



Vol. 43

St. Louis, Mo., August, 1951

No. 8

## Dixie Deaf Lutheran Conference

*Pastors and Deaf from Seven States Meet*

St. Louis, Mo., April 28 and 29. The meeting of the third annual Dixie Deaf Lutheran Conference opened Saturday morning with a Communion service at St. Stephen's Lutheran Church (hearing), Rev. H. A. Etzold, pastor.

In 55 years of Lutheran mission work among the Deaf, this conference is the first to be organized with the participation of the laymen. It is a venture in bringing pastors and laymen to a feeling of closer fellowship and understanding in the work of the Church and gives the laymen a chance to sit in and gain a better appreciation of the work they can do for their spiritual welfare.

Pastors, vicars, and laymen attended from St. Louis and Kansas City, Mo., Jacksonville, Ill., Memphis and Knoxville, Tenn., Jackson, Miss., and Austin, Tex. Visiting pastors and laymen came from Indiana and Nebraska.

Pastor N. P. Uhlig of Jacksonville, Ill., delivered an inspiring sermon at the chief service Sunday morning on the text "Ye are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation." 1 Peter 1:5. Pastor A. E. Ferber of Kansas City preached and assisted Pastor F. G. Gyle of St. Louis with the Communion service.

## New Officers Elected

At the Saturday session new officers were elected to serve for the next two years: Chairman, Mr. W. C. Correll, Memphis, Tenn. — Vice-Chairman, Mr. U. C. Jones, Knoxville, Tenn. — Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. Carl Wear, Kansas City, Mo.

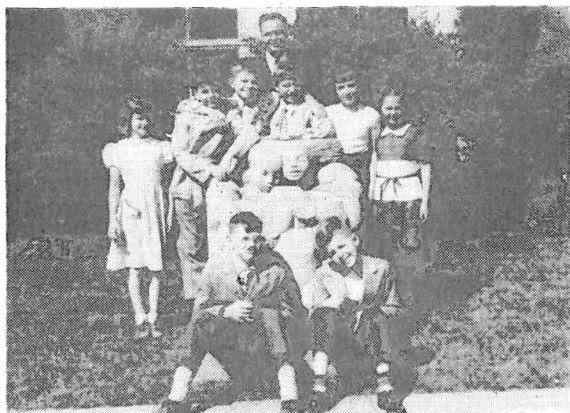
Speakers on Saturday were Pastor A. E. Ferber, who read Dr. Salvner's letter on "Our Faith and God's Power," and Pastor E. Mappes of Omaha, Nebr., who spoke on "Prayer."

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## Deaf Co-Workers for Christ

*Norman L. Davis*

From time to time we would like the readers of this paper to meet some of our consecrated workers out West. This time we introduce to you Norman L. Davis. In 1943, attending the University of California (an unusual venture for a deaf person), he felt the cities of Oakland and San Francisco too small for himself. However, he took the advice of his pastor and found a position and a wife of unusual calm and poise. Very shortly it was evident that this young man was valuable to the Lord, and he was so faithful in small things that he was made keeper over many things. He served the congregation as head usher for years and trained a fine group; then was secretary to the trustees.



Mr. Norman L. Davis with his class at the California School

We needed a lay reader for emergencies since our nearest pastor is four hundred miles to the south. Some of you readers just forget how large California is. [Say nothing of Texas. — Ed.] Norman Davis was first trained as response leader for the services, then was instructed in lay reading. He fills this position

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## Fishing to Catch People

The common people gladly heard Jesus. His message touched their hearts. Once He borrowed a boat from Simon, a fisherman, and used it as a pulpit, speaking from it toward the shore. Jesus sent him out afterwards on a fishing trip, and they caught so many fish that two boats were filled; and all plainly saw that Jesus had just done a great wonder and had the fish go into the nets by His command. So God blesses those who serve the Lord.

Jesus then told Simon Peter and his business partners to go with Him and become preachers, gathering people into God's kingdom, as they used to gather fish.

Luke, who tells us this, was a doctor. He repeatedly tells about healing the sick. When Jesus healed the people, He frequently told them that their sins were forgiven. Jesus is the Great Healer, and sin is the real cause of all sickness and pain. Jesus always called attention to sin and assured the sufferers that He takes away the sin. And when some were angry because He forgave sin, He let them know that He was God, because God alone has the power to do wonders and forgive sin.

Jesus called another man to be His disciple, Levi, also called Matthew, a tax collector. He made a great feast for Jesus and invited many other tax collectors and people that had been bad. And Jesus sat down to eat with them. He came to save sinners and therefore had to associate with them. Jesus was a soul winner. He was a fisher of men.

So we, too, should extend the invitation to all, even to the worst sinners. That is our duty too, and he who wins souls is wise.

O Lord, make us to pity those that know Thee not and do our best to win them. Amen.

(Guest Editorial by the Rev. N. P. Uhlig, from *Life and Light*.)

HAVE you moved? Give your new address to your pastor and to the DEAF LUTHERAN.

### Our Ministers Are Ready to Serve You

For information write to:

Pastor J. L. Salvner, D. D., Executive Secretary  
3320 Chowen Ave., N., Robbinsdale 22, Minn.

DEAR EDITOR:

Just a few thoughts about a picnic sponsored by our Silent Lutheran Church in Madison, Wis., on June 24. I believe that the group should be complimented for its work and that other readers of the DEAF LUTHERAN would appreciate knowing about it.

1. The picnic was sponsored by our Lutheran people, but all the Deaf were invited. Notices were sent to all the Deaf Lutheran church groups in the area. There was no selling of ticket chances or other gambling; there were no separate groups; but all joined in the fun as a unit. A spirit of good sportsmanship was shown during the games and contests.

2. The members of the church took care of all the planning of the picnic. The pastor came and preached the Word of God. That was his work. And how grateful a minister is when his people do all the other tasks as securing the park; ordering pop, ice cream, and other food; planning and leading the games; and the many, many other duties. It is not right for church members to expect a pastor to do all those things. His work is to preach the Word. The Silent Lutheran Church of Madison did all the work themselves and shared the many jobs of the day.

3. How did the day begin? With a church service. Yes, we worshiped the Lord, *and that service was well attended by the 150 Deaf who came to the picnic*. And the people did not sit on the outside and talk; but they listened to the preached Word and took part in the service. Even the little children helped sign the hymn "Jesus Loves Me, This I Know."

R. M.

TRAVELING? Look in the Phone Directory for your Lutheran Church. Seek and find!

## THE DEAF LUTHERAN

Official Organ of Lutheran Church Missions for the Deaf

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## Bible Readings for August, 1951

Christ's last command to His Christians was: "Go ye into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature" (Mark 16:15). And what is the Gospel? We have it, as in a nutshell, in these words of Christ: "God so loved the world that He gave His only-begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16). A wonderful message we have to bring to all the world! This word of salvation by faith in Christ Jesus can bring peace to all nations. What a great blessing if all people would accept Jesus as their only Savior and follow Him! Then all wars would stop. There is nothing better that we can do than bring the Word of Jesus and His love to everyone. Let us diligently bring this Word to every sinner! May these Bible Studies fill us with love and zeal for this work!

SUNDAY, AUGUST 12 — Read Luke 5:18-26

### *Jesus Has Forgiveness for You*

Jesus chiefly came to bring forgiveness. This we learn from our story today. Many people had come together to hear Jesus. And now men brought a man that was paralyzed. They wanted to bring him and lay him at Jesus' feet. But there was such a big crowd in the house that they could not get through. They then went up on the roof; and through the roof they let the sick man on his bed down before Jesus. Wonderful faith! And when Jesus saw their faith, He said to the sick man: "Man, thy sins are forgiven thee." These men surely brought this sick man to Him so that He would make him well. But, first of all, He told him of forgiveness. Yes, forgiveness is the greatest blessing on earth, greater than health, riches, and honor. If you have forgiveness, then rejoice more than over anything else in all the world.

But the enemies of Jesus, the scribes (Bible Law teachers) and the Pharisees (proud people that trusted in their good works) asked in their hearts: "Who is this that speaks blasphemies (against God)? Who can forgive sins, but (except) God alone?" They intended to say that this Man could not forgive sins, because only God can do it. Therefore He spoke against God when He said: "Thy sins be forgiven." But Jesus showed them that He is God. He knew

their thoughts against Him and said: "What think ye in your hearts? Which is easier to say, Thy sins be forgiven thee, or to say, Rise up and walk?" And now to show that He, the Son of God, has power to forgive sins, He said to the sick man: "I say unto thee, Arise, and take up thy couch, and go into thine house." And quickly he took up his bed and went home, praising God. And all the people were surprised and glorified God, saying: "We have seen strange (wonderful) things today." Indeed, Jesus can forgive sins. He is true God. Daily go to Him, and get forgiveness.

PRAYER: Thanks, dear Savior, for this good news of forgiveness of all my sins. Thanks for coming into this world to wash away my sins in Thy blood. Amen.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 19 — Read Luke 5:27-32

### *Jesus is Come to Save Sinners*

Why did Jesus come into this world? He says: "The Son of Man is come to save that which was lost" (Matthew 18:11). Yes, He came from heaven, became a true man to suffer and die for our sins, and so to save us. This we learn again today.

He saw a publican, a tax collector, named Levi, sitting and collecting taxes. This Levi also is called Matthew. Most publicans were dishonest and cheated much. Now Jesus calls this Levi, saying: "Follow Me." So He calls all sinners, also you and me. And what did Levi do? He left all, all his evil work and doings, and followed Jesus. Let us do as he did, leave all sin and wickedness, and follow Him.

Levi had found the Savior, and now he wanted his old friends to meet Jesus and to learn of Him. He made a great supper for Him in his house, and very many publicans and sinners, all wicked men, sat down with Him. Levi wanted them to turn from sin to this Jesus. So we should do, bring others to Him so that also they learn to know the only Savior and follow Him. If you are happy in Christ, then you surely want others to share your joy.

The scribes and Pharisees who despised the publicans murmured when they saw Jesus eating and drinking with publicans and sinners. And they therefore asked His disciples: "Why do ye eat and drink with publicans and sinners?" Jesus heard them and answered, saying: "They that are whole (well) need not a

physician (doctor); but they that are sick." And that is very true. When we are well, we do not run to a doctor, but only when we are sick. So Jesus came not to call the righteous, the people who think they can save themselves, but He calls sinners, people that are sick with sin, to repent, to turn from sin to God. We all are sinners, and therefore He calls and invites us also. Oh, go to Him! He has forgiveness for you.

PRAYER: Dear Lord, Thou camest into this world to save me. Thanks for this great love and mercy. Help me now thank Thee with a holy life and bring others to Thee. Amen.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 26 — Read Luke 5:33-39

*Man's Teaching and Christ's Teaching*

Man's teaching and Christ's teaching about salvation do not fit together. Man teaches salvation by doing good works; Jesus teaches salvation by faith in Him and His blood. People do not want this teaching of free salvation.

The Jewish teachers therefore came to the Lord Jesus and told Him that John's disciples and those of the Pharisees often fasted, often ate not, and made prayers, but that His disciples ate and drank. Why the difference? Jesus told them that when the bridegroom is with his friends, they do not fast, but eat and drink and rejoice. Jesus, the great Bridegroom, was with His disciples, and therefore they did not sorrow and weep. But the Bridegroom would be taken from them. He must die, and then they would be full of sorrow.

And He makes this plain by two parables. People do not sew a new piece of cloth, a patch of goods that is not yet shrunk, on an old dress, for then the new will shrink and tear the dress more. Furthermore, the new patch will not match the old. So the old teaching of the Pharisees about salvation by works does not agree with the teaching of salvation by grace in Christ Jesus. No, the old dress, man's good works, will help him not at all. He must throw it away and put on the new dress of forgiveness by faith in Christ Jesus. Again, people will not put new wine into old and rotten leather wineskins, for it will burst the old wineskins, and the wine will spill. So Christ's teaching of salvation by faith does not fit into the old heart that wants to work out its own salvation. No, the teaching of Jesus about salva-

tion must be put into a new heart, just as people put new wine into new leather wineskins, and both will keep. But they that have drunk old wine, care not for the new, but say: "The old is better." So the old heart cares not for Christ's teaching of forgiveness by His blood, but wants to save itself, saying: "The old is better." So many do not want this Jesus. Come, trust not in your good works, but only in Him who gave His life for sinners!

PRAYER: Dear Savior, help me to trust not in my works, but only in Thee and Thy salvation, and then love Thee and keep Thy commandments with a thankful heart. Amen.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 2 — Luke 6:1-5

*Gladly Hear and Learn the Word of God*

Moses' laws about eating and drinking and Sabbath days are no more for us. Christ's law of love is the greatest. "Love is the fulfilling of the Law" (Romans 13:10).

Jesus and His disciples went through a field of wheat on a Sabbath day. And they took some of the ripe wheat, rubbed off the chaff between their hands, and ate. The Pharisees who always wanted to find something against Jesus and His disciples were glad to see this, for now they thought they had found something. They came to the disciples, and said: "Why do ye these things that are not lawful to do on the Sabbath days?" Work was forbidden on a Sabbath day, and they said that what the disciples were doing was the same as reaping and threshing, and therefore they were doing wrong. But Jesus showed them from the Old Testament that David and his soldiers, when hungry and in trouble, ate the holy bread of the Tabernacle. "And it was not right for anyone to eat that bread, excepting the priests." Now David and his men ate this bread, and God did not punish them. So surely it is good and right that Christ's disciples ate the wheat from the field on a Sabbath day. God did not give this law about the Sabbath to make people hunger and suffer.

And He furthermore said: "The Son of Man is Lord also of the Sabbath." Christ died for us and freed us from all the rules and commandments of Moses about eating and drinking and the Sabbath days. All these laws and rules and sacrifices pointed to Christ. In Him all was fulfilled. He is Lord over the Sabbath. The



chief thing for us is gladly to hear and learn the Word of Jesus and His love, the Word about His blood that cleanses from all sin. Then we rightly keep Sunday and holy days.

PRAYER: Dear Savior, thanks for freeing us from the laws and rules of Moses. Help us to trust in Thee and Thy blood for the forgiveness of all our sin. Gladly let us hear and learn Thy Word. Amen.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9 — Read Luke 6:6-11

*They That Listen Not to Jesus*

Again it was a Sabbath, a holy day and a day of rest. And Jesus, as always, went into a synagog, a Jewish school or church, and taught. You always could find Jesus in church on a Sabbath. So every Sunday He should find us in church. And if we have no services, then let us read our Bible, these Bible readings, and devotional booklets. Yes, let us do it every day. As we eat food every day to keep our body and life, so let us daily read and study the Word. Only that can save our souls.

Jesus showed the Jews that on a Sabbath day man is to do good. With Jesus in the Temple was a man with a withered (dry, shriveled) hand. And the Jews were watching Jesus to see whether He would heal this man on a Sabbath. If He would do it, then they could accuse Him to the people and show them that He breaks the Sabbath, and that therefore they should not listen to Him. But they could not hide their thoughts from Jesus. He is God, and He knew their wicked thoughts. Therefore He told the man with the withered (dry) hand to rise and stand in the center of the place. And then He looked round about them all and said to the man: "Stretch forth thy hand." And when he had done this, his hand was restored whole, made well as the other. Jesus, the mighty God, showed that it is right to do good on the Sabbath and that a man should do all he can to save life, also on the Sabbath. It is not sin to take care of the sick on a Sunday, or to do other work of love. But to stay away from church for any other reason surely is sin.

But the scribes and Pharisees would not listen. They talked together about what they could do to Him. They made plans to kill Him. So today many do not want to listen to Jesus

and His Word. They are against Him. Come, learn of Him to do good on a Sunday.

PRAYER: Dear Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, thanks for Thy word of salvation. Help us to love this Word, gladly hear and learn it for our soul's salvation, and live a good and holy life to Thy glory. Amen. J. L. S.

(In 1 Corinthians 10:31 the Apostle Paul tells us: "Whether therefore ye (you) eat or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God." If, then, our picnics are carried out in a Christian way and do not stop us from hearing God's Word, they, too, can give glory to God. See page 64. — Ed.)

## DIXIE CONFERENCE

(Continued from page 57)

### Saturday Evening Banquet

Pastor M. Kosche of Indianapolis, Ind., served as toastmaster at the banquet and kept everyone amused, with the exception of maybe one or two, who squirmed rather uncomfortably under his good-humored quips.

Speakers for the evening were the Hon. Milton Carpenter, City Comptroller, who welcomed us on behalf of the Mayor, and Senator Milton Napier, former State Legislator. Other speeches were by Mrs. Carl Wear, who gave a talk on "Good Stewardship," and Mr. U. C. Jones, who captured the attention of everyone with a lively presentation of the subject "Youth Work in the Church."

The Deaf ladies of Holy Cross and St. Philip's in St. Louis served the banquet meal and also the Saturday noon meal.

### Sunday Session

On Sunday Chairman Correll read a thought-provoking paper, "Why I Am a Lutheran."

Pastor Theo. De Laney gave a most interesting talk on "The Deaf in Other Countries — Their Chances for Education and Employment and Their Spiritual Welfare." His paper was many months in preparation and gave us all much cause for serious thought.

Some time was given to panel discussions of each paper, in which both pastors and laymen participated. Everyone left the conference with a feeling of more zeal and better understanding of many things.

It was decided to hold the next conference on June 28 and 29, 1952, at Jackson, Miss. Vicar Lennon will serve as program chairman.

The conference adjourned at 4:30 Sunday afternoon. *MRS. CARL WEAR, Secretary*

#### NORMAN DAVIS

*(Continued from page 57)*

excellently. At the State School our attendance is fifty-seven children of all ages. On Sunday mornings this is a problem, but again Norman came in with his ready help and took over a part of the primary group. The picture shows him with a part of his group around a statue on the playgrounds. We have had to cancel ten applications this last year because we cannot take care of more under the present arrangement. Without the help of Mr. Davis we would be at a loss at times what to do. The pastor has four services every Sunday, and emergencies do arise. May the Lord bless such a willing worker, and may his example inspire others.

Now, has the Lord prospered him? He holds an excellent position at the University of California Cyclotron and owns his own home; but he says: "The greatest thing that ever came to me was my faith in Christ, the Lord." Next time, we will have you meet two others who help keep a large downtown church in the city of Oakland in top shape. *G. W. G.*

#### Rev. Francis G. Gyle

Out near the Golden Gate in the Far West, in the very picturesque and hilly city of San Francisco, Calif., on the 11th day of June, 1917, a precious little son arrived at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph C. Gyle. The boy was named in part after the city — Francis.

Most of his education, in grade school, high school, and university, he received in that extreme western section of the United States. After successfully completing a four-year course at the University of California in Berkeley and earning an A.B. degree, he worked two years in the Bank of America in San Francisco as clerk and machine bookkeeper.

In the fall of 1940 he accepted a position as boys' counselor and Scoutmaster at the California School for the Deaf in Berkeley; then, in the fall of 1941 he took a position as teacher at the Maryland School for the Deaf in Frederick, Md. While in the East, he met the one

who became his life's partner in the Gyle household, Miss Alice M. Mauger, who at the time was a teacher in the primary department at the Maryland School. They were married on May 8, 1942. Mr. and Mrs. Gyle then returned to Berkeley, and both took positions at the California School for the Deaf. They now have three daughters, Emma Jane, 5; Julia Ann, 3; and Isabel Josephine, 6 months.

Neither of them was at that time a member of the Lutheran Church, but they attended the Episcopal Church in which Francis held various offices as a boy and later as a young man. Becoming acquainted with the Rev. G. W. Gaertner, Lutheran

pastor to the Deaf in Oakland, who visited the school in Berkeley regularly for Bible instruction classes, they became interested both as to the Biblical stand of the Lutheran Church and in the Lutheran mission work among the Deaf. Both Mr. and Mrs. Gyle decided to take the required course of instruction and upon completion of this course were inducted into the Lutheran Church at Oakland on Maundy Thursday, 1943. The following September Mr. Gyle entered Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo., and was graduated in February, 1946. Having had a good knowledge of the sign language through his former work and associations in State institutions for the Deaf, Student Gyle took over the work of teaching sign language classes at the Seminary in 1945, and continued to teach classes after graduation until the following year. Other students who had done supply work in the Deaf Mission and returned to the Seminary then took charge of these classes and are doing so at the present time.

When Pastor N. P. Uhlig, the St. Louis missionary, was transferred to Jacksonville, Ill., thus dividing the St. Louis field, Candidate F. G. Gyle was called as vicar, then as missionary at large, to serve the St. Louis Deaf congregation during the year of vacancy.

He was ordained to the ministry by the Rev. E. L. Wilson at St. Peter's Lutheran Church in St. Louis on June 26, 1946.



In September of 1946 the call extended to him by Holy Cross Lutheran Church for the Deaf, St. Louis, was accepted, and Pastor Gyle was installed as their pastor on September 22.

During the years 1947 to 1949 Pastor Gyle served as vacancy pastor for the Dixie field, having more than 20 preaching stations under his care and instructing pupils in ten schools for the Deaf. His journeys during this time took him into nine different States.

In 1949 he was relieved of this extensive traveling and excess labor when other workers were placed into Louisiana and Tennessee. Pastor Gyle at present serves four stations in Greater St. Louis, four in rural Missouri, and three in Illinois, and holds Bible instruction classes for pupils from three schools for the Deaf. An oral service for the Deaf and hard-of-hearing people is held once a month and is conducted by Student W. Reinking.

Holy Cross Congregation at St. Louis with 47 communicants, and holding services at Grace Lutheran Church at present, was organized in 1930 by the sainted Pastor C. Schubkegel and was later incorporated under Pastor N. P. Uhlig and became a *voting member* of District and of Synod in June, 1948, during Rev. Gyle's pastorate. St. Philip's Lutheran Deaf Department in St. Louis was instructed by Pastor Gyle and has a communicant membership of eight Negroes, in St. Philip's Church (hearing).

All communicant members in the field contribute toward the support of the Church by means of regular and special envelopes. The members of Holy Cross Church pay a substantial amount each month toward the Pastor's salary, missions, and charities and rent a place of worship. They also have a "lot" fund, to which contributions are added from time to time for the purchase of property to be used for a church building in the future.

Organizations within the St. Louis congregation consist of a Ladies' Aid Society which meets monthly, a Men's Club which meets bimonthly, and a Bible class which meets every week. A weekly Bible class is conducted also at St. Philip's Church.

With such a full schedule of activity which Pastor Gyle has carried on with marked success, he has in some way found time also to serve in various other capacities. He was pastoral secretary of the Southwest Circuit, Eng-

lish District, secretary of Synod's Radio and Television Conference, and secretary of the Dixie Deaf Lutheran Conference. For over a year, he had been associate editor of the DEAF LUTHERAN; and in February of this year he became its co-editor. He also has charge of the editing and of the business end of the devotional booklet *Life and Light*, published in the interest of our Deaf members and written by various Lutheran pastors to the Deaf.

May our heavenly Father grant us more such willing workers in our Lutheran Deaf Mission.

E. M.

### Field Gleanings

*Delavan, Wis.*—Seventeen young men and women of the Wisconsin State School for the Deaf were confirmed and received as communicant members in The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, Sunday, April 29. The Rev. Robert W. Mackensen encouraged the hearing as well as the Deaf to attend this service, being conducted simultaneously in sign language and speaking. Names of the persons confirmed are: Marva Lee Debs, Joy Erickson, Dolores Erlandson, Alice Fitch, Ann Forsberg, Carol Hanson, Ann Marie Harris, Jack Hathway, Patricia Koehler, Shirley Miller, Charles Riegert, Marlene Schroeder, Dorothea Schwebke, Pearl Thieme, Francis Thompson, Betty Weeks, and Leslie Willmore.

A choir of six members of Redeemer Congregation in Delavan signed the century-old hymn "Thine Forever, God of Love."

White robes were furnished for the young people to be confirmed, and each confirmand was given a single red rose for a reminder of Christ Jesus, whom the Bible calls "The Rose of Sharon." After the service the Deaf Lutheran Women's Missionary League of Delavan served a light lunch.

The Delavan Deaf Lutheran Women's Missionary League met Wednesday evening, April 18, in the home of Mrs. Annie Goff, 119 N. Main Street. Twenty-two members and friends were present.

President Pearl Goff appointed the following ladies to the program committee: Marianna Harnden, Violet Erickson, and Ruth Fassbender. Miss Goff urged the ladies to desire a program of activities in keeping with the aims and objectives of the L. W. M. L.:

"Our dear Lord Jesus Christ died to save us. In loving thanks we now want to serve Him. He has commanded us to tell all people the good news of forgiveness of sin through Him. Therefore the desires of this league are:

- a. We desire to tell other people (especially other Deaf) about Jesus the only Savior;
- b. We desire to learn more about the mission work that our Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod is doing;
- c. We desire to support this mission work with our money, prayers, and service;
- d. We desire to study God's true Bible teachings in every meeting."

The president also appointed Alice Flint and Ella Riemer to serve for six months on a committee whose privilege it will be to visit the sick and bring them comfort and cheer.

The Lutheran Deaf of Delavan sponsored a free showing of the well-known Hollywood film "King of Kings" Saturday, April 28, at the Wisconsin State School Gymnasium. This two-hour silent film, produced some years ago, portrays the life of our Lord Jesus Christ. R. M.

*Madison, Wis.* — Weddings often take place during the months of May and June. Silent Lutheran Congregation of Madison is no exception to this rule. On May 26 Bertie Lou Williams and Howard Leslie Davis were united in marriage at Immanuel Lutheran Church. Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Rasmus witnessed the impressive formal ceremony.

On June 17 Joan Beverly Cook and Richard John Schenck pledged their troth during an outdoor ceremony which took place on the spacious lawn at the groom's home eight miles west of Janesville, Wis. May the Lord Jesus bless these couples.

A special surprise was presented to Pastor Robert Mackensen and his wife at a picnic on Sunday, June 24, when his church groups gave him a new stole (purple), a week's vacation, and a cash gift of \$100 in gratitude for his work among them during the last year. How unworthy the pastor feels to receive such sincere kindnesses from his people! How good God is to us! R. M.

*Omaha, Nebr.* — Eighteen pupils from the Iowa School for the Deaf and six from the Nebraska School were confirmed in our Omaha church on May 6 in an afternoon service. Also

one adult, Mrs. Fred Salzman of Omaha, was accepted as a member of our Omaha congregation by confirmation.



Pupils of Omaha and Council Bluffs Schools confirmed on May 6, 1951

Prior to the confirmation, fourteen of this class received Holy Baptism. The Lord grant them strength and courage to remain faithful to Him till death. E. M.

*Oshkosh, Wis.* — Sincere welcome to three new members of our Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod! They are Mary Helen Hardel, James Lawrence Miller, and Robert Earl Leichtnam, who were confirmed on June 3 in Trinity Lutheran Church at Oshkosh. About 50 of our people attended the service and also the reception afterward. R. M.

*Sioux Falls, S. Dak.* — About 40 deaf friends of Mr. and Mrs. Ellis Surber gathered at their farm home near Marion, S. Dak., on June 10 for a surprise observance of the Surbers' 40th wedding anniversary. A bounteous potluck dinner was served at noon. In the afternoon Rev. Curtis Schleicher conducted a short anniversary service. He spoke on 1 Samuel 7:12: "Hitherto hath the Lord helped us." Mrs. A. J. Krohn signed the hymn "O Perfect Love." Since it would have been impossible for all those present to see the service in the house, it was decided to hold it in the yard. But rain threatened, and a few drops began to fall. So the Deaf sat in their cars, arranged in a semi-circle, and Mrs. Krohn and Pastor Schleicher stood under a protecting tree. It was one time the sign language came in very handy! C. S.

COME to Minneapolis August 24—28: Ephphatha! Dr. Salvner's Golden Jubilee!