

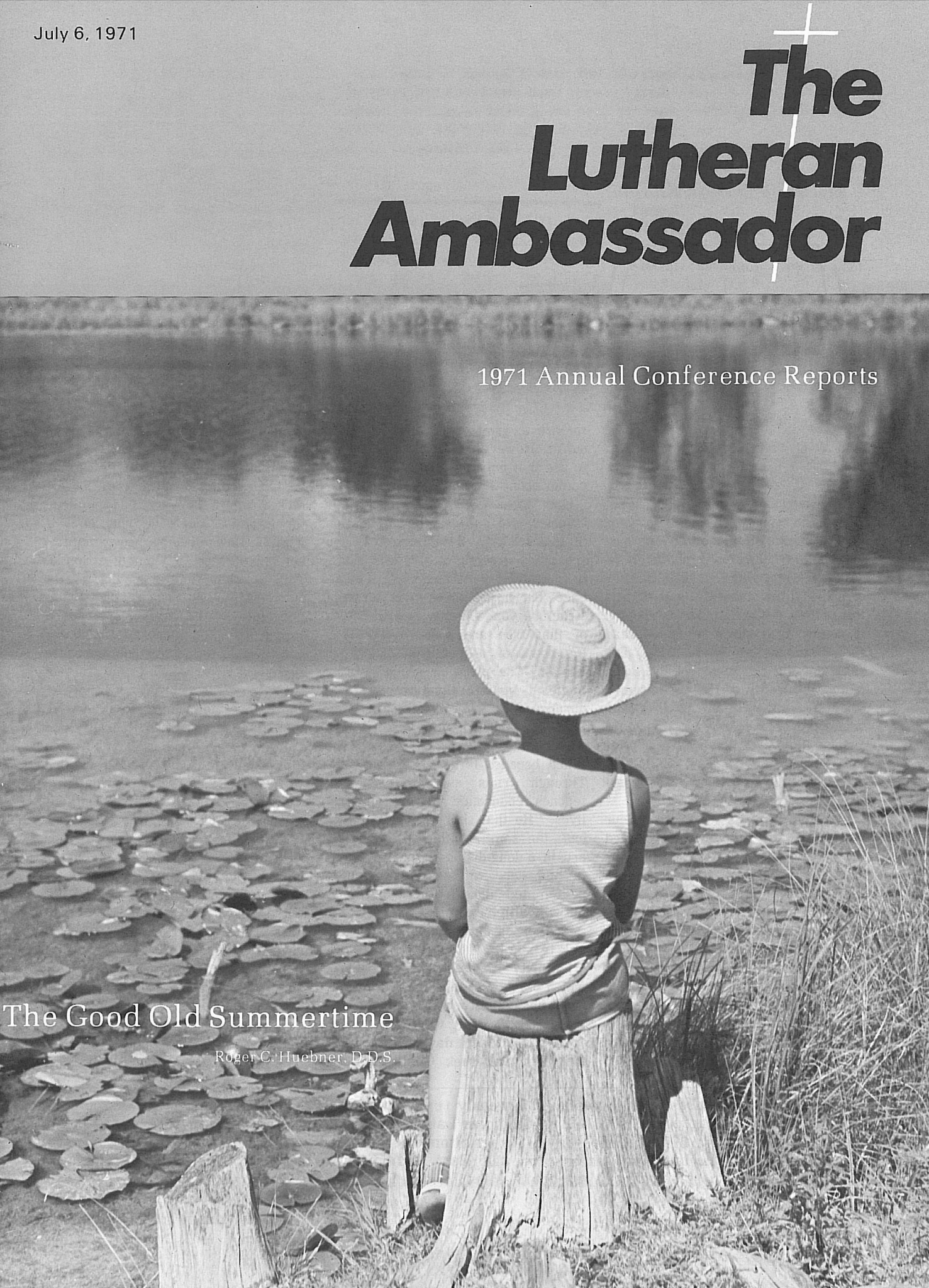
July 6, 1971

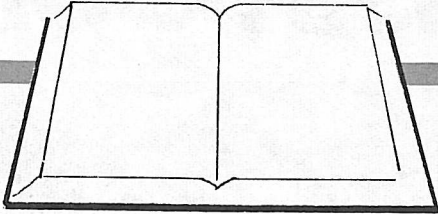
The Lutheran Ambassador

1971 Annual Conference Reports

The Good Old Summertime

Roger C. Huebner, D.D.S.





According to the Word

DO YOU WELCOME TROUBLES?

James 1:2-8

If we are faced with the question, "What do you want most in your life?" many of us would answer, "Happiness." Everyone wants to be happy. We have had so little by way of hard times that we resent anything that doesn't make us happy. It comes as a shock when we read such passages as Prov. 3:11, "Despise not the chastening of the Lord, neither be weary of His correction;" or Job 5:17, "Happy is the man whom the Lord correcteth; therefore despise not thou the chastening of the Almighty;" or Rev. 3:19, "As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten."

We know that as followers of our Master we are not always promised a "bed of roses." It is necessary that we face trials. We need these as a leavening in our daily lives. "Under adversity a yellow leaf withers, a green one turns to gold." As Christians, we need to be tempered. In His gracious wisdom, God uses trouble for a definite purpose. "My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience" (Jas. 1:2, 3). If

we are to grow spiritually, we must suffer. However, it is difficult for us to see that patience is something that comes about through trouble.

God works endurance through our troubles. We can see the application of this truth even in nature. If you see a tree growing in a rugged place, it is difficult to understand its existence, but if you investigate the root structure you will find that the roots of that tree are a lot bigger than the roots of a tree that grows on a plain. The place in which it grew made it stronger and gave it endurance. This same condition is common to people. History is filled with stories of people and nations who failed because life became too easy. Through trials and troubles God teaches endurance in our spiritual lives. "He that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved." We are in a long-distance race. "God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it" (I Cor. 10:13b).

Maturity is the full equipment of which our text speaks, when we read: "Let patience work that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing" (Jas. 1:4). Each day we must die unto self and seek God's help and

guidance to attain the "prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus" (Phil. 3:14). We recall the many years of training and preparation for Moses before he was ready to lead the Israelites out of Egypt. So it is with us. Lives develop, grow, mature, not out of ease, but out of struggle. This is what God is saying as He puts us through the fire of tribulation; for God has ordained us to be conformed to the image of His Son.

We should welcome trouble because God uses it to teach us to trust in Him. James 1:5, 6 says, "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering." When we are driven down upon our knees—to pray out of our desperation, out of our complete emptiness, out of our own poverty, then we will know the joy of having a heavenly Father who loves us, a Savior who died for us. Let us fill ourselves with Christ who is our fullness. Then the pressures of life will not collapse us. "When all kinds of trials and temptations crowd into your lives, my brothers, don't resent them as intruders, but welcome them as friends" (1:2, Phillips).

Reuben Wee

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Three Men Ordained at 1971 Annual Conference

At the closing session of the 1971 Annual Conference at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Cloquet, Minn., three men were set apart for the holy ministry of the church in an impressive ordination service.

The men ordained, their home towns and the places where they will serve are: Fred Carlson, Minneapolis, Minn., and Blue Grass, Minn.; Eugene W. Enderlein, Cleveland, Oh., and Minnewaukan, N. Dak.; and Dennis Gray, Harrisburg, S. Dak., and Grafton, N. Dak.

Rev. John P. Strand, president of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations, preached the sermon based on Matt. 4:1-11. It was entitled "Building the Eternal Kingdom."



Rev. Ernest J. Langness

The liturgist for the service was Rev. Julius Hermunslie, Fergus Falls, Minn., chairman of the Co-ordinating Committee. Members of the ordination committee and who participated were Pastors Herbert L. Franz, Cloquet,; Ernest J. Langness, McVillage, N. Dak.; Gerald F. Mundfrom, Grafton, N. Dak.; Trygve F. Dahle, Spicer, Minn.; and Raynard Huglen, Roslyn, S. Dak. Rev. Roger Carlson, Minneapolis, assisted in the laying on of hands since his brother Fred was one of the ordinands.

Mr. Donald Rodvold sang the solo "Be Thou Faithful" after the three men had received the charge of the ministry. Mr. Rodvold is the director of the Bible School Choir which will tour Norway later this summer.

FIVE CONGREGATIONS WELCOMED

The annual conference was advised by Pastor Hermunslie that five new congregations had been admitted into the Association during the past year, bringing total membership to 112. The conference then proceeded to extend the hand of fellowship to Ortley Lutheran, Ortley, S. Dak.; Trinity, Boscobel, Wis.; Bethany, Blue Grass, Minn.; Spencer Creek, Eugene, Ore.; and Bethany, Clayton, Wis.

PRESIDENT'S DECISION TO STAY

Delegates to the ninth annual conference had one matter uppermost in mind as they came to the "wood industries capital" of Cloquet, the presidency of the church. Rev. John P. Strand, who had served as president from the beginning, soon nine years ago, had announced his resignation in a letter dated May 12. The letter contained the expression of a desire to return to the parish ministry.

On Thursday afternoon, the first day of the business session, after nominees for the Mission and Schools Corporations had been acted upon by the conference, Mr. Clifford Johnson, Esko, Minn., insurance man and a member of the Co-ordinating Committee, called for the floor. He presented a resolution requesting Pastor Strand to serve out his term, which has a year to run from next Oct.



Rev. Clifford Johnson

1. Seventeen persons then spoke on the resolution, all favorable, although one or two questioned the rightness of asking someone to reconsider a decision prayerfully made. When the question was called for a secret ballot was taken. By a vote of 250 to 9 the delegates were asking Pastor Strand to stay in office. He requested time to think the matter over and to pray about it.

On Friday morning, just after the session had opened, he announced his decision. He said that he would stay in office. Pastor Strand declared that he trusted that this decision was God's will and not man's. He asked for the prayers of the people of the church and for their understanding, also when he had to take unpopular actions. We must trust each other, he said, and always seek to put the kingdom of God first.

At the conference next year, which will be held in Minneapolis, June 14-18, there will be an election for the presidency. Under the church's Rules for Work, Pastor Strand would need a three-fourths majority of the votes cast to remain in office, since he will then have served three terms. It is not known at this time whether he will stand for re-election then or not.

ELECTIONS

The terms of vice-president and secretary are for one year. Rev. Kenneth L. Anderson, Radcliffe, Ia., was re-elected vice-president and will begin his second term. Rev. Robert Rieth, Kirkland, Wash., was re-elected secretary and will begin his third term on Oct. 1.

Rev. Albert Hautamaki, Negaunee, Mich., was nominated to the Co-ordinating Committee for a five-year term. Nomination by the conference to the Committee, a corporation, is tantamount to election. Pastor Hautamaki continues on the between-conferences administrative body, which has seven members.

A new member of the Committee will be Ernest Miedema, Valley City, N. Dak., businessman and member of the North Dakota House of Rep-



Rev. Kenneth L. Anderson

representatives. He succeeds R. Martin Konsterlie of Willmar, Minn., who declined renomination.

News of other elections by the conference and corporations may be found on page 12 and in the next issue of the **Ambassador**.

1972-73 BUDGET

The annual conference adopted a budget of \$209,663 for the next fiscal year and a Special Debt Retirement Fund of \$42,900. That makes a total of \$252,563 which it is hoped can be raised for the maintenance and advance of the church's program next year.

1972 will be observed as the tenth anniversary of the Association and it is possible that that fact will add impetus to the drive for debt retirement. Most of the AFLC debt is in loans from members and friends. The retirement program will erase most of that which is owed to lending agencies.

Resolutions Committee No. 3 requested \$3,000 more than the Analysis Committee had recommended, believing there ought to be a greater push in that area of the work in the coming year, to broaden the base of operations. While there has been a "gentlemen's agreement" to accept the recommendation of the Budget Analysis Committee the conference did not challenge the increase suggested by the resolutions committee.

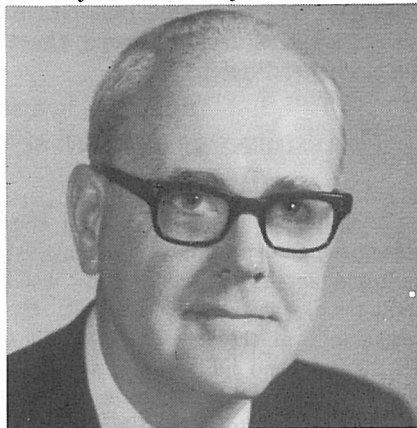
DEANS CHOSEN FOR SCHOOLS

It was no surprise when the conference approved the nominees of the Board of Trustees and the faculty for the positions of deans of the Semi-

nary and Bible School. And that approval means their election.

Rev. Richard Snipstead was elected dean of the Bible School. He has been acting in that capacity for the past three years. His election now takes care of a requirement that should have been handled several years ago.

Rev. Amos O. Dyrud, a teacher in the Schools the past two years, was named dean of the Seminary. He succeeds Dr. Iver Olson, who has served in that capacity for the past six years and will be spending the coming academic year in Norway.



Rev. Amos O. Dyrud

PRE-CONFIRMATION COMMUNION AND THE ORDINATION OF WOMEN

In his annual report to the church, Pastor Strand had asked whether the Association had any position on the admission of children to the Lord's Supper and the ordination of women to the ministry.

Resolutions Committee No. 1 introduced resolutions reaffirming opposition to communion participation before confirmation and the ordination of women. Both passed easily.

But later on when the committee brought in a resolution to set up a study commission to formulate the church's reasons for opposing these trends, there was some discontent. That resolution passed 97-44 although no reasons were given for such a large number being against the study and the eventual publication of it, after it has been presented to the next annual conference.

Rev. Amos O. Dyrud, Rev. Robert L. Lee, Tioga, N. Dak., and Rev. Raynard Huglen were subsequently elected to the commission.

In the resolution concerning wom-



Rev. Robert L. Lee

en, the phrase "women may attend Seminary, but without the prospect of ordination" was struck out by an amendment. That action did not close out the possibility of women attending Free Lutheran Seminary, however, because there is no statute prohibiting them, only their ordination.

BIBLE SCHOOL AT CAPACITY

In his report to the conference, Pastor Snipstead said that the dormitory of the Bible School should be filled this fall. That would be the first time in its four years of use. If not this next year, the time is certainly not far away when prospective students will have to be turned away.

Pastor Snipstead proposed two solutions to the need for facilities to accommodate rising enrollment. One would be to erect a classroom building which would also house the library and provide adequate office space. The alternative would be to build a school chapel which could also serve Medicine Lake Lutheran Church and convert the present church sanctuary into an all-purpose student center, including a gymnasium.

He challenged the conference to "come to grips" with the problem and give some direction to the Board even though it will be several years before "anything concrete" can happen.

The conference expressed an awareness of the need for new facilities and urged that prayer precede action. But as to other steps, it recommended for the present time that the church concentrate on reducing existing debts.

(To be continued)

I took his hand



THE LOVER OF BUDS

"Those buds out there."

He had not paid very close attention to them before, but during his first Christmas at the sanatorium as he lay by the window and looked out on the treetops just outside, he noticed that the buds were there even before the leaves fell off in autumn. He could actually see that the buds grew a little during the winter until toward spring they burst open, usually on some mild spring night, revealing fresh little leaves.

If one could only touch those buds out there!

As a young boy at home on the farm with his father and mother, brothers and sisters, his chief joy had been to go out in the woods during winter leisure hours and walk along the river-bank or lakeshore to chase rabbits or to hunt acorns hidden in the large trunks. He was usually alone on these trips and more than once mother had become anxious and worried when the little fellow did not come in before dark.

Tired and hot after a fast chase for rabbits or some hard tree climbing, could there be anything more delightful than to lie down on the fleecy snow, look up through the evergreens and budding treetops and see little patches of light peering through from the unending blue sky? Yes, one thing—to come home to mother, because she was so glad every time he came with his red cheeks and his big appetite. She liked to see him really eat his fill.

One day something happened that really brought worry and care into mother's life. Father had already passed away. No doubt that was why she felt that the boy should not go out so much, certainly not so far away into the woods. One could never tell what might happen, but one day the weather was so nice and it was so

near Christmas that she finally let him go. On this excursion into the woods he had an accident that injured his leg somehow. Even though he did not fall, he twisted one leg so that it hurt quite badly.

It was remarkable how long the injury stayed with him in spite of all the good advice they followed. Throughout the rest of his boyhood it became steadily worse. He wondered if it could be rheumatism such as old folks have. He never got back to the woods and the rabbits where heaven seemed to be so near.

At the age of twenty-three he was spending his fourth year in the sanatorium.

Those buds out there—was he not to see them any more either? He lay now in a room on the top story and could see nothing of the grounds around the building except the roof of the west wing. There lay the new snow far out from the edge of the roof, whipped by the wind into the most beautiful and fantastic formations. When he saw it, he smiled as he lay there pale and worn, trying in vain to raise himself up from the pillow to see if there might be a branch of some tree reaching up toward the snow drift.

A peculiar glistening appeared in his eyes. Was it just a memory, or a wish—or was it a warning?

He wanted me to take plenty of time that day before Christmas. Reticent though he was otherwise, this time he talked incessantly about his boyhood experiences, about rabbit hunts and acorn games, about skiing and skating, about work on the farm and quiet devotional hours in the home, about mother and brothers and sisters, and about the last time they were down here to visit him. With a little encouragement he also gave this free and happy testimony: "I have never really wandered away from

God, but in these four years at the sanatorium, many things have become clearer to me." More to the point, he said: "Jesus has come to mean a great deal to me since I have learned to know Him better. He will lead me safely and securely whither He wills."

Having said that he seemed to be quite content. And yet—"If one could only wade through the snow and feel those small buds on the underbrush out by the river bank once more! And pick snowberries and bitter-sweet to take home to mother!" Shyly he turned his tear-filled eyes away.

He did not last long. The pussy-willows usually seen at Easter time came too late for him. By that time he had been placed in a dark room on account of a complication affecting his eyes. In this room he fought his last battles in a childlike trust in the Lord, who had lighted the way for him through all of life's dark places.

His mother sat faithfully by his side for many days, but towards the last he could not recognize anyone here on earth. The last time I saw him he failed to recognize me, but I had to mention something about the buds, about the "flower buds" soon to unfold before the eyes of Jesus. Then he turned his face toward the window, covered by a window shade, and as a little ray of light reached his eye he whispered disconnectedly and in a barely audible voice:

"Buds... Jesus... I..."

—Wm. Hagen

2000 DESCENDANTS OF LUTHER LIVING

Worms, West Germany—(LWF)—There are still 2000 direct descendants of Martin Luther today who have 1940 different names and are found living at 940 addresses.

These definitive data are published in "Lutheridenvereinigung," a periodical issued by today's descendants bearing the name of the 16th century Reformer.

Whoever is called Luther today, according to the publication, is related to Martin Luther's father, however, as the last direct descendant of the former Augustinian monk died 231 years ago in Dresden.

Letters

TO THE EDITOR

THRILLED BY ANNUAL CONFERENCE

"Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty." Webster defines liberty as the state or condition of one who is free.

My wife and I have had the privilege of attending several days of the 9th Annual Conference of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations. We have had the most thrilling experience of witnessing and feeling the Holy Spirit at work among free people. Perhaps if Paul could have looked in upon this convention he would have been reminded of what he had written in I Cor. 14:40: "Let all things be done decently and in order."

My wife and I have attended many annual conventions in the former Lutheran Free Church, and several state conventions of the American Lutheran Church. We are also members of the Gideons International and have attended several state and two international conventions of the Gideons. I have made the remark several times to Gideon brethren and others that spiritual fellowship and the presence of the Holy Spirit at these conventions far exceeded anything we had ever experienced at church conventions. But after Cloquet I will have to retract that statement.

Also at Cloquet, the congregation of St. Paul's must be highly commended for a "superb" job on hosting this conference.

If the AFLC can continue with the present type of leadership, with President Pastor Strand at the helm, also Pastor Franz, Pastor Snipstead, many others, and not the least, our "retired" Pastor (Trygve) Dahle, with Christ as our Master Technician, how can we fail?

Gal. 6:9: "Let us not be weary in well doing, for in due season we shall reap if we faint not."

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Thompson
Verndale, Minn.

THE BIBLE BOOK NOOK IS EXPANDING ITS MINISTRY

The Bible Book Nook of Grafton, North Dakota, is now incorporated. We have increased our board to five members. They are Rev. Dennis Gray of Grafton, Rev. Roy Bredholt of Grand Forks, Rev. Stephen Odegaard of Hatton, Rev. Larry Severson of Abercrombie, and Rev. Howard Kjos of Hampden, North Dakota.

Our mail orders have increased and we have catalog material available upon request.

The following are ordering supplies from us and are selling Christian literature out of their homes:

Mrs. Alfred Hanson of Buxton, N. Dak.; Mrs. Thea Hanson of McVillie, N. Dak.; Mrs. Ludvig Berntson of rural Valley City, N. Dak.; and Rev. Elwood Sharpness of Chester, Ia.

Mrs. Harold Hayward of Walhalla, N. Dak., did sell from her home last fall and early winter. At present she is not so selling, but states that people are asking for Christian reading and hopes to so open up her home again sometime in the future.

We also have a help-yourself sales in both of the hospitals here in Grafton.

We have two policies available for Christian book sales for anyone interested:

First, we will give 20% discount from the retail price to anyone who would wish to venture out in serving their Lord in this way. You may start as big or small as you wish.

We take back for credit anything that doesn't sell. We prefer a down payment (whatever you feel you can give) when you send for your first order. You can pay the rest as you sell. Most of those who sell for us sell under this plan.

Second, you can do as Mrs. Harold Hayward of Walhalla did. She didn't want any profit, but wanted to help promote our mission, and she wanted to provide the people of Walhalla with Christian reading. No down payment is required under this arrangement. We just loan you some books and other supplies and you send in the money from your sales as you sell.

You can also start under one plan and shift to the other any time you wish.

So far we have only homes that have opened up to this kind of ministry, but we would be happy to so supply some business place that would be interested in making Christian reading available to its customers. We would also be happy to so work through churches.

The world has its literature, as filthy as it often is, in many places. Almost every small town and village has a place where such literature can be bought.

Christian book sales are often 50 and 100 miles apart or more. Truly, more Christian reading would be done, if it were more available.

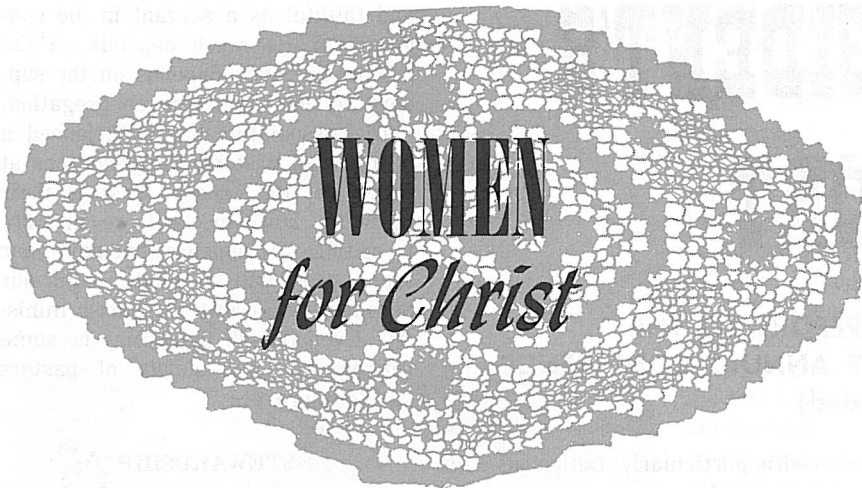
Through a Christian book sales either in your home or place of business you let the world know that you stand for Christ and for that which is pure and good. You leave a Christian witness.

We invite you to write to us if interested.

Rev. Gerald F. Mundfrom
Executive director of the
BIBLE BOOK NOOK, INC.
809 McHugh Ave.
Grafton, North Dakota

WANTED

Three dozen **Songs for Worship**, published by Zondervan. Contact Mrs. Ernest Hegre, Northwood, N. Dak.



WOMEN *for Christ*

TRIUMPH LUTHERAN CHURCH HOSTED RALLY

The West Coast District Women's Missionary Federation Spring Rally was held March 30, 1971, at the Triumph Lutheran Church at Ferndale, Washington.

The theme of the rally was "Watch and Occupy Until Jesus Comes" (Matthew 24:44-46).

The meeting opened with greetings by Frances Willand, president of the Ferndale WMF and Barbara Braaten, district WMF President gave the response.

Doris Persson of Astoria gave the devotions from Psalms 104 and 105 and led in prayer.

Yvonne Burrows and Marion Reith of Kirkland sang the song "I am Bound for the Promised Land."

The Bible Study was given by Ellen Monseth of Everett, based on Matthew 24:42, "Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come." She told of how Jesus spoke to His disciples when they asked what the signs would be of His coming again. Jesus was concerned that they would be deceived and gave them three admonitions: verse 42—watch, verse 44—be ready, and in verse 46—be doing so. You must first acknowledge Christ as your personal Savior and then watch and be ready. She said there were twenty-three signs of Jesus' coming mentioned in the Bible.

When the time comes, we must be blameless before God, and she referred to Ephesians 6:11, where it says "Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand

against the wiles of the devil." The parts of the armour are truth, righteousness, peace, faith, salvation, and the Holy Spirit.

In reference to the third admonition that Christ gave them, where we must be found in so doing, she said that it is the responsibility of every Christian to witness for Christ to other people. First we must witness to our own household and then our friends, and then those in far away lands, as it says in Matthew 28:19, "Go ye therefore and teach all nations..."

She ended the Bible Study by saying that if we really believe Jesus is coming back soon, our lives will show it.

Then followed a musical selection, "What Shall I Give Thee, Master," by the Everett women, Ellen Monseth, Gladys Morton and Marian Johnson.

The ladies from the Elim Church at Lake Stevens extended an invitation for the Fall Rally, on October 19.

Then followed the election of officers. Those elected were: Marion Lempke, vice-president, and Viola Johnson, secretary.

The meeting was adjourned and Marion Lempke gave the closing prayer and table prayer.

The afternoon meeting opened with devotions by Natalie Melseth of Ferndale, on Mark 16:1-15, and Marion Reith conducted a hymn sing.

The resolutions were then read and approved, with roll call and committee reports following.

Peggy Olson reported on the Praise Program and described the Bible School and Seminary.

Marion Reith gave an explanation of "My Missionary for a Day" and said that it helped to pay for the salaries and expenses of the missionary families.

Doris Persson and Peggy Olson led the group in a song after which Lorraine Johnson introduced the missionary speaker, Martha Stoa, who had graduated from Pacific Lutheran University and studied nursing at the Emanuel Hospital in Portland. She had been on the mission field for four years, working in a leprosarium in India.

She opened her talk with greetings in the Indian language and explained that there were fifteen different languages in India. She told about the history of the Lutheran Church there and described the symptoms and treatments for leprosy. She showed slides on the work that they were doing there.

Mrs. Frances Willand and Mrs. Lola Lindell sang the song "Take Me Back to Gethsemane."

The prayer service was led by Doris Persson.

The offering amounted to \$184.00.

The audience then sang the closing hymn and the meeting ended with a prayer by Lorraine Johnson and benediction by Pastor Jay Erickson, host pastor.

Virginia Johnson
Secretary

REV. AND MRS. O. J. HAUKENESS TO BE HONORED JULY 18

Rev. and Mrs. O. J. Haukeness, 3420 Lombard Avenue, Everett, Wash. 98201, will be honored on the occasion of their golden wedding anniversary on Sunday, July 18. Pastor Haukeness will also be observing the 50th anniversary of his ordination into the Christian ministry.

He served in the Lutheran Free Church for many years and is a contributor to **The Lutheran Ambassador**. Born on the island of Huglo, Norway, Pastor Haukeness served parishes at Fortuna, N. Dak.; Holt, Minn.; Rose Valley, Sask.; Westby, Mont.; Sebeka, Minn.; Silvana, Wash.; and Medicine Lake, Mont. Mrs. Haukeness is the former Ella Norum of Hallock, Minn. The couple has four children.

THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE CONGREGATIONS AND THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE (Concluded)

CHRISTIAN COOPERATION

The modern ecumenical movement is a failure. It is not showing Christian unity, or at times, anything else Christian. It has often become a tool destructive to Christian truth.

The Association believes in Christian unity, a oneness in Christ that all men must respect. This is a oneness God's Spirit alone can give, and its reality has been already given to the people of God. It is not dependent on earthly means, but ought to be reflected in all of life.

Isolation is dangerous. The Association does not desire or seek isolation from Christians and congregations of other communions. We would cooperate as God's Spirit would lead to do those things consistent with God's Word and our Lutheran confessions. Our fellowship with others is seen in our sharing our pastors, and graduates in fields of service in areas apart from the Association. We are happy that the graduates of our Bible School and Seminary, and that members of our congregations can and are used elsewhere, as God's Spirit would lead them. With the growth of our schools, it is inconsistent to insist that our youth must only work in our Association. Today we have some working under other mission boards than ours, used by other groups than ours. Our influence is reaching out more and more. We need not grieve when we cannot put all our people to work in our own fellowship.

The Association has much in common with some other communions. A call has come to us from Lutheran Alert, which is not a church body, to be open to a more tangible fellow-

ship with, particularly, Lutherans with whom we share many convictions. There is some value in this. Extreme caution must always be exercised so that no thoughts of outward merger or alignments be promoted.

THE MINISTRY

There is great unrest among clergymen today. Hundreds are leaving the ministry. Frustration is so evident among many. There are reasons for this.

The ministry is a holy calling, but so is God's will for our lives, no matter what it is. All Christian vocations are holy. But God does call some as pastors and teachers in the church. God sets them apart as His ambassadors and shepherds in His Church. Some unfortunately enter the ministry without the call of God. Theirs is a tragic life. They may think they have God's call, but be mistaken. They may be ever so sincere, but be in the wrong place. When they realize it, if they ever do, they are often trapped by fears of being branded failures, or other fears, to continue. The church must not lay hands suddenly on any man. "Do not lay hands upon any one too hastily and thus share responsibility for the sins of others; keep yourself free from sin" (I Timothy 5:22, New Am. St. Bible).

The Word makes it clear that God's servants can start out well, but lose God's Spirit, and not know it. It is even possible to preach and lose one's own soul. The pastor has an awesome privilege and responsibility. The congregation must pray for and adequately support the one God places in their midst. The pastor must earnestly desire to be true to His God

and faithful as a servant in the congregation. So much depends on the pastor. So much depends on the support he gets from the congregation.

The Association has experienced a shortage of pastors. Congregations at times get too choosy. That is their business, however, and we are not to criticize. It appears that next year many men will graduate from our Seminary to go into the parish ministry. Even though there may be some retirements, our supply of pastors should improve.

STEWARDSHIP

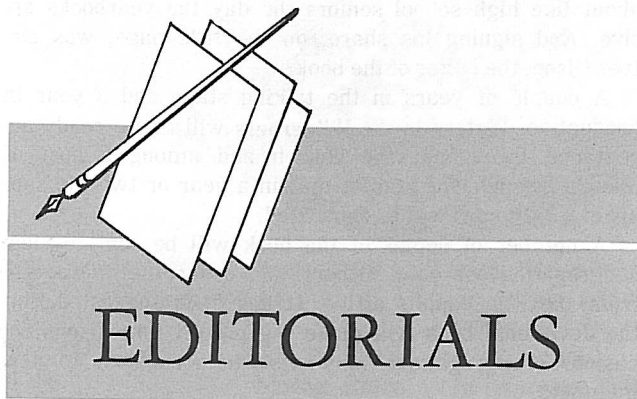
Good financial support was given last year, too, by the Association members to our common work. In a year that saw many church bodies failing to reach their budgets, our budget was oversubscribed. We are grateful to God for this, as this makes the work possible. There is always more that could be used, but meaningful and realistic budgets are wiser than unrealistic ones. Higher budgets do not necessarily mean higher receipts.

The Stewardship Board is to be commended for its program of using laymen to visit our parishes to give information and inspiration regarding our work. This will be an effective means of creating continued loyalty and support.

The Association has a sizable debt. It would seem wise to make a special effort to reduce our indebtedness. There would be particular value in liquidating our debts to lending agencies. Debt liquidation would be a fine project for our tenth anniversary. Other reports will give information regarding our indebtedness.

The institutions and missions of the Association are operating in a fine manner, with only minor difficulties. The influence of the Association is considerably far beyond our own particular areas. This is becoming increasingly evident. Our schools will continue to attract more and more students from outside the Association. Ours is a unique privilege, and we must exercise it with responsibility. Dr. Iver B. Olson has had an effective ministry as a teacher in our schools. He began teaching in our Seminary

(Continued on page 15)



THE RECONSTRUCTION OF PASTOR STRAND

It has been very difficult for members of the Association to think in terms of someone other than Pastor John Strand as president of the church. Perhaps that is why delegates to the recent annual conference seemed uncertain as to what they would do when faced with the prospect of selecting a new leader upon the resignation of Pastor Strand in May.

There had been reports that a move would be made to ask him to reconsider his resignation, but it was not known to this writer when or by whom such a motion would be made. When Mr. Clifford Johnson of Esko, Minn., did make such a motion on Thursday afternoon, there was a great sense of relief in the conference that that move had been made. Many speakers supported the motion and it was clear that the delegates looked upon this as the way out that they wanted.

The sense of relief was heightened when Pastor Strand told the conference on Friday morning that he would bow to the wishes of the delegates and continue in office, trusting that this was what the Lord wanted him to do. At this point the members of the conference found new zest for tackling other business before the annual assembly.

The president of any organization gives a good deal of direction to it and helps to form its image and ideals as no one else can. When the office is filled, the people are ready for the work, particularly when they have confidence in the leader, as in the case of Pastor Strand.

What the future holds, no one can say. Next year will be an election year. Pastor Strand has not indicated what he will do when that time comes. His reservoir of support is strong enough to bring him into another three-year term even in the face of a three-fourths majority needed because he will have served three full terms. But in the coming

months he will have to make his decision, calling upon the Lord for His guidance.

Should he decide not to stand for re-election in 1972, it is clear from this year's experience that the people of the church feel that they need more than one month to get ready for picking a new president. That may be, but added time also allows for more campaigning for favorites and that can be both good and bad. No one "runs" for office in the AFLC, but that doesn't prevent friends from building up a "candidacy."

In the meantime, as Pastor Strand carries on the work of leadership the people have gladly given him it is necessary that all of us in the church do our best to make his task as easy as possible. Not in the sense of eliminating the work which must follow in any job, but in the sense of creating a climate in which we care for one another, as pastors and people, so that many problems never have to reach his desk. Certainly much more can be done in the area of personal relationships to build an atmosphere of confidence and good will. It is incumbent on all of us to venture forth toward this.

We pray God's blessing upon Pastor Strand as he faces this year also as the president of our fellowship. May it be a good year.

INTER-LUTHERAN COOPERATION

"We recommend that our congregations cooperate wherever possible with like-minded Lutheran congregations and movements in programs of evangelism and witness."

Declaration of Faith, II:5

It has been an interesting feature of the life of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations that there has never been any prohibition against pastors and/or congregations cooperating with neighboring Lutherans if it has been felt that God's work would profit thereby. This cooperation has included work with those of the American Lutheran Church and the Lutheran Church in America, churches to which we once belonged or might have.

Those of us who came out of the Lutheran Free Church, at least, never had the history of requiring agreement in all points before fellowship could exist. Where there was agreement in the basic truths and a common faith existed, there was also fellowship. The opposite extreme was revealed at a banquet we once attended in Iowa. Even though perhaps all present were Lutherans no table prayer could be offered in behalf of the group since in the eyes of some there was not enough doctrinal agreement existing and rather than offend the "purists" no prayer was offered. The attitude which requires such action, or lack of it, is foreign to us.

Lutheran congregations officially endorse the Scriptures and the same doctrinal statements. Outwardly there should be no barriers to fellowship. But practically speaking there are reasons why two congregations in a given community may not have much to do with each other. In one congregation preaching and teaching may be to the effect that all members who are baptized and confirmed are children of God, almost no matter what kind of lives they may be living; in the other, the people are approached

as though some members have living faith in Christ, while others do not. Fellowship between these two churches is difficult.

In one congregation, the worship service is very liturgical; in the other it is very simple. Fellowship is difficult. In one congregation, very little is branded as sin; in the other there is a strong emphasis on godly living and pietism. Fellowship is difficult. In one congregation, there is great stress on the life of action and little on the quiet, meditative aspect of life; in the other, while not neglecting the former, much attention is paid the latter. Fellowship is difficult. In one congregation, new trends in theology flourish, the old is treated with condescension; in the other, miracle is treated as miracle, all of Scripture as revealed truth. Fellowship is difficult.

But where there is agreement, where congregations of two or more Lutheran bodies have common faith and goals, there nothing from our side prevents working together in programs of evangelism and witness or for just the sake of plain neighborliness. Each congregation and pastor judges for itself.

Association pastors have preached in non-Association pulpits and non-Association pastors have preached in AFLC pulpits. Joint Lenten services have been held. Churches have been offered for use as community needs required.

Association churches stand ready to cooperate with sister Lutheran churches where kingdom work will be enhanced by such joint efforts.

WATERS IN THE WILDERNESS

One of the most popular projects the Board of Publications and Parish Education has come up with yet is the

printing of the daily devotional book **Waters in the Wilderness**. The handsomely-bound and printed book made its appearance at the Annual Conference in Cloquet and was enthusiastically received. The 300 copies that had been brought up there were quickly sold.

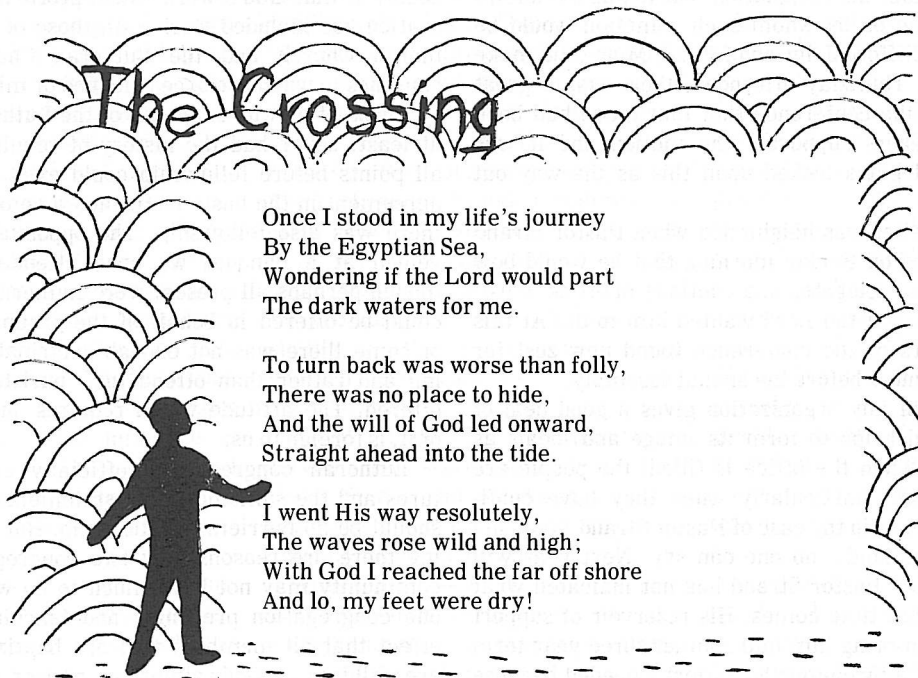
It was interesting to see how someone struck upon the idea of getting the various writers who were present to autograph their articles. Soon delegates were moving about like high school seniors the day the yearbooks arrive. And signing his share, on the title page, was Dr. Iver Olson, the editor of the book.

A couple of years in the talking stage and a year in production, **Waters in the Wilderness** will find a ready acceptance throughout the church and among a host of friends beyond. We predict that in a year or two the supply of 3,000 copies will be exhausted.

A number of copies of the book will be sent to each congregation for sale. Others will order theirs directly from the Minneapolis office. It has been suggested that the devotional book will make a good gift for various occasions. Congregations may wish to present it to new members.

Waters in the Wilderness contains a brief devotional article for every day of the year. It is written by many persons, both pastors and laity. It is meant to be a spiritual blessing to all who read.

There is sense of rightful pride in the publication of **Waters in the Wilderness**. This book should help to knit our fellowship more closely. Due credit should be given to Dr. Olson for his many hours of work as editor. It was a labor of love for he wasn't reimbursed for it. The Board has presented him with a token of appreciation, a travelling case which he can make use of on his forthcoming trip to Norway.



Once I stood in my life's journey
By the Egyptian Sea,
Wondering if the Lord would part
The dark waters for me.

To turn back was worse than folly,
There was no place to hide,
And the will of God led onward,
Straight ahead into the tide.

I went His way resolutely,
The waves rose wild and high;
With God I reached the far off shore
And lo, my feet were dry!

Poem and illustration by Marlene Moline



Luther League Activities

Edited by Wayne Pederson

AND IF SCIENCE CAN'T HELP US?

The religion of technology is gaining fewer disciples on our high school and college campuses. For decades technology has held scholars and lay-scholars under its totalitarian rule of information surely-to-be-believed. Any technological discovery has been immediately put into use regardless of social, emotional and moral consequences. Anything under the name of science has been accepted by anyone wanting to be at least rational, and certainly intellectual.

Today we see a growing disillusionment with technology as a solution to the problems our world faces. A friend of mine said recently that he believed science has created more problems than it has solved. I think he's right. I doubt if we are any happier or any closer to our goals with all science has provided.

The sad fact is that the problems created by technology can't be solved by technology.

Technology has made man in-

satiably greedy. The result has been catastrophic. Carl H. Reidel, Assistant Director of the Center for Environmental Studies at Williams College, says: "Our relentless pursuit of material affluence is sustained by a social system that seems to value technological progress above all else." Mr. Reidel goes on to say that the answer to our technological problems is not in technology. The answer lies in a change in our system of values. "Only when individual Christians make a radical reassessment of their personal values concerning material affluence, and start expressing that commitment collectively through the church, will we see the beginning of world-wide action."

Harold Lindsell, editor of *Christianity Today*, said in a recent editorial: "Our unwritten national goal is an ever higher standard of living. It stems from our bent for acquiring material things to compensate for lack of spiritual fulfillment. The result is exploitation."

Social workers and psychologists are trying to solve the drug problem with scientific treatment. Just re-

cently, Dr. Harvey Powelson, director of the Student Psychiatric Clinic at the University of California-Berkeley, showed scientific proof that prolonged use of marijuana can produce chronic, organic brain disease, lack of coherence and lapses of memory and thinking. Science has also shown how marijuana distorts the personality, weakens the ability to assume responsibility and make choices. I venture to say that these pronouncements aren't going to keep people from using marijuana.

As far as solving man's problems is concerned, science has failed. We have seen the self-defeating effect of science on our society. The only answer is for man to live above his selfish inclinations and to a new set of values. This can happen only as men place Jesus Christ in His rightful place in their lives.

The only answer to problems of environmental pollution and drugs is Jesus Christ. The church, in trying to relate rationally to man, has failed to present the supernatural remedy in Christ. And, meanwhile, the world has begun looking for non-scientific answers by experimenting with drugs and the occult. The church and the world have passed each other like two ships in the night.

We have God's supernatural answer which the world needs, as soon as it asks the right questions. Let's be sure to have the answer firmly in our lives when the world grows tired of its illusive dreams and begins to look for a better answer.

I think the time is now. We're on the verge of a spiritual revival. If the church gets too rationalistic, we'll not have God's answer when the world comes looking. We've too long tried to defend our faith on scientific arguments. We've wasted a lot of time arguing about flood and evolution.

(Continued on page 15)

SIXTH BIENNIAL LUTHER LEAGUE FEDERATION CONVENTION

July 20-25

at Association Free Lutheran Bible School, Minneapolis, Minnesota

Register Today!

ANNUAL CONFERENCE ELECTIONS

Vice-President

1-year term
Rev. Kenneth L. Anderson
Radcliffe, Ia.

Secretary

1-year term
Rev. Robert Rieth
Kirkland, Wash.

Co-ordinating Committee by the Committee

5-year terms
Rev. Albert Hautamaki
Negaunee, Mich.

Ernest Miedema
Valley City, N. Dak.

Other Committee members are:

Rev. Julius Hermunslie, Fergus Falls
Minn.

Clifford Johnson, Esko, Minn.

Rev. Harry C. Molstre, Valley City,
N. Dak.

Sheldon Mortrud, Thief River Falls,
Minn.

Clarence Quanbeck, McVillage, N. Dak.

Board of Pensions

5-year term
Lay Pastor Melvin Walla
Thief River Falls, Minn.

Other Board members are:

Eldor Sorkness, Sand Creek, Wis.

Stanley Block, Spicer, Minn.

Albert Moen, Grand Forks, N. Dak.

Rev. Jerome Nikunen, Roseau, Minn.

Board of Publications and Parish Education

5-year term
Kent Quanbeck, McVillage, N. Dak.

Other Board members are:

Rev. Raynard Huglen, Roslyn, S.
Dak.

Mrs. Vernon R. Nelson, Grand Forks,
N. Dak.

Mrs. Philip Dyrud, Minneapolis,
Minn.

Miss Eula Mae Swenson, Fargo, N.
Dak.

Youth Board

5-year term
Robert Bilden, Bagley, Minn.

Other Board members are:

Rev. Herbert L. Franz, Cloquet,
Minn.

Sheldon Mortrud, Thief River Falls,
Minn.

Rev. Richard Snipstead, Minneapolis,
Minn.

Rev. Forrest Swenson, Winger, Minn.

Stewardship Board

5-year term
Robert Dietsche, Sand Creek, Wis.

3-year term
Erling A. Brekke,
Antelope, Mont.

Other Board members are:

Rev. Wendell Johnson, Dalton, Minn.

Even Ose, Thief River Falls, Minn.

Rev. Marvin Undseth, Shevlin, Minn.

To the Board of World Missions by the Corporation

5-year term
Robert Knutson
McVillage, N. Dak.

Other Board members are:

Rev. A. L. Hokonson, Osseo, Minn.

Roy Mohagen, Grafton, N. Dak.

Rev. Trygve F. Dahle, Spicer, Minn.

Chester Dyrud, Thief River Falls,
Minn.

To the Board of Home Missions by the Corporation

5-year term
Rev. Larry Severson
Abercrombie, N. Dak.

Other Board members are:

Rev. Herbert L. Franz, Cloquet, Minn.

Rev. Hubert F. DeBoer, Willmar,
Minn.

Joel Rogenes, Buxton, N. Dak.

Eldor Sorkness, Sand Creek, Wis.

To the Board of Trustees of Associa- tion Schools by the Corporation

5-year terms
Rev. Ernest J. Langness
McVillage, N. Dak.

Raymond Jacobson
Minneapolis, Minn.

Other Board members are:

Rev. Raynard Huglen, Roslyn, S.
Dak.

Rev. Leslie Galland, Spicer, Minn.

Philip Grothe, Thief River Falls,
Minn.

Amos Hinderaker, Radcliffe, Ia.
Howard Lieder, Minneapolis, Minn.

Budget Analysis Committee for 1972

Clarence Hermunslie, Abercrombie,
N. Dak.

Lay Pastor Melvin Walla, Thief River
Falls, Minn.

Clifford Holm, Minneapolis, Minn.

Stanley Holmaas, Newfolden, Minn.

Rev. Fred Carlson, Blue Grass, Minn.

Study Commission on a Mission Spon- sorship Unit Plan

Roy Mohagen, Grafton, N. Dak.

Robert Knutson, McVillage, N. Dak.

Alvin Grothe, Stacy, Minn.

Lay Pastor Walter Beaman, Green-
bush, Minn.

Rev. Francis Monseth, Everett,
Wash.

Study Commission on Pre-Confirma- tion Communion and Women's Or- dination

Rev. Amos Dyrud, Minneapolis,
Minn.

Rev. Robert L. Lee, Tioga, N. Dak.

Rev. Raynard Huglen, Roslyn, S.
Dak.

Other elections will be reported in
the next **Ambassador**.

AT THE CROSS YOU'LL FIND JESUS

This poem was inspired by our
WMF Bible Study for June, 1971,
particularly Psalm 34:4, and the
last question, No. 16.

"I sought the Lord, and He heard me,
And delivered me from all my fears."
I looked to the hills for strength for
the day,

It sustained me through all the years.
I searched in vain for peace of mind,
I looked for things I couldn't find;
I turned to the hills, left cares behind;
And there at the cross, I found Jesus.

Until the potter shapes the clay,
Its form can't mean a thing.
Until you have notes for the words
you write,

You haven't a song to sing.
Broken in spirit, and broken in wealth,
Shattered ambitions, and broken in
health,

Yet molded and formed to eternal
wealth,
There at the cross, you'll find Jesus.

My friend, are you tired and weary,
In searching and finding just things?
And often worn out and dreary
With shattered dreams false hope
brings?

Fussing, and fretting, and sighing,
Fearing, lamenting, and crying
In vain, the whole world is just dying,
Except at the cross with Jesus.

Ellen Nielsen
Sisseton, S. Dak.

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE LUTHER LEAGUE FEDERATION

* denotes paragraph re-written to embody change requested by Federation convention at Kalispell, Montana, in 1967.

ARTICLE I NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Luther League Federation of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations.

ARTICLE II MOTTO

The motto of this Federation shall be: "The Young People for Christ and His Church."

ARTICLE III OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this Federation shall be:

1. To promote and foster a true Christian spirit and fellowship among the young people so that those who are Christ's may grow in His grace and knowledge.
2. To win the straying and unchurched for Christ and His Church.
3. To help the young people find their places of service in the Kingdom of God.
4. In a general way: To work for the extension of God's Kingdom and to support such activities as may from time to time be designated by the Federation.

ARTICLE IV MEMBERSHIP

This Federation shall be comprised of all Luther Leagues (or Young People's Societies) of all congregations and institutions of the AFLC.

ARTICLE V REPRESENTATION

The right to vote at the general conventions shall be held by all voting members of the local Luther Leagues, by pastors serving AFLC congregations or institutions, and by adult advisors and counselors of the local leagues.*

ARTICLE VI OFFICERS

The Federation shall have the following officers: president, first vice-president, second vice-president, secretary, devotional life secretary and treasurer. These shall constitute the Executive Committee. No one in the salaried employ of the Federation shall be elected to membership on the Executive Committee. The officers and pastoral advisors of the various districts, together with the Federation Executive Committee and the youth director shall constitute the Federation Council.*

ARTICLE VII MEETINGS

1. The Federation shall hold a biennial convention and shall conduct a business session in conjunction with it. The time, place and program of this convention shall be determined by the Executive Committee.
2. The Federation Council shall hold an annual meeting.

ARTICLE VIII ANNUAL REPORT

The Federation shall report to the Annual Conference of the AFLC through its president.

ARTICLE IX AMENDMENTS

The constitution may be amended at any regular business session of the Federation provided the amendment has been submitted in writing at a previous biennial business session, and provided also that the amendment receives a two-thirds affirmative vote.

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I DUTIES AND OFFICERS

1. The President shall preside at all the business sessions of the Federation, Executive Committee and Federation Council. He shall represent the Federation as its official delegate whenever called upon to do so. He shall also report to the annual conference of the AFLC.

a) In the event that the president resigns or is incapacitated before half his term is completed, a successor shall be chosen by the Executive Committee and the Youth Board of the AFLC.*

2. a) The First Vice-President shall, in the absence of the President, perform the duties of that officer, and the Second Vice-President shall then become acting First Vice-President.

b) The Vice-Presidents shall render the President every possible assistance and assume such duties of the President as he may see fit to delegate to them.

c) The Second Vice-President shall be from the West Coast District and shall co-ordinate Federation affairs in that area of the church.*

3. The Secretary shall keep record of the transactions of the Federation, Executive Committee and the Federation Council.

4. The Treasurer shall keep an account of the treasury of the Federation, shall receive contributions and shall pay bills when they are endorsed by the President of the Federation. The Treasurer shall present an audited report to the annual meeting of the Federation Council and a current report to the biennial convention. An audit shall be required before a new treasurer takes office.

5. The Devotional Life Secretary shall promote aspects of personal and group devotions. This shall include the Pocket Testament Movement.

ARTICLE II ELECTION OF OFFICERS

1. The committee on nominations shall nominate at least two candidates, which may or may not include the present incumbents, for each office. Additional nominations may be made from the floor.

2. The officers of the Federation shall be elected by ballot, with simple majority, at the biennial convention of the Federation.
3. All officers shall be elected for a term of two years. No officer shall be elected to the same office for more than two consecutive terms.*
4. As far as possible, the offices shall be distributed among the various districts of the Federation.

ARTICLE III YOUTH DIRECTOR

1. Duties
 - a) The Youth Director shall promote the growth and development of the Luther League Federation in accordance with its objectives.
 - b) He shall seek to stimulate Luther League work in the various districts and congregations of the AFLC.
 - c) He shall exercise general oversight of the entire work of the Luther League Federation in all its departments and activities.
 - d) He shall prepare the agenda for the meetings of the Executive Committee and the Federation Council where he serves in an advisory capacity.
2. Election

The Youth Board of the AFLC shall carry out these responsibilities through a Youth Director elected by the Board and approved by the Annual Conference. This Youth Director, though responsible to the Board, shall also give leadership to the program and activities of the Luther League Federation. It shall be the privilege of the Executive Committee of the Luther League Federation to present nominations for the position.

ARTICLE IV REGIONAL YOUTH DIRECTORS

1. The Executive Committee upon the recommendation of the Youth Director shall select such regional youth directors as are deemed necessary to implement the work of the Luther League Federation.
2. The regional youth directors shall represent the Youth Director in the region assigned and shall give such leadership as is necessary to carry out the program established by the Luther League Federation convention and as defined by the Executive Committee.
3. The regional youth directors shall be directly responsible to the Executive Committee. Those which are in the salaried employ of the Luther League Federation shall be considered advisory members to the Federation Council and the Executive Committee.
4. The regulations concerning election of the Youth Director shall apply similarly to regional youth directors who are in the salaried employ of the Luther League Federation.

ARTICLE V THE FEDERATION COUNCIL

1. The Federation Council shall meet annually. Additional meetings may be arranged by the Executive Committee.*

2. The Council shall discuss the work of the Luther League Federation in general and suggest ways and means of coordinating this work with that of the district Luther Leagues.
3. This Council shall be empowered to transact necessary business between biennial conventions.

ARTICLE VI COMMITTEES

1. The Executive Committee shall consist of the elected officers. They shall be convened by the President. An agenda shall be prepared by the Youth Director who serves as an advisory member. This committee shall guide the youth program within the limits of the Luther League Federation Constitution, the convention recommendations and the Guiding Principles of the AFLC.
2. A committee on recommendations consisting of five members shall be elected at the biennial convention. It shall present recommendations in regard to the work of the Federation for consideration and action by the biennial convention.
3. A committee on nominations consisting of five members shall be elected at the biennial convention; not more than one member shall be from any district. This committee shall meet so that its report on nominations can be published prior to the convention.
4. A committee on resolutions, consisting of three members, shall be elected by the convention. It shall present resolutions of thanks to be acted upon by the convention.
5. Other committees may be elected or appointed as the business of the Federation may demand.

ARTICLE VII FINANCES

1. The Executive Committee shall annually prepare a budget for the ensuing fiscal year to be presented to the annual meeting of the Federation Council for approval.
2. The Luther League Federation shall receive its principal financial support from constituent leagues. This support shall be given through annual offerings and regular contributions.
3. The fiscal year shall be from February 1st to January 31st.
4. Transportation costs and other necessary expenses of the Executive Committee in holding their appointed meetings shall be provided out of the Federation treasury.*

ARTICLE VIII AMENDMENTS

By-laws may be made, amended or repealed at any regular business session of a Federation Biennial Convention by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the delegates present.

Note: Final acceptance of the Constitution and By-laws, with the changes proposed at Kalispell in 1967, will be made at the Luther League convention in Minneapolis, July 20-25.

[Continued from page 8]

in September, 1965, and has carried heavy teaching loads and other responsibilities ever since. He came to the Association at no small financial sacrifice. We thank God for him, and wish him the blessings of God as he and Mrs. Olson go to Norway for a year of teaching and travel.

It is becoming increasingly evident that the Association through its Sunday School materials will have an effective outreach beyond the Association. The Board of Publications and Parish Education has approached their tasks with care and restraint and the studies are receiving widening acceptance. We look forward to the day when the Association can have studies for all ages, as well as Daily Vacation Bible School materials. They should be made available to the general public as soon as it is economically feasible.

OUR NATION

We love our nation. The United State is experiencing rapid changes, many of which are not good. Because of the many problems, quick solutions are so often offered that will spell lasting harm. So many work for political advantage instead of what is good for America. Christians must be as wise as serpents in their efforts for that which is good for America and the Christian home and church.

We have sinned as a people and as a nation. When there is sin, there ought to be repentance. How good it would be if our nation, as nations of old at times did, would have a season of national repentance. Instead of only looking to God for help, if we would come to God in at least a day of repentance, who knows what the spiritual results would be. Answers that now elude us may become apparent. Some of the guilt that today is driving our people would be replaced by simple trust in God's grace and guidance. We cannot perhaps expect that the entire nation observes a day of repentance, but if all who call themselves Christians would, great blessings would come to them. This certainly would be an opportunity to express real Christian unity where it really counts.

—John P. Strand, President AFLC

(The listing of Special Events, the Necrology and Conclusion have been omitted, but may be found in the Annual Report which will be available later in the summer.—Ed.)

[Continued from page 11]

And the world has laughed in disgust at the way we have been diverted.

And though I believe the Bible's scientific integrity, we need to major in the majors. Jesus Christ is our answer and we can tell the world about Him without apology. Let everyone see Him in you. They'll know whom to come to when they are ready for your answer.

YOU ASK ME HOW

You ask me how I know I have the Savior,

How I know that I have found the narrow way,

I read the book my Savior left to guide me,

It taught me how to live and how to pray.

It told me that my Savior came to save me,

That He loved and cared enough to set me free

From the bonds and chains of sin and all my burdens,

By walking all the way to Calvary.

How He died and rose again and went to Heaven

To prepare a place for me in that great land;
A Propitiator for my sins, my High Priest,
He guides, He keeps, He leads, He holds my hand.

All His promises are written in the Gospel;

All I have to do is claim them for my own;

To believe, have faith, obey my Lord and Savior,

And some day He'll take me to my Heavenly home.

Oh, how wonderful will be that great reunion,

To see the place He has prepared for me;

To walk with Peter and Paul, and all the others,

Now I'll tell you what my greatest joy will be:

I'll see Jesus waiting there in Heaven for me;

He will open wide the gate and let me in,

Though I know that I'm not worthy of this promise,

He has shed His blood to cover all my sin.

This is how I know I have the Savior, How I know He's mine, and this is why I pray

That you, too, will find this Christ who walked in Galilee,

For I know that I have found the ancient way.

Mrs. Alfred Gunderson
Willmar, Minn.

BUDGET ADOPTED BY ANNUAL CONFERENCE

73. The 1971 Annual Conference adopted the following budget for 1972-

General Fund	\$41,590
Schools	73,073
Foreign Missions	38,000
Home Missions	42,000
Praise Program	15,000
Total	\$208,663
Special Debt	
Retirement Fund	\$42,900

CONFERENCE REAFFIRMS RESOLUTION

The following resolution was passed at the Annual Conference at Cloquet last month:

Due to the increasing problems facing our nation, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Conference reaffirm the resolution passed last year, namely:

We the convention of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations want to publicly affirm that we adhere and regard as ideal the concept of America as one free nation under God. We also want to affirm our support of America's laws; of our President and of the law enforcement officers who have the responsibility for maintaining peace and order within our land. Also, that the congregations set aside a day calling for national repentance.

Directory of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations

OFFICERS

President

Rev. John P. Strand
3110 E. Medicine Lake Blvd.
Minneapolis, Minn.

Vice-President

Rev. Kenneth L. Anderson
Radcliffe, Ia.

Secretary

Rev. Robert Rieth
11611 N. E. 140th St.
Kirkland, Wash.

Business Administrator

Mr. Donald Hansen
3110 E. Medicine Lake Blvd.
Minneapolis, Minn.

CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

Chairman

Rev. Julius Hermunslie
832 W. Stanton Ave.
Fergus Falls, Minn.

Secretary

Mr. Sheldon Mortrud
715 S. Tindolph Ave.
Thief River Falls, Minn.

ASSOCIATION SCHOOLS

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

President

Rev. E. J. Langness
McVille, N. Dak.

Secretary

Rev. Raynard Huglen
Roslyn, S. Dak.

Acting Dean of Free Lutheran Seminary

Dr. Iver Olson
3110 E. Medicine Lake Blvd.
Minneapolis, Minn.

Dean of the Bible School

Rev. R. Snipstead
3110 E. Medicine Lake Blvd.
Minneapolis, Minn.

WORLD MISSIONS

Chairman

Rev. A. L. Hokonson
9467 Pilgrim Lane
Osseo, Minn.

Secretary

Mr. Roy Mohagen
Grafton, N. Dak.

HOME MISSIONS

Chairman

Rev. Herbert L. Franz
106 10th St.
Cloquet, Minn.

Secretary

Mr. Eldor Sorkness
Sand Creek, Wis.

PUBLICATIONS AND PARISH EDUCATION

Chairman

Rev. Raynard Huglen
Roslyn, S. Dak.

Secretary

Mrs. Vernon R. Nelson
1909 11th Ave. N.
Grand Forks, N. Dak.

Executive Secretary

Miss Judith Wold
324 N. Arnold
Thief River Falls, Minn.

STEWARDSHIP

Chairman

Rev. Wendell Johnson
Dalton, Minn.

Secretary

Mr. Robert L. Dietsche
Sand Creek, Wis.

YOUTH BOARD

Chairman

Mr. Sheldon Mortrud
715 S. Tindolph Ave.
Thief River Falls, Minn.

Secretary

Mr. Gordon Johnson
1924 4th Ave. N.
Grand Forks, N. Dak.

BOARD OF PENSIONS

President

Mr. Eldor Sorkness
Sand Creek, Wis.

WOMEN'S MISSIONARY FEDERATION

President

Mrs. Melvin Walla
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