

The Deaf Lutheran



*Ephphatha, that is,
Be opened.*

MARK 7:34

Volume 50

JANUARY 1958

Number 1

A New Year's Prayer

Father, let me dedicate
All this year to Thee,
In whatever earthly state
Thou wilt have me be.
Not from sorrow, pain, or care
Freedom dare I claim;
This alone shall be my prayer:
Glorify Thy name.

Can a child presume to choose
Where or how to live?
Can a father's love refuse
All the best to give?
More Thou givest every day
Than the best can claim
Nor withholdest aught that may
Glorify Thy name.

If in mercy Thou wilt spare
Joys that yet are mine;
If on life, serene and fair,
Brighter rays may shine,
Let my glad heart while it sings
Thee in all proclaim
And, whate'er the future brings,
Glorify Thy name.

If Thou callest to the cross
And its shadow come,
Turning all my gain to loss,
Shrouding heart and home,
Let me think how Thy dear Son
To His glory came
And in deepest woe pray on:
"Glorify Thy name." Amen.

LAWRENCE TUTTIETT, 1864

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These ministers preach in more than 275 cities in our land; they conduct classes in religion at over 50 city and 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.

THE DEAF LUTHERAN

Official Paper of Lutheran Churches of the Deaf

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1908 – 1958

With this number the fiftieth volume of the DEAF LUTHERAN begins. For fifty years this little messenger has spoken for the cause of bringing the Gospel to the children of silence. The first pages were humble and unassuming; and to this day it would remain a humble servant of the great cause of Christ among the Deaf. It never was acclaimed a great paper, and it never will be. But it has found and made and kept a great number of loyal friends.

When it was begun, its editor was the sainted Rev. Traugott M. Wangerin, who ably edited it from 1908 to 1915. Then the present editor assumed the task. In those days its format was larger than now, about 8×11 inches in size, and it sometimes had four pages, then eight, and for a while twelve. Between 1918 and 1953 a number of pastors to the Deaf edited it. In 1953 the present editor again took over.

Go on, little DEAF LUTHERAN, and continue to bring the story of Jesus' love for the Deaf and of the love of the Deaf for Jesus.

The Secretary of the Board

Our newly appointed secretary of Synod's Board of Missions to the Deaf, Rev. Elmer E. Schroeder, was born at Chicago Heights, Ill., March 28, 1903, the son of the sainted Pastor Karl and Mrs. Schroeder. His elementary education he obtained in Nebraska and South Dakota. Upon graduation from high school he entered Concordia Seminary, Springfield, graduating in 1930.

His first pastorate was at Correll,



Rev. Elmer E. Schroeder

Minn., where he was the first resident pastor and missionary. A later pastorate was at Montevideo, Minn., where Trinity and Grace Lutheran were developed and added to the original field of activity and where during Rev. Schroeder's activity two churches were built.

In 1943 the large rural congregation of St. John, near Osseo, Minn., called him, which he served for ten years. Since 1953 he has been hospital chaplain and institutional missionary in Minneapolis. Previous to his work as pastor in these several parishes he taught school on the elementary level at Nichols and Saint Stephen's, St. Paul. For two years he taught modern languages and mathematics as assistant professor at Concordia Junior College, Saint Paul. Special studies at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, and at the University of Minnesota have qualified him as a professional, clinically trained hospital chaplain.

In the larger field of the church Pastor Schroeder served for five years as president of the Minnesota District of the Walther League. He served as Visitor of the Minneapolis area of Lutheran churches of our Synod. For eight years he was counselor of the Minnesota District of the Women's Lutheran Missionary League. At the Houston Convention in 1953 he was elected to the Board of Missions to the Deaf. He is also a board member of the Crest View Lutheran Home for the Aged in Minneapolis.

In 1930 Pastor Schroeder was married to Miss Edna Maas, daughter of the Rev. Herman Maas, Lowden, Iowa. The marriage was blessed with five children. The oldest of four sons, Burrell, was a jet pilot with the U. S. Air Force and now is a salesman for a steel firm at Lincoln, Nebr. The second son, Roger, is a dentist in Minneapolis. The third son, Paul, is a senior at the University of Minnesota, and David, a graduate of Concordia, St. Paul, is employed in Minneapolis. Kathleen is a senior at Washburn High School.

In his busy activity Pastor Schroeder now serves as secretary of the Board of Missions to the Deaf, is chairman of the building project at Delavan, Wis., where a chapel and educational building is being erected for the Lutheran deaf children of the Wisconsin School for the Deaf, and he heads the board committee for guidelines for the missionaries to the Deaf.

Pastor Schroeder has had an active life; may the Lord preserve his strength and bless his zeal for the cause of Christ.

What kind of people please God?
Deuteronomy 5:29

Meet Pastor Elmer W. Koberg

We are happy to present Pastor Elmer W. Koberg to our readers in this issue. As has been announced and as our readers may have noticed, his name appears on page two of each DEAF LUTHERAN,



Rev. Elmer W. Koberg

listed as a member of the Board of Missions to Deaf, appointed a member when the resignation of Rev. Wm. Buege left the board a man short. Pastor Buege now is a vice-president of the Minnesota District and has resigned from our board when elected to that office.

Pastor Koberg has been a pastor for twenty-two years. Upon his graduation from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, in 1935 he served St. James Lutheran Church, Northrop, Minn., 1936 through 1949, then Immanuel Lutheran Church, Clarinda, Iowa, 1950 to January 1953,

when he assumed the pastorate of Bethlehem Church, St. Paul.

When he was appointed to serve on the Board of Missions to Deaf, he had to resign the office of Visitor of the St. Paul Circuit, for the same reason that Rev. Buege resigned from the board, no one being able to hold two elective offices in Synod at the same time.

Rev. Koberg is a Minnesotan by birth, Good Thunder being the place of residence of his parents when he was born. He attended the school of St. James Lutheran Church there, then studied at Concordia Junior College, St. Paul, where he was graduated in 1931. From 1931 to 1935 he studied at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, graduating at the time when candidates for the office

of the ministry were mistakenly thought to be "in oversupply," to which time we may think back now when hundreds of vacancies exist and will exist for a long time. But as noted above, after a few months he was working at Northrop.

Mrs. Koberg before April 14, 1936, was Miss Inez Matson. She presented him with three children. The oldest, Sergei, is studying at Concordia Senior College at Fort Wayne; Michael is a junior in the high school department of Concordia, St. Paul; Fanchon is in the sixth grade at St. John's Lutheran school.

Pastor Koberg expressed himself in a letter as being very happy to become a member of the Board of Missions to Deaf. May God bless him and his efforts for our mission.



Our Synod

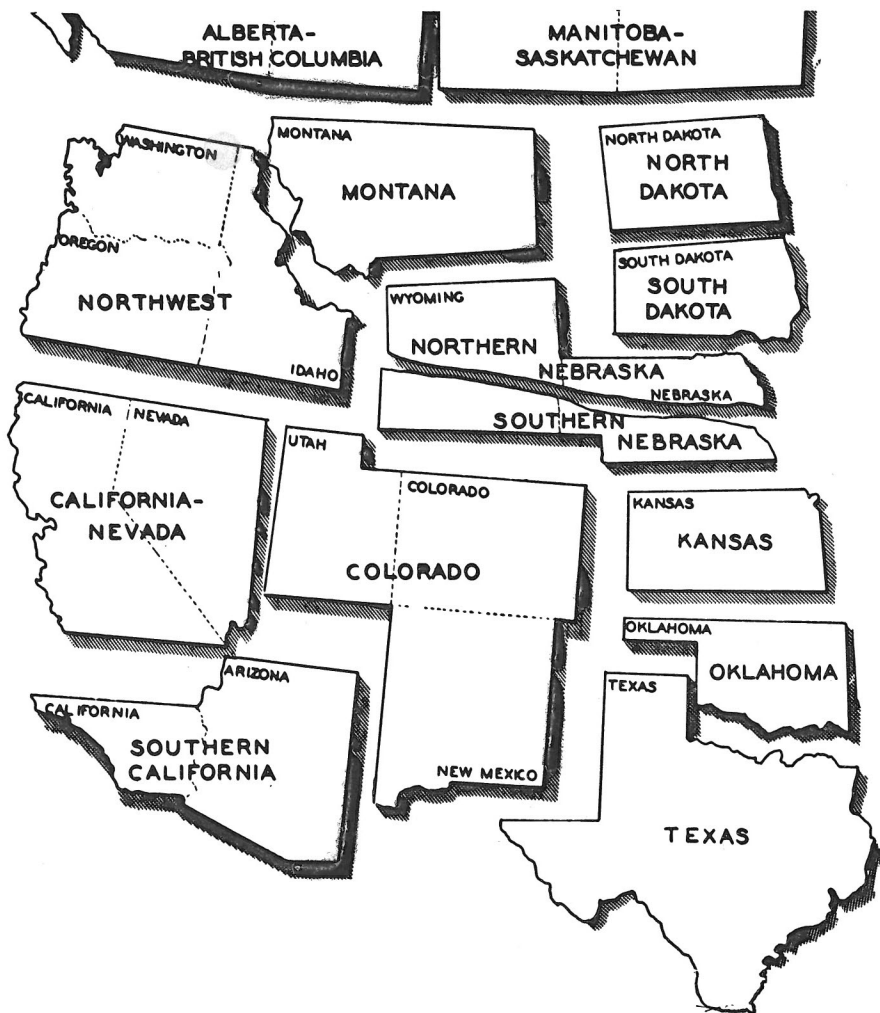
The Growth of Synod

In the December DEAF LUTHERAN the early story of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod was given, which took us to the organization at Chicago in 1847 and the second meeting the next year, at which time 25 congregations belonged to Synod.

By way of comparison let us this time look at the present expansion. The little tree has grown marvelously. On January 1, 1957, there were 4,835 voting synodical congregations, 971 organized congregations not yet affiliated with Synod but being served by Synod and working along, helping the exten-

sive work, and 5,505 pastors. The figures for January 1, 1958, naturally, are not yet available, but will undoubtedly show another advance.

To show the expanse of the area, let us bring the graph that shows the 32 Districts of the Synod in North America, shown on pages 6 and 7. Besides these 32 Districts there are two Districts in South America, the Argentina and the Brazil Districts. Then the extensive mission fields in India, Japan, Formosa, Hong Kong, New Guinea, the Philippines, Africa, Central America, must not be forgotten. God surely has blest us,



DISTRICTS OF SYNOD

ALBERTA-
BRITISH COLUMBIA

the two provinces

MANITOBA-
SASKATCHEWAN

the two provinces

NORTHWEST

Washington Oregon, Idaho

MONTANA

the State

NORTH DAKOTA

the State

SOUTH DAKOTA

the State

NORTHERN NEBRASKA

including northern half of Wyoming

SOUTHERN NEBRASKA

including southern half of Wyoming

CALIFORNIA-NEVADA

Nevada and California, except southern counties

COLORADO

Colorado, Utah, New Mexico

KANSAS

the State

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Arizona and southern counties of California

OKLAHOMA

the State

TEXAS

the State



ONTARIO
MINNESOTA
NORTH WISCONSIN
SOUTH WISCONSIN
MICHIGAN
EASTERN
ATLANTIC
IOWA WEST
IOWA EAST
NORTHERN ILLINOIS
CENTRAL ILLINOIS
SOUTHERN ILLINOIS
CENTRAL
SOUTHEASTERN

WESTERN
SOUTHERN
FLORIDA-GEORGIA
ENGLISH

Quebec and Ontario
the State
including Upper Peninsula of Michigan
southern half
Lower Peninsula only
Western half of New York State and Pennsylvania
New England States, New Jersey, eastern half of New York State
vertical division, approximately in the center

Illinois

Indiana, Ohio, West Virginia, Kentucky (except western tip)
Maryland, District of Columbia, Delaware, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and narrow strip of Georgia
Missouri, Arkansas, Tennessee, western tip of Kentucky
Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and western tip of Florida
Florida (except western tip) and most of Georgia
represented in the following fifteen States: Arizona, California, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas, Wisconsin; and in Ontario, Canada



Madison, Wis. — On November 17, at 3 P. M., the cornerstone was laid at the chapel and educational building at Delavan. On account of the uncertainty of the weather the morning service at Redeemer Lutheran Church was really the main service, and the sermon for the cornerstone laying was delivered then; the afternoon service at the building was very short. Progress had been good until the inclement weather forced a halt. The walls were about up to the roof line at the time of the cornerstone laying. Plumbing and the electrical work in the basement had been roughed in. The fund-raising campaign has brought about \$4,000 of the \$47,000, which is the goal and which, it is hoped, will have been gathered by the end of 1958. Appeals for help with this project have been going out to all hearing Lutheran churches of Synod in Wisconsin, and the Deaf themselves are helping by contributing and by asking hearing friends to help. — On October 27 **Dale Richard Schenck** was brought to Jesus in Holy Baptism; may God keep him in His grace. — **Mrs. Evelene Schewe, nee Younger**, was given Christian burial October 10; she fell victim to a heart attack. She was of Middleton, Wis., and was preparing herself for confirmation. Pastor M. G. Kosche served her at the Madison General Hospital during her illness. Let us ever be mindful of the fact that the most uncertain thing is life and the most certain is

Pacific Coast Area Report

April through September 1957

Stations	42
Pastors	7
Communicant Members	808
Services	403
Attendance	10,476
Instruction Periods	250
Calls	2,480
Child Baptisms	16
Adult Baptisms	5
Child Confirmations	18
Adult Confirmations	15
Marriages	9
Burials	15

GEO. W. GAERTNER
Regional Representative

(Requests having been made for area reports, we gladly open our columns to bring such from regional representatives of the board, inviting them to submit summary area reports. — EDITOR.)

death and give due attention to the fact that now, while we live, is the accepted time to prepare to meet our God.

Des Moines, Iowa. — The Des Moines Circuit of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League voted to donate a typewriter and an addressing machine to the Des Moines field of the Mission to Deaf, gifts valued at \$300. We are very grate-

ful for this help. The pennies which the consecrated ladies gather in the mite boxes do wonderful and big things. One might compare the pennies to snowflakes; one is hardly anything, but when many get together and pile up, they can form such powerful obstacles that big cars and trucks and even trains cannot push through. So when these pennies accumulate, they perform great things. The chapels of the Deaf at Sioux City, Iowa, Cleveland, Ohio, Jacksonville, Ill., Seattle, Wash., and other places bear witness to the warm hearts of these Christian ladies who are never weary of welldoing and who, as sure as God's Word is true, will reap abundantly in getting the blessing of the Lord. Our Deaf Calvary Ladies' Aid society of Des Moines is a member of this organization.

Omaha, Nebr. — The Omaha congregation and Sunday school children were very much shocked by the death of **Mrs. Esther Beitz** on November 3. She was one of the organizers of the Sunday school and had been superintendent and teacher from the beginning. On September 16 she underwent an operation and had been at the hospital seven weeks. She was a source of great inspiration to all by her untiring and faithful services; and she frequently had expressed her admiration for the deaf children, whom she greatly loved. With Mrs. Albert Blum and Mrs. Margaret Davis, now of Lincoln, Nebr., she organized the Sunday school five years ago; and Pastor Mappes and the many deaf children who came under her influence will never forget her. Now she sees Him in glory whom she by her teaching and life impressed upon the minds and hearts of the

children. May she rest in peace! By her passing great sorrow came to her husband, Mr. Conrad Beitz, and her son, Mr. Vernon Beitz. She was one of the thousands of consecrated women who Sunday after Sunday, throughout the length and breadth of the land, gather about them classes of young children and instruct them, doing a real service that is often very much overlooked but is of immense importance. Four other women from the neighboring Bethany Lutheran Church are serving as teachers at Bethlehem Sunday School and have been carrying on the work in a spirit of great loyalty to Christ and to the children. May God richly bless and reward them and all those who impress the image of Christ upon the hearts of deaf and hearing children. — On November 3 Pastor Mappes for the first time after his heart attack in May participated in leading the congregation in the service at Omaha, and November 10 he preached at Sioux City and has since conducted some services and instructed classes. But he still must be very careful. — On November 10, at Sioux City, **Mr. and Mrs. Ardo Beavers** were received as new members of Peace Lutheran Deaf Congregation by Holy Baptism, making a good confession of their faith publicly. Mr. Beavers is not only deaf but sightless also, but is very adept at understanding the sign language by touch. May God bless and keep these new members. — Mr. Ardo Beavers' brother, **Mr. Louis Beavers**, was taken by death on November 9. — For almost two weeks at the beginning of November Dr. J. Salvner of Minneapolis stayed with Rev. and Mrs. Mappes, taking over services and classes at the Omaha and Coun-

cil Bluffs schools and churches and conducting services in a number of other cities, and December 1 to 4 Rev. N. P. Uhlig of St. Louis conducted the services and classes at the churches and schools in Omaha and Council Bluffs and Fremont.

Denver, Colo. — With the coming of 1958 the Deaf of Denver are looking forward to the Midwest Lutheran Deaf Conference, which will meet in their fine city in late summer. It will be a great event for the Denver group, and since Denver is situated close to the beautiful Rocky Mountains, many Deaf from the Plains States will travel to Denver. Mr. George Dietz, chairman of the Midwest Conference, is already giving thought to the meeting. — On September 22 **Devalle Rocky De Liere**, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Clifford De Liere, was laid into the arms of Jesus in Holy Baptism at Dacomo, and October 20 **Debra Gail Hardy**, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Keith Hardy, was baptized also by Pastor C. R. Bailey at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Colorado Springs. May the Lord bless and keep these His lambs. — At our services in Pueblo will be missing the face of a frequent attendant, **Mr. Earl Chalkley** of Cimarron, Kans., who died September 25 after an illness which kept him at the hospital for a while, where Rev. Bailey could weekly visit him and prepare him for his departure from this earth. — And **Mr. J. Davis**, only recently come to Denver from Ohio, desired and appreciated Pastor Bailey's visits, knowing that he would not be here long; the Lord called him October 28. He was buried in Ohio.

Jacksonville, Fla. — On Septem-

ber 1 **Mr. Blondenia Baker** and **Mr. Henry Slater, Jr.**, both of Jacksonville, received the Sacrament of Holy Baptism after the regular service. We welcome these two new members; may they receive the blessings and comfort of their baptism throughout all their life! — Again a goodly number of the children of the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind are receiving religious instruction in the classes of Pastor W. O. Neisch. They are held on Saturdays at the St. Augustine institution. Classes are conducted for white and for the Negroes, over one hundred attending in the two departments. — November 10 to 14 Pastor Neisch assisted Rev. Gyle of Miami in the Evangelism Week that was conducted at Tampa. Pastor Wm. Reinking of St. Louis, regional representative of the Board for the Dixie Circuit, was the guest missionary. Visits and nightly meetings were conducted. These meetings are generally known as PTR meetings, preaching, teaching, and reaching out to bring the Gospel to the people of a community.

New York, N. Y. — Two members of St. Matthew's, the former **Miss Caroline Paterson** and **Mr. Fred Reiseling**, were united in marriage at Brooklyn by Pastor D. Simon on October 12. May God bless this union. — The work in New York for the time being falls practically completely upon Pastor D. Simon since Rev. Wm. Hausmann's departure, who now is pastor of Saint John's Lutheran Church in Harrison, N. J. Consequently some services had to be readjusted. The Board of Missions to Deaf will naturally send another worker into the area to work with Pastor Simon, but for the time being the load is lying on

Rev. Simon. — In order to have a better chance to discuss the work of the church with the members, many churches arrange for a series of cottage meetings, thus making it possible to have the members of a certain neighborhood meet at the home of one of the members. Much good comes from such meetings, as a good chance is provided to talk over together many problems and to give good information and suggestions to each other. St. Matthew had such a series in the late fall, and while often it is not possible to lay the finger upon particular results, the blessings which come from better understanding of the problems and the remedies result in a long-range general improvement.

Columbus, Ohio. — The first Sunday afternoon of November saw the ground breaking of the new Home for the Aged Deaf. In the ceremony, **Mr. William Clark**, a member of Holy Cross Lutheran Deaf Church, who is deaf and sightless, turned the first shovel of earth, and construction of new units of the Home now is well under way. The Deaf themselves are interested, and should be, in providing suitable retreats for the aged Deaf who cannot be taken care of by blood relatives or who have no other good places to stay. And even with relatives the old deaf people sometimes are very lonely for lack of companions with whom they can have conversation. So such homes are definitely desirable, and a number of states are fortunate to have such homes. Much well-deserved praise has come to Ohio for its Home for the Aged Deaf. But, as Pastor H. Drachenberg in one of his bulletins pointed out, it is not enough that the body and the mind be cared for; the heart and soul must never

be overlooked. Particularly in age, when the joys of this world pale and lose their attractiveness, that soul is truly starved which has not the food which it needs and which comes from the Gospel through which faith, hope, and love are created and nourished. Oh, that all our aged Deaf, in Ohio and everywhere, had not only pleasant earthly homes in which to watch the setting sun of life, but above all cultivate the habit of daily reading of the Bible and of prayer. — Holy Cross bade farewell to **Mr. and Mrs. Fred Blackford**, who have moved to Florida. Mr. Blackford has retired.

Jacksonville, Ill. — For three weeks in November the children of the Illinois School for the Deaf could not leave the campus on account of the Asian flu, and so the Sunday school and Thursday classes could not be held. No serious situations developed. — Mr. LeRoy Mason of the Springfield Seminary conducted services at Springfield December 1. Mr. Mason, whose home is in California, did not forget to find the Deaf and the Lutheran pastors of the Deaf during summer vacation but promptly assisted out West, for his heart is with the work among the Deaf. — December 1 was the 91st birthday of **Mr. Anson Brown**, now living with a son in Springfield, Ill. He received many congratulatory messages for his birthday from his friends. While unable to get about fast, he is mentally young and spiritually alive and thankful to the good Lord, who has never forsaken him though he has also seen many dark days in life. — December 15 the Christmas service for the deaf children and the congregation was held. A pageant was presented by

(Continued on page 15)



Devotions

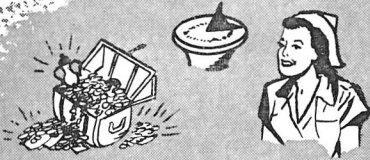
"Light for Your Way"

Readings for January 1958

January 1 — Genesis 1:1-31
 January 2 — Genesis 2:1-24
 January 3 — Genesis 3:1-22
 January 4 — Genesis 4:1-16
 January 5 — Genesis 6:1-22
 January 6 — Genesis 7:11-24
 January 7 — Genesis 8:13-27
 January 8 — Genesis 12:1-9
 January 9 — Genesis 17:1-21
 January 10 — Genesis 21:1-14
 January 11 — Genesis 22:1-19
 January 12 — Genesis 24:1-21
 January 13 — Genesis 25:19-34
 January 14 — Genesis 27:1-29

January 15 — Genesis 28:1-22
 January 16 — Genesis 32:3-32
 January 17 — Genesis 37:2-36
 January 18 — Genesis 41:39-57
 January 19 — Genesis 43:1-15
 January 20 — Genesis 44:18-45:3
 January 21 — Genesis 45:16-46:7
 January 22 — Genesis 47:1-12
 January 23 — Genesis 49:1-33
 January 24 — Exodus 1:8-22
 January 25 — Exodus 2:1-10
 January 26 — Exodus 2:11-23
 January 27 — Exodus 3:1-22
 January 28 — Exodus 5:1-21
 January 29 — Exodus 9:1-21
 January 30 — Exodus 12:1-20
 January 31 — Exodus 12:21-42

"Seek ye out of the book of the Lord and read." (Isaiah 34:16)



Stewardship

New Year Is Checkup Time

With the coming of January 1 comes the time when books are examined, balanced, and audited. Figures are added up of receipts and expenses and compared with the foregoing year or years. Plans are made for the coming year. People study the various items and try to discover why so little was saved, where the leaks were, and how they might do better the coming year.

So we should check up on ourselves whether or not we have been good stewards who handled the affairs wisely or foolishly. And while people think first of all of money, it is well to study that angle well. But let us not forget that the checkup should not only be about money; we should examine other angles. What did we do to improve spiritually? Are we better Chris-

tians in knowledge? Have we been witnesses? And how about our mind? Did we grow intellectually? Did we use our talents well? There are so many things that we could and should have done! How did we use our time? foolishly? on ourselves only? Yes, there are many angles to consider.

But since people think first of all about their money and the income and expense and the income tax at this season of the year, let us check that matter now, since the books of the foregoing year have been closed on January 1 and it will soon be income tax time. There is a man sitting at the table with his books and checking last year's figures. He even has an adding machine so he can get a pretty good idea of what was earned and spent, and for what, and how much went for different items. Let's sit and watch him as he goes into the matter and talks to himself.

"Well, here goes. Let's get the income first. I have had a pretty good job and worked all year except two weeks, fifty weeks, and I get \$1.25 an hour, that makes \$10 a day, \$50 for the week, \$2,500 for the year. Pretty good, but I know lots of fellows who get much more, but \$2,500 for the year is pretty good anyway. But where did the money go? That car costs a lot of money, and my board, and clothes and entertainment, but I like to have a good time, what's money for, anyway? I hardly saved anything; well, my insurance is saving. And maybe I can save more; maybe I had better cut my donation to the church. Let's get the figure.

"Well, here is the figure for church and charity. Is that all I gave? I thought it was more than

that. Maybe I did not put everything down, because I feel that I gave more than that. I'll have to keep better account, but that must be about all I gave. But let's see? I paid \$100 for church. That's an awful lot of money. I worked fifty weeks and got \$50 each week, that's \$2,500 in the year, and I really gave \$100. My, I'm very good. I gave the Lord four pennies of every dollar, that's four per cent. It's funny, four per cent does not seem so much, and \$100 looks so big for a church contribution. I wonder if I'm really as good as I think I am. But, then, I have to pay so much income tax, and I really can't afford to pay more for church.

"Let's see what I'll have to pay this year for income tax. Here's the tax table. Well, it's not for 1957, but anyway it will give me an idea. I earned that much, so let's see, no, that can't be; \$379! That's awful! Well, I'll have to figure all my deductions; let's see: here it says that I can deduct as much as 20 per cent for church and charity; that would be \$500 deductible and then I would not have very much to pay for income tax; if I had only given the Lord 10 per cent, \$250, and I could have given more; and now I must pay the \$379 income tax, otherwise I get fined and maybe even have to go to jail, and the church could have used it for missions, and they have great need, and now I have to give it away anyway, so I did not gain a cent, and the Lord's church lost. I sure am a fool and a poor steward. I guess I'd better listen to advice and be fair with the Lord; it pays. I wonder how so many people can pay 10 per cent and even 15 per cent and still make it? It's really simple,

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Know Your Bible

The Book of the Prophet Hosea

The book of the prophet Hosea is the first of the group of prophetic books of the Old Testament called the Minor Prophets, not because they are less important but because they are shorter. They are not listed in strictly chronological order, Jonah, Joel, and Amos having lived before Hosea.

The Major Prophets tell us about the last 150 years of the Kingdom of Judah and Benjamin, the Southern Kingdom, which fell before Babylon in 586 B. C. Daniel tells us about the years of captivity. The Minor Prophets deal with the people of the Northern Kingdom, the Kingdom of the Ten Tribes, which kingdom fell before Assyria in 722 B. C.

Hosea, the "weeping prophet" of the Northern Kingdom, wrote between 760 and 720 B. C. Jeroboam was the king of Israel when Hosea was called to prophesy. Then the Kingdom of Israel was strong and prosperous. But king and people were wicked. After Jeroboam six kings followed within twenty years, and four of these were assassinated. The true religion was almost forgotten, and idol worship was practiced, and with that the morals of the people became very bad. Adultery was common. God had sent Elijah and Elisha to warn the people to return to Jehovah, but in vain. As in married life a person is guilty of adultery when he or she leaves the true spouse and lives with an-

other, so people commit spiritual adultery when they leave the true God and worship idols; and that was the case with Israel.

To make the people realize that idol worship was spiritual adultery, Hosea was commanded to marry Gomer, a "woman of whoredoms." By Gomer he had three children, who received names that were meaningful. The first, Jezreel, meaning "God shall sow," was to remind the people of the brutality of Jehu, who in the Valley of Jezreel had killed Jehoram, the son of King Ahab; and it was in this plain that the armies of the Assyrians overthrew the forces of Israel and Jehu's house lost the rule of Israel. The second child, Loruhamah, meaning "I will have no mercy," foretold God's punishment upon Israel for its wickedness. The third child, Lo-ammi, meaning "Not My people," signified that God would not acknowledge a wicked people to be His people.

All through the book there are pleadings and warnings to the people, of the Kingdom of Israel as well as of the Kingdom of Judah, to return to Jehovah, "the first husband," and to stop sinning against God. And again there are promises of mercy and forgiveness if they would return: "Say ye to your brethren, Ammi," which means, "My people," and to your sisters; "Ruhamah," which means, "I will have

mercy." Hosea shows man's inability to heal himself and that God can and will do so: "Come, and let us return unto the Lord; for He hath torn, and He will heal us." Hosea speaks of the victory of life over death and the grave.

Hosea again accepted his wife, who had forsaken him, thus indicating that God's mercy receives the penitent. All through the book we again and again meet reminders that sin brings sorrow and punishment, but repentance brings forgiveness. In this age where unfaithfulness to God and often gross immorality can be observed, Hosea and his message can be studied profitably.

FIELD GLEANINGS

(Continued from page 11)

the children, assisted by the Springfield Seminary staff of Sunday school teachers and helpers. — December 10 to 14 Rev. D. Thies will be active at Beatrice, Nebr., assisting with the PTR Evangelism Week held there; in connection with this journey he and family will enjoy a few days of vacation. He appreciates the help the friends of the Deaf among the seminary students are giving by serving at the Sunday school at Jacksonville and conducting services at some of the stations whenever he is called to help elsewhere.

STEWARDSHIP

(Continued from page 13)

because you can't keep it; if you don't use it wisely, you lose it. This year I'm going to be wise and fair to God too; I'll give 10 per cent or even more and quit wasting my money for other things."

"And the Lord said, Who, then, is that faithful and wise steward?" (Luke 12:42)

"This Is the Life"

The Deaf appreciate TV. Do not overlook the program "This Is the Life." For five years our Synod has produced many episodes or stories of life as it presents problems and tries the souls of people. However, in these stories the Christian answer is introduced and the way out of the difficulty shown as God in the Bible shows the right road to take.

Over almost 300 TV stations come these programs, and between nine and fourteen million people see them every week according to conservative estimates of expert checkers. While many felt that the effort would be of short duration, it has had a most remarkable reception.

Check your local newspapers for the place and time of "This Is the Life" programs, and tell others about them and support them.

God's Stewardship Plan

would embrace our entire life . . .

but we restrict it to a few dollars;

would include all of our time . . .

but we have too little for His kingdom;

would include all of our abilities . . .

but we would rather use them elsewhere;

would teach us to say, "All is Thine"

. . . but we like to say, "All is *mine*";

would teach us, "On the first day of the week" . . . but we dally till later;

would teach us, "Each one of you" . . . but one third carries two thirds of the load;

would teach us, "As God hath prospered him" . . . but we like to set our own standards, budgets, goals, averages, etc.

How soon will we trust the Lord enough to reject our way and take His?

Selected



Bible Quiz

How long was Absalom away from home after he fled because he had ordered that his brother Amnon be killed for disgracing their sister Tamar? 2 Samuel 13:38

What sacrifices will not pay for our sins? Micah 6:7

When has the son of a house no more authority than a servant although he will someday inherit everything? Galatians 4:1

What made Abraham strong and gave him courage to leave his native land and go to a strange country? Hebrews 11:8

What will the rich men and the great say with all people on Judgment Day? Revelation 6:16

How great was the wickedness among the people at the time of Micah the prophet? Micah 7:2-4

What did Jesus tell those that asked Him if it is right to get a divorce for any reason? Matthew 19:6

What still is the best and only right answer that we can give to anybody that asks us about Jesus? Luke 9:20

How great were the groups into which the people were divided when Jesus fed the great multitude with five loaves and two fishes? Luke 9:14

What did the glowing coal of fire do to Isaiah when the angel touched his lips with it? Isaiah 6:7

What did Hagar, the maid of Abraham's wife, Sarah, call the name of the Lord? Genesis 16:13

Fat burns easily and is hard to be extinguished; and what does the Bible call those that are enemies of the Lord? Psalm 37:20

From where will the people have come who in heaven will share the joys with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, meaning the believers of the Old Testament? Matthew 8:11

What are those people called, in a spiritual sense, who do not understand the deeper teachings of God's Word but only the simpler things, which are called milk? Hebrews 5:13

On their journey to the promised land the Children of Israel did not march every day; how long did they sometimes stay in the same place? Numbers 9:22

What is man's foremost duty? Acts 5:29

What kind of people are really wise? Matt. 7:24

What promise have the children ("seed") of a person that is merciful and gladly helps others? Psalm 37:26

Why is Jesus the best and only good Advocate to pray for us? Hebrews 7:25

Why is the Lord worthy to receive all glory, honor, and power? Revelation 4:11

How did Jesus show the whole world that He loved His Father? John 14:31

What is most sweet to taste? Psalm 119:103