

The Deaf Lutheran

A MISSIONARY MONTHLY

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of Missouri, Ohio, and Other States*

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Courage

Be not afraid of gathering storms
Or what your fate may be;
Spread every sail before the gale,
And ride into the sea.

And never falter if between
The right and wrong you stand;
For everyone that chooseth right,
God has him by the hand.

T.

The Annual Convention of Lutheran Ministers to the Deaf

Ephphatha Conference of Lutheran Ministers to the Deaf met in Sioux City, Iowa, June 6 to 10. Twenty-three missionaries, four Board members, and several local pastors attended the sessions. The members of the conference labored diligently and sincerely at the meeting for the promotion of Christ's kingdom among the deaf. All the essays were well prepared and very instructive. An enthusiastic and enlightening discussion followed the reading of each paper. The following essays were presented: A Paper on 1 Corinthians, Chapter 10, by Rev. A. E. Ferber; Dictionary of Religious and Biblical Terms in Signs, by Rev. N. P. Uhlig; The Catechism in Signs: 1. The Ten Commandments, by Rev. H. Rohe; 2. The Creed, by Rev. C. Bremer; The Call into the Deaf Mission in Its Relation to the Board, by Rev. W. Ferber; Congregational Organization, by the Rev. M. E. A. Mueller.

On Conference Sunday, June 8, two services for the deaf and hearing were held in St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 7th and Jennings Sts., the Rev. A. Janke, pastor. In the first service Holy Communion was administered to

the visiting pastors and the local deaf. The Rev. N. Zellmer of Portland, Oreg., delivered the sermon; it was interpreted to the deaf in signs by the Rev. F. Gyle of St. Louis, Mo. In the second service the Rev. C. Bremer of Minneapolis, Minn., preached the sermon. The Rev. R. Cordes of St. Paul, Minn., interpreted the message to the deaf. All hymns, prayers, and Scripture readings were also signed for the deaf.

In the evening of Conference Sunday a social gathering with the deaf, the visiting ministers, and the local pastors was held in the basement of Concordia Lutheran Church, Rev. E. Wittkopp, pastor. The Rev. J. A. C. Beyer of Columbus, Ohio, acted as toastmaster.

Dr. Gaertner of Oakland, Calif., was asked to act as editor in chief in sending out useful material to our workers. The conference by a rising vote expressed its appreciation of the Board's long and faithful service. A committee consisting of Pastors J. L. Salvner of Minneapolis, Minn., M. E. A. Mueller of Milwaukee, Wis., and A. E. Ferber of Kansas City, Mo., was elected to present a report of the Ephphatha Conference at the Centennial Convention of our Church in Chicago, Ill., July 20 to 29.

It was a fruitful and interesting meeting in many respects. Every session was opened by a brief service, Scripture reading, and prayer.

A hearty vote of thanks was extended to Pastors E. Mappes, A. Janke, and E. Wittkopp, the Ladies' Aid of the deaf congregation, the organists and the janitor.

Ephphatha Conference hopes to meet again in 1948 with the Lutheran deaf congregation in Milwaukee, the Rev. M. E. A. Mueller, pas-

tor; this congregation will celebrate its 50th anniversary next year.

May God continue to bless Ephphatha Conference and the work which it is doing among God's silent children!

O. C. S.

Citizens of Christ's Kingdom

Life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness are guaranteed to the citizens of our country in the Constitution. This pertains to earthly, national life. Spiritual, eternal life, liberty, and happiness are announced to all men in the Gospel of Jesus. By His declaration of spiritual liberty the Savior wishes to set all men free from the bondage of sin, death, and Satan. These precious gifts are offered to all men. Jesus tells us: "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life," John 14:6. "The truth shall make you free," John 8:32. "My joy shall remain in you, your joy shall be full," John 15:11.

These treasures are given to men by the preaching of the Gospel, which is "the power of God unto salvation," Rom. 1:16.

Are you a citizen of Christ's kingdom, enjoying spiritual life, liberty, and happiness? Are you truly thankful for these blessings? Are you dedicating your life to Him who redeemed you to be His own forever? If not, why not?

O. C. S.

Studies in Luther's Catechism

THE CONCLUSION OF THE LORD'S PRAYER

"For Thine Is the Kingdom and the Power and the Glory"

Great blessings we ask of our Father in the Lord's Prayer, great blessings for body and soul, for time and eternity. And why can we with all boldness and confidence (trust) go to Him with our petitions? With the conclusion of the Lord's Prayer we answer: We do this "for Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory."

"Thine Is the Kingdom"

Our heavenly Father is Lord and King. In Ps. 47:7 we read: "God is the King of all the earth." All things in heaven and earth are His. When people of any kingdom want anything, they go to their king. And therefore we go to our heavenly Father, for He is our King. When you pray these words, you accept Him

as your King, and boldly you will say: "Heavenly Father, Thou art my King, therefore I will not let Thee go, except Thou bless me. Hear my prayer, for Thine is the kingdom."

"Thine Is the Power"

He is our King and wants to help us, His people. But can He help in every trouble? The king of Syria sent his captain Naaman, who was a leper, to the king of Israel that he should heal him. But the king of Israel knew his weakness and said: "Am I God, to kill and to make alive, that this man doth send unto me to recover a man of his leprosy?" He was a king, but could not heal a leper. But not so our heavenly King. He can do anything and everything. By His mighty word He made heaven and earth and still keeps them; He prepared a great salvation for all sinners from sin, death, and devil by the shedding of His blood; by His Word and Spirit He brings sinners out of darkness into His wonderful light. When you pray to Him, you confess your trust in His power, saying: "Heavenly Father, Thine is the power, therefore I come to Thee in every trouble, Thou Almighty King."

"Thine Is the Glory"

Our God and King is a glorious Lord. His glory is to hear our prayers. He is not like the dumb idols that have ears and hear not. David addresses our Lord: "Thou that hearest prayer." By hearing our prayers He shows forth His glory among His people. We, therefore, pray with Asaph: "Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of Thy name." Ps. 79:9. "Thine is the glory, O heavenly Father," therefore we pray and praise Thee, saying:

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Centennial Convention

Undoubtedly the largest convention of our Missouri Synod during the one hundred years since its organization in 1847 will be held at Chicago, Ill., from July 20 to 29.

Headquarters will be at the Palmer House, and the business office of the Convention Committee will be at 77 W. Washington St., Room 713. Rev. A. H. Werfelmann, President of the

Northern Illinois District, is general chairman.

The opening service will be held on July 20, at 8 P. M. The special Centennial celebration will take place on Sunday, July 27, at Soldier Field, at 3:00 P. M. Dr. J. W. Behnken, President of our Synod, will be the speaker.

May our great and almighty God grant His divine blessing upon this Convention.

E. M.

Visitors to N. F. S. D. Convention

Visitors in Los Angeles for the N. F. S. D. Convention in July are invited to attend the services of Pilgrim Congregation. This Church is at 3425 W. 15th St., at Fifth Ave., and is reached by "P" streetcars.

Services are held at 11 A. M. on Sundays.

W. UHLIG, Pastor

New "Ears" for the Deaf

This is the title of an interesting article in the Aug. 31 issue of the *Saturday Evening Post*. It tells of work done for deafened servicemen in the four hearing centers — one for the Navy, three for the Army — which are "staffed with the best people obtainable in a variety of related lines."

Never before has so much been done to put defective hearing back into normal channels. More than 10,000 in the Army and 3,200 in the Navy have been helped, with more than 90 per cent equipped with hearing aids. Various makes and models are available in each center, from which the device is selected which most closely meets the patient's individual requirements.

The results have been so gratifying that the Veterans' Administration plans to retain the present centers and organize several others of this type.

The optimism of veterans who have been helped is expressed by one who was observed sitting under a tree, fiddling with his ever-present "juke box" (hearing aid).

"How is it working?" he was asked.

"Perfect," was the reply. "I can even hear the grass grow."

Let us hope that the hearing-center idea will be taken up soon by the vocational rehabilitation people to assist civilians with defective hearing. Much guesswork would be

eliminated, there would be no high pressure salesmanship, and a person could be properly fitted and equipped with an aid without fear that he is being sold something not exactly what he needs.

W. A. D. PILOT

Deaf Linguist

Robert Ripley came up with a big one in his "Believe It or Not" cartoon on Dec. 16. He named Gergely Antal, a "deaf-mute" of Brasov, Rumania, as a master of 21 languages. The nearest an American has come to that was in the case of John Carlin, brilliant Pennsylvanian of the early nineteenth century, who learned six languages by his own efforts.

The Cavalier

IN THE EDITOR'S MAIL

Items from Central Illinois. — Sunday, May 18, a number of pupils of the Illinois School for the Deaf were baptized and confirmed. The accompanying picture was taken at Salem Lutheran Church, which church kindly has given us the use of their facilities, including the confirmation robes, free for many years. The members of the group, standing, left to right, are



Confirmation Class of Rev. N. P. Uhlig, Jacksonville, Ill.

Kathryn Taylor, Betty May Patterson, Doris Runge, Shirley Binney, Eugene Childers, Gordon Frigel, Wayne Hamrich, Clarence Fries; front row: Alice Williams, Hannah Takagi, Mary Gwen Scroggins, Ruth Gotch. Six of these were also baptized. May they all remain true to Him who loved them and made them His own.

In our I. S. D. classes we met 55 children on every Thursday and Sunday this last school year. Mr. H. A. Goddard, printing instructor at the School and our member, helped us on Sundays with Richard Opseth, an advanced student at the school doing postgraduate work this year; on Thursdays since February a number of theological students from Concordia Seminary at Springfield came over in one of the cars of the Wyneken Mission Society of the Seminary, and these students instructed while the missionary supervised and aided the instruction. Thus these men receive practical ex-



Confirmation Class, Devils Lake, N. Dak., May 11, 1947

Back row: Neil Shockman, Oakes, N. Dak.; Richard Feland, Mohall, N. Dak.; Albert Peebles, Calvin, N. Dak.; Rev. W. Ferber, Fargo, N. Dak. Front row: Marjorie Krueger, Fredonia, N. Dak.; Jane Metzger, Hebron, N. Dak.; Juna Burkle, Jamestown, N. Dak.; Bertha Schmidt, Morristown, S. Dak.; Eva Herman, Walhalla, N. Dak. The ninth member, Tommy O'Hara, not shown on picture

perience in the work among the deaf. To Mr. E. O. Krug, the leader of these students in the deaf work, goes much credit for the excellent work done by the sign-language group this year. While the missionary in the first semester goes to Springfield weekly to instruct in signs, the group itself meets fifteen minutes every day. When illness took the missionary to the hospital and out of circulation for a number of weeks, they carried on at I. S. D. and served the ten stations in Central Illinois. May the Lord bless them for their devotion, and may they use their knowledge in later years to bring Christ to the deaf.

James Slusser, 85 years old, one of our members of the Effingham, Ill., group living with his nephew, Henry Dippolds at Farina, fell and fractured a hip May 19. He passed away in faith in his Savior at the hospital in Effingham May 24, and was given Christian burial May 27 at Farina. "I will receive you unto Myself, that where I am, there ye may be also," said the Lord. What beautiful comfort for all, especially the older people. The Lord be thanked. N. P. U.

Mission for Blind and Deaf.—Before a large gathering of deaf and hearing friends at Delavan, Wis., the following were received into full membership of our Church by Confirmation in June: Robert Furluck, Raymond Wyman, Leslie Gleich, Deloris Elstrom, Felotta Averill, and Alice Riegert. James Roberts of State Line, Ill., was also baptized and confirmed in the same month. May our heavenly Father protect and keep these new members in the true faith unto life everlasting.

The Army and Navy Commission of our Church has requested copies of the *Braille Messenger* for all Lutheran chaplains at Veterans Hospitals who deal with blinded veterans.

A blind man in China wrote: "I feel the need very much of spiritual guidance as given in your *Messenger*. Please place my name on your mailing list." Another man wrote from England: "A friend loaned me a copy of your *Herald*. I would be very happy to read your magazine regularly."—A new church

member in Illinois tells us: "I recently joined the Lutheran Church and asked God to bless you and your work. Words cannot express my gratitude for the spiritual uplift received in every issue of the *Messenger* during the past ten years. It is a great help to us shut-ins in our discouragements." O. C. S.

Lutheran Ministers to the Deaf

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 Rev. N. E. Borchardt, 11719 Evanston Ave., Detroit 13, Mich.
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Minister to the Deaf and the Blind

Rev. O. Schroeder, B. D., 1648 E. 85th St., Chicago 17, 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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