus

on that day after several months of suffering, which he endured with truly Christian faith and patience. Mr. Harder was one of the pioneer members of our Lutheran mission to the deaf; he was confirmed by Pastor Reinke of Chicago many years ago. And he remained true to his Savior until death; in the last three months before his death he received the Lord's Supper twice during visits by the pastor, and each time he sincerely repented of his sins and firmly confessed his faith in the forgiveness that is in Jesus. "Blessed are they that die in the Lord."

On May 13, four pupils of the South Dakota School for Deaf were confirmed in a service at Sioux Falls. They are Thelma Nelson, Walter Baumgartner, Kenneth Czerny, and Alvin Harold. For their confirmation hymn they signed "Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken." The other members of the high school choir signed a



Names of Children Confirmed in Omaha May 6, 1945, from Omaha and Council Bluffs Schools

Front row, 1. to r.: Elsie Renner, Dorchester, Nebr.; Phyllis Hain, Valley, Nebr.; Charlotte Summers, Chadron, Nebr.; Dorothy Von Eitzen, Ogallala, Nebr.; Helen Craig, Davis City, Iowa; Lois Burt, Dallas, Iowa; Bonnie Holmes, Sioux City, Iowa; Dorothy Connally, Gillette, Wyo.; Colleen Houser, Council Bluffs, Iowa; Beverly Couchman, Fort Madison, Iowa

Center row, 1. to r.: Donald Anderson, Waterloo, Iowa; Arvid Trickey, South Sioux City, Nebr.; Mylo Huffman, Sioux City, Iowa; Wayne Christian, Mason City, Iowa; Jean Adkins, Omaha, Nebr.; Rev. E. Mappes; Donna Peterson, Nora Springs, Iowa; Jimmy Cornett, Omaha, Nebr.; Donald Nuernberger, Kearney, Nebr.; Gail Hanson, Sioux City, Iowa; Bud Von Ohlen, Chapman, Nebr.

Back row, 1. to r.: Clarence Bryant, Omaha, Nebr.; Richard Loftus, Valley, Nebr.; John Fisher, Des Moines, Iowa; Marvin Tuttle, Cherokee, Iowa; Roderick Hayward, Tama, Iowa; Philip Voigt, Lincoln, Nebr.; Roger Taylor, Burt, Iowa; Arnold Taylor, Kellerton, Iowa; Billy Royce, Dubuque, Iowa

two-part arrangement of "Onward, Christian Soldiers." Our prayer is that God will keep these young people "faithful unto death."

Since the beginning of 1945, \$20 a month of the pastor's salary has been paid directly from the offerings in the entire field. It is a satisfactory start, and we hope to report a raise soon.

V-E Day found the pastor at home from his travels; so a service of thanksgiving was arranged and held. Twenty-eight deaf attended. At this writing, the Peace Thankoffering is being gathered for our Church's greater growth and our Savior's greater glory.

C. SCHLEICHER

Cleveland, Ohio.—On May 13, in Columbus, Ohio, three pupils of the State School were confirmed, and seven were baptized. The newly confirmed were Frances King, Herbert Schumm, and Warren Burford. Five children of Mr. and Mrs. Carl E. Bowman were baptized, namely, Elsie Mae, Anne Emily, Donna Jean, Betty Joan, and Carl Edwin. And the other newly baptized were children of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Gregg, namely, Harry Paul and Jeanette Marie. May these newly confirmed and baptized all remain with our Savior.

On May 20, Christ Lutheran Church of Cleveland celebrated its thirty-sixth anniversary, the Rev. O. C. Schroeder of Chicago, our first resident pastor, preaching for the occasion. In the evening Pastor Schroeder preached to our St. Philip's Colored Church for the seventh anniversary of the beginning of our colored services. Both services were attended satisfactorily, and we hope annually to conduct such services to render due thanks to our God and also to keep alive a greater interest for God's kingdom.

On May 22 and 23, Pastors Borchardt, Rohe, Possehl, and Frederking met in Cleveland for a two days' conference to interpret Gospel readings for eleven Sundays, to discuss our Communion liturgy, and to speak about our work among the deaf. We believe such conferences bring greater blessings, and we hope they can be conducted annually.

Mission for Blind and Deaf.—Mr. F. Weese is the new superintendent of the Indiana Home for the Deaf. We have known Mr. Weese for several years and wish him success in his new office. The young daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Weese will be baptized at our next service.

Mr. Joseph Miller, the former superintendent, who always gave us splendid co-operation, retired after nine years of faithful service. We wish him and his family prosperity in their new business venture in Brookston, Ind.

Excerpts from letters from our readers:

From North Carolina: "I have enjoyed your magazines and gained superlative knowledge from them during my stay in college. I use the important facts taken from various issues of your magazine in competing with my sighted friends here, and, strange as it seems, many, many of the articles were used by me when making recitations in my various classes.

"We were assigned books to read from the college library, but my ideas and opinions extracted from your magazine stand just as high and higher in many cases than those of my classmates. I do hope that the exigencies of war will never hinder the free flow of your periodicals to me, wherever I am."

From South Dakota: "I did quite a bit of reading this winter, but now that spring is here, I won't have quite as much time to read. There is always, however, plenty of time for my Bible and my *Messenger*. I do so enjoy the *Messenger*, and it is such a wonderful magazine, that I find time for it any time and anywhere. I like the articles, "Know Your Bible." My family enjoys it with me, and I find great pleasure in discussing the questions and answers with them. It makes your Bible study so much easier. O. C. S.

To Our Subscribers

It has been our custom to retain the names of our subscribers on our lists for two numbers after the subscription has expired, so that the subscriptions could be continued without interruption in case a renewal came in late. We were very happy to follow this plan at extra expense, but we are now unable to continue this policy because of present conditions.

June, 1943

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Lutheran Ministers to the Deaf

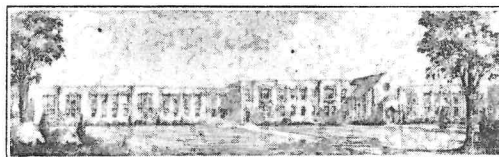
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Ministers to the Deaf and the Blind

Rev. O. Schroeder, B. D., 1648 E. 85th St., Chicago 17, Ill.
 Rev. C. Bremer, 11251 S. Homewood Ave., Chicago 43, 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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Lutheran School for the Deaf, Detroit, Mich.
 Mr. John A. Klein, Director
 6861 Nevada Avenue, Detroit, Michigan

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