

The Deaf Lutheran

A MISSIONARY MONTHLY

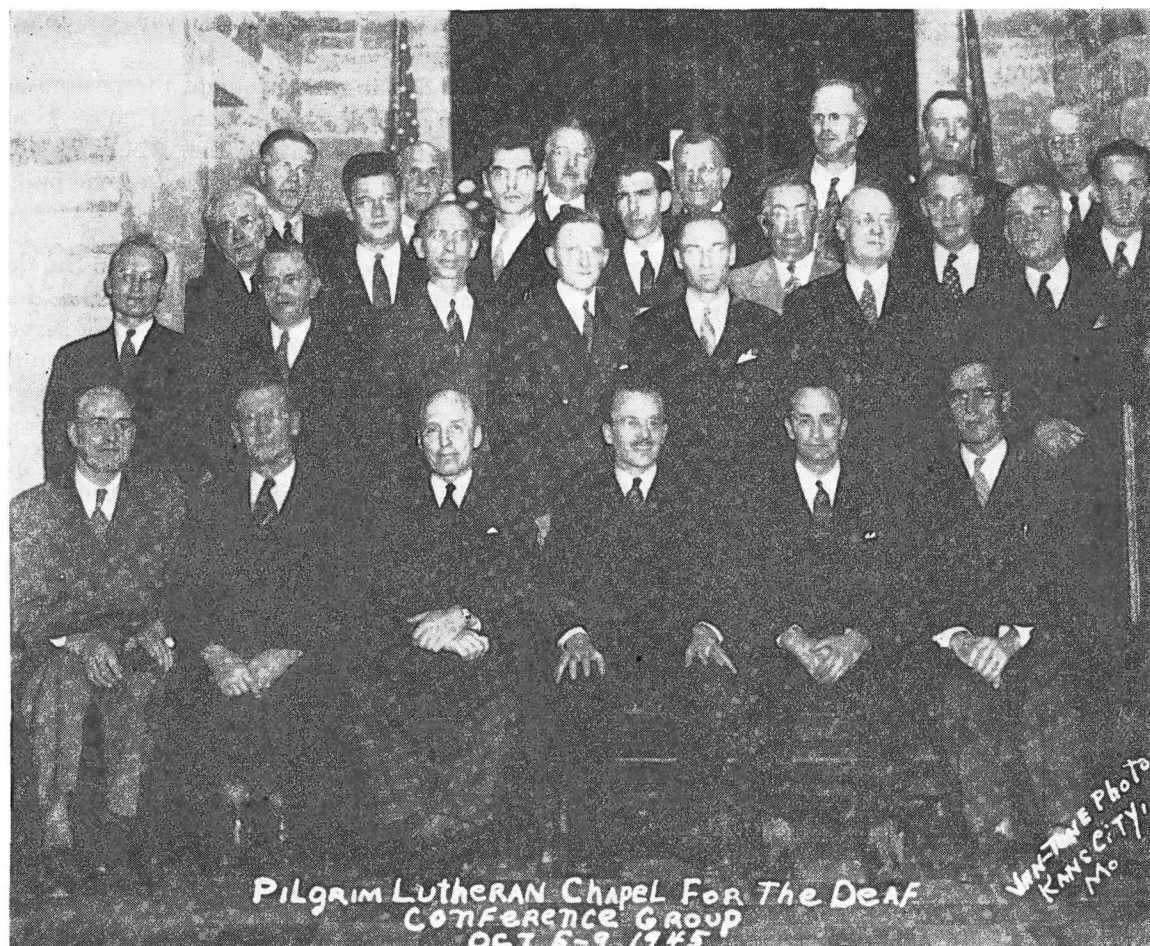
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of Missouri, Ohio, and Other States*

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St. Louis, Mo., November, 1945

No. 11



First row, seated — left to right: R. Cordes, St. Paul, Minn.; N. P. Uhlig, Jacksonville, Ill.; A. E. Ferber, Kansas City, Mo.; A. T. Jonas, Seattle, Wash.; N. Borchardt, Detroit, Mich.; C. Schleicher, Sioux Falls, S. Dak.

Second row, standing: H. Rohe, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Geo. Gaertner, Oakland, Calif.; E. Scheibert, Chicago, Ill.; J. Salvner, Minneapolis, Minn.; C. Bremer, Chicago, Ill.; O. C. Schroeder, Chicago, Ill.; C. Engelder, Detroit, Mich.

Third row, standing: E. Mappes, Omaha, Nebr.; J. Streit, Oklahoma City, Okla.; H. Schauland, Indianapolis, Ind.; F. Possehl, New York; G. Kruse, St. Paul, Minn.; M. Mueller, Milwaukee, Wis.; A. Lutz, Minneapolis, Minn.

Fourth row, standing: V. Mennicke, Sheboygan, Wis.; J. Schumacher, St. Paul, Minn.; L. Henze, New York; H. Gamber, St. Paul, Minn.; W. Westermann, Memphis, Tenn.; T. Frederking, Cleveland, Ohio; W. Ferber, Fargo, N. Dak.

Ephphatha Conference

Twenty-one of our twenty-three Lutheran pastors for the deaf and three members of our Board met in beautiful Pilgrim Church for the Deaf in Kansas City, Mo. (Rev. A. E. Ferber, pastor), from October 5 to 9 to discuss matters pertaining to the spiritual welfare of the deaf and to plan more intensive work for Christ and His Church in this mission. The absence of two pastors, Rev. N. Zellmer and Rev. W. Uhlig, was deeply regretted; however, both were excused by the conference. Two young pastors attending the conference for the first time were Rev. H. Schauland of Indianapolis and Rev. H. Rohe of Pittsburgh.

Sunday Services

Sunday, October 7, was set aside for special services. At 2:15 P. M. a Communion service was held, in which Dr. J. L. Salvner of Minne-



Pilgrim Lutheran Chapel for the Deaf, Kansas City, Mo.

apolis delivered the confessional address. All the pastors and about 30 members of Pilgrim Congregation partook of the Holy Supper of our Lord for the strengthening of their faith in the forgiveness of sins through the crucified Redeemer. At 4 P. M. a joint service for deaf and hearing people was held to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the first Lutheran service held in Kansas City. Pastor F. Possehl of New York preached the sermon, while Pastor A. T. Jonas interpreted for the deaf. An overflow crowd attended this service; however, provisions had been made to bring the message of the speaker to those outside the church by means of a loudspeaker system. We were favored with ideal fall weather on that day and also most of the other days of the conference. In the two services during the after-

noon several hymns were rendered in signs by two ladies of Pilgrim Congregation, another hymn by three ladies from New York, members of the Lutheran Church there, and other hymns by Mr. Murphy, chairman of Pilgrim Congregation, and by the Pastors Mueller, Lutz, and Westermann.

The collection for the day was slightly over \$113, which indicated that those present also showed their gratitude to the almighty and gracious God with their material gifts. That is as it should be, and Christians should always remember the words of St. Paul "God loveth a cheerful giver" and "Whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God."

On Sunday morning four of the pastors accompanied Rev. Ferber to the Kansas State School for the Deaf at Olathe, where Pastors N. P. Uhlig and E. Mappes addressed the pupils of the school.

Entertainment

Following the afternoon services on Sunday a delightful lunch was served by the deaf ladies of the congregation, who also served both noon and evening meals on all the other days of the conference.

In the evening a number of our pastors and Mrs. C. Schleicher gave a beautiful portrayal of the drama "How We Received the Hymn 'What a Friend We Have in Jesus.'" This was followed by the showing of several motion picture films. And so a day filled with inspiration and blessings to all came to a close.

On Monday evening all the pastors were invited by Rev. and Mrs. A. Ferber to their home for a social get-together and refreshments.

Conference Business

Busy as Sunday was, this is only a portion of that which should go on record in a report of our sessions. Four full days and one evening were used to consider the important matters pertaining to our work as pastors and spiritual advisors of our deaf people. The chief function of the Gospel ministry is to teach and preach the saving truths of God's Word, and so in every session ways and means were considered by which we may improve the rendering of these Scripture truths for the better understanding of those under our care. Every business session was begun with a song, Scripture reading, and prayer, giving honor, thanks, and praise to God for His grace and

blessings and asking Him for guidance in our tasks.

Rev. R. Cordes read a paper and gave the signs on a portion of 1 Cor. 9. Rev. A. T. Jonas delivered an essay on "The Pastor in the Social Life of the Deaf." Both of these papers were well received and thoroughly discussed. Another essay, "Plans and Suggestions for Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of our Deaf Mission in 1946," was given by Pastor O. C. Schroeder. Upon suggestions offered in this paper the conference and Board members decided to make definite plans for a Synod-wide celebration of this important event during the coming year. More information concerning this will be given from time to time in future issues of the DEAF LUTHERAN.

A large part of the conference sessions was devoted to the presentation of the various forms used in baptism, confirmation, marriage, and burial. Four different pastors, E. Mappes, N. P. Uhlig, E. Scheibert, and A. Lutz, led in the discussions of these forms.

A highlight of the conference was the well-prepared essay delivered by Superintendent Stanley Roth of the Kansas State School for the Deaf on "Methods to be Used in Assisting Our Adult Deaf to Greater Success in Life." A question of great concern for the essayist as well as for all the pastors present was: "What can we as workers in the schools and among the deaf in general do to help our deaf people to become more church-minded?" A hearty vote of thanks was given Mr. Roth for appearing in our midst and delivering his interesting and instructive essay.

We might say here that our 23 pastors instruct children in the one thing needful unto salvation in nearly 30 State schools in our country and one in Canada, and in this way, with the Lord's help and blessing, are doing what our Savior has commanded when He said, "Feed My lambs." The sowing of the seed of God's Word in the hearts of these children will grow and bring forth fruit in abundance and guide many precious souls bought by the blood of Jesus to life eternal.

Board Matters

The three members of our Board, Rev. H. Gamber, Rev. J. Schumacher, and Mr. G. F. Kruse, attending the conference on the last

two days spoke of the success of our work among the deaf during the past year and brought a number of suggestions and some advice to guide the missionaries in their future work. Close co-operation between the missionaries and the Board is most necessary for carrying on our work successfully and in a God-pleasing manner. The possibility of our various congregations and groups of deaf at our preaching stations contributing more toward the salary of their pastor was also stressed.

Vote of Thanks

We cannot put aside the pen without giving honorable mention to the ladies of Pilgrim Lutheran Church, who during the entire conference served us so faithfully at noon and in the evening in the basement of the church, and also to the officers and voters of the congregation for their favors in our behalf, and to Pastor and Mrs. A. E. Ferber for their constant care and consideration for our well-being and for their cordial hospitality throughout our stay. A unanimous vote of thanks was extended to these our hosts by the members of conference.

A profitable conference it was indeed, and undoubtedly everyone returned to his field of labor with new love and zeal for the Master's work among the deaf, and surely, all of us are looking forward to the special 50th anniversary conference to be held in Chicago in the fall of 1946.

Thanksgiving Day

After the distressing dark and uncertain times of the war years we again have peace among the nations. Wars have ceased; hundreds of thousands have lost their lives for their countries; other thousands are still lying wounded in the nations' hospitals. Towns and cities have been reduced to ashes. The Lord has called men to repentance. But the peace we yearned, hoped, and prayed for has come; cannons have ceased to roar; combat planes are grounded; our sons and daughters are returning home. We look back upon the sad war years and remember with gratitude to our heavenly Father His goodness amidst the sorrows of earth. His kindness, His protecting hand, are in evidence everywhere. The seed of God's Word has been sown also in the war

years; sin and grace, Law and Gospel, have been preached to bring men to the knowledge of their sins and a living faith in Christ Jesus.

Moreover, God says: "While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease." Gen. 8:22. God gave this promise to Noah 4,000 years ago. Ever since, the sower has gathered in the rich harvest. God has remembered this promise in 1945. He has given us all things richly to enjoy. His power has again clothed the fields with golden grain. All the wants of man have been supplied.

May we thank God not only for world peace in this year but also for His faithfulness and power shown in the harvest! May we show our gratitude in a kind and helpful spirit toward our fellow men and in the support of His kingdom here on earth. O. C. S.

IN THE EDITOR'S MAIL

Omaha, Nebr. — Shirley Jean, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Burgess, was baptized in the service at Omaha on Sept. 16. Mr. and Mrs. Elvin Miller were sponsors. God keep her in His grace.

A car and truck accident near Fremont, Nebr., resulted in the sudden death of Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Thomsen of Cedar Bluffs, Nebr., on the evening of Oct. 3. The Thomsens regularly attended services at Fremont, but had not yet become members of our Lutheran Church; however they were studying the chief teachings of the Bible and found much joy in the study of God's Word. The morning after the accident the pastor received a letter which contained the answers to questions sent them previously on parts of the Catechism and which both had answered separately. They had mailed this letter only a short time before the accident. A contribution of five dollars for the Army and Navy Collection which our Church is sponsoring was also found in their letter. Thus the Lord in His unsearchable wisdom has taken two of our deaf friends out of this world and, as we may confidently hope, translated them into His everlasting glory in heaven. Certainly the serious lesson for all of us in this is that we constantly prepare to meet our God by believing in His Son Jesus Christ and by obeying His divine will and serving Him all the days of our life.

An occasion long to be remembered was the celebration of the 20th anniversary of the first service held for the deaf in Fort Dodge, Iowa. Services were commenced there in 1925 after an invitation had been received from a young Lutheran deaf girl, Miss Evelyn Jung, now Mrs. Emory Gerichs of California. A number of those who attended the first service at Fort Dodge were also present at this 20th anniversary service.

Among these were Mr. and Mrs. Fred Ward, who have always been leaders of that group and in whose home the pastor was shown many favors over this long period of years. Forty-four deaf friends from near and far came to this anniversary service, dinner, and program on Sept. 30. E. M.

Lutheran Ministers to the Deaf

Rev. N. E. Borchardt, 11719 Evanston Ave., Detroit 13, Mich.
 Rev. R. F. Cordes, 1162 Marshall Ave., St. Paul 4, Minn.
 Rev. A. E. Ferber, 3807 Gillham Rd., Kansas City 2, Mo.
 Rev. W. Ferber, 617 14th St., S., Fargo, N. Dak.
 Rev. Theo. Frederking, 12322 Phillips Ave., Cleveland 8, O.
 Rev. G. W. Gaertner, Ph. D., 3233 62d Ave., Oakland 3, Calif.
 Rev. A. T. Jonas, 1101 15th Ave., Seattle 22, Wash.
 Rev. Arnold Lutz, 1221 22d Ave., N., Minneapolis 11, Minn.
 Rev. E. Mappes, 5070 Lake St., Omaha 4, Nebr.
 Rev. Martin E. A. Mueller, 1717a W. Meinecke Ave., Milwaukee 6, Wis.
 Rev. Floyd Possehl, 91-35 96th St., Woodhaven 21, L. I., N. Y.
 Rev. H. Rohe, 1108 Haslage St., Pittsburgh 12, Pa.
 Rev. J. L. Salvner, D. D., 3320 Chowen Ave., N., Robbinsdale 12, Minn.
 Rev. H. Schauland, 35 N. Sheffield, Indianapolis 8, Ind.
 Rev. E. Scheibert, 1400 N. Ridgeway Ave., Chicago 51, Ill.
 Rev. Curtis Schleicher, 1221 W. 10th St., Sioux Falls, S. Dak.
 Rev. John C. Streit, 1517 N. Western Ave., Oklahoma City 6, Okla.
 Rev. N. P. Uhlig, 288 Sandusky St., Jacksonville, Ill.
 Rev. W. Uhlig, 1434 W. 65th St., Los Angeles 44, Calif.
 Rev. W. Westermann, 259 N. Willett St., Memphis 12, Tenn.
 Rev. N. W. Zellmer, 3111 S. E. Alder Court, Portland 15, Oreg.

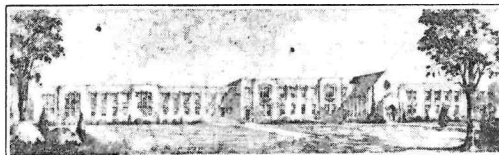
Ministers to the Deaf and the Blind

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.

BOARD OF MISSIONS TO DEAF AND BLIND

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 Pastor E. H. Bertram, Secretary, 849 Armstrong Ave., St. Paul 2, Minn.
 Mr. G. F. Kruse, Treasurer, 1861 Randolph St., Apt. 204, St. Paul 5, Minn.
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 Mr. J. P. Miller, 1104 Vincent Ave., So., Minneapolis 5, Minn.
 Rev. John Schumacher, 1680 W. Minnehaha St., St. Paul 4, Minn.



Lutheran School for the Deaf, Detroit, Mich.
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