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Vol. 6

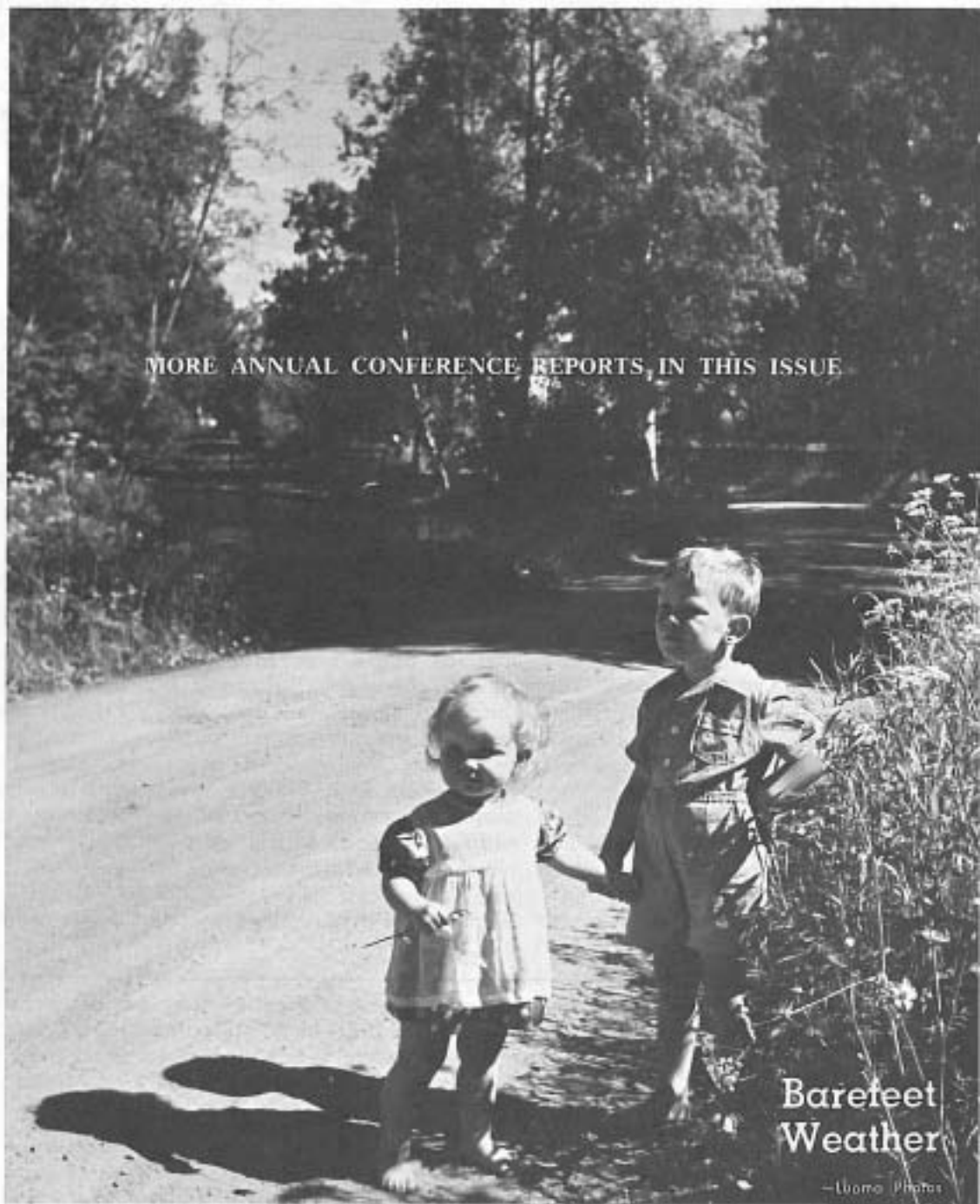
July 23, 1968

No. 15

LUTHERAN

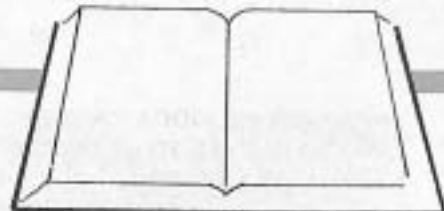
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MORE ANNUAL CONFERENCE REPORTS, IN THIS ISSUE



Barefeet
Weather

—Llomo Photos



According to the Word

WHEN NINEVEH PRAYED

Jonah 3:5-10

The wickedness of Nineveh is described for us in Jonah 1:2b: "For their wickedness is come up before me." Nineveh was the capital city of the Assyrians. The people of Nineveh were ungodly. The Lord characterized the city as a place of wickedness and to this place Jonah was to go and cry against the sin.

The name Nineveh must have caused Jonah to tremble. In the first place it belonged to the enemies of Israel. The Assyrians were their bitter and despised foe. We can understand in part why Jonah chose to go to Tarsus. His going was in direct disobedience to the command of the Lord. Disobedience is one of the devil's shortcuts from God. In the Garden he convinced our first parents to disobey God's command and I believe he is still convincing many today to disobey God's call when it comes to going to difficult places to witness. God supplies us with strength and courage when we obey His Word.

Even though Jonah had disobeyed God's commission and was comfortably sleeping in the bottom of the ship he was soon called upon to answer questions of the captain as to why he disobeyed his God. This idea of Jonah's disobedience and then his comfortable sleep is true of many today. The Spirit of God allows storms to come upon our pathway; yes, they may be storms of sickness, sorrow and death, that we may come to ourselves and be honest with God.

Jonah, through this difficult experience, knew what the Scriptures spoke of: "the way of the transgressor is hard." Jonah learned

his lesson. The word of the Lord came the second time to Jonah with the same call and with the instructions as to what to preach. "Arise, go unto Nineveh, that great city, and preach unto it the preaching I bid thee" (Jonah 3:2). Jonah was not to go to preach a social gospel. And he was not only to preach the Word of God but also the right Word for the occasion. It is true of a doctor also that he must not only give medicine but he must give the right kind of medicine. The need today is to get messengers who will deliver the message without altering it. When the Lord gives the message something happens. We read in Jonah 3:5 what happened when His messenger spoke God's Word to these ungodly people: "And the people of Nineveh believed God." They knew that what Jonah said was from the Lord. They acted in faith (Heb. 11:6: "Without faith it is impossible to be well pleasing unto God"). Not a word is said about their faith in Jonah but the Word of God was preached in such a way that it was God with whom they were dealing.

Let us notice what the people of Nineveh believed. The message that Jonah had to proclaim was one of doom and judgment. "Yet forty days and Nineveh shall be overthrown" (3:4). There was no Gospel in that message. We read that the people believed it. Here we see the convicting power of the Word of God, but such messages are not easy to accept. We recall that Noah had a similar proclamation in his day, but the people refused to believe it. By nature we like to accept what is pleasant and disregard the unpleasant. People often accept what the Word of God teaches about heaven

and reject what it says about hell. How different with the people of Nineveh, they believed God.

After faith we see repentance. Real repentance means a complete turn-about and a godly sorrow for sin and turning away from sin. Repentance is very important, for Christ said that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name unto all nations. Repentance leads to action. We read that the Word came to the king. The king who had ruled Nineveh when their wickedness had called for God's judgment now "arose from his throne." He who had given orders was now willing to receive orders. The power of the Holy Spirit honored the Word of God. The king disrobed himself, saw his helpless condition and humbled himself in sack cloth and ashes. He then gave an urgent proclamation. He called for an all-out prayer meeting. Prayer was given its rightful place in Nineveh. Prayer came first, yes, even before eating and drinking and the necessities of everyday living.

Seldom, if ever, does a mealtime give way to prayer-time. The king did not merely try to influence his people as to the importance of prayer but he urged them to pray. They were told to "cry mightily" to God. No idle words but a confession of sin was necessary and a cry for mercy. Mercy and God cannot be separated. God deals with us in tender mercies.

Prayer changed Nineveh. Prayer can change our nation. If crying mightily saved Nineveh, what will such praying do today? God saw that they had turned from their evil ways. Then He withheld the judgment. Let us learn from the Ninevites to "cry mightily to God" that our nation may be spared.

—E. J. Langness

The Lutheran Ambassador is published biweekly (except the first issue of August) by the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations, 3110 East Medicine Lake Blvd., Mpls., Minn. 55427. Rev. Raynard Huglen, Roslyn, South Dakota 57261, is the editor. Subscription price is \$2.50 per year in advance. Subscriptions should be sent to The Lutheran Ambassador, 3110 East Medicine Lake Boulevard, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55427. Second-class postage paid at Minneapolis, Minn.

Some of the Chief Actions of the 1968 Annual Conference

Conference decisions covered in the previous issue of *The Lutheran Ambassador* are not repeated here.

THE PRESENT DAY

"Recognizing the seriousness of our times the conference exhorts Christians as individuals to take upon themselves the responsibility of informing themselves, choosing their elected officials carefully, and supporting those issues and such legislation as would be in accordance with God's Word."

"Realizing the difficult times through which our country is passing, including political upheaval and social unrest and the tendency of the churches toward secularism, we reaffirm the importance of depending on God's Word and Sacraments and of living lives of repentance, prayer and obedience to Christ."

"In spite of the poverty and social ills prevalent in our land, the conference is still grateful to God for His many blessings upon us as a nation."

"In view of the danger of dead orthodoxy the conference urges that our congregations emphasize and practice the Fundamental Principles of the AFLC."

PASTORS' SALARIES

Each congregation should review the pastor's salary annually.

NURSING HOME

A committee is to study the question of erecting a nursing home on the church property in Minneapolis.

BOARD ABSENCES

Board or corporation members with three consecutive unexcused absences should be relieved of their duties.

NEW CONGREGATIONS WELCOMED

Redeemer, Ontonagon, Mich.; Trinity, McIntosh, Minn.; Antiochia, Churchs Ferry, N. Dak.; Olivet, Spokane, Wash.; and St. Stephen's, Duluth, Minn.

ANNUAL REPORTS

The Reports are to be available to the congregations by October 1 each year.

MEN FOR THE SEMINARY

The people of the church are to remember to pray the Lord of the harvest for men for the Seminary.

SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

The congregations are encouraged to establish scholarship funds to assist young people to attend our Bible School.

EVANGELISM

Evangelistic meetings in the congregations ought to be held at least once a year. Mid-week Bible study and prayer hours should be emphasized also.

DAILY DEVOTIONAL BOOK

Encouragement was given to the idea that a daily devotional book be published, to be written by pastors and laymen of the church.

BIBLE CAMP COUNSELLORS

Satisfaction was expressed in the Luther League Federation plan to train counsellors for Bible Camps.

YOUTH WORK

"The conference approves the recommendations of the Youth Board that pastors and congregations throughout the AFLC present a strong scriptural and evangelistic outreach to our youth in these grim and perilous times when large segments of youth are disillusioned and discontented."

[Continued on page 8]

PASTOR FRITJOF MONSETH ACCEPTS CALL TO TEACH IN SEMINARY AND BIBLE SCHOOL

The Rev. Fritjof B. Monseth, Valley City, N. Dak., has accepted a call to become a teacher in Association Free Lutheran Theological Seminary and Association Free Lutheran Bible School, Minneapolis, Minn., beginning with the fall term.

Pastor Monseth is presently serving Grace Lutheran Church in Valley City and Zion Lutheran Church of Green Township. During the second semester of the past year he commuted to Minneapolis weekly as an instructor in the Bible School.



Rev. Monseth

A graduate of the former Willmar (Minn.) Lutheran Bible School, Augsburg College and Augsburg Theological Seminary, Mr. Monseth did graduate work at Biblical Seminary and Union Theological Seminary in New York City while serving a parish in the Bronx. Other parishes served have been at Zahl, N. Dak., and Superior, Wis.

Mr. Monseth is a native of Minnesota, Minn. He and his wife, the former Olga Anderson, have two children, a son Francis, who is the AFLC pastor in Everett, Wash., and a daughter Rhoda, wife of the Rev. Erling Huglen, a Lutheran pastor in Roseau, Minn.

Last summer Pastor and Mrs. Monseth travelled in Norway and

[Continued on page 8]

Family Bible Camp Schedule

August 12-18, 1968

- 7:00 a.m. Rising Bell
7:30 a.m. Morning Devotions
7:35 a.m. Breakfast
8:30 a.m. Camp Clean-up
9:00 a.m. Bible Hour
Youth—Rev. Robert Rieth
Adults—Rev. John Strand
9:50 a.m. Recess
10:05 a.m. Witnessing Hour—Adults and Youth
Tuesday—Clarence Quanbeck
"Witnessing Through Suffering"
Wednesday—Clifford Johnson
"Witnessing Through Stewardship"
Thursday—Ed Mathison
"Witnessing"
Friday—Mrs. Hannah Chalmers
"Witnessing Through Tracts"
Saturday—Missionary Alvin Grothe
"Witnessing on the Mission Field"
10:55 a.m. Recess
11:10 a.m. Biographical Hour—Adults and Youth
Tuesday—Rev. Gerald Mundfrom
Billy Graham
Wednesday—Rev. Edwin Kjos
Hudson Taylor
Thursday—Rev. F. Monseth
Evangelist Charles Finney
Friday—Rev. D. Molstre
Hallesby
Saturday—Rev. Harry Molstre
D. L. Moody
12:15 p.m. Dinner
1:00 p.m. Quiet Time
2:00-5:00 p.m. Recreation
Swimming—3:30 to 4:45 p.m.
5:30 p.m. Supper
6:30 p.m. Staff Meeting
7:00 p.m. Prayer Service. Pastor Walla in charge
8:00 p.m. Evening Service. Evangelist Laaveg of Bel-
mond, Iowa, speaker
9:30 p.m. Campfire
10:30 p.m. Lights Out

Sunday Schedule

- 9:30 a.m. Missions—Rev. L. Dynneson
11:00 a.m. Morning Worship—Rev. R. Snipstead
12:00 noon Dinner
2:30 p.m. Closing Service. "Norwegian Choir" in
charge of Dr. Iver Olson
3:45 p.m. Coffee Hour
5:00 p.m. CAMP CLOSED

Family Bible Camp Staff

- Dean—Rev. A. L. Hokonson
Assistant Dean—Rev. Hubert DeBoer
Camp Manager—Sheldon Mortrud
Office Manager—Mrs. Melvin Walla
Registrar—John Arlen Johnson
Assistant Registrar—Mrs. John Arlen Johnson
Treasurer—Robert Bursheim
Dean of Men—Rev. Hubert DeBoer
Dean of Women—Miss Pearl Aanstad
Baby Sitting Schedule—Mrs. Robert Dietsche
Camp Editor—Rev. Howard Kjos
Assistant Editor—Rev. Gerald Mundfrom
Book Store—Rev. Gerald Mundfrom
Recreation—Rev. Howard Kjos and Seminary Students
Head Usher—Arne Aanestad
Life Guard—Provided by the Alexandria Red Cross
Unit

Teachers

- Kindergarten—Mrs. Herbert Presteng
Elementary—Miss Judith Wold
Confirmation—Mrs. Vernon R. Nelson, Mrs. K. Rolf
Youth—Rev. Robert Rieth
Adults—Rev. John Strand
Prayer Hour—Pastor Melvin Walla
Music Directors—Mrs. Henry Hanson and Mrs.
Schroeder
Nurse—Mrs. Vernon Russum
Campfire Director—To be named

SPECIAL NOTICE

Your attention is called to the fact that the Bible Camp does not open until Monday afternoon, August 12. Campers are asked to delay their arrival until then. The camp will close at 5 o'clock on Sunday and campers are asked to plan to leave that day. Only staff members are permitted to be at camp prior to the opening of camp and following the official closing.

SIXTH ANNUAL

FAMILY BIBLE CAMP

AUGUST 12-18

LAKE GENEVA
BIBLE CAMP
ALEXANDRIA,
MINNESOTA

SPEAKERS:

Robert Rieth • John Strand
• Oscar Laaveg • Richard
Snipstead • L. C. Dynneson

ON SUNDAY AFTERNOON:
THE GANDDAL PIKEKOR
FROM NORWAY

ACTIVITIES FOR EVERY MEMBER
OF THE FAMILY • SPIRITUAL
GROWTH • MUSIC • BIBLE
STUDY • PRAYER • REC-
REATION • INSPIRATIONAL
PREACHING • CHRISTIAN FEL-
LOWSHIP • BOOKSTORE



PRE-CAMP REGISTRATION

Mr. Mrs. Miss _____ Age _____
 Address _____ City _____ State _____
 If family, give children's names _____
 _____ Age _____
 _____ Age _____
 _____ Age _____
 _____ Age _____

John Arlen Johnson, Registrar
 Sacred Heart, Minnesota 56285
 Make checks payable to
 Association Family Camp
 Registration fee
 per family \$ 2.00
 Registration fee
 per person 1.00
 Cost per week:
 Adult 18.00
 Teen-ager 13.00
 Child (2-12 years) 7.00
 (Under 2 years no charge)
 Special family rate 70.00

PROCEDURES FOR FURNISHING THE DORMITORY AT THE BIBLE SCHOOL

Work is progressing on our dormitory for Association Free Lutheran Bible School. At the Board of Trustees meeting last week, the members were gladdened to see this fine new building under construction. No one can see it without experiencing a deep sense of gratitude to the Lord.

Following that meeting of July 15, the information herewith presented is for all who are interested in having a part in furnishing this beautiful new facility. Here are two decisions made by the Board of Trustees.

1. The first two floors must be completely furnished including carpeting, by the opening of school this fall. The third floor furnishing may be delayed if necessary.

2. A gift of \$500 will furnish a two-student room and \$700 will furnish a three-student room. This includes carpeting, a bed, desk, desk chair and built-in chest of drawers for each student, an easy chair, a bookcase and a mirror, plus drapes. The costs listed are approximate but they are the ones that will be used.

We shall proceed on this basis in recognizing gifts toward the furnishing of the building (The Women's Missionary Federation has recommended the project to the local Aids and other organizations and individuals may wish to have a part, too.)

A. Name plates listing those who have furnished a room will be affixed to the doors.

B. Such a plate may list a local Ladies Aid or congregation or some other organization. Another possibility would be to name a certain person as having furnished a room, or the Aids of such a parish. (Example: This room has been furnished by the Hope and Trinity Ladies Aids of the Minneapolis, Minnesota, parish.)

C. No more than two persons, with their addresses can be listed as furnishing any particular room. Other possibilities are these: Mr. and Mrs. John Smith and family, the children of John Doe, in memory of Mrs. John Smith by her husband and children, etc.

D. Persons or organizations wishing to furnish a room should send a check for that amount to the Business Administrator by September 1, or notify him by that date of their intention and when payment will be made.

E. Furnishings are needed for fifteen two-student rooms and seven three-student rooms this fall. In addition there is the need to furnish the fifteen two-student rooms and five three-student rooms on third floor as soon as possible.

F. Furthermore, the following other rooms in the building require furnishing: dean's office, secretary-receptionist's office, student lounge, two classrooms, a house-mother's apartment, a faculty office and three prayer rooms. Anyone interested in contributing toward the furnishing of one of these areas should write the Business Administrator for further information.

G. Smaller gifts than those indicated are welcome and are needed. They will be applied wherever the need exists.

H. Please remember that gifts toward the furnishing of the building ought to be above and beyond contributions to the other phases of Association work, including the building program itself.

We trust that this information will be helpful to you and that if you have further questions you will direct them to

Business Administrator, AFLC
3110 E. Medicine Lake Blvd.
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55427

WHO IS THE OLDEST PERSON IN THE AFLC?

When I was in Greenbush, Minnesota, for special meetings during Holy Week, Mrs. Albin Erickson of Roseau called me and asked if I could come to Roseau and have devotions for her father's 100th birthday, which I was very happy to do. I read Scripture and prayed in Norwegian and sang a couple of Norwegian songs.

The guest of honor was Mr. Olaf Mostol, who was born April 11, 1868, in Mo, Telemarken, Norway. He has a sister Gunhild who lives in Norway and is 97 years old.

Olaf was baptized and confirmed in the Lutheran Church at Mo and he emigrated to America in June, 1892, coming first to Cooperstown, N. Dak., and in Oct. 1894, he came to Roseau County and took a homestead in Jadis township where he lived until recently when he came into Roseau and is a resident in Sheltering Oaks Nursing Home. He is a member of our AFLC. A real pioneer.

Do we have anyone older in our AFLC? If so it would be interesting to hear about them. Mostol has had many very interesting experiences. Starting out with oxen and later horses and finally tractors. He was a member of the Melum Lutheran Free Church north of Ross and helped build the church. He served as deacon for many years. He always walked a lot and gives that as one reason for his longevity. His legs finally gave out when he was 99½ years old and had to come to the hospital and later to the nursing home.

—Trygve F. Dahle

"When I am afraid, I put my trust in thee" (Ps. 56:3).

"He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity" (Ps. 98:9b).

"If I had cherished iniquity in my heart, the Lord would not have listened" (Ps. 66:18).

MEET

the

Churches

OF OUR

FELLOWSHIP



**TODAY: THE HATTON (N. DAK.)
PARISH**

Valley Lutheran

A church building in Clifford, N. Dak., was purchased and moved to Portland, N. Dak., in the spring of 1963 and placed upon the basement which had been prepared. A large entryway was added to the original structure. The first service in the church was held on Sept. 8, of that year.

Valley Lutheran is a congregation with both a long and a not so long history. The majority of the members at one time belonged to Aurdal Lutheran in Portland, a church of Lutheran Free Church background, organized in 1874. But the new congregation is not quite six years old, having been formed on Aug. 11, 1962, by people who chose not to become a part of the American Lutheran Church.

A son of the congregation, Paul Haugen, is studying for the ministry in another Lutheran church body.

Rev. Raynard Huglen served the congregation briefly in 1963. Students Robert Lee and Gary Skramstad took care of the work following that until Rev. Hans J. Tollefson began his pastorate in 1964.

Zoar Lutheran

A great revival spread through the Goose River Valley of North Dakota in the 1890s. Some of these



Valley Lutheran Church

whom the Lord used in this movement which touched almost every home were two women, Miss Lena Myrold and Miss Anna Christianesen, and well-known evangelists O. M. Bakke and Peter Nilson. Many souls were saved.

Zoar Lutheran Church, organized on Nov. 28, 1898, was born out of that revival. Indication of continued interest in evangelistic meetings is shown by the fact that a series was scheduled the following summer in the young congregation.

These pastors have served Zoar through the years: O. J. Edwards, 1898-1904; H. S. Quanbeck, 1904-07; H. J. Urdahl, 1907-09; W. M. Hagen, 1910-13; Elias Aas, 1913-14; J. M. Halvorson, 1924-28 and 1937-38; P. G. Sonnack, 1925-32; H. P. Halvorson, 1932-37; Johannes Ringstad, 1938-48; G. P. Ronholm, 1948-49; Julius Hermunslie, 1949-57; Gordon Berntson, 1959-62; Raynard Huglen,

1963; and Hans Tollefson, 1964—. Students Robert Lee and Gary Skramstad served in 1963 and 1964.

The nave or sanctuary of the church was built in Hatton in 1899. In 1909 the chancel and chapel were added. It is only this year that the basement has been completely dug out and made ready for use, including a kitchen.

Two girls from Zoar have served in Christian work. The former Miss Margaret Dahlen served as a deaconess in Madagascar for some years. Miss Eula Mae Swenson was at an independent Lutheran mission in Arizona called the Global Gospel Fellowship for some time. For a few years she also taught at Oak Grove Lutheran High School in Fargo, N. Dak.

Zoar Lutheran was organized as a congregation of the Lutheran Free Church and was one of the original congregations to express

[Continued on page 13]



Zoar Lutheran Church

MORE CONFERENCE ELECTION RESULTS

Nominating Committee for the Annual Conference of 1969

Rev. Jay G. Erickson, Ferndale, Wash.
Chester Halvorson, Tioga, N. Dak.
Eldor Sorkness, Sand Creek, Wis.
Ted Aasness, Doran, Minn.
Rev. Albert Hautamaki, Ishpeming, Mich.
Ernest Miedema, Valley City, N. Dak.
Pastor Orville Olson, Greenbush, Minn.

SCHOOLS CORPORATION

The following were nominated by the Annual Conference for membership on the School's Corporation and were elected by the Corporation at its annual meeting on June 13.

Three Years

Rev. Karl Stendal, Kalispell, Mont.
Rev. Raynard Huglen, Roslyn, S. Dak.
Rev. Lars Stalsbroten, Eugene, Ore.
Amos Hinderaker, Radcliffe, Iowa
Rev. Julius Hermunslie, Spicer, Minn.
Orville Qualley, Brockton, Mont.
Philip Grothe, Thief River Falls, Minn.
George Johnson, Eben Junction, Mich.
Even Ose, Thief River Falls, Minn.
Olve Willand, Ferndale, Wash.

MISSIONS CORPORATION

Five Years

The following were nominated by the Annual Conference for membership on the Missions Corporation and were elected by the Corporation at its annual meeting on June 14.
Philip Peterson, Sand Creek, Wis.
Mrs. Morris Borstad, Tioga, N. Dak.
Torkel Ose, Thief River Falls, Minn.
Rev. A. L. Hokonson, Faith, S. Dak.
Rev. Harold Schafer, DeKalb, Ill.
Obert Berg, Everett, Wash.
Mrs. Birdeen Holt, Fosston, Minn.

Rev. Robert Rieth, Kirkland, Wash.
Rev. Hubert DeBoer, Granite Falls, Minn.
Rev. Edwin Kjos, Roseau, Minn.

Three Years

Erling A. Brekke, Antelope, Mont.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEES FOR 1969

Committee Number One

—Administration

Pastor Robert Rieth, Kirkland, Wash.
Marvin Tungseth, Fergus Falls, Minn.
Pastor Knute Jore, Culbertson, Mont.
Alver Christopherson, Grand Forks, N. Dak.
Ervin Tvinnereim, Webster, S. Dak.

Committee Number Two

—Schools

Pastor Orville Olson, Greenbush, Minn.
Pastor Gene Sundby, Newfolden, Minn.
John Arlen Johnson, Sacred Heart, Minn.
Dr. Wayne Sletten, Faith, S. Dak.
Jacob Ullestad, Story City, Iowa

Committee Number Three

—Missions

Pastor John DeBoer, Villard, Minn.
Mrs. Morris Moan, McIntosh, Minn.
Mrs. Harry Rorvig, Dalton, Minn.
Edwin Mathison, Bagley, Minn.
Alvin Grothe, Badger, Minn.

Committee Number Four

—Publications, Parish Education and Youth Work

Pastor Marvin Undseth, Shevlin, Minn.
Pastor Howard Kjos, Hampden, N. Dak.
Mrs. Arvid Hokonson, Faith, S. Dak.
Mrs. Kenneth Dahl, Bagley, Minn.
Joseph Bosmoe, Pierpont, S. Dak.

Committee Number Five

—Stewardship, Pensions and Others

Pastor Hubert DeBoer, Granite Falls, Minn.
Ludvig Kvamme, Minneapolis, Minn.

Pastor David Molstre, Grand Forks, N. Dak.
Ted Aasness, Doran, Minn.
Edwin Swanson, Pukwana, S. Dak.

CORRECTION IN PIKEKOR ITINERARY

Please make the following correction in the itinerary for the Ganddal Pikekor, printed in the June 25 *Ambassador*. On Aug. 12, the choir will sing in Mt. Carmel Lutheran Church, which is in McIntosh, Minn., not Fosston, Minn.

Conference Action

[Continued from page 3]

ONE GRAND FELLOWSHIP

This program is to be continued. (It is made up of people who give \$1,000 or more to the dormitory building project.)

STEWARDSHIP PROMOTION

A man should be called to travel among the churches in the interest of stewardship.

AID FOR NEEDY PASTORS AND PASTORS' WIDOWS

The congregations ought to give an annual offering for assistance to retired pastors and pastors' widows who may have certain needs.

Pastor Accepts Call

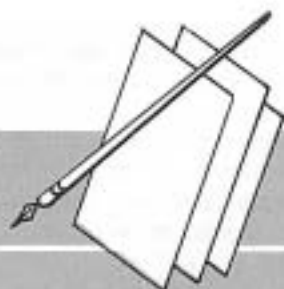
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Sweden and he was engaged in a preaching mission in Norway.

The Bible School of the Association is presently accepting applications for the third school year which will begin in September. Expected to be ready by opening date is a dormitory for girls which for the present will also provide rooms for boys on the first floor and two classrooms.

The Rev. Richard Snipstead will assume his duties as the first full-time dean of the school on August 1.

The dean of the Seminary is Dr. Iver Olson. That school begins its fifth year of operation in September.



EDITORIALS

ARE DIFFERENT TERMS NEEDED?

It seems that the Association is getting hung up on the subject of just what an annual conference can do.

We have had it drummed into our consciousness that a conference cannot tell the congregations what to do. It can only *recommend*. As synonyms we use words like *urge* and *request*. Well and good. If the day comes that a conference demands obedience of the local congregations, our church will have departed from her original intentions and have become something other than intended.

But it is in regard to decisions directed toward certain boards and committees, sometimes even toward itself, that the conference seems at times to use wrong terminology in using the word "recommend."

Before we go any further, it is correct for the conference to only recommend to the mission and schools corporations. They are sovereign bodies themselves although always, we hope, deeply concerned about the wishes of the conference and the churches.

Now let us get back to the other thought and look at some examples. Paragraph 20 of the resolutions from Committee No. 1 dealing with the President's Report reads, "The conference recommends that no one person hold more than two elected positions on standing committees or boards." Here the conference is making a recommendation to itself since the conference does the electing. Then, since it is just a recommendation no one is bound to it. Would it not have been in order to state: "The conference *directs* that no one person can hold more than two elected positions, etc.?"

Similarly, a resolution concerning the Co-ordinating Committee's Report says, "The conference recommends that the Annual Reports be prepared and available by October 1 each year following the conference." In this case the conference is talking to an agency of the church which should be very responsive to its wishes. The word "recommend" leaves the matter of when the Annual Reports are printed up to the Co-ordinating Committee whereas the wish of the conference was that the Reports be available by October 1 and the word "directs" would again have been in order here.

Still again, the paragraph concerning the establishment of the study commission on the size of the Co-ordinating Committee and the question of property ownership was couched in this language: "The conference recommends that a committee be elected by the conference to study—." The conference is talking to itself. The conference wanted a committee set up. The resolution could have said "The conference *establishes* a committee to study—."

Whenever the word "recommend" is used there is no necessity for action on the part of the hearer. If the conference means that action should be taken or initiated it should say so, using words that convey that meaning. This, in our opinion, is in order. Recommendations to the congregations—always. Recommendations to itself—never. Recommendations to boards, committees, officers—sometimes, and orders sometimes.

THE STEWARDSHIP REPORT

On page 15 you will find the Treasurer's Progress Report for the period ending July 1, five months of the present fiscal year. The report is not terribly bad but neither is it good.

While there is every reason to believe that the budget will be subscribed in full by Jan. 31 next, the summer months are usually difficult ones. This current report indicates that that is true this year.

What this editorial would do, then, is encourage as many contributions as possible right now, during these remaining days of July and in August. Private gifts, that is, personal ones and funds in local treasuries earmarked for benevolences, should be sent in at once. They would be much appreciated. As you know, if money has to be borrowed until expected income arrives, that income when it comes will not go as far as it might have.

Your loyal support at this time is very welcome.

DIVIDING THE CHORES

It is a generally accepted principle that it is good to get as many people involved as possible in the decision making in the church fellowship, in the administration of the work, if we can so speak.

In the Association there is no official limitation on the number of positions which any one person can hold simultaneously. In 1967 there seemed to be a feeling that no person should be a member of two boards or committees which might meet at the same time because thus one voice would be lost. However, no definitive action was taken by that conference.

In 1968 the conference passed a resolution recommending, not declaring, that no one person should hold more than two elected positions on standing committees or boards. The caution of 1967 was not raised in 1968, to our knowledge.

Technically, one person can serve on all the boards of the church at one time since there is no "constitutional" limitation.

The above situation has little chance of happening, to be sure. But the question is still before us, however. Should more definite action be taken to divide the board chores so that no one person serves on more than one board or standing committee?

At present seven men, the writer included, are members of two boards of the church. Admittedly, some of the positions require much more time than others, but wouldn't it be better to move with all deliberate speed toward the time when one person can hold only one board membership at one time?

The reasons for this are twofold. First, the more people who are involved, the better. At the start, it was almost patriotic duty to serve in two or more positions because there weren't so many to choose from. Today that situation no longer is as much of a factor. Second, unless a person is retired and perhaps free for travel, it is difficult to get away for too many meetings. This is especially true for people who hold jobs with regular hours. Pastors are more free to get away but for how much time are they

justified in being away for tasks beyond their parish assignments? Certainly one extra curricular task would be better than two.

As to the number of terms one person can serve on a board, there is a limitation of two and that is good. Thus the responsibilities will get passed around. The effect of that regulation won't be felt for several years yet, however.

One more point before we leave the matter of board membership. The conference recommended that members of the various boards be picked from all areas of the church, not just those adjacent to the usual places of meeting. The latter has been a somewhat unwritten rule.

Ideally we agree with the conference action. Practically, there are two problems. One is that distance will involve greater travel costs. Is the Association willing to increase the budget to cover this? The other problem is the matter of time. If a person must travel a long way, can he afford to take that time plus the actual meeting time of the particular board?



Luther League Activities

Edited by Jane Thompson

in August that you need and want to go to Bible school. Perhaps you will debate and struggle with the decision all summer and finally give in. If you consider applying for the scholarship now, perhaps this would help you make your decision.

Maybe God wants you to get through Bible school without any assistance. Maybe it will mean more to you if you feel you've earned all your own money. Whatever your situation, prayerfully consider this step which will make a big difference in your future.

NEXT ISSUE: AUGUST 20

The next issue of *The Lutheran Ambassador* will be published on August 20. We regret that our schedule for 1968 incorrectly listed the August publication as being August 6. Traditionally, there has been only one issue in the month of August.

Material intended for the August 20 issue should reach the editor by August 3.

The September WMF Bible Study is found in this issue. Please do not confuse it with the August study which appeared in the July 9 issue of the *Ambassador*.

BIBLE SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS

The National Luther League Officers recently decided to give three Association Lutheran Bible School scholarships for the coming school year. The \$100 scholarships will be available to those who send in their applications with the following qualifications, said Pastor David Molstre, member of the executive committee.

1. The applicant shall write an essay stating why he or she wants to attend Bible school, making mention of Luther League involvement and listing any offices held,

and explaining the need for financial assistance.

2. Letters of recommendation from the applicant's pastor and from two Christian adults (no relatives) are necessary.

3. Send a recent photograph of oneself.

Applications should be sent to Rev. David Molstre, 1210 Chestnut St., Grand Forks, N. Dak., by Aug. 5.

The Luther League is offering a scholarship. So what if you're not going to Bible school?

I ask, "Why not?"

Many of you leaguers will decide

CONCLUSION

The information regarding the riches that Judah had, and which Hezekiah allowed to leak out to the Babylonians who visited him, was carried back to Babylonia. It was carried from one generation to the next. Judah though small was looked upon as a wealthy nation rich in gold.

The Babylonians began to covet this gold until one day they invaded Judah, robbed her of her gold, and took a large number of her people captive to Babylon.

We realize, however, that the real downfall of Judah (like Israel, the ten northern tribes) was sin. After Hezekiah a number of ungodly kings ruled Judah. Things went from bad to worse, so God also turned this small nation over to an ungodly heathen power.

We may feel what a sad and tragic ending came to both of these, once-Christian nations. What blessing they had experienced from God! But now they were conquered by heathen nations.

And yet throughout the history of these people from the time of Moses, or even from the time of Abraham, many did trust in God and gave their hearts to Him. For such Christ also died. These we will meet in heaven. However, sad to say, many rejected God and were lost forever. Such we will not meet in heaven.

Such is life on this earth. Kingdoms such as these two rise and fall. Each kingdom is like a threshing floor where the wheat is separated from the chaff. The wheat is preserved, even as the Christians of each generation are preserved. The chaff, like the ungodly, is burned.

Let us be warned by this as God wills that we be warned.



September, 1968

OLD TESTAMENT BIBLE HISTORY QUESTIONS

Lesson Nine

INTRODUCTION

Our last lesson on Elijah was taken from the period of the Kings, the fifth major time period. As mentioned, the kingdom became divided and so there were two kingdoms. Elijah was the outstanding prophet to the northern kingdom which came to an end in 722 B.C. The southern kingdom continued for another 130 years and fell to the Babylonians in 586 B.C.

Our lesson today shifts to the southern kingdom from which we will study the life of King Hezekiah. However, the main prophet of this period (who parallels with Elijah) is Isaiah.

Isaiah was a prophet of God who tried to warn the people of Judah as to what their sins would do to them. No doubt a few did listen and were saved, but many continued in their sin. Isaiah saw no great revival movement in his day. If such had happened, no doubt God would have spared Judah.

Isaiah pointed forward to Christ, who would save the world from sin.

HEZEKIAH

Hezekiah was a godly king who ruled in Judah (the two southern tribes) at the time that the northern tribes fell to Assyria.

This was very trying to Hezekiah. Assyria was a big, powerful nation. She was sweeping the known world at that time in her conquest.

Judah was only a small nation. This should prove no problem to Sennacherib (so Sennacherib reasoned) who was king of Assyria at that time. However, there was still some godliness in Judah. The king looked to the Lord God for help. The Lord God heard Hezekiah and saved him and his people from the onslaught of Assyria.

Isaiah gave encouragement to King Hezekiah and the people of Judah.

Later Hezekiah became sick unto death. Again he prayed and God spared him.

But then Hezekiah did a foolish thing. He trusted vital information to those who could not be trusted. This proved to be the downfall of Judah several generations later.

We, too, have an enemy. This enemy is Satan. He would pretend to be a friend; he cannot be trusted. If you give him your little finger he will take your whole hand and then your whole life. Beware of this enemy.

(II Kings 18, 19, 20)

1. What great king was Hezekiah's enemy, and in what country was he king?

2. What did Shalmaneser (an earlier king of Assyria) do to Samaria, or the northern ten tribes, and its inhabitants? (18:9-10)
 - a. What is another name for the country of Samaria?
3. When did this enemy king come up against Judah? (18:9, 13)
4. What did the messenger Rabshakeh try to do to the armed men of Judah according to 18:19-25 and 28-35?
5. Who did Rabshakeh mock in 18:22, 30 and 35?
6. What did King Hezekiah do when he realized what Rabshakeh was trying to do? (19:1)
7. To what prophet did King Hezekiah send a report of what was taking place? (19:2)
8. What encouragement did this prophet give? (19:6-7)
9. From whom did King Hezekiah receive the letter mentioned in 19:14?
10. What did the letter say?
11. What did King Hezekiah do with the letter? (19:14)
12. What encouragement did Hezekiah receive this time? (19:20)
13. What happened to this enemy?
14. How many of the enemy died?
 - a. How many of Hezekiah's men died?
15. What happened to the enemy king?
16. What did the prophet Isaiah tell King Hezekiah? (20:1)
17. What did King Hezekiah do now?
18. What was the result?
 - a. How many years were added to Hezekiah's life?
19. What foolish thing did King Hezekiah do?
20. What would be the outcome of this foolish act? (20:17)

the desire of perpetuating a "free church" at the time of the impending merger of 1963.

Ny Stavanger Lutheran

Ny Stavanger Lutheran in Buxton, N. Dak., like her sister congregation Valley Lutheran, has a long history, if you trace the records.



Ny Stavanger Lutheran Church

Back to approximately 1887 when the Hauge Synod began a church in the community. Later the congregation became a part of the Evangelical Lutheran Church.

But in 1948 when there was a local merger of churches some members of Ny Stavanger elected to continue as an independent congregation with the use of the church's name. Rev. Otto Brustad served the congregation for six months in 1949. Evangelist Wm. Vaswig gave service for over a year to the beginning of Jan., 1952. Rev. Manley Gjerde served nearly all of 1952 and Rev. Alfred Knutson,

1953-57. Rev. Jonas Helland was pastor from 1958 to March 30, 1963. Rev. Karl Stendal served briefly after that.

For six months in 1963 Pastor Raynard Huglen was the minister of the congregation. Then, after students Robert Lee and Gary Skramstad had taken care of the work through the winter and

spring, Rev. Hans Tollefson became the pastor and continues at present. It was in 1963 that the church voted affiliation with the AFLC.

Ny Stavanger's church building was constructed in 1949. A water system was installed in 1966.

The Parish

The Hatton parish, Zoar, Ny Stavanger and Valley, was formed on Jan. 1, 1963, but did not actually begin to function until September of that year when the church in

Portland was ready for use.

Zoar had previously been a member of the Northwood parish and Valley, through Aurdal, was a part of the Portland call.

The parsonage in Hatton was purchased in May, 1964.



Pastor Tollefson

Pastor Hans J. Tollefson is a graduate of Augsburg Seminary in Minneapolis, Minn. A native of L'Anse, Mich., he is married to the former Ruth Nygaard and has two sons. He has served pastorates in Bella Coola, B.C., Palermo, N. Dak., Hampden, N. Dak., and Astoria, Ore.

REV. EVERALD STROM CHOSEN NEW PRESIDENT OF THE CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN BRETHREN

At its 68th Annual Convention, held in Fergus Falls, Minn., in early June, the Rev. Everald Strom, Moorhead, Minn., was elected the new president of the Church of the Lutheran Brethren to replace the retiring Pastor A. D. Erickson.

A graduate of Augsburg College in Minneapolis, Minn., and of the theological seminary of his church, Mr. Strom has been serving as pastor of Triumph Lutheran Church in Moorhead. And in addition to other pastorates, he served for some years as editor of the synodical publication *Faith and Fellowship*.



Hatton Parish Parsonage

NEWS of the Churches

80TH ANNIVERSARY TO BE OBSERVED BY VALLEY CITY CHURCH

Zion Lutheran Church of Green Township, Valley City, N. Dak., will observe her 80th anniversary on Sunday, August 11, with services in the morning and afternoon.

The Rev. John Strand, president of the AFLC, and the Rev. Robert Rieth, Kirkland, Wash., a son of the congregation, will be present for the occasion.

A fellowship dinner will be served at noon.

The Rev. Fritjof Monseth is the pastor of the congregation.

TWO PARISHES FORMED IN NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT

In the fall of 1965 five congregations in the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations were struggling for existence in the North Central District area. But they banded themselves together for their common cause. They were: GRACE (in Bagley), RICE (15 miles south of Bagley), and EMMANUEL (north of Bagley, between Bagley and Clearbrook). Then 18 miles west was CALVARY (in Fosston), and MT. CARMEL (in McIntosh).

Having gratefully used the services of Pastor John DeBoer and

student pastor Robert Lee for short periods, they covenanted together to call a pastor for the newly formed parish. September of 1965, Pastor Hubert DeBoer took up the work, residing in Fosston.

Each "end" of the parish longed for the time when they could call their own pastor. When Pastor Hubert DeBoer resigned, to take a call to Granite Falls and Willmar, the opportunity was utilized to divide and form two parishes.

Emmanuel voted to join with Grace Lutheran in Bagley; so Grace and Rice Congregations sent their call to seminarian Dale Battleson, and he accepted. The congregations worked night and day to redecorate their parsonage in time for the Battlesons to occupy it by the last of May.

The "west end" of the parish received the Trinity congregation (north of McIntosh) into the parish last November (1967) so they had three congregations. They are still in the process of calling a pastor.

Each of the congregations of the original parish had a party of farewell for the departing pastor's family. Among other gifts received, a unique and well received gift of a beautiful piece-work quilt was stitched for each daughter and for Mrs. DeBoer, by the ladies of Grace Lutheran!

Our prayers and concern continue with the two parishes newly formed, and wish God's blessing upon them.

Pastor and Mrs. DeBoer and family have taken up residence at 1175 15th Street in Granite Falls, Minnesota, and serve FAITH LUTHERAN in Granite Falls, and the FREE LUTHERAN MISSION CHURCH of Willmar.

—Corr.



Zion Lutheran Church of Green Township, Valley City, which will observe her 80th anniversary in August. This photo gave national recognition to Ken Matson, for it was chosen for special recognition at the 74th annual Exhibition of Professional Photography in New York City. Entitled "Light Through a Fog," it is an evening shot of the church and cemetery with a foggy moonlight silhouetting the church building.

CHURCH TO MARK 100TH ANNIVERSARY

Kvam Lutheran Church, rural Dalton, Minn., will observe her 100th anniversary with festivities on August 24 and 25. The Rev. Harry C. Molstre is pastor.

From the Annual Report of the Board of Publications and Parish Education.

Not having secured a replacement for Mrs. Hanson at this time, the Board presents this program of action for the church in parish education. Some of the following points are intended to be permanent while others will be superseded at such a time as a new executive secretary is named.

We set forth this course of action:

1. The districts of the church are requested to formally organize for parish education if they have not already done so.
2. Officers elected on the district level are to notify the secretary of the Board of their election and advise the Board how it may be of assistance to them.
3. Each district is requested to hold an annual fall parish education rally.
4. We propose to conduct a meeting of all district parish education officers in conjunction with the Winter Bible Conference in 1969, and at such time it can be discussed how the work can be better co-ordinated.
5. After July 1, the filmstrips from our resource library may be ordered by addressing Department of Parish Education, 3110 E. Medicine Lake Boulevard, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55427. (Up to July 1, they may be ordered from Mrs. Hanson at her address.)
6. Any other requests for assistance may be directed to the Board of Parish Education.

(The address of the secretary of the Board is Mrs. Vernon R. Nelson, 1909 11th Ave. N., Grand Forks, N. Dak. 58201.)

TREASURER'S PROGRESS REPORT

February 1, 1968 to July 1, 1968

	Proposed Yearly Budget	Current Budget	Total Received
General Fund	\$ 35,650.00	\$14,854.20	\$10,120.70
Seminary and Bible School ...	36,200.00	15,083.30	6,371.49
Missions	49,000.00	20,416.66	14,576.54
Praise Program	40,000.00	16,666.66	15,577.17
	<u>\$160,850.00</u>	<u>\$67,020.82</u>	<u>\$46,645.90</u>

Total received for Library Fund—\$244.00
 One Grand Fellowship receipts
 February 1—June 30, 1968—\$5,333.33

Letters TO THE EDITOR

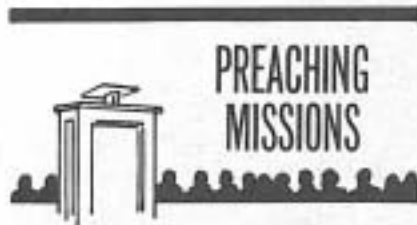
If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard, and which was preached to every creature which is under heaven; whereof I Paul am made a minister (Col. 1:23).

How wonderful and blessed it was to sit in conference under the preaching of the word by faithful servants of the Lord who have continued in the faith and are preaching the Word in its truth and purity.

How good it is to spend a week in fellowship with the brethren and visit with friends whom we have met at previous conferences. I have attended the conferences each year and how I look forward each year to the wonderful Christian fellowship which I have experienced. I know that we were all blessed by the prayer hour led by Pastor Lars Stalsbrotten.

Then I would close by saying thanks to the host congregation for their hospitality, to the wonderful people who took us into their homes and treated us with such kindness and brotherly love. May the Lord bless each one who had any part in making this 1968 Annual Conference a blessed one.

—Mrs. Roy Syverson
Tioga, N. Dak.



McIntosh, Minnesota
 July 28-August 2
 Mt. Carmel Lutheran Church
 Pastorate Vacant
 Speaker: Rev. Harry C. Molstre,
 Dalton, Minn.



These two boys helped out in the kitchen work at the conference. Left to right, they are Rick Franz and Gary Wise.

THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD MARKED 50TH ANNIVERSARY

The Evangelical Lutheran Synod, formerly the Norwegian Synod of the American Evangelical Lutheran Church, celebrated its 50th anni-

versary at its annual convention in Mankato, Minn., in June.

The ELS has 15,000 baptized members and operates Bethany High School, Junior College and Seminary in Mankato.

The Synod was formed in 1918 when a minority within the Norwegian Synod objected to a merger of three churches in 1917 which created the Norwegian Lutheran Church, later the Evangelical Lutheran Church, and which later became a part of the new American Lutheran Church.

PATIENCE, PLEASE!

We regret that we come to the summer vacation break with several reports in our files yet unpublished. Your indulgence is asked. They will appear in the issue of August 20.

We trust that you will understand that getting the material out concerning the recent Annual Conference is one reason for the delay.

—The Editor

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