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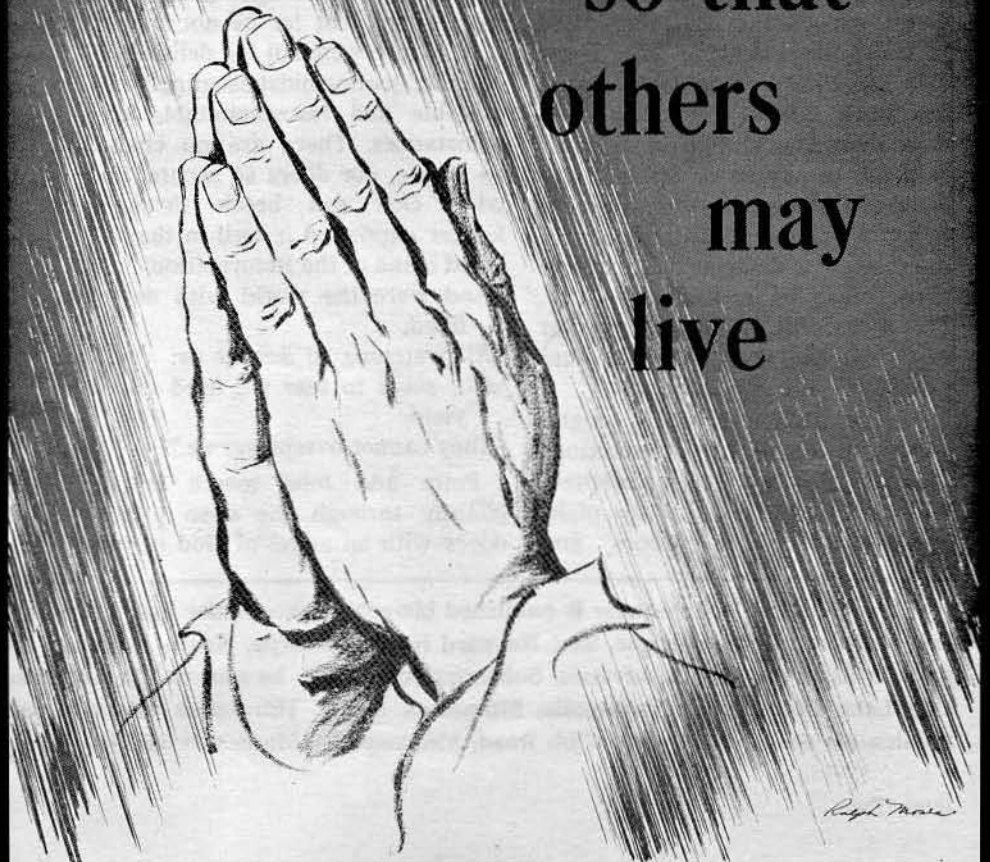
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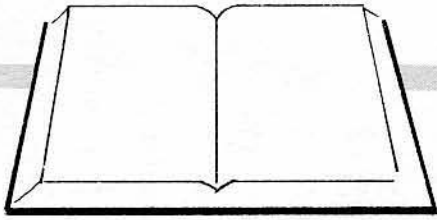
DRIVE

so that
others
may
live



Raymond





According to the Word

THE NIGHT GOD INTERCEPTED

Read Acts 5: 17-42.

This illustrious chapter in the history of the apostles is more than an account of human heroism. In fact, human hands and skills have little to do with it. God is in command! We read, "An angel of the Lord by night opened the prison doors, brought them forth and said, Go, stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this life" (Acts 5: 19, 20).

The persistent witness of Peter and John had landed them in prison, yet not for long. Indeed, this turned out to be a very brief prison term, the order of events being strangely interrupted. The high priest, who had secured their arrest, expected to have them tried in court the following day. These men had been in trouble before on the same count. They had been threatened then and given strict orders not to preach or teach in the name of Jesus again. And now, here they are, "filling all Jerusalem with their strange doctrine." This time there must be a stiffer penalty. This movement must be stopped at any cost. But the Lord had other plans.

In the stillness of the night, amidst all the security precautions of the high priest, God intercepted! "An angel of the Lord by night opened the prison doors and

brought them forth. . . ." Yes, there is a power stronger than chains. The Gospel of Christ defies even the toughest security measures of men. What do chains and guards and heavy doors mean when God is in command? Did He not say to a church in Asia Minor, "I am he that openeth and no man shutteth, and shutteth and no man openeth"? It would be well for us, in this far-off day, not to forget this. When God opens doors, there is no power on earth able to close them. The Apostle Paul writes to the church at Corinth: "For a great door and effectual is opened unto me, and there are many adversaries" (I Cor. 16: 9).

Yes, adversaries there will always be, threatening the cause of the Gospel. Yet let us not forget, God is in command! He delights in opening doors amidst seemingly impossible and insurmountable circumstances. There are no chains so strong, nor doors so secure, but what God can break through. Luther expressed it well in the beloved hymn of the Reformation:

"And were the world with devils filled,
All watching to devour us;
Our souls to fear we need not yield,
They cannot overpower us."

Peter and John march triumphantly through the open prison doors with an angel of God in full

charge. "Go, stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this life." The command is clear. The Gospel cannot be confined within prison walls; it must be communicated to men. "Go, stand and speak!" Not in some comfortable, well-protected corner, but back to the temple—the very scene of their arrest on the previous day. There we see them at it again, teaching and preaching Jesus.

"What sort of men are these?" some may ask. They are very ordinary men, fraught with human fears and failings. But they are men who had lost themselves in God. Well aware of their own insufficiency, they reckoned with God alone. Empowered by the Holy Spirit they challenged enemy strongholds with the Gospel. Neither adversaries nor prison bars could deter them. They were confident and courageous knowing God was in command!

Some years ago there lived in a village in Scotland a woman who was known in the community as "Catherine with the great faith." One day a pastor who had heard of her called at her home. "Are you Catherine with the great faith?" he asked. She replied: "Whether I have great faith, I do not know. But I have a great God."

Jay G. Erickson

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It may seem strange, but it is often a fact that...

Remorse Is A SIN

William F. McDermott

South American Indians for centuries have brewed a deadly poison, the dried aqueous extract of a vine called *strychnos taxifera*. Tipped on an arrow head, it will bring death in seconds to an enemy shot by the weapon. Yet this lethal substance, also known as curare, when brought under the control of medical science, is used in hospitals as an antispasmodic or as a relaxer of nerves when spasms threaten. It often serves in dealing with mental afflictions.

There are elements in human nature, also, which have some of both the deadly and life-saving properties in the spiritual realm that curare has in the flesh. One of these is remorse. It comes from Latin words meaning to bite again, to torment. Hence it is "distress, like gnawing pain, excited by a sense of guilt."

On Skid Rows in large cities will be found hundreds of hopeless alcoholics who wallow in remorse when drunken sprees begin to wear off. Then to drown their self-pity they go on another binge and sink deeper into the mire. Often someone else, in their mind, is to blame. Their remorse, providing no impulse or desire for them to improve their condition, becomes a sin; for it propels them into more extreme indulgence in drinking.

This is just as true in the higher echelons of society as in the lower; for delirium tremens may afflict brilliant, cultured, wealthy and in-

fluent people as well as the pitiful derelicts of the Street of Missing Men. Until its victims reach the stage of hopelessness and lost pride, they find in remorse not only a counterfeit refuge from their sense of guilt but also a driving incentive to drown it in soul-killing inebriety.

A refined and talented mother of kindly disposition and obliging nature who was active in both Sunday school and social welfare work in a Midwestern city, joined a social club. At first, because of her conscience, she refused to indulge in the wine that was served. Finally, in order to save face, she began to partake. She liked the exciting feeling which imbibing aroused. Occasional drinking became frequent, then habitual and finally uncontrollable.

Her fair-weather friends cast her off; she deserted her church and Sunday school; social welfare activities went glimmering. Pride disappeared, and her appearance became tawdry and disheveled. She became an alcoholic, flaunting her drunkenness in various ways. Her children became so afraid of her that they refused to go home after school, but took refuge with the neighbors. Police feared her wobbly driving might kill or maim.

Spells of remorse often gripped her, but the resultant self-pity only spurred more extreme indulgence.

One who didn't give up on her was her pastor. He exhorted her on the evils of drink. He implored her to sober up for her children's sake. He painted the bright picture of her

home, her social status and her activity in the church restored if only she would reform. All seemed to be in vain.

Then the key to her redemption was found when the clergyman pointed out that God's forgiveness is limitless if remorse is accompanied by repentance and the determination to do something about waywardness. That "repentance" was to throw herself on God's mercy and beg forgiveness, also to plead for divine aid in recovering her faith in God and in herself. One verse of Scripture proved to be the turning point: "Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool."

"God will forgive you your guilt," said the pastor, "and He also will forget it. Repenting and asking God's mercy will mean that you can feel all this sorry past is dead and gone and forgotten. You can look on your life henceforth as a clean slate on which you can write a record of faithfulness and loyalty to God and of happiness never surpassed in all your life. It will take time to overcome physically the effects of alcoholism, but the Lord will aid you in rehabilitating your health."

Remorse no longer afflicts the dear soul, for her church friends and loved ones received her back. She has now taken her old place as an active Sunday school and church worker. It was a struggle, but a clean heart and a brave spirit spurred her on to victory.

Uncontrolled remorse, which often degrades into self-pity, can be the ruin of the most promising life. The remorseful and repentant one must mean business, for God is no easy mark. Wishful thinking is not enough, nor is a momentary impulse to reform. Self-imposed reform is likely to be uncertain and undependable. Temptation comes easy.

I once helped to carry out of a city hotel the limp body of the chief justice of a state supreme court and put him on the train for his home. He was helplessly drunk. He had abstained for several years; but an old acquaintance in the city, entertaining him at dinner, had invited him to drink. "Take just one!" the host persisted. He did—and his self-control was all gone. He did not have the reserve strength that God would have given him if he had been regenerated by the love of God instead of reformed by the impulse of man.

Unrestrained remorse may result in unwarranted and useless self-castigation, even by those who affirm they believe and trust in the Lord. This often happens when a loved one has passed away and conscience-stricken survivors feel they have been guilty of neglect or oversight or indifference. Some feel that flagellating or scourging themselves by bitter thoughts of neglect is in a sense a form of atonement. It is not a new practice. For centuries individuals and groups and sects have practiced this cruelty, believing that self-punishment appeases an angry God.

Remorse that may result in such maudlinism is surely a sin. Repentance for the shortcoming of kindness or the injustice done a deceased loved one can vent itself in the high resolve to do loving Christian service to the sick, the lonely, the needy, the bereaved or those lost in sin. Helping others who need help in body, mind and soul, and witnessing to them that the saving grace of Christ is theirs for the asking, is the noblest atonement one can make.

Not long ago a murderer who had long been imprisoned finally went to the electric chair. He had been brutal, treacherous and contemptuous, even in the death cell. The warden considered him a devil, yet Christ came into his heart, and the ruthless killer became remorseful. A benign contriteness it was, too, for he became a kindly, gentle individual, and he went to his death singing a hymn.

Suicide is often the outlet for a remorseful person who seeks to escape rather than to face the future. Many years ago a young man in a village shot himself through the head, splitting his forehead in the form of a cross. His despair and self-pity led him to self-destruction when he might have married his sweetheart—whom he had mistreated—and established a happy home.

Remorse, without resultant courageous and helpful service as an antidote, can become a spiritual cancer, spreading its deadly tentacles throughout one's entire being. And the longer it is indulged, the more evil it becomes. The Bible has offsets for such an affliction. Here are some: "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon." Another: "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." Or Christ's compassionate words to the harlot: "Neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more."

There is no question that remorse can be a helpful emotion, but not when it is indulged in merely for self-punishment. It can be a mighty force for good, when channeled into service for a righteous cause. Christ's arms are held wide open for any one whose remorse, caused by neglect, treachery or abandonment, spurs him on to repent and atone for his actions. Complete repentance means complete forgiveness; and once a sinner is redeemed by the sacrifice of Christ

on Calvary's cross, he can face the world with a clear conscience and an abiding peace in his heart. It is as true in these amazing and bewildering twentieth century days as when Isaiah wrote the prophetic words given to him by God himself, that though one's sins "be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow."

Surely that goes for remorse, when its indulgence is sinful and unworthy in the sight of the Lord. For one who is remorseful, whatever the cause, enlightened sympathy to a modest extent is wise; but certainly not commiseration, which likely will only enhance self-pity. Helpfulness is always in order, particularly in presenting Christ to the sufferer as the One who can save *from* remorse and *unto* joyous usefulness and happiness. No better invitation can be given than, "Who-soever will, let him take of the water of life freely."

—Courtesy, *The War Cry*, Chicago

MOTORIST'S PRAYER

Lord grant me a steady hand and watchful eye,
That no man may be hurt when I pass by.
Thou gavest life, I pray no act of mine
May take away or mar that act of Thine.
Shelter those, dear Lord, who bear me company
From evil of fire and all calamity.
Teach me to use my car for others' need,
Nor miss through love of speed
The beauty of this world; that thus I may
With joy and courtesy go happily life's way.
And reach without mishap—eternal day.

—Author Unknown

A WORD TO ANXIOUS CHRISTIAN PARENTS



There are many parents these days who watch with deep concern the conduct of the older children growing up in their homes. An old saying tells us that little children step on mother's toes, but the older ones trample on her heart.

We think of Christian parents who really are concerned about the true welfare of their children. They themselves have experienced sin and grace. They may have many desires for the happiness of their children, but above all they are thinking of their salvation. They see the alluring, sinful temptations that their children must meet regardless where they live—on the farm or in the city. The auto, TV and radio carry these temptations to every door.

There are the dance halls and the movie theaters with all their attractions appealing to the carnal nature of the young boy and girl. And there are the hundreds upon hundreds of books and magazines containing licentious reading brought to every corner of our land through the mail. They may be had at news stands and drug stores. Young people get them and find them interesting even if they must hide them from their parents.

To Christian parents it may often seem as though the strong powers of darkness are making a prey of their dear children, dragging them into both temporal and eternal destruction.

What are such Christian grief-stricken parents going to do?

Among other things it will be well for them to remember that their children must see true Christianity in the daily life of their parents at home. Admonitions and exhortations without this will not do.

Children should see Jesus in Christian parents: love, joy, peace, long-suffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, meekness, self-control (Gal. 5:22). These fruits of the Spirit, which should be found in every Christian, ought first of all to be found in the home. Remember: You are as much of a Christian as you are a Christian at home!

A young man following his father to the grave said, standing at the bier: "Father was a Christian at home!"

True Christian parents often have cause for sorrow when they see their own faults and shortcomings in the home, and know their children have good eyes and ears and are able to draw their own conclusions. But let your children know that you are fighting against your own sins first of all, and are seriously striving to set a good example for them, and your life will be a sermon to them, which they never will forget.

The well-known German pastor and author, Otto Funcke, born 1836, has told us about the time he came to the university and met with much skepticism and rationalism among the students. His mother had been a very pious Christian woman, showing her children what Christianity meant to her. When the young Funcke was strongly tempted to throw his Christian faith overboard he says: "It was something unthinkable to me that my mother had made a mistake." And his faith was unshaken.

But the best, surest and safest way for Christian parents is *the way of prayer!*

It has been said: If you cannot speak much to your children about God, speak that much more to God

about them! Pray with faith and hope, even if it may seem to you that there is little reason for hope. Your prayers are registered in God's own book and will not be forgotten. Pray with persistence!

Remember your children are dear, not only to you, but also to your heavenly Father. Remember His wisdom and power. He is able to follow your child even where you cannot follow. As long as they are brought before Him by your arms of prayer, His loving heart, His watchful eye and His strong hand will be with them.

O blest the parents who give heed
Unto their children's foremost need,
And weary not of care or cost:
To them and heaven shall none be
lost.

—Courtesy, Tract Mission

CLERGYMEN SUBJECT TO FRUSTRATION, LUTHERAN PASTOR TELLS SEMINAR

Zion, Ill., Oct. 21 — "The Christian ministry is particularly endemic to frustration," Rev. Armin C. Oldsen told 62 pastors and the wives of 21 of the clergymen at the annual seminar here on the problems of larger churches.

"The responsibilities involved in serving a large parish are loaded with the allergies that produce a clerical itch, causing us to break out with a most annoying rash of disappointment, discontent, and even despondency that disturbs our slumbers and destroys the effectiveness of our daytime endeavors," the Fort Wayne clergyman added.

Pastor Oldsen, head of the religion department at Concordia High School in Fort Wayne and a former speaker on The Lutheran Hour, was seminar chaplain.

He told the clergymen, all with parishes of more than 1,500 members, that Moses, Job, Paul, Luther, "and even the Lord himself," had to fight frustration. "How often Christ worked unto weariness and exhaustion, healing, preaching, and helping, and so much had to be left undone," he added.

Which is our church most interested in?

I am sitting on the platform at the East Side Mission in Portland, Oregon. I wish you readers were here with me looking into the faces of the men before me. I wonder what thoughts would run through your minds. Here is a small part of the wreckage that has been thrown upon the shores of our city, the remnants of that army which failed to survive the terrible storms of life through lack of a true guide. What a picture we see as these faces stare into ours, a picture depicting the terrible cost of indulgence in sin. Oh, what a challenge these mission halls present! Oh, the joy of helping to pull a soul here and a soul there out of the muck of sin and of placing salvaged feet securely on firm ground!

But even in the moment of rejoicing, we slip back into moments of despondency. The futility of our efforts as we see, instead of a decrease, a growth in the number of derelicts; instead of the vacancy remaining, ten more step forth, trying to get into the place just vacated. The hopelessness of it almost takes the wind out of our sails.

Mission work is wonderful work and I am always glad to lend myself to it wherever and whenever the Lord presents an opportunity. But the thought comes back, again and again: we are only a rescue crew salvaging wreckage after it has met disaster; what are we doing to prevent them from hitting these hidden rocks and finally being destroyed?

As I look into some especially distorted face in the audience, I cannot help but say, "But for the grace of God, I might be there myself." And what was this grace? A Christian home with its family altar and a Christian church that knew how to interpret, "Feed my lambs." The remedy is—church and child.

One Sunday school man once said, "We are told that the big business of the church is that of saving sinners. It is and it is not. The bigger business of the Church is saving

the children and youth from becoming sinners." Is there not a tremendous truth in this and should not all Christians unite in an effort to reach every child with the Gospel? This giving of the Gospel to the youth of our land can alone avert disaster and save our people.

The church must act upon the policy that childhood belongs to God and it must be pre-empted for Him by the Church. We believe that human derelicts, the sin-blighted fragments of humanity, represent values for the Kingdom of God that must be restored. But we maintain that unless the church of Jesus Christ turns its undivided attention and whole heart to constructive methods, with the child as the objective, civilization is gone. The church must recognize its responsibility and must develop a sound and thorough educational program.

If teaching were merely the imparting of facts, then there would be no cause for anxiety, but teaching is the vital process of assisting an individual to solve his problems, form his habits, select his ideals and acquire his attitudes toward the greater ends of life. Its goal is complete living. The Christian is concerned with the formation of character and his aim is to promote a full balanced and purposive Christian personality. Religion, to be worthy of its name, must incorporate man's responses to the eternal values of life. Such being the definition of true education, then Christianity alone can supply what education needs. Religious education must become integral to the whole task of the church. There may be a difference in method, but the functions and aim must be the

same; all are educators, servants of Him, the true educator.

Again, it has been noted that of the converts brought into fellowship of believers through the customary revival methods, 87 percent fall away in five years; while of the converts brought into church through Sunday school and the pastor's communicant class, 60 percent are still found faithful after five years. Evangelization of children and youth is the natural process of spiritual education, which is the most sacred responsibility of the religious education forces of the church.

What do we see in life today? Or do we have eyes and yet see not? We see revolt against authority, a rising tide of crime, and a spread of all things coming under the head of communism. These are not phantoms but realities and give ample reasons for alarm. Crime's long arm is reaching further and further and is costing our nation annually over 14 billions of dollars. There are 12,000 homicides a year in our country and in 1933 alone, 350,000 persons were committed to penal institutions. The majority of these were young men and most of them had no religious training.

But a new generation is on the way; shall we lightly turn it over as prey to communism and such? The International Journal of Religious Education, September, 1932, states that 49 percent of the total public school population is untouched by any religious instruction. This means that more than 15,000,000 children and young people of 34,000,000 are spiritually neglected. This powerful force can

[Continued on page 10]

SALVAGE OR SAFEKEEPING



Edited by Mrs. David C. Hanson

**PRIMARY CHILDREN—FIRST, SECOND,
AND THIRD GRADERS**

THE FIRST GRADER

The first grade child is happy, enthusiastic, imaginative, active, and curious. He is pleased with his position as one of the "big" children, for now he attends school all day. At the same time he feels very small and fearful as he learns to cope with new situations away from the influence of home and parents.

There is so much change in his world at this particular time that he feels a special need of love and security. He likes to be assured of God's love and care, and needs to be told that God is always near.

In the public school he will start to learn about the world he lives in, so it is important that his family and Sunday school teacher help him to understand that God is the Creator who made all things. He seeks information, and believes exactly what he is told. The primary child is literal minded. He cannot understand symbolism or abstract teaching. His teacher will have to explain sin in terms of lying, disobedience to parents, etc. His understanding of right and wrong is growing, and he is comforted to know that God forgives sin.

It is still difficult for him to separate the truth from make believe and he needs to be told repeatedly that God is real, Jesus is real, and God's Word is truth.

Wiggling is as natural to him as breathing. He loves to run, jump, and play; and the program in Sunday school must take this into consideration. His coordination has developed so he can create as he learns. With a little encouragement he can draw a picture of the Bible story he has heard. He is able to act out the story with guidance from his teacher, he can answer and ask questions. He loves stories and will listen almost endlessly if the story is told well.

The first grader has a growing consciousness of property rights that makes him want to claim things for his own. It would be a wonderful year to encourage this personal feeling toward his God and Savior.

THE SECOND GRADER

The second grader has developed an awareness to the world and his relationship to it. He approaches things in concrete terms. A house to him is the place where he lives... a man would be his father or someone close to him.

He learns best when he participates in the lesson. He is capable of looking for a certain word in the lesson or in a Bible verse, and he likes to answer questions. His lesson will have the greatest effect when the story is related to his life in terms that he can understand, when he has an opportunity to express himself, and when he is helped to understand new words and phrases.

The second grade child is growing steadily and has developed more skills that use the smaller muscles, but he is not yet ready for long sessions of close work. Even though he is still very active, he is beginning to settle down so that there will be times when he wants periods of quiet to think things through.

He enjoys group play, but at this age boys and girls are apt to play separately. Boys like cowboys and Indians, girls play dolls.

The second grader is increasingly sensitive to the attitudes of other people, and is interested in what they think of him. He needs praise.

THE THIRD GRADER

The third grader is enjoying a new sense of adventure and independence that makes him willing to attempt the difficult.

His life has more purpose. The games he plays now have definite rules; baseball for the boys, jacks for the girls. The third grader may have a best friend, but he still enjoys group play and would rather not be alone.

As his world expands he is interested in the past and the future. Other countries of the world and even outer space are fascinating to him and he asks questions that are sometimes difficult to answer. He is able to express himself well, and likes to have someone listen to him. He takes himself very seriously, and if his teacher should laugh at him, he would probably not confide in her again. Praise is extremely important to him.

The third grader has an active imagination, and is very good at playing a part. He is pleased with his ability to read well. The dictionary and encyclopedia are interesting to him, and he could now begin to use a Bible concordance.

His Sunday school teacher can help him learn control by setting definite limits of behavior, and teaching him responsibility by assigning tasks. The teacher must remember, though, that the third grader is not normally persistent and does not follow through.

Most primaries are hero worshippers who adore

[Continued on page 10]

LWR HEAD VISITS VIETNAM TO SURVEY RELIEF NEEDS

Washington, D.C. (NLC) — Vice-President Hubert H. Humphrey met here with leaders of six U.S. voluntary agencies, including the head of Lutheran World Relief, before they left on a week-long visit to South Vietnam.

Bernard A. Confer, LWR executive secretary, said after the meeting that the team of relief officials was making a trip to Vietnam at the request of President Lyndon B. Johnson "to appraise the refugee situation and to evaluate possibilities for expanding voluntary agency assistance to refugees and other needy persons in that war-torn country."

Mr. Humphrey told the group "the President would like to have received you before you leave on this important mission." Mr. Johnson was recuperating in the Bethesda Naval Hospital following a gall bladder and kidney stone operation.

Agencies represented in the group, in addition to Lutheran World Relief, were Care, Church World Service, Catholic Relief Services, the Mennonite Central Committee and the International Rescue Committee.

Their representatives were part of an eight-man delegation asked to make the relief appraisal. They left here Oct. 16 and planned to spend about a week viewing conditions in South Vietnam. The other two persons on the team were Ugo Carusi, a long-time member of the U. S. Government's Advisory Committee on Voluntary Foreign Aid, and George H. Goss, newly named Vietnam Relief Coordinator in the Agency for International Development, who was in charge of arrangements for the relief leaders' visit.

Before departing Mr. Confer commented on indications of increasing need for refugee relief based on reports out of South Vietnam, which has a population of some 16 million.

While he was in Saigon in May,

Mr. Confer said refugees were estimated to total some 300,000 persons. The mid-October estimate, he said, reported twice that number.

Lutheran World Relief's basic policy, Mr. Confer pointed out, calls for service to the most needy regardless of race, creed or politics.

"We know that Christians throughout America," he went on, "are eager to demonstrate their concern for the victims of the unfortunate disaster that is a product of the military clash in the small country of Vietnam."

At the last meeting of the LWR Board of Directors, Mr. Confer said, the Board expressed its interest in providing personnel and material resources in view of the increasing number of refugees, now estimated to be about 600,000 persons. These refugees are men, women, and children who have been displaced from

their homes as a result of the military action. Most of them are scattered along the coast.

NOTICE OF WINTER BIBLE CONFERENCE

The fourth annual Winter Bible Conference of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations will be held in Willmar, Minn., at Free Lutheran Mission, February 10-13, 1966.

The Rev. Morris Eggen is pastor of the host church which is located at Fifth and West Minnesota Avenue in Willmar.

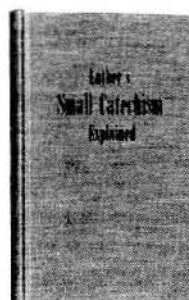
Departing from previous practice, this conference will begin on a Thursday evening and continue to Sunday afternoon to enable people who are employed during the week to attend on the week-end.

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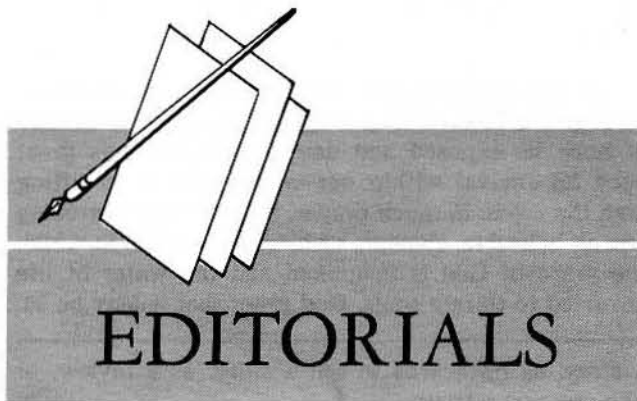
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EDITORIALS

SAFE DRIVING MONTH

The occasion of "Safe Driving Month" in South Dakota this month of November gives us the opportunity to comment on an increasing American and Canadian tragedy—the highway death toll.

The present rate of over 40,000 fatalities per year in the United States alone dwarfs the Viet Nam casualty list and that of a good many other conflicts. Highway accidents, like wars, cannot be outlawed, human nature and frailties being what they are. But it is right to throw support toward building a world in which they are less likely to occur.

The Highway Safety Department in South Dakota "Fact Sheet" reveals information such as this: one-car accidents accounted for 45% of South Dakota's fatal accidents in 1964. (It isn't always the fault of the other guy.); one out of every four drivers involved in fatal accidents in South Dakota last year had been drinking; a driver does not have to be obviously intoxicated be a dangerous driver; and young drivers are involved in almost twice as many accidents as their ability and numbers warrant.

The increased tempo of life is a major factor in these mishaps which not only kill, but also maim and injure many thousands each year. Our personal worlds have expanded so that we are able to move farther away from home base and in less time than ever before. Often we race against time schedules and we become impatient if fellow motorists do not move at the pace necessary for us at the moment. Impatience breeds recklessness and daring.

The South Dakota report states further that failure to grant right-of-way was a major contributing cause to the highway traffic toll. This shows, the report says, the "me first" attitude. Interesting, isn't it, how that reveals the theological truth that the natural man has a great proneness toward selfishness?

Then, too, the high incidence of drinking and driving is most tragic. And much more could be done to reduce this factor. We trust that *Ambassador* readers will throw their support to local and state efforts to make the penalties for the drinking driver prohibitive.

In conclusion, the "golden rule" applies to our motoring, as to all actions of life: do unto others as you would have them do to you.

DISTRIBUTING THE SCRIPTURES

Two of the best known agencies for distributing the Scriptures are the Gideon Society and the American Bible Society, both with international affiliations.

We had occasion to participate in two church services recently where the Gideon message was set forth. It is truly amazing what has been accomplished by this organization of Christian men in less than seventy years. Over 60 million complete Bibles or New Testaments with Psalms and Proverbs included have been distributed to hospitals, hotels and motels, prisons, school children, nurses and servicemen and women. And this out of a "chance" meeting of two Christian travelling men, who together with a third man later organized the Society.

The American Bible Society, and associated societies over the world, at minimal cost to the purchaser, makes the written Word of God available to thousands of individuals each year in their own language. The work of translation is not yet completed but every effort is being put forth to place the Bible into every known language or dialect.

The Word of God is living and powerful. As it is opened, read and proclaimed the Holy Spirit has the possibility of searching and probing hearts. There is no salvation apart from the Scriptures and their proclamation of the Living Word, Jesus Christ. Is there any question, then, that we should give our full support to these worthy societies and their still gigantic task of Bible distribution?

Not always is there a preacher of the Bible's message at hand. But we dare to leave a man alone with the Book, knowing that if he has honest inquiry in his heart, the Holy Spirit can guide him into all the truth.

ALL BY GRACE

The Great Apostle, bearing in his body the marks of the Lord Jesus (Gal. 6:17), declared, "But far be it from me to glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world" (Gal. 6:14). Of all that flowed from his heart and pen, nothing states any more clearly the ground of Christian hope.

When a man boasts in the cross of Christ he is excluding all other reasons for confidence. And it is good that he does so, for all other foundations are sinking sand. "By works of the law shall no one be justified" (Gal. 2:17). "For by grace you have been saved through faith; and this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God—not because of works, lest any man should boast" (Eph. 2:8, 9).

It is impossible to be saved by good works, but even if it were possible, heaven could not be experienced. For if those who come to that abode of the blessed should begin to tell, one that he was present for having done this good work, and another that, there would already be the seeds of dissension and the spirit

of pride. And the latter caused Adam's sin in the first place.

No, God will not allow that to happen. Heaven, for all of its mystery to us now, will be peopled by all who without exception, testify to the *grace* (unmerited favor) and mercy, and the merits of Jesus; by all who, in this world of choices, responded to the great love of God through Christ.

Parish Ed

[Continued from page 7]

their teachers. They enjoy some little private attention from the teacher each week. A wise teacher will take advantage of this to establish a strong relationship with her students that will help her to lead her children to a life lived in and through the power of the Lord Jesus.

TEACHING AIDS FOR PRIMARIES

ROOM DECORATIONS to teach the Bible story or follow a seasonal theme.

BULLETIN BOARDS to emphasize a unit of lessons.

PICTURES used as room decorations to introduce

Let our churches hold high the message of peace through the blood of His cross. Let every false ground of hope be exposed and demolished. There is great need for revival within our congregations. In lifting high the cross, in much prayer, in great soul-searching among believers, showers of blessing can fall in which the grace of God is magnified and the water of life imparted to thirsty souls. God grant that it may be so.

a story, as flashcards to tell a story, as a review, or as a creative activity.

FLANNELGRAPHS to tell the Bible lesson or to review the lesson.

DRAMATIZATION to help the children understand and remember the story.

PUPPETS to tell the story or to be used as a creative activity.

CHALKBOARDS to introduce new words or to make simple drawings to illustrate the Bible story.

MODELS—tabletop scenes to tell the story. Make houses and tents from boxes or paper. Use figures from Sunday school papers and move them as you tell the story.

[Continued from page 6]

our country unless the churches set themselves to forestall such a stupendous calamity. Yes, again I say, the first and greatest duty of the church is to conserve its childhood.

Another thought. Jesus took a little child and placed it in the disciples' midst. What a challenge! If only men and women of the church would face this challenge and bring themselves to help the Sunday school, and so answer this challenge, we would find ourselves in the midst of the most constructive revival the church has ever known.

Lately I had a talk with a juvenile court judge. He showed me a letter coming from an inmate of a penal institution. Among other things he read, "Thanks to society for my being what I am today." The judge said, "We do not solve the problem. The boys and girls of this locality must be saved before they get into our houses of correction."

"Is it well with the child?" Is that the question in the hearts of the church members? In many churches adult preference and com-

forts have had the right of way because adults pay the bill. Anything is good enough for the Sunday school! This must be changed and the child must have the right of way.

Surely, the Church of Christ will not fail to see and to face the challenge which the Sunday school presents. It is true as one has said, that we must be concentrating our greatest interest and expanding our most passionate endeavor on the child. We are busy building buildings that fire can destroy; busy piling up money that will be fought over by those anxiously awaiting our death. Why not build in the children round about us, putting into them ideals and material that neither floods nor fires can destroy. The best and quickest way to evangelize America is to win one generation of children to Christ by the right kind of Christian instruction.

Which is the Church most interested in, wreckage or a beautiful life—salvage or safekeeping?

Harold Johnson
The Lutheran Messenger

(Written in the Thirties, the above article lists statistics which

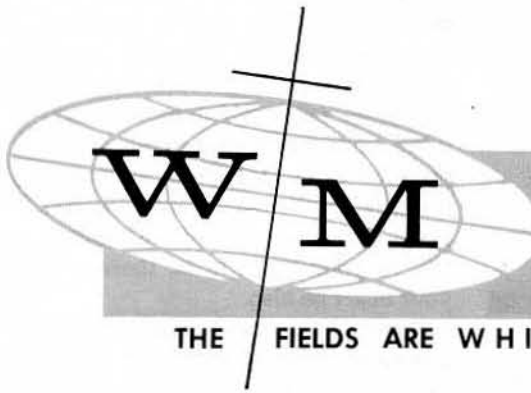
are very much out of date and yet we venture to say that the situation which Mr. Johnson depicts is much the same today, if not worse proportionately to our increased population—Ed.)

CHURCH PRESIDENT TO BE EVANGELIST AT WINGER PARISH MEETINGS

The Winger (Minn.) parish is planning to have Pastor John Strand, president of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations, as the evangelist for a series of meetings to be held in the Dovre Lutheran Church in Winger on November 26 and 27, the Union Lake Lutheran Church on November 28 and 29, and the Maple Bay Lutheran Church on November 30 and December 1. The services will begin at 8 o'clock each evening.

The Union Lake Church is located seven miles west, three miles north, and two and one-half miles east of Winger. The Maple Bay Church is located six miles north, three miles east and one and one-half miles north of Fertile. The

[Continued on page 16]



WORLD MISSIONS

THE FIELDS ARE WHITE UNTO HARVEST

Campo Mourao, Parana
 Caixa Postal 44
 September 15, 1965

(David is 14 years old and in the first year of high school here in Campo Mourao, Parana, Brazil.)

Dear Friends and Youth of our Lutheran Association,

I am writing to you from our Christian bookstore here in Campo Mourao. It is the only Christian bookstore in this region. We sell Bibles, books, records, pictures and other things that give out the Gospel message. We also give away many tracts.

I take charge of the bookstore for my dad because he is too busy as a missionary to take care of this also. I have to order books, pay bills, and write letters in Portuguese some times. I do this bookstore work in the mornings and go to school in the afternoon. In the afternoon one of our other students takes care of the counter here. I am in the first year of secondary school here which is about like high school.

My hardest subject is mathematics. They do not study English here until the third year. In school all we speak is Portuguese.

On the 7th of September Brazil has its Independence Day. There was a large parade with over 3,000 students marching. My dad says we need to start a primary school here, as there are still more kids out of school than in school. I am in our school's drum and bugle corps. I play the cymbals. Our high school won the prize for schools marching that day, and since I was the only cymbals player they had, I was glad for that.

The kids I play with are pretty much the same as in the States. They have a little darker skin because we have a lot of sun here. They play mostly soccer here. We play volleyball, tops, and swim.

Our Sunday school and church services are getting better all the time but we still have lots of work to do. Please pray for the work here, that the Lord will help me and all of us to win our friends to Christ.

Sincerely in Christ,
 David Abel

DeKALB CHURCH TO BUILD

The Grace Lutheran Church of DeKalb, Ill., decided to build the basement of its new church first this fall and to proceed with the superstructure in the spring. The supervisor of the work will be Mr. Ray Johnson, Polo, Ill. The architects are the Evangelical Church

Building Corporation, South Bend, Ind.

The nave will seat 220 and there will be room for 25 in the choir, 41 in the overflow and 75 in the balcony, with a full basement containing Sunday School rooms along one side and the end.

Pastor Harold Schafer

**EVANGELISTIC MEETINGS
 IN DeKALB**

Rev. Odin Erickson of the Calvary Lutheran Brethren Church in Chicago will be the special speaker at a series of evangelistic meetings at the Grace Lutheran Church in DeKalb, Ill. The meetings will begin at 7:30 p.m. each week day, November 16-21, and be held at a rented church at 7th and Prospect Streets. The Sunday services will be at 10:45 a.m. and 7:15 p.m. at the Glidden School, First Street South and Garden Street. Anyone in the area is welcome at these services.

Pastor Harold Schafer

**OFFICERS OF THE
 ASSOCIATION OF
 FREE LUTHERAN
 CONGREGATIONS**

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 3110 East Medicine Lake
 Blvd., Minneapolis, Minn.
 55427

Vice-President: Rev. Fritjof
 Monseth, 425 3rd Ave. NE,
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Secretary: Rev. Richard Snip-
 stead, Ferndale, Wash.

Treasurer: Mr. Robert Bur-
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 Lake Blvd., Minneapolis,
 Minn. 55427

Co-ordinating Committee
 Chairman: Rev. Julius Her-
 munsle, Spicer, Minnesota

Mission Director: Rev. Harold
 R. Schafer, 112 West Miller
 Ave., DeKalb, Ill.



Schoolboys Marching in Campo Mourao, Brazil



STEWARDSHIP

ALL THAT I HAVE
IS THINE ALONE

STEWARDSHIP

We do not hesitate to write about money and related matters in connection with work in the Church. Money is needed, and will be needed as long as we are here on earth. Only in heaven will it be different. In Romans 12:1 Paul urges his readers to present "your bodies as a living sacrifice—which is your spiritual service." Further on in the same chapter he indicates that "contributing to the needs of the saints" is a part of that spiritual service.

Life is like that here on earth. The physical and the spiritual belong together; body and soul are one. Of course, it is true that gifts and sacrifices do not make one a Christian. A very rich man could sell all he has and give the proceeds to the work of the Kingdom; yet that would not make him a child of God. One cannot "buy his way" into the Kingdom. Heaven is not for sale. Selling all and giving it away might lead in the direction of one's becoming an heir of God, however. We have in mind the incident of the rich young ruler; a treasure in heaven was promised him if he would dispose of his goods and distribute to the poor. In his case money had become an idol, and he needed to become rid of this idol before he could worship the Lord. It may be so for many a rich person today also; his wealth stands between him and his God. As Jesus did, so would we today say—even to those who are not yet Christian: Give of your means to the Lord; it may be the means by which you are led to the Savior.

Just as surely as one cannot buy his way into heaven, so certainly it is the law of the new life in Christ to give. God loved so that He gave, and every one born of God shares in this beneficent nature. Really, no Christian is truly satisfied that he has given enough; he wishes it were possible for him to give more. Like the woman at the temple treasury, he would like to give all.

But God knows that bills have to be paid, and these must be taken care of, too. So God made it a rule in the Old Testament days to give one-tenth; this was a "reasonable service." This is a good suggestion for a rule in the New Testament times, too. We know of none better. The rule is not so rigid in the New as it was in the Old; after all, we are now living in the age of complete revelation, and God wants us to give without compulsion. He wants us to give until we become cheerful. God loves a cheerful giver.

It has been a difficult lesson even for Christians to learn that giving bountifully to the Lord's work can be a source of gladness. Only a few have really discovered how pleasant it is to tithe. People who have tried it have found that somehow God has blessed the rest in such a way that it has stretched to cover more than the whole one hundred percent would have done had there been no giving.

You get "interest" twice when you give to the Lord's work. There is first the initial interest of joy and satisfaction you get. Perhaps it should be called a "dividend," for it continues to be paid as time goes

on. I believe this is a kind of joy that only God can give. It is different from all other forms of joy—like that of owning stocks, houses and other property; there is something so solid and durable about the joys which God gives. Secondly, there is the increased interest you get in the work of God's Kingdom. Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

Some of you have observed this unwritten rule of the New Testament. We do not have to convince you. But we urgently urge others to try this method. Do you suppose you could start this fall?

The glory of giving in God's Kingdom is that you can decide where your gifts are to go. After all, God gave the money to you, and He wants you to decide. No human being can be the dictator here. But as Christians we can make suggestions to one another; and we suggest that you remember the work of the AFLC. You are members of this Association, and it should be normal that your interests already are here. It should only be natural that a goodly portion of your gifts should be given to this activity.

Summer and early fall months are often lean ones as far as contributions are concerned. But now the summer is past and the harvest has ended. Is it reasonable to assume that we can catch up in November and December? We believe it is, and that you people will come through, and that both as individuals and congregations you will make earnest efforts right soon to do so. We nudge you ever so gently in this manner as a reminder. Let ours be gifts of thanksgiving to the Lord.

Dr. Iver Olson

"And Peter said to them, 'Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is to you and to your children and to all that are far off, every one whom the Lord our God calls to him'" (Acts 2:38, 39).

WOMEN for Christ

MRS. ABEL WRITES

Dear Friends in the WMF:

This has been a wet, quiet Sunday. The rain started last night after a windy and dusty afternoon which left everything covered with a fine red dust. This morning as we were about to leave for Sunday school the rain turned to a heavy downpour. We knew this would discourage just about everyone, as most of the families live some distance from the downtown institute and church center, and off on dirt roads that by now were about like slippery red cakes of soap. We decided to have Sunday school at home, while father went to the church to see if any brave souls had arrived.

Tonight is the last evening of our week of evangelism services in a new area which is sort of a sub-

urb of Campo Mourao; it is called Lar Parana (Parana Home). We began a work in a small store building here about two months ago, mainly with children (a Sunday afternoon Sunday school). Now through this week of evangelism we hoped to reach some families and change the schedule to an early evening service on Sundays and a midweek Bible study-prayer service. Throughout the week attendance has been very good, about sixty persons, though the store would hold around eighty seated. One night we had rain, and so expected no one. John and I were making use of the time to give the place a good sweeping and dusting when a Japanese family came. They live across the street and run a small grocery store. The father and his four sons had not missed a meeting all week. We found out now from visiting with them that this was the first time they had ever attended evangelical meetings. That night, after a long visit, John was able to show them the way of salvation and have prayer with them. We ask that you pray for this family (the mother has not been dealt with as yet, but she is very friendly and open). The four boys are now all taking a Bible correspondence course at home. This seems like a miracle to us because it is not easy to find Japanese interested in the Gospel, and that the Lord should send them to us and open their hearts is indeed a sign of His working that we marvel at.

They need much prayer.

There are many opportunities on this frontier. Pray for more laborers. On July 21 we had our first women's meeting in the home of a Brazilian medical doctor, whose wife is a German and Lutheran by background. They are not converted as yet but are interested in the church and have their little boy in Sunday school. They have a teenage niece who also is in Sunday school. She is a Paraguian. Pray for her conversion. We feel she should be claimed for the Lord for missionary work in Paraguay. At our first women's meeting 16 ladies attended. If they get into the Word, I know God can use them. I am praying that some of my friends who are nominal Catholics and seem afraid of coming to church will have courage to come to these meetings, thus coming in contact with the Gospel. Please join me in prayer for the many ladies I meet here and testify to, that God may call them to His salvation.

We were very happy to meet the Grothes at the airport. They are now busy in school, the children in theirs and the parents in language study. This will be a busy, happy and adventuresome year for them. Language study in a new country is always that.

Thank you for your constant support and your daily prayers. Our My Missionary for a Day project is a wonderful thing!

Sincerely in Christ,
Mrs. John Abel

SOUTH DAKOTA DISTRICT WMF MET AT FAITH

"I will give you the keys of the kingdom" (Matt. 16:19). This was the theme chosen for the annual meeting of the South Dakota Women's Missionary Federation held at Bethel Lutheran Church in Faith, October 6, with Pastor and Mrs. A. L. Hokonson as host and hostess.

The afternoon session began with musical selections by Mrs. Wayne Sletten of Faith, followed by the theme song "The Light of the World Is Jesus."

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The John Abel family



Luther League Activities

FULL-TIME CHRISTIAN SERVICE

Christian Teenager, Is This For You?

Bob Lee

"And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as unto the Lord, and not unto men; knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ" (Col. 3: 23, 24).

"And what are you going to be when you grow up?" Now where have I ever heard that question before? Each of us has probably been asked that umpteen times by some well-meaning adult who was trying to make conversation. And I suppose that most of us responded with the usual answers: firemen, policemen, nurses, doctors—or maybe just like mama and daddy. When my sister was quite young, her ambition was to grow up and be a housewife, and she once asked very seriously if a girl had to go to college to be a mother!

What would you say if the question of your future vocation were put to you right now? Maybe you'd give some of the same answers or maybe not. A short time ago I heard a young lady say that she wanted to be either a nurse or an archaeologist—how's that for a combination! No, at any rate this is a subject about which a person spends a lot of time thinking, especially as one gets farther along in school.

I think that every Christian teenager should go into full-time Christian service. Now maybe you think that this is a foolish statement to make. What would happen to our society if every Christian became a minister, missionary, parish worker, etc.? Hold on, now! I didn't say that every Christian should be a minister, missionary, parish worker, etc.; I said that every Christian should be in full-time Christian service.

Is there a difference? Yes, I believe that there is. Maybe our trouble consists in the fact that we've heard too many proud parents bragging about junior (or daughter) going into full-time Christian service, meaning some church-related vocation. Behind all of this is the mistaken notion that there is something more holy or God-pleasing about "church work" than about "secular" vocations.

We believe and teach the Biblical doctrine of the priesthood of all believers. This means that every Christian has the right, yes, the duty, to proclaim the Gospel to all people (Rev. 22: 17, I Pet. 2: 5). However, the Bible also teaches that certain people are set aside ("called") by God to be full-time teachers and preachers of the Word. Surely we can see this as we read of God's call to the prophet Jeremiah (1: 4-9). In a sense, I suppose, there is something special about this type of vocation. The point, though, is that God calls only

certain of His children into it.

So what is full-time Christian service? It is "whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do *all* in the name of the Lord Jesus"; it is "whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as unto the Lord"; it is remembering that "ye serve the Lord Christ." The Lord has a call for each of His children, a place where He would have him serve in the Kingdom. A Christian can be worshipping and serving the Lord full time, no matter what his vocation. It is said that the wife of a famous preacher has a sign over her kitchen sink which reads "Worship Services Held Here Three Times a Day."

Full-time Christian service; Christian teenager, is this for you? You bet it is! Seek God's will for your life. Remember, "Ye serve the Lord Christ."

"And in the morning, a great while before day, he rose and went out to a lonely place, and there he prayed" (Mark 1: 35).

"Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord. Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged" (Col. 3: 20, 21).

NOTICE

Occasionally, through an error in mailing, you may miss an issue or two of the *Ambassador*. When you are certain that you have missed an issue and your subscription is still in force, please write our office for the missing numbers and they will be furnished free of charge.

Should you continue to miss copies of the *Ambassador*, write and ask that an inquiry be made as to the reason.

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Mrs. John Swanson of Pukwana led in Scripture reading and prayer. She chose Rev. 1:4ff as her text. Greetings were extended by the Faith Ladies Aid through the president, Mrs. Udager, and by the district president, Mrs. Otto Swanson Pukwana. The national WMF resolutions for 1965 were read by Mrs. Ervin Tvinnereim, Webster, followed by the song "So Send I You" by a group of ladies from Tabor Church, Webster.

Mrs. O. K. Ose, Thief River Falls, Minn., past national president, chose as the text for her message, Matthew 20:1-16. She stressed that we are to live unto Him, and not for ourselves; that many that are first shall be last and the last first.

Special music was provided by a girls' group from Faith accompanied by Mrs. Hokonson. Mrs. Harold Hintze, Chamberlain, state secretary-treasurer, presented the WMF projects and budget.

In the business session it was decided that each Ladies Aid should have correspondence each month with our missionaries in Nogales, Ariz., and Brazil. Mrs. Sherman McCarlson, Webster, read a prayer letter received from Alvin Grothe, Sao Paulo, Brazil.

The following officers were elected: president—Mrs. Wayne Sletten, Faith; vice-president—Mrs. Ray Bayless, Eagle Butte; secretary-treasurer—Mrs. Bob Jensen, Faith; cradle roll secretary—Mrs. Sherman McCarlson, Webster.

Mrs. Ingvald Storley, Roslyn, reported on the accomplishments of the cradle roll in the past year. Following the offering to the district treasury we were greeted by Pastor John Strand, president of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations. Mrs. Hokonson closed the meeting with prayer.

The Bethel WMF served the evening meal. At this time Mrs. Hokonson introduced Miss Bea Long, guest speaker from Chamberlain. A former missionary, she wore her Japanese costume as she gave an

interesting and inspiring talk on her work in Japan.

We sang choruses and Pastor Trygve Dahle, Spicer, Minn., led in prayer. The day was one of inspiration and blessing. In the evening Pastors Strand and Dahle presented the work of the Association to the district stewardship meeting.

The WMF convention next fall will be held in the Lake Region Parish, Roslyn, S. Dak.

Mrs. Harold Hintze, Secretary

WMF RALLY HELD IN TIOGA

The annual fall rally of the Western North Dakota—Eastern Montana Women's Missionary Federation was held in Zion Lutheran Church, Tioga, N. Dak., on September 29.

The theme for the rally was "What a Friend We Have in Jesus," using Heb. 13:5, "I will never leave thee nor forsake thee," as the theme verse.

Mrs. Kenneth Nylander played an organ prelude before the session began with the opening hymn being "What a Friend We Have in Jesus." Mrs. Eilert Haakenson welcomed the women on behalf of the Zion Ladies Aid. Mrs. Erling Brekke gave the Scripture reading and prayer from Deut. 8:11-20.

An interesting and inspiring Bible study on our theme was given by Mrs. Herbert Presteng, the national president. She used several Bible references on Jesus being a friend to man and the results in our lives when we accept Him as our friend. She also used an object lesson on some of the sins in our lives and what happens when the Spirit of the Lord comes into our lives and hearts and washes away our sins.

A ladies' chorus from Zion sang two selections: "Rock of Ages" and "Something for Thee" before the business meeting. That was presided over by Mrs. Chester Halvorson, district president. A constitution for the organization, read by Mrs. Roy Syverson, was adopted.

Mrs. Iver Solberg gave the nominations committee report. Mrs. Knute Jore, Culbertson, Mont., was

elected vice-president and Mrs. Ronald Gravgaard, Tioga, was re-elected secretary. The president gave her report for the past year.

The afternoon session began at 1:30 p.m. with Mrs. LeRoy Nelson playing an organ prelude. Mrs. Jore led in Scripture reading and prayer, using John 15:12-16. An inspirational hymn sing was led by Mrs. Wayne Vance.

Mrs. Presteng installed the officers in a candle lighting service. The WMF projects were explained by Mrs. Presteng. She also gave a flannelgraph on Luke 12, comparing the rich fool who builds up treasures for himself on earth with the wise man who stores up treasures in heaven. We were admonished to follow the example of the wise man and build for eternity.

Mrs. Orville Qualley and Mrs. Paul Jacobs sang a duet, "There's No Friend Like Jesus." Mrs. Jore accepted the attendance trophy for the Culbertson Ladies Aid. They had the largest percentage of their women in attendance. Mrs. H. Albert Larson sang "I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say."

A few closing remarks were made by the district president. "Precious Lord, Take My Hand" was sung by Mrs. Vance after which she led the audience in singing it as the closing song. The meeting closed with a poem, "If Jesus Came to Your House," and the closing prayer by Mrs. Halvorson.

The dinner and coffee hours were served by the Zion Ladies Aid with the offering going to the General Fund of the national WMF.

It is through Christ, and through Him alone, that we gain entrance to the storehouse of spiritual treasures which a gracious God in heaven has prepared for us: forgiveness of sins, peace of soul, strength in the hour of trial, and the gilt-edged assurance of eternal bliss and glory. "I am the Door," the Savior once said. "By me, if any man enter in, he shall be saved" (John 10:9).

—Herman W. Gockel

**LUTHERAN CHURCHMAN
AGAIN HEADS GERMAN
BUNDESTAG**

Bonn, Germany (NLC) — Dr. Eugen Gerstenmaier, 59-year-old Lutheran churchman who was a leader of the anti-Hitler resistance, has been re-elected president of the Bundestag, lower house of the West German Parliament.

Dr. Gerstenmaier was named to the post by a vote of 384 to 21, with 98 abstentions, when the fifth session of the Bundestag convened on Oct. 19. A leading member of the Christian Democratic Party, he was elected to the parliament in 1949 and became president in 1954.

Dr. Gerstenmaier was one of a group of Protestant and Roman Catholic churchmen involved in the abortive plot against Hitler of July 20, 1944. He was arrested and condemned to death, but the sentence was later commuted to seven years hard labor. American troops liberated him from a prison in Bavaria in 1945.

In the fall of 1945, when the Evangelical Church in Germany was reorganized, Dr. Gerstenmaier was chosen to head the federation's relief agency, the Hilfswerk. Under his direction, the agency became one of the largest organizations of its kind in Europe. At the peak of its activity, Hilfswerk had more than 100,000 workers. In recent years, it has been combined with the Inner Mission.

The pressure of his duties in parliament forced Dr. Gerstenmaier to resign from Hilfswerk late in 1951 but he has retained close association with the church agency. He is a member of the Lutheran Church of Wuerttemberg.

Dr. Gerstenmaier has visited the United States several times since the end of World War II in behalf of Hilfswerk and also as a politician, and was head of the first official West German delegation to the United Nations. He received an honorary degree from Wittenberg College (now University) at Springfield, Ohio, in 1956.

**WHO ARE THESE LIKE STARS
APPEARING?**

Who are these like stars appearing,
These, before God's throne who stand?

Each a golden crown is wearing;
Who are all this glorious band?
Hallelujah! hark, they sing,
Praising loud their heavenly King.

Who are these of dazzling brightness,

These in God's own truth arrayed,
Clad in robes of purest whiteness,
Robes whose luster ne'er shall fade,
Ne'er be touched by time's rude hand?

Whence comes all this glorious band?

These are they who have contended
For their Savior's honor long,
Wrestling on till life was ended,
Following not the sinful throng;
These, who well the fight sustained,
Triumph by the Lamb have gained.

These are they whose hearts were riven,

Sore with woe and anguish tried,
Who in prayer full oft have striven
With the God they glorified:
Now, their painful conflict o'er,
God has bid them weep no more.

These, like priests, have watched and waited,

Offering up to Christ their will,
Soul and body consecrated,
Day and night they serve Him still.
Now in God's most holy place,
Blest they stand before His face.

H. T. Schenk

(from *The Lutheran Hymnary*)

[Continued from page 10]

Dovre Church is in Winger.

All are welcome to attend. We ask the other congregations to remember to pray that souls may be converted and edified in our midst.

Student Pastor, Gary Skramstad

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Permit No. 1521

BIBLE VERSES

"For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Rom. 6: 23).

"We know that in everything God works for good with those who love him, who are called according to his purpose" (Rom. 8: 28).

"For by the grace given to me I bid every one among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith which God has assigned him" (Rom. 12: 3).