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LUTHERAN



—“A Happy New Year!”—

THE COLUMBIA LUTHERAN

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ENOCH N. SANDEEN, B.D.
2048 W. 64th St., Seattle, Wash.

Editor and Manager

Editorially

AN OPEN LETTER TO PASTORS AND CONGREGATIONS



Suppose a pastor would burn all his books! Unless he is of unusual calibre and possesses superhuman talents he would soon be feeding his congregation water instead of power. Once we met such an emaciated pastor—now well forgotten even by those he tried to serve—but that is another story, as Kipling used to say. Books are our best company. They give us access to the best thoughts and to the company of truly great men. And yet several of our own Columbia Conference pastors have burned their books! And, sadly enough, most members never had any to burn.

You get the drift—possibly. The Columbia Lutheran has been unanimously declared the official organ of the Columbia Conference. And yet—do you ever see any news from some congregations? How can the membership be informed as to the activities of the Conference if it does not read the news? How can the pastors and their secretaries expect people to know of their success if they keep the news well hidden in their own offices? Are the things we do not worth while publishing?

Some might say: "No one reads the news anyway!"—You would be surprised to read what some letters have to say about the absence of news from the congregation to which the particular writer happens to belong. No news in the Conference board? Nothing doing in the hospitals? Nothing in college? To judge by this present issue only two congregations have held an-

nual meetings. Or probably others met and sat and—went home. Why not make use of your magazine? It costs you only three cents to send a letter.

This is true also in respect to the LUTHERAN COMPANION. That is our Synodical official organ, but how many read it? And yet, the Editor of that particular magazine ranks among the very highest in the land. His training and spirit makes him the most outstanding among Lutheran editors of today. Consequently the Lutheran Companion is the best religious magazine on the market today. And don't you forget it.

But how many in our Conference are willing to read the Lutheran Companion? You would hide your blushing face behind the stove if you knew. Naturally we keep quiet. But you will pardon us if we tell you for once that as far as religious literature and as far as knowing anything about the rest of the Augustana Synod is concerned our Conference is desperately illiterate. What's the use to have church papers if the membership continues to sleep?

OUR COVER DESIGN

You may be sure that when little Ebbe Julian Sandeen sticks his chubby fingers in his mouth to say "Happy New Year!" he means a barrel full of good cheer. His lusty "Hello!" as he first came into this world was a harbinger of joy to the parents. Now he brings to you the well wishes on behalf of us all, and we hope that you will heed his merry eyes and say to yourselves: "Yes, we will be like little children—for of such is the kingdom of heaven!"

NEW BOOKS PUBLISHED

We did think that it was about time for young and talented Rev. Edwin C. Munson to write a book. John Helmer over in Chicago has been busy entertaining us, and so have a few other pastors of the literary kind, but Rev. Munson has been rather quiet. Still he was the most promising along literary lines as we met in the Press Club of Augustana College, comparing our literary attempts. Now we know why he has been quiet so long. He wanted to prepare a REAL book for

his first attempt. It bears the title: "The Cross" and reveals the great truths that center in the cross and brings a message of virile vitality. The style is vigorous and convincing and when you have read all the chapters, you lay the book down with the determination to read it chapter by chapter to the family before you go to your work in the mornings. Original? Rev. Munson could never write anything else. Instructive? There is wisdom in the Cross and Rev. Munson puts it just where you want it—in your heart.

Write today to the Augustana Book Concern, Rock Island, Ill., and ask for the book. The price is only \$1.00.

In this connection we are glad to state that Elna (Danielson) Erickson is ready to announce her first book of poems. The book will soon be ready for the market. Mrs. Erickson, formerly resident of Everett, has written scores of poems for the Columbia Lutheran and is well known to the readers.

STEWARDSHIP SERMONS

Each generation makes some transforming discovery in God's book: what is "Stewardship" but God's word for this generation?

Jesus teaches that a man's attitude to the kingdom of God is revealed by his attitude to his property.

Stewardship puts the Golden Rule in business in place of the Rule of Gold.

When a man gets rich God gets a partner or the man loses his soul.

Not how much of my money must I give to God, but how much need I use for myself.

Give, not from the top of your purse but from the bottom of your heart.

The kingdom of God can never be established by raising money; but it can never be extended without raising money.

To have is to owe, not to own.

Truth is more eloquent lived than spoken.

A man says, "The world owes me a living." He should say, "I owe the world a life."

God will not refuse the poor offerings of the poor; but he will not accept the poor offerings of the rich.



CONFERENCE HISTORY

By Rev. J. A. Edlund

Cont. from last issue

Erland Carlson was, perhaps, the most practical and farsighted man among them. His work as pastor in Chicago from 1852 and emigrant missionary up to a few years after the great Chicago fire in 1871 was of utmost importance for the whole Synod. He became the fourth president of the Synod and when you read the synodical minutes for the first years, you can trace his guiding hand. He had an executive ability that few possess. He was a powerful pulpit orator like his spiritual adviser, Lars Sellergren, in Småland.

5. The most pious man among them was undoubtedly O. C. T. Andreen, a bosom friend of his Master like St. John among the apostles. His power over the Swedish language was most pleasing. Few of these men measured up to him in this respect. He returned to Sweden in 1860 and remained as pastor within the Swedish Church till his death in 1870.

Of those seven ordained in America

by the Lutheran Synod of N. Ills. I mention first:

1. Eric Norelius, the most versatile and learned of them all. The only congregation he served during his long ministry was that of Vasa, Minn., which he served five different periods. He became the 3rd president of the Synod and served as such three different periods of several years each. His history of the Swedes and Sw. Luth. churches in America in 2 Vols. is, perhaps, the most outstanding of its kind in our land.

2. P. A. Cederstone was a fine, humble man. In his early years he leaned toward Methodism. He held the communion address on the Sunday at the Synod when I was ordained in 1894.

3. M. F. Hokanson was the first Sw. Lutheran pastor in Iowa, coming to the New Sweden colony in 1847. He was bewildered by the Baptists for a short while, but came out of the fiery ordeal a better man. He is buried at Bergholm, near Ottumwa, Iowa. I have been to his grave, but Dr. Norelius confesses, that he does not know where his mortal remains are at rest.

4. Peter Beckman was a sincere soul,

although a prodigal in his youth. He stood firm on the Rock of Ages from the time he saw the light of a new day. He was bedridden for the last few years of his life and died at the ripe old age of 93 years. I made him a visit shortly before his death at Troy, Idaho.

5. A. Andreen was the orator of these pillars of the Augustana Synod. In this respect his three sons: Gustaf, Philip and Alexis followed in the footsteps of their father as pastors of our Synod.

6. J. P. Borén was a school teacher in Sweden, when he accepted a call to come across the "pond" to assist Eric Norelius at Vasa, Minn. Here he was shortly ordained. As a pastor he did not get along so well with the people he served, though he was a well-meaning man and a good preacher. He died at Stockholm, Wis., before long and was the first one of our pioneer pastors to pass to his reward, which took place in 1865. The most of these men were reared in poverty-stricken homes in their native land and here in this new country they carried on under very distressing circumstances with an eye

only for the Glory of God and the salvation of souls.

7. You will hear about Peter Carlsson, who belongs to this group, in connection with the history of the Columbia Conference.

These men were born 1808-1833: L. P. Esbjörn the oldest and E. Norelius the youngest. They died within the years 1865-1915; the first one Borén and the last one Norelius.

Four of the pastors, now within our Conference: Dr. Jos. A. Anderson, J. A. Edlund, John Truedson and Carl J. Renhard were ordained during the last decade of last Century. They feel that they are a connecting link, (perhaps, somewhat rusty) between the substantial pastors and the tragic present.

(To be continued)

REV. RYDELL TO BE INSTALLED AS PASTOR OF TACOMA CHURCH

Great festivities will mark the installation February 2 of Rev. Carl E. Rydell as pastor of the First Lutheran Church of Tacoma to succeed Rev. Ernest Svenson, who resigned last year. The festive service begins at 3 o'clock in the afternoon when the pastors of the Tacoma district meet for a three days convocation and spiritual retreat. The services will be conducted by Rev. N. Wm. Anderson of Spokane, president of the Columbia Conference, and greetings will be brought by pastors in official capacity, Rev. Enoch Sandeen speaking on behalf of the Tacoma district, Rev. A. B. Nelson for the Tacoma Ministerial Association, Rev. Mikkel Louo for the Lutheran Conference of Greater Tacoma and Dr. O. A. Tingelstad for the Pacific Lutheran College.

District Meeting Begins

"Where to?" will be the subject in the evening service at eight o'clock when delegates to the annual meeting of the district gather in the church to hear the Rev. Enoch Sandeen, president of the Tacoma district, challenge the audience to a greater realization of the duties attending a Christian life. A sermon on "The Christian Life" by Rev. Carl A. Bengtson of Seattle

will precede the convention address and Holy Communion will follow.

Annual Meeting Will Follow

On Monday, February 3, Rev. O. R. Karlstrom of Seattle leads the devotional services preceding the annual business session, when election of officers will be held. In the afternoon at 2 o'clock the Missionary Society of the district sponsors a rally in the church auditorium when Dr. C. R. Swanson of Seattle is the speaker. The District Rally Services are held in the evening at 8 o'clock when Rev. C. Arthur Johnson of Yakima and Rev. Elmer M. Johnson of Olympia bring message of faith, love and obedience.

Other Churches Visited

The third day of the convention will include services in various congregations in nearby communities. The first service is scheduled for Sunday evening when student Walter Lundberg of Seattle speaks in Auburn. Dr. C. R. Swanson and Rev. Elmer M. Johnson speak in the same place Tuesday evening while Rev. C. Arthur Johnson and Rev. Carl A. Bengtson speak in Bethel, Tacoma, Rev. O. R. Karlstrom and Rev. Roger P. Oliver in Immanuel, Tacoma, and student Walter C. Lundberg and Rev. Enoch Sandeen in Ruston Chapel.

Chapel exercises will be held at the Pacific Lutheran College at Parkland, Tuesday morning, Rev. C. Arthur Johnson, speaker. Rev. Roger P. Oliver will address the pastors in the afternoon the same day.

SPIRITUAL RETREAT AT PARKLAND

Four outstanding spiritual leaders from the Mid-west have been invited to address pastors of the American Lutheran Conference at the "Spiritual Retreat," to be held at Parkland, Feb. 20 and 21. Dr. Herman Preus, pastor of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church of Minneapolis has definitely accepted the invitation to be present, as has also Prof. W. F. Schmidt of Concordia College, Moorhead, Minnesota, former president of St. Paul Luther College.

Rev. Emil Swenson, pastor of Bethlehem Lutheran Church of Minneapolis

has indicated his willingness to be present, if he finds it possible. Rev. Swenson is vice president of the Lutheran Minnesota Conference of the Augustana Synod. Dr. Preus is a pastor of the Norwegian Lutheran Church of America, and Prof. Schmidt belongs to the American Lutheran Church.

A fourth speaker is Dr. T. O. Burntvedt, president of the Lutheran Free Church, who has been asked to address the western pastors at Parkland on February 20, just prior to the annual conference of the Western District of the Free Church in Seattle which he is expected to attend.

The Educational Rally is scheduled for Saturday, February 22, in connection with the annual reunion festivities. The reunion plans are in the hands of the Board of the Alumni Association.

CONCERT SEASON ON FOR THE P. L. C. CHOIR

The concert season has begun in earnest for the "Choir of the West" from Pacific Lutheran College. Sunday evening the choir gave a sacred concert in the First Norwegian Lutheran Church, Tacoma, Rev. K. S. Michelsen in charge. This is the beginning of a series of concerts to be given during the next few weeks in Tacoma churches, according to Victor Elvestrom, choir manager.

Plans for an extended tour, probably in April, are now in the making. It is expected that the tour will take the choir not only into the Inland Empire, but also into congregations in Western Montana. Manager Elvestrom was not ready, when interviewed, to give out definite dates, as the trip plans are subject to approval by the college faculty.

Those who have heard this year's choir are speaking well of its musical presentations. Director Edwards and his singers are working hard on their repertoire, which includes not only many of the old favorites, but also a number of new selections, among them one from the director's own pen.

Rousseau said, "Every man is born free." I venture to say, Every individual is born in debt.

LUTHER LEAGUE

PACIFIC NORTHWEST REGIONAL CONVENTION OF LUTHERAN STUDENTS



The Pacific Northwest region of the LSAA held its eighth annual convention at Eugene, Oregon, Nov. 29 to December 1, the host being the University of Oregon group served by Dr. Wm. Schoeler. The local congregations co-operated splendidly.

The region embraces Oregon, Washington, Idaho and British Columbia. The Pullman delegation had engaged a taxi when all other means of transportation failed. This was such an unusual thing that even the secular newspapers expatiated on the loyalty and determination of Lutheran students. Pullman is more than 500 miles distant from Eugene.

The convention opened with devotions led by Student Pastor Harry Lundblad of Western Washington College of Education, whereupon President Arthur Johnson introduced the conference theme, "The Christian Faith."

In presenting the first subdivision, "What Is It?" Pastor Otto Bremer of the University of Washington pointed out that our faith is more than a social gospel; that it is a way of salvation revealed to man in the Scriptures. Arthur Linn of the College of Puget Sound led the discussion.

The second subdivision, "How to get it?" was presented by Rev. W. Fritz of W. S. C. He warned against the emotionalism which made light of solid instruction, and emphasized that faith must be nurtured by the word and sacrament and by prayer. "Lord, strengthen our faith." Gertrude Solness of Seattle led in the discussion.

The third subdivision, "How to Live It," was presented by Rev. Arthur M. Knudsen of Longview, Wash. His chief points were that the Christian faith is to be lived; that it is not a matter of rules and regulations, but a power deep down in the heart. Christ, he pointed out, must in all things have the



preeminence, then good works will result as naturally as that fruit grows on a noble tree. Catherine Selander of Felinham led the discussion.

Osborne Bruland of O. S. C. conducted a round table on "How to Promote Student Work," and the various programs in operation at present were compared. The Lutheran student groups upon the Oregon campuses are handicapped by lack of facilities, and hope was expressed that the Church would do something about it.

Time was devoted to a consideration of the National Council, the India Scholarship, and the Ukrainian relief work. Every group was urged to make proportionate contributions. A tour of the campus had been arranged for Saturday afternoon, and in the evening a banquet was enjoyed at the Cafe Del Rey, when Dr. A. S. Jensen of Monmouth served as toastmaster and Dr. John L. Casteel of the University of Oregon read a stimulating play.

Officers were elected as follows: Roland Swanson, president; Osborne Bruland, vice-president; Catherine Selander, record-secretary; Irene Odell, corresponding secretary; Paul Beistel,

treasurer; Rev. W. Fritz, advisor.

Next year's convention will be held at the Western Washington College of Education, Bellingham, Washington.

Osborne Bruland.



EVERETT NEWS



Wedding bells rang for Ernest Swanson one of the Everett leaguers and Miss Leona Blum also of Everett on Thanksgiving Day.

The Christmas season was a very busy one for the Zion Church in Everett. The Luther League presented a pageant entitled "The Heart of Christmas", directed by Mrs. Bildt. The pageant included 30 characters.

The choir gave its cantata "The Adoration" on the Sunday evening before Christmas. The Sunday School rendered a program which was also a pageant on Christmas Day evening to a filled church.

The Luther League held its annual meeting and Christmas party on Friday evening, Dec. 30th. The following officers were elected: Pres., Eleanore England; Vice-pres., Ruth Carlson; Rec. Sec., Ethel Asplund; Treas., Lyle Mattson; Fin. Sec., Verner Bildt; Corr. Sec., Eleanor Anderson. The League has as its project this next year the painting of the church and parsonage.



YAKIMA, WASH.



The Yakima leaguers elected their officers for 1936 at their regular Dec. meeting. Those elected are as follows: president, Martin Reitz; vice pres., Carl Samuelson; secretary, Arnold Reitz; treasurer, Carl Johnson; financial secretary, Geneva Gerth.

On Dec. 20 the leaguers held their annual Christmas party. Following a short program games were played and gifts exchanged. Refreshments were served by the outgoing executive members.



PORTLAND DISTRICT NEWS



COLTON LUTHER LEAGUE

By
AMEDA PALMGREN

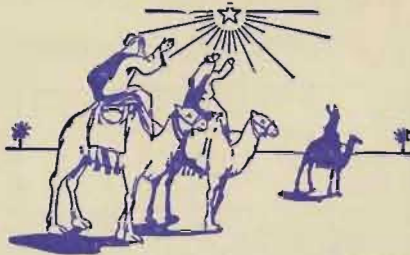


The pleasant peals of our church bell remind us here in Colton of the early days of our Luther League. This fine and costly bell was donated to the Carlsborg Lutheran Church by its Luther League in 1912. Since then our Luther League has served the local congregation and the church at large continually and faithfully.

So it was with gratitude and satisfaction that our Luther League observed the twentieth anniversary of its organization in March, 1930. The main speaker at the Anniversary Banquet was the Governor of Oregon.

At present the regular program for the year consists of monthly meetings held the first Wednesday evening of the month, and devotional meetings at church at least three Sunday evenings each month during the greater part of the year. The monthly meetings are held, as a rule, at the homes of the members. At these meetings 15 minutes are devoted to Bible study under the leadership of our pastor. These Bible studies bring us closer to God; we learn to know Him better. After the necessary business meeting is concluded we enjoy a varied and pleasant social program. These social hours are likewise beneficial, though in a different way, as they bring us closer to one another and teach us to co-operate for the benefit of the Luther League.

Some time ago a committee was appointed to plan for the evening services sponsored by the Luther League. Each Sunday evening was assigned to a certain member, who is responsible for the program. The program, as a rule, consists of musical numbers, religious readings appropriate for the day or pertaining to the subject on which the pastor speaks. Pastor Sakrison gives a serie of brief talks on the "Way of Salvation." These programs build us up spiritually and mentally. The word we hear and read and sing make us feel God's presence. Since a number of leaguers take part and make some contribution to the service



each Sunday evening all the leaguers get a valuable training in appearing before the public. Such mental training is also of value to workers in the Kingdom of God.

This year the Luther League made a round of the community singing beautiful Christmas carols on Monday evening before Christmas Day.

Each year the New Year's Wake is sponsored by the Luther League. The members are all willing and usually take an active part in these services. Part of the evening is set aside for a special program and social hour. As the old year passed and the new enters the church bell proclaims the change and the midnight devotional period closes.

An unusually large proportion of the members of our Luther League are either teaching school somewhere else or attending institution of higher learning.

AUGUSTANA NEWS



The Augustana L. L. members at their last regular meeting chose the following members to lead their league to a prosperous and successful year: President, Carl Froude; Vice-Pres., Clarence S. Nelson; Sec., Carol Johnson; Fin. Sec., Donald Froude; Treas., Wallace Haglund; Religious Chairman, Lyla Earl; Educational Chairman, Lowell Anderson; Athletic Chairman, Walter Carlson; and editor of pep bulletin, Roy Vernstrom. We predict a busy and happy year.

As has been customary in the past, our league again prepared large and substantial baskets of food, toys, clothes, etc. for poor families. Our information was secured by the Lutheran Welfare Society of this city.

On the evening of December 31 the

members of the Immanuel and Augustana churches held a joint New Years' Wake service at the Augustana Church with the Augustana League acting as host and serving refreshments while the Immanuel League presented a most inspiring and interesting program. Rev. Odell was the speaker of the evening.

The Luther League Choir of the Augustana Church made a trip to Colton, Oregon, to render a Christmas concert on December 30. Choir numbers and solos were presented, and Bible testimonies were also given by several members of the choir. The members of this choir enjoy working and testifying for their Lord and Savior.

IMMANUEL, PORTLAND



On Tuesday, December 11th, Mrs. Arvid Carlson entertained with a shower party for Miss Gladys Carlson, bride-elect of Waldemar Pearson, popular organist of Immanuel. Their marriage took place on December 28th at the home of the bride. Mrs. Carlson gave a lovely party, and everyone enjoyed making a scrapbook, picturing the bride and groom.

As mentioned in the last issue, Miss Viola Benson left on Monday, December 2, for Washington, D. C., where she was married to Albert Ehrenstrom on Saturday, December 14th. Mr. and Mrs. Ehrenstrom will make their home in Washington.

The Christmas Basket Committee again prepared baskets for the needy. This is an annual custom at Immanuel, and this year fifteen baskets were distributed the Monday before Christmas. Some baskets were donated to needy families of the church, other names were secured from the Sunshine Division of the Portland Police Department.

On Tuesday, December 17th, the Luther League held its Annual Christmas party. A Christmas tree and grab-bag made it a festive occasion.

Mr. and Mrs. David Bridge, Jr. were home for the holidays. Dave has been teaching school in Klamath Falls since September, and it was mighty nice to have them back with us again.

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BETHEL, TACOMA, ELECTS

The Bethel congregation of Tacoma, of which Rev. E. Arthur Larson is pastor, elected officers at their annual meeting held recently. A. V. Johnson was chosen deacon for three years, to serve with Carl Lindskog and Carl Johnson and Carl Swanson. J. F. Johnson was elected trustee for three years. Incumbents of the other trustee offices are Arvid Swanson and Lorimer Langlow. The congregation named Miss Helga Walberg as superintendent of the Sunday school, with Miss Alva Keil as assistant.

CENTRAL, YAKIMA

Third Sunday in Advent marked the fourth anniversary of the arrival of the present pastor, Reverend C. Arthur Johnson and his family. The ladies headed by Mrs. O. W. Lundquist served a splendid dinner in the church parlors following morning services. A. G. Peterson acted as toastmaster and Oliver Lundquist presented the pastor family with many useful gifts on behalf of the congregation. Mrs. Alice Dean and Helen Samuelson sang. Rev. Johnson spoke briefly and an enjoyable afternoon was had by all.

The S. S. program on second day Christmas drew full house when the children rendered a pageant "Wonderful Gift."

Instead of the usual watch night service a Sylvester vesper were held New Years eve. The choir under the direction of Dr. C. E. Keeler rendered several numbers.

The annual congregational meeting was held January 10. The following officers were elected: Deacons, Fred Nelson, Gust Lindquist, Andrew Olson and O. W. Lundquist; Trustees, Roy Johnson, Paul Burns, L. M. Prochnow; S. S. Supt., Elmer Johnson. Delegate to the district meeting, A. G. Peterson and to the conference meeting, Gust

Lindquist with E. Johnson alternate. George Lindquist was reelected clerk. Plans were made to celebrate the congregation's tenth anniversary some time in the Spring. Though the past year has not been so good financially the church has been able to meet most of its obligations. Several new members have been received during the year.

BETHEL, SEATTLE, HOLDS ANNUAL MEETING

A. V. Sundstrom, John E. Anderson and John E. Johnson were reelected trustees of the Bethel congregation, Seattle, Jan. 10, when the members of the church met to conduct one of its most interesting and inspiring annual meetings in the history of the congregation. Others elected were: deacon, C. A. Carlson; Superintendent of the Sunday School, Byron Clark; secretary, Mrs. L. J. Peterson. The meeting was thrilled by the voluntary offer of Mrs. Ralph Ostrom to serve as Director of Music, Miss Evelyn Anderson as organist, and Miss Martha Sundstrom as pianist. Similar offers were given by the men of the congregation to serve as janitors. With this spirit in evidence, the congregation is now looking forward with confidence, come whatever may. Later the Board of Trustees met for an all time record organization meeting of just five minutes duration to elect L. J. Peterson as financial secretary and A. W. Swanson as treasurer.

ZION, EVERETT

The total income of Zion Lutheran Church of Everett, Rev. John Bildt, pastor, amounted to \$2,032.82. Among the many recommendations to the annual meeting the proposition to celebrate the 35th anniversary of the founding of the congregation was the important and received enthusiastic response. The proposal also carried an invitation to the pastors of the conference to meet at Everett for the annual retreat in connection with the anniversary celebrations. New paint for the church and other improvements were also recommended. The Mount Baker district will hold its annual meeting in the church Jan. 26-28.



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