

COLUMBIA LUTHERAN



Rev. J. A. Larson
758 South 48th



OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE LUTHERAN COLUMBIA CONFERENCE

VOL. XXII.

TACOMA, WASH., MAY, 1930

NO. 5



Delegation assembled at the 38th Annual Convention of the Columbia Conference and the 16th Annual Convention of the Conference Woman's Mission Tidings

Our Recent Convention

The Columbia Conference held its 38th annual meeting April 23—27 at Bethany Church, Seattle, Rev. C. G. Bloomquist, pastor. The conference board of trustees had at the time the convention opened been in session a day and a half studying all the reports that were to be presented, and also drawing up resolutions and formulating recommendations on the basis of those reports. On Wednesday afternoon a meeting was held by the ministerium, when Rev. N. Wm. Anderson of Spokane read a paper on "The Practical Application of the Galesburg Rule." Rev. Anderson had laid down a great deal of work on this paper, and we feel safe in saying that it was thoroughly enjoyed by all present, even though some differed with Rev. Anderson on some points, which was to be expected. A very fine discussion followed the reading of the paper.

The place of the convention was a very desirable one. Seattle is a beautiful city, destined to become the New York of the Northwest. It commands over a gateway to the Pacific that is most unique. Ships from every port of the world enter and depart at its harbor. The Bethany church, where the convention was held, has a very unique location. It occupies a beautiful

corner on a slight elevation. Both parsonage and church overlook Green Lake, a pleasant body of water of considerable size, only some two or three blocks away.

The conference opened with divine worship and communion service Wednesday evening, April 23. Rev. C. J. Renhard, Conference vice president, preached the preparatory on Joh. 15: 14—17 and Rev. G. K. Andeen, Conference president, delivered the sermon on "Today's Need of Holding Fast to Our Confession." Heb. 10: 23 was used as text. Rev. P. H. Nordlander, Conference treasurer, and Rev. John Billdt served as liturgists. Words of cordial welcome were spoken by the local pastor, Rev. C. G. Bloomquist. A very large number partook in Holy Communion.

On Thursday morning we met for devotional service at 8:45 o'clock. Rev. C. J. Sakrison delivered a short sermon on Acts 10: 34—43. The first business session of the Conference opened at 9:30. The president read his report after the roll had been called. The Trinity Church in Astoria was received into the Conference and Synod by unanimous vote. Election of officers took place, which resulted as follows: Rev. G. K. Andeen re-elected president. Rev. Henry P. Johnson elected vice president. Rev. C. G. Bloomquist re-elected secretary. Rev. P. H. Nordlander re-elected treasurer. The

resolutions on the president's report had been prepared by a committee, which the board of trustees had elected out of its own number two days earlier. These resolutions were now read and accepted. Other customary reports were also read. Committees elected by the board of trustees out of its own number had considered these reports and prepared resolutions. This system expedited matters considerably in that it made it unnecessary for groups of delegates to withdraw from the sessions for that particular work. The session closed with prayer by Rev. J. A. Edlund.

At 1:45 p. m. Rev. O. W. Westling conducted the devotional service, when he preached a short sermon on Luke 24: 13—35. Dr. P. W. H. Frederick, president of the Pacific Synod of the U. L. C., addressed briefly the Conference. The question of more mission work on the extensive fields of British Columbia was brought up for consideration. A lengthy discussion took place on the importance of the field and the urgent need of more intense missionary efforts in that important section of the Synod. This discussion laid claim to the major portion of the afternoon. It was decided to urge the Synod to extend special aid in the mission work there. A

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COLUMBIA LUTHERAN

Official Organ of the Columbia Conference of
the Lutheran Augustana Synod

Published at
1125 Tacoma Avenue South, Tacoma, Wash.

Entered as Second Class matter at the post
office at Tacoma, Washington, under the act
of Congress of March 3rd, 1879.

RATES:

Subscription for one year50c
For one year to foreign country.....75c
Advertising, per inch per single column.....50c

Columbia Lutheran circulates mainly in the
states of Washington, Oregon, northern Idaho,
and the province of British Columbia. It is
therefore a good advertising medium to reach
our people in the great Pacific Northwest. For
advertising information and rates communicate
with the Manager of this paper.

All communications with reference to subscrip-
tions and advertising should be addressed to the
Manager.

All manuscripts, articles, and contributions
should be in the hands of the Editor not later
than the 15th of each month.

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Editorial

The Conference Meeting— A Comment

The meeting of the Columbia Confer-
ence at Bethany Church, Seattle, Rev. C. G. Bloomquist pastor, was,
no doubt, one of the best conventions this
section of our Synod ever held. It is true
that opinions at times ran quite contrary
to one another. That will happen in any
group of that size. We cannot expect that
we shall all be of the same mind in all
things.

The services of the convention were in-
spiring and the sermons preached were well
prepared and full of good spiritual food.
Before each session a brief period was set
aside for worship, when a sermon was
preached. This proved strengthening and
inspirational and thus of great value to us
as we faced the issues that lay before us.

Our bodily needs were administered to
in a most admirable way. The banquet on
Saturday evening was a fine success.
Everything set before us at that festive
occasion was most delicious. The Bethany
women as well as the pastor deserve honor-
able mention and our deepest gratitude for
all that was done for the comfort and well-
being of the entire delegation. The Beth-
any choir deserves special mention. Its
liberal contributions to the festivities were
of the highest kind and greatly enjoyed
by all present at the convention. They
have indeed a very fine choir in Bethany.
The Bethany orchestra also deserves honor-
able mention. The same is true with refer-
ence to organist and choir director.

Now we are all back again at our re-
spective places of labor. We hope that the
inspiration of the meeting at Seattle was
permitted to follow all our delegates, and
that thus our entire conference shares in
the good influence of the convention just
held. May we from now on with greater
zeal than ever before lay hold on the
blessed work of the church of Christ. Let
us also pray, as we labor. Strength and
wisdom for our work can come only to
those who are willing frequently to come
to God in prayer.

The Bishop Cross

The bishops of Sweden had a meeting.
Incidentally they decided to send a gold
cross to Dr. G. A. Brandelle, president of
Augustana Synod, as a token of the friend-
ship and good understanding prevailing
between the church they represent and our
church in America. The cross was accept-
ed by the president. The official greet-
ing that accompanied the cross was given
a conspicuous place on the editorial page
of "Augustana," the official Swedish organ
of our synod. A banquet, if we are rightly
informed, was held in Rock Island to ex-
press joy over the fellowship existing be-
tween the two great Lutheran bodies as
symbolized in the cross.

A storm of protest has risen within our
Synod, and a number of emphatic articles
have appeared especially in a Swedish Min-
nesota paper, deploring the acceptance of
the gold cross and the festivities held in
Rock Island in connection therewith.

We do not desire here to argue as to
whether or not it was desirable that a cross
of gold was sent our Synod from Sweden,
nor do we intend to speak here on merits
or demerits of tokens and recognition that
come from other countries. We simply
wish to give expression to our surprise in
the fact that so much noise is made in our
papers about the acceptance of the cross
in question. Even if we grant that festivi-
ties in Rock Island went into extremes
and that it would have been better if not
quite as much had been said about the
favor the bishops tried to show; yea, even
if we grant that it had been better if the
cross had not come, what sense is it in
now going to the opposite extreme? Why
write and talk as if our future independ-
ence as a church, yea, and as if even our
Christian life had been tremendously men-
aced just by that little cross. Anyone
that calmly and in an unbiassed way
views the situation realizes that we would
not adopt the system of bishop and diocese,
regardless of how we might be catered to
by church dignitaries across the seas.
Anyone that insists such a danger impends
has simply allowed the situation he com-
plains of to befog his mind, or else he is

governed by prejudice. The psychological
temper of our synod will never allow the
bringing about of an episcopal system, even
though such a system cannot be termed un-
American, since it is even in this country
being followed among the Methodists,
Episcopalians and others. Church govern-
ment, whether it be congregational or
episcopal, has thus nothing to do with
Americanism.

In arguing about the bishop cross some
insist that we need deeper piety rather
than more outward glitter and show. That
is true, but here that argument is beside
the point. Why should a cross of gold,
sent to our Synod president as a token of
Christian fellowship, lie in the way for
Christian life and piety? Is it not a com-
mon thing that pastors of our Synod carry
crosses of gold in open view on their watch
chains? We never heard anyone call that
outward show that tended to impair Chris-
tian life and piety. Or does the fact that
the cross came from the bishops make a
difference in this respect? We find, how-
ever, that the Bible is not afraid of the
word bishop but makes it occur in its in-
spired writ. Why should we then regard
a cross of gold as having been tainted, just
because it came from bishops? Why should
we regard a cross having thus been re-
ceived as a danger for our spirituality?

The assertion is made in the discussion
in question, that we should rather draw
ourselves closer to the Lutheran church
in our own country. Yes, why not? But
what has the bishop cross to do with that
question? Has any Lutheran body in this
country ever even suggested, that if such
a body and we are to come closer together
we must become rude to the church from
which we sprang and have henceforth as
little to do as possible with that church?
Can we not be intimate friends with the
Lutheran church of Sweden and still draw
ourselves closer to other Lutheran synods?
Was the Lutheran church ever troubled
over national boundaries or nationalistic
lines? Does not a large portion of our own
Synod lie within a dominion over which
rules in the final analysis a king?

Verily the discussion on the bishop
cross has gone to extremes. Why should
a token of friendship and esteem be re-
garded more undesirable coming from the
church of Sweden, the mother church of
the Augustana Synod, than if it had come
from Canada or Germany? Our Synod
certainly does not need to apologize for its
ancestry, and no one joining our church or
belonging thereto, having come from other
parentage than Swedish, will ever demand
any such apology of us. What, after all,
should Dr. Brandelle have done with the
cross in question? Should he have sent it
back? Was it necessary thus to be rude
and vulgar? If the bishops of Sweden de-

sired to send us a token of friendship, what better symbol could they have chosen than a cross of gold? Why go into such extremes as to even call to arms for the coming Synod meeting on the question of a golden cross? Yea, to arms we have been called by one writer. The jubilee meeting of our Synod to be held in a few weeks in Rock Island is thus threatened with strife even months before it is held. The anniversary jubilee of the synod has the promise of discordant and shrieking notes just because of a golden cross. To us it appears even silly. We ask again: Why such extremes?

Contributed

President's Report

To the Woman's Missionary Society of the Columbia Conference. Grace and Peace!
Dear Co-Workers:

"Then saith he unto his disciples: The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few. Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth laborers into his harvest." Matt. 9: 37-38.

Jesus does not tell his disciples to find laborers, he says: Pray ye the Lord of the harvest that He send laborers. Here again Jesus reminds us what we must do if we expect success in our missionary work: Pray ye. How often Jesus speaks of prayer as the means of attaining our desires, and yet how often we forget. We stand overwhelmed and discouraged by obstacles and say we cannot do it, and we forget that Jesus has promised that if we pray, believing, whatsoever we ask for shall be given unto us. Could we wish for more? Oh, if we only realized more fully the wonderful power of prayer to do things, to change things. Prayer is the



REV. HENRY P. JOHNSON,
Conference Vice President



REV. G. K. ANDEEN,
Conference President

means of bringing us in contact with God and so receive divine power from on high, without which we can do nothing. May God give us vision to see the great need in this world of darkness and idolatry, sin and death, and may He give us praying hearts that will plead without ceasing for the light and life giving love of Jesus to dispel the darkness and vanquish death. But if we expect God to grant our prayers, we must also work. Some one has said: "We should pray as if everything depended on prayer, then we should work as if everything depended on work."

Organization and Membership

The reports for the year just gone are encouraging and show that our members have both prayed and worked. All the districts show increase in membership and Mission Tidings subscribers, as well as financial returns. Two new societies have been organized during the year. One adult society at Elim, Waterman, Tacoma district, with seven charter members, and one young women's society in Augustana, Portland, with thirty-two charter members. We bid these two societies most heartily welcome into our Conference organization:

We now have thirty-seven adult societies with 1,205 annual members, of which 113 are sustaining members, 223 life members, and eight honorary life members. Of the 231 life and honorary life, 147 are active members. We have seven young women's societies with a membership of about 150, and 23 Junior Mission Bands. The Young Women's and Junior secretaries will give full report of the memberships. This brings the total adult membership up to 1,575, which is indeed gratifying, but we yet have only 45 per cent. of the women communicants of our Conference. Will we reach our Jubilee goal of 50 per cent. by 1932? We can if we all work together. Much depends on our

Hold-fast committees. They must live up to their name and hold fast to every member. They must be workers and not shirkers.

Especially should we work to get our young women interested and organized. We must look to the future. Of the fifty women who organized our W. M. S., soon forty years ago, very few are left now, and before long they too will have gone to their reward. Who will take their places? No one, unless we gather our young women and children and foster in their hearts love for the Master and his kingdom. Train them for leadership. Then when the Master calls us, we can lay aside our duties, knowing that young hearts and hands will carry on the work.

Meetings

Eleven societies meet once a month; twelve meet every other month, the others meet some quarterly, some three and some two times a year. A number of societies have held special meetings, such as Home Mission festivals, birthday parties for our Mission Home in Chicago, etc.

Prayer day was observed by 27 of the societies. Eighteen societies used the Mission studies, some of them partly. Let us hope that all of our societies will eventually make use of the Mission studies and thereby gain inspiration and information about our work and so be spurred on to greater efforts.

Mission Tidings

The reports show that our M. T. secretaries have been doing good work. Each district reports a goodly number of new subscribers, but there is one fly in the ointment; so many have been dropped that the net gain is small. Here is where the Hold-fast committees should get busy and help the M. T. secretaries.

A report from Miss Clara Anderson, manager for M. T. gives us credit for 132 new subscribers, but reports 87 dropped, leaving a net gain of 45. Total number of



REV. C. G. BLOOMQUIST,
Conference Secretary

subscribers 905, making an average for the Conference of 26 per cent. Miss Anderson praises the good work of the M. T. secretaries, and hopes they will put forth their best efforts for our Jubilee and W. T. birthday anniversary.

Home Missions

Home Mission festivals have been held in most of the societies and contributions have been generous, as the treasurer's report will show. But the needs of the Home Mission fields are great and we should do more. Only in the measure that our Home Mission work is taken care of will we succeed in the foreign fields. The various causes: Dime Books, Christmas Cheer, Woman's Compound, China and India Mission, and the Jewish Mission have been more liberally supported than in previous years.

Our protégé, Miss Anna Olson, has returned to her field of service in China, and we rejoice that God has given her health and strength so that she could realize her cherished wish to go back to her labor of love. May we remember and support her not only with our means, but with our interest and our prayers.

Building Specials

We have been informed by our synodical treasurer that we have reached our quota of \$1,250 which was apportioned to Columbia Conference for a hospital in Africa and a chapel at Bethphage. But a petition has come in to the Woman's Mission Board from Bethphage, asking for an additional \$15,000 for the chapel fund, and the W. M. B. decided that all life memberships and other contributions to the building fund that come in during the year of 1930, be applied on the chapel fund.

The next building special, which was decided on at the synodical convention in Rockford, is of special interest to us as it applies on our Lutheran Home for Girls in Vancouver as well as for a fund for girls home in New York.



REV. P. H. NORDLANDER,
Conference Treasurer



MRS. SAMUEL E. JOHNSON,
President Columbia Conference W. M. Society.

At our Conference meeting in Tacoma a year ago, we could report that we had carried out the Conference decisions of the year before and opened a Home for Girls in Vancouver, though in rented quarters. This could be considered only as a temporary measure, but the problem was, how to buy a home without money. Here God's guiding hand was evident when Mrs. Evald, our synodical president, after having visited Vancouver and looked over the field, went back to Chicago and prevailed upon the Woman's Mission Board to buy a suitable property so that the institution could have its own permanent home. But this money was borrowed out of other funds and had to be paid back. Where was the money coming from? Again was God's power manifest when he led human hearts and minds to decide unanimously upon the Home for Girls in Vancouver and the Home for Girls in New York as the next building special. And we could almost hear the gently chiding voice of the Master saying, "Oh, ye of little faith!" And now that we have the home practically as a gift, let us not fail to support it with our gifts and our prayers.

We have had the honor and privilege of receiving two visits from our national president, Mrs. Emmy Evald. She attended the Conference meeting in Tacoma, where she was the guest of honor at our fifteenth anniversary. We feel that her inspiring enthusiasm and wise counsel did a great deal to encourage our Conference society and spur it to greater efforts. Then she visited us again in September at the dedication of our Lutheran Home for Girls in Vancouver. During both these visits she also visited as many of our local societies as she could find time for, and these visits were very much appreciated.

In Memoriam

Again we have been reminded that this earth is not our permanent home. During the year sixteen of our loyal members

have laid their burdens down and gone to be with Him whom they here served. May He send others in their stead to work in the harvest and may He comfort the near and dear ones who have suffered the loss.

To the members of the Board, to the district officers, the local presidents, to each and all who have given of their means, their time, their ability, in service for the Lord's kingdom, I wish to say a hearty thank you for willing service and cooperation. Let us not grow weary in well-doing, for in due season we shall reap if we faint not.

Yours in the Master's service,

MRS. CARL J. RENHARD,

President Columbia Conference W. M. S.
Seattle, Wash., April 25, 1930.

Our Recent Convention

(Continued from page 1)

committee was elected to investigate the field and gather data to present to the synod mission board. The following constitute that committee: Dr. C. R. Swanson, Rev. O. R. Karlstrom, and Rev. A. G. Anderson. Rev. William Siegel closed the session with prayer.

At 7:45 p. m. a festive service was held on the occasion of the quadri-centennial of the Augsburg Confession. The liturgists were Rev. Samuel E. Johnson and Rev. A. M. Green. Dr. Joseph Anderson gave a wonderful address on "The Magna Charta of Protestantism."

The Friday morning session was opened with a devotional service conducted by Rev. C. A. V. Lund, who preached a short sermon using 2 Cor. 5: 14-21 as text. The following were elected to serve on the Conference board: Dr. C. R. Swanson, Mr. R. W. Peterson, Seattle, and Mr. Swen Goranson, Vancouver, B. C. Attorney David E. Lofgren, Portland, was chosen delegate to the synodical council with Mr. Ed-



REV. CARL A. BENGTSON,
165 W. 65th St., Seattle, Wash., newly elected
business manager of The Columbia
Lutheran

ward Young, Tacoma, as alternate. It was decided that the Conference contribute \$300 to the cause of Lutheran Students' work in Oregon. Dr. C. R. Swanson was elected fraternal delegate to the Norwegian Lutheran church convention, which will be held in Seattle. Rev. Ernest G. Svenson was chosen fraternal delegate to the meeting of the Pacific Synod, which will be held in Tacoma. Rev. J. Truedson closed with prayer.

The afternoon session was opened with a devotional service, when a short sermon was preached by Rev. John Bildt on Joh. 21: 1-14. Rev. T. A. Conrad, secretary-treasurer for the Synod Pension and Relief Fund addressed the Conference on the importance of that particular fund. It was after some discussion decided to amend the constitution of the Conference to the effect that Columbia Hospital and the Old People's Home in Seattle become each a separate corporation under the Columbia Conference. The treasurer's report of Emanuel Hospital was read. The following were re-elected board members for said institution: Rev. S. E. Johnson, J. A. Norddeen, A. L. Morland and Hilmer Henrikson. A long discussion developed on the question of the Columbia Hospital. We finally seemed to agree that there was nothing to do but to continue the institution in the hope that God might finally crown our efforts with encouraging progress. The reports showed that business had improved materially at said institution the last few weeks. Rev. G. A. Thunberg closed the session with prayer.

On Friday evening a festive program was given by the Conference Woman's Missionary Society, when the address of the evening was delivered by Mrs. Frank Olson of Des Moines, Iowa, field secretary of the Synod W. M. S. As the details of that program are given in the article on the Woman's Missionary Society convention in this issue, no further account or comment is necessary here.

On Saturday morning the devotional service was conducted by Rev. A. G. Anderson, who spoke on Acts 3: 32-41. Reports on the Old People's Home, Seattle, were considered and accepted. The question of the Columbia Lutheran was left with the Conference board. The president of the Conference Luther League, Rev. Eric H. Wahlstrom, read his report, which was accepted. Dr. Joseph Anderson was elected historian for the Conference with instruction to prepare a Conference history in book form to be ready the latest 1933. Decided that the budget committee be the same as last year. This last session of the Conference convention was closed with prayer by Rev. G. K. Andeen.

In the afternoon the Lutheran Brotherhood of the Conference held its session. The old officers were re-elected: Dr. J. W.

Unis, Seattle, president; Mr. Sherman Nelson, Portland, vice president; Dr. G. A. Magnusson, Seattle, secretary; Mr. Adolph Benson, Portland, treasurer. The Brotherhood sponsored a very fine banquet, which was held in the church parlors on Saturday evening. A very delicious menu had been prepared. Music was furnished by the Bethany orchestra. Rev. N. William Anderson led in invocation. Those present were led in singing by Rev. P. H. Nordlander, who also gave a vocal solo. Theol. Student Adolph Nelson, Seattle, also rendered a vocal number. Short addresses of greeting were given by representatives from the different districts of the Conference as follows: Mr. Grimmer for Spokane, Rev. C. A. V. Lund for Mount Baker, Mr. Adolph Benson for Portland, and Mr. Vincent Thorene for Tacoma. Rev. H. P. Johnson delivered an address on "The Burning Bush and Its Challenge to Men." Rev. A. M. Green closed with prayer.

On Sunday morning service was held in Swedish 9:30. Liturgists: Rev. J. A. Edlund and Rev. O. W. Westling. Rev. O. R. Karlstrom preached the sermon on "I sällskap med vår uppståndne Frälsare." English services were held 11:00 a. m. Liturgists, Rev. Carl A. V. Lund and Rev. Luther Cornay. Sermon "The Great Commission," by Rev. Samuel E. Johnson. In the afternoon a Luther League Rally was held, when Rev. William Siegel gave an address on "Jesus Christ and Modern Youth." Theol. Student Adolph Nelson gave the invocation. Theol. Student Harry Lundblad closed with prayer. A sacred concert was given at 7:00 p. m. The final service was held 8:00 p. m., when Rev. Roger P. Oliver spoke on "Where Do You Live?" Text: Joh. 1: 38-39. Rev. A. M. Green and Rev. P. H. Nordlander served as liturgists. The church was packed to the last seat for this closing service. Good attendance characterized all the services and festive occasions of this convention.

One feature of the convention was the sightseeing tour that had been arranged for Saturday afternoon. A line of about fifty cars was set in motion between 4:30 and 5:00 o'clock, escorted by three motorcycle officers. The procession covered a distance of about 35 miles and passed through all the most scenic sections of the city, also wending its way through some of the immediate surroundings. After this trip all were unanimous in praising the scenic features of Seattle.

"The Whole Family in the Sunday School" is a slogan of one of the churches in our Conference. It is a very good slogan indeed. Don't send your children to Sunday school; bring them there instead.

The Conference W. M. S. Convention

The sixteenth annual convention of the Woman's Missionary Society of the Columbia Conference was held April 23-27 at Seattle, Washington, upon the invitation of the Bethany Lutheran Church, Rev. C. G. Bloomquist, pastor.

The convention opened Thursday afternoon, April 23rd, at one-thirty o'clock at the Green Lake Congregational church, where all the business sessions were held.

The theme of the convention was "Christ Likeness." After singing "What a Friend We Have in Jesus" and "Near the Cross," Mrs. Frank Olson conducted the devotional. Her subject was "Personal Christ Likeness." This was followed by a short prayer session, and the singing of the hymn, "Take My Life and Let It Be."

The convention was called to order by the president, Mrs. C. J. Renhard. Roll call showed that there were fifty-four delegates and forty-four visitors present at the opening of the first session.

Mrs. Charles Johnson, president of the Bethany W. M. S., extended a hearty welcome to all the delegates and friends. Mrs. O. R. Karlstrom of Vancouver, B. C., responded on behalf of the convention.

Short talks were given by the following: Miss Effie Frisell, "Distribution of Our Funds"; Mrs. S. Hawkins, "Christmas Cheer"; Mrs. C. R. Swanson, "Dime Books"; Mrs. E. A. Larson, "Missionary Exhibit"; Mrs. L. Cornay, "Our Home in Vancouver"; Mrs. O. R. Karlstrom, "The Junior Work"; Mrs. Frank Olson, "The Young Women's Work"; Mrs. E. Sparks, "Jewish Missions." Prayer for our sick board members was offered by Mrs. S. E. Johnson, and Mrs. E. J. Sakrison closed with prayer.

At the close of the afternoon session a reception was given to the delegates and friends by Mrs. C. G. Bloomquist and the Bethany W. M. S. in the church parlors.

The Friday morning session was opened by singing "Morning Light Is Breaking" and "Jesus Calls Us." Mrs. S. E. Johnson led the devotional, her subject being "Living for Christ in the Home."

Sixty-one delegates and eighteen visitors responded to roll call. The president, Mrs. C. J. Renhard, read her annual report, which showed that the work within the Conference was very encouraging. Two new societies had been organized, an adult society at Waterman, and a young women's society at Augustana, Portland. There are within the Conference W. M. S. 1,575 adults and 670 juniors. 236 new adults have been received during the year, and there has been a loss of 98 members, or a net gain of 138. We have 905 subscribers to the Mission Tidings, of these 132 are new subscribers, and there is a

*Rev. M. H. Nelson
has in Oregon*

*1932
Rev. A. P. Bell
C. J. Renhard - B. C.*

loss of 87, thus the net gain for the year is only 45 subscribers.

The treasurer, Mrs. C. F. Carlborg, submitted her report. The total receipts for the year were \$7,317.59, which was an increase of \$962.02 over the previous year.

The secretary of the executive board reported that five board meetings had been held during the year.

The following department secretaries' reports were read and accepted: Young Women, Junior Membership, Jubilee, Mission Tidings, Lutheran Home for Girls, Calendar, Industrial and Missionary Exhibit.

The Lutheran Home for Girls, Vancouver, B. C., has, during the sixteen months it has been in existence, given employment to 337 girls, and 141 girls have stayed at the home for a longer or shorter period.

Rev. G. K. Andeen, president of the Columbia Conference, brought greetings from the Conference in session in the Bethany church. The morning session closed with prayer by Mrs. H. P. Johnson.

The afternoon session was opened with prayer by Mrs. J. E. Carlson.

The Columbia Conference recommendations for the year 1930 as well as a few recommendations by the Board were read, discussed and accepted.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Mrs. S. E. Johnson, Portland; vice president, Mrs. C. J. Renhard, Aberdeen; recording secretary, Mrs. Conrad Haggblom, Seattle (re-elected); corresponding secretary, Mrs. L. Cornay, Bellingham (re-elected); treasurer, Mrs. C. F. Carlborg, Portland (re-elected); historian, Mrs. C. R. Swanson, Seattle; statistician, Mrs. E. Sparks, Bellingham.

The department secretaries elected are: Junior, Mrs. C. M. Franklin, Portland; Young Women, Miss Carolyn Clausen, Spokane; Membership, Mrs. Alfred Johnson, Seattle (re-elected); Mission Tidings, Mrs. C. E. T. Olson, Mt. Vernon (re-elected); Calendar, Mrs. E. H. Wahlstrom, Warren; Industrial, Mrs. D. E. Lofgren, Portland; Exhibit, Mrs. E. A. Larson, Tacoma (re-elected); Jubilee, Mrs. C. Haggblom, Seattle (re-elected); Literature, Mrs. H. P. Johnson, Portland.

The session closed with prayer by Mrs. Alfred Johnson.

We had the pleasure of having with us during the convention, our Synodical Home Missionary, Mrs. Frank Olson of Des Moines, Ia., who throughout all the sessions readily responded whenever called upon for advice and information.

Our Missionary festival was held Friday evening at 7:45, when an inspiring address, "Glimpses from the Home Mission Field," was given by Mrs. Frank Olson. Other numbers rendered were a vocal solo, "In the End of the Sabbath," by Mrs. E. Sandeen; an anthem, "I Do Not Ask, O Lord,"

by ladies' octette, First Church, Tacoma, and a vocal solo, "It Was for Me," by Mrs. S. E. Johnson. The invocation and benediction were given by Rev. E. H. Wahlstrom.

The festive occasion closed with a sacred act, when Rev. and Mrs. Cornay's baby was brought to God in Holy Baptism, Rev. C. J. Renhard officiating and Mrs. Frank Olson serving as god-mother.

The convention closed Saturday afternoon with a Junior Missionary rally. The following program was rendered: Song, "Jesus Loves the Children of the World," Juniors; Scripture reading, Edith Peterson, Bethany; Prayer, Ruth Bloomquist, Bethany; Welcome, Esther Peterson, Bethany; Piano solo, Edna Anderson, Emmaus; Song, Arthur and Dorothy Larson, Julia Berglund, Bethel, Tacoma; Recitation, "The Boy Samuel," Luther Livingston, Gethsemane; Song, Leonard and William Safstrom, Bethany; Pageant, "The Light of the World," group of girls, Gethsemane; Quartette, Ruth and Martha Haggblom, Elsie Johnson and Dorothy Borgfjord, Bethel; Recitation, "Help Wanted," Paul Karlstrom, Vancouver, B. C. Short talks were given by Junior Secretaries: Mrs. E. Swanson, Tacoma District; Mrs. E. M. Franklin, Portland District; Mrs. D. Ofelt, Spokane District; Mrs. V. E. Estergren, Mt. Baker District; Song, "Jesus Loves Me," Juniors; Benediction in unison.

The convention was very well attended during all its sessions. The church was filled to its capacity at the missionary festival on Friday evening. We were given royal entertainment in the homes, where we were guests, as well as in the Bethany church, where dinner and supper were served each day.

It was indeed a very pleasant conference meeting, which long will be remembered by all who had the privilege to attend its sessions and programs.

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

MRS. H. P. JOHNSON.

Conference Luther League Statistics

Some time before Christmas there was mailed to each league within the Conference a questionnaire dealing with the Luther League activities of the past year. After some repeated requests the answers began to trickle in very slowly. If those who have not yet sent in the report would do so, we might have a fairly complete report by the time of the Conference Convention next fall. We shall try for the present to give some preliminary observations on these reports now.

A total of 17 replies have been received to date. These divide on the districts as follows: Portland 7, Tacoma 5, Mt. Baker

1, and Spokane 4. These reports indicate that the number of members is not as great as we thought it was. The total membership reported for each district is as follows: Portland 336, Tacoma 316, Mt. Baker 33, and Spokane 228; giving a total of 913. Dues vary from 10 cents to 25 cents a month. The total amount of money raised is not large. Evidently the Luther League is not organized as a money-raising agency.

The purpose of the Luther League seems to be spiritual and social. Almost all leagues have some Bible study periods. Only 2 report no Bible study, 2 or 3 answer "occasionally." The program may, of course, be spiritual without any direct Bible study, but we ought to remember that one of the purposes of the Luther League is to afford an opportunity for its members to increase their knowledge in the Word of God. The nature of the programs seems to be very much the same everywhere; music, readings, addresses.

Efforts to increase membership and attendance have been made in most of the Leagues. Some have a regular contest between groups within the Leagues. Other means mentioned are: personal invitations by telephone and letters, invitations to special programs, etc. All report that any definite effort along this line has brought results.

One important question deals with the relation of the League to the confirmation class. The Luther League has a duty to perform to the newly confirmed and an opportunity to render a distinct service to the church. The League should serve as a means of keeping the confirmed in the church and provide opportunity for them to serve. If the League fails to influence the confirmation classes, it fails in one of its primary duties.

Some Leagues report that nothing is done for the confirmation class. The majority report, however, that a program reception or banquet is given in their honor, and that they are then taken in as a class into the League. This is very good. Yet, some more systematic work should be done here. Just receiving them is not enough. The class will be very glad to attend a banquet in their honor, but the question is whether they will come to the regular meetings of the League. Why should not the members of the League take a personal interest in the class while they are going to the confirmation instruction? They are prospective members, much more so than any outsider that you may happen to know. Why not begin right then to cultivate their friendship and arouse their interest in the League? It might be a good idea if the Luther League, when the class is organized in the fall, would appoint one or two sponsors for each member of the class.



THE LUTHER HOUSE,
Monmouth, Ore., Lutheran students' place of wor-
ship, dedicated March 30.

The duty of these sponsors would be to give help, guidance, and inspiration to the class. They should first of all cultivate the friendship of the one assigned to them. They should introduce the prospective member to the activities of the church and to the young people of the church. After the confirmation it should be the duty of the sponsors to induce their young charge to attend divine services and to come to the meetings of the Luther League. They should help him to feel at home in the church and among the young people of the League. There might be many other ways in which the Luther League can take an active interest in the confirmation classes. I would recommend this question, "What shall we do for the confirmation classes" to each local League for prayerful study and discussion. Any further suggestion along this line will be gratefully received.

Only three ventured any suggestion in regard to the work of the Luther League. Two of these mention the problem of interesting "the younger young people" in the League, or stated differently, how to get the "older young people" to take an interest in the "younger young people." The suggestion above might help some in this respect. One suggests the organization of a Junior League. In larger congregations this should work well. But the two Leagues would have to be very closely related to prevent too great a loss in passing from the Junior to the Senior League.

The other suggestion was in regard to programs. I quote the reporter: "We divided the membership into four groups with a captain for each group. Topics were outlined for each month of the year, and each group is to take full charge of three meetings during the year. Papers are written by three members of the group on the topic of the month. — It has proved a very satisfactory plan so far."

These are only some observations on the answers received to date. I repeat again the requests that the Leagues that have not reported, do so as soon as possible. I would suggest, also, that these observations be read and discussed at some meet-

ing of each local League; not because of any intrinsic value in this article, but as a means of stimulating thought and giving opportunity for offering more suggestions along these lines. The Luther League has a work to perform in the Kingdom of Christ. "Whatever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might." Ecc. 9:10.

ERIC H. WAHLSTROM.

An Appeal

Now is the time to subscribe for the Columbia Lutheran, or to pay up your subscriptions past due. The Columbia Lutheran has been faithful in bringing you the news of the Conference in the past, and wishes to do so in the future. If your subscription has not been paid up to date, may we ask you kindly to pay it now. It is only fifty cents for the year. These half dollars must be paid if the paper is going to continue. The Columbia Lutheran wants to serve you. It gives you more news from our Conference than any other publication does. Come now, and kindly pay your subscription at once.

Respectfully yours,

CARL A. BENGTON, Manager.
165 West 65th St., Seattle, Wash.

Talks on Sunday School Teaching

II.

When the child comes to your Sunday School class, he brings with him his whole past experience. What you tell him, no matter on what subject you speak, he interprets in the light of his previous experience. If the idea that you bring to him is so new and strange that it is not similar to anything that the child has previously learnt, then he fails to understand, and your labor is wasted. We may state it this way: A new idea entering the mind is received and understood in relation to the whole previous knowledge already in the mind. This is the only way in which anyone can learn.

It is clear then, that the new idea must be similar to something that already is in the mind. If it is not, the child cannot understand it, and loses interest. A banker comes into a meeting where a county agent is analyzing soil properties, and finds it extremely dull. But the farmers enjoy it. A boy visiting a pastor's family was looking for something to read and found a book called "Dogmatics." He read a little, but soon gave up in disgust. "There wasn't a thing about dogs in it." The child's experience is limited. But the only way in which you can teach him anything is to let this limited knowledge explain the new ideas you are bringing to him.

Many practical hints for teaching can be based on this law of the mind. In the first place, the lessons material must be graded so as to fit the mental development



DR. WILLIAM SCHOELER,
Pastor for the Lutheran students at Monmouth,
Corvallis and Eugene, Ore.

of the child. That principle has been followed in the Graded Lessons on the Catechism now in use in our Sunday Schools. These books aim to introduce the child gradually to the great religious truths, always using the past lessons as a foundation upon which to teach the new.

A second very important fact concerns the teacher directly. If the child understands only in the light of his past experience, the teacher must know what that past experience is. You will have to know both what the child knows and what he does not know. This includes, not only his religious knowledge, but the whole experience of the child. You are dealing with the whole child. Study the child. Find out what he is doing at home, what he is learning in the public school, and what his most recent interests are. Make a general study of the grade to which your scholars belong. Then watch the individual child. Find out what influences, good or bad, are surrounding him. Then you can choose your illustrations, your vocabulary, and partly also your lesson material with reference to what you know that the child is able to understand.

The child learns a new idea by connecting the new with his old experience. He makes these connections whether you want him to or not. But it is your business as teacher to see to it that he makes the right connections. Some really humorous effects are produced when the child makes a wrong connection. A teacher was reviewing the story of Daniel. She asked one boy if he remembered what the handwriting on the wall was. And the boy, proud to show the teacher that he had paid attention, answered: "Amy, Amy, Semple, MacPherson." If in teaching that lesson she had paid sufficient attention to the sound and the writing of the original phrase, the child would not have made such a blunder.

We may summarize this into a convenient rule for teaching: Study the child until you know what is in his mind, then connect the present lesson to his past experience.

ERIC H. WAHLSTROM.

Poster Contest

The publicity committee of the Tacoma-Mt. Baker District Luther League announces a poster contest in the interests of its eighth annual Bible Institute to be held July 20-27, 1930 at Strafford's Park, Lake Sammamish, Washington.

Rules.

1. Each local Luther League shall conduct a poster contest among its members in accordance with the provisions laid down herein. The winning posters in these contests shall be sent to the District Luther League publicity chairman, Arthur Hillman, 306 East 76th street, Seattle, before May 15, 1930. A district winner will be chosen from those sent in by that time.

2. The members of the executive committee of the Tacoma-Mt. Baker District Luther League shall be the judges of the district contest. The local winners may be chosen in any manner decided upon by the local Luther League officers.

3. The posters must be made on cardboard approximately 11x14 inches. They must have on them the words of the Institute slogan:

FIND YOURELF!

KNOW YOURSELF!

BE YOURSELF!

AT SAMMAMISH!

Other than these, there are no specifications as to the manner of making the posters.

4. The prize for the person who makes the best poster in the district shall be a week's scholarship at the eighth annual Bible Institute. Each local league may award a prize to its winner if it sees fit.

5. Posters will be judged on their neatness and power of appeal in advertising the Bible Institute.

Rev. Joseph Anderson, D. D., served as reading clerk at the Columbia Conference convention for the second consecutive year. He was also elected Conference historian.

Rev. C. G. Bloomquist, our Conference secretary, is planning to make his trip to the Synod meeting in Rock Island, Ill., by auto. His family will accompany him.

All charges within the Conference are now occupied with pastors except one, and that will also have pastor after the ordination at our next Synod meeting. The one referred to as still vacant is our church in Olympia, Wash. Theological Student Elmer Johnson of Seattle has accepted a call to enter upon his duties as pastor there after his ordination in June.

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Ernest H. Henrikson, who since 1925 has served as instructor in English and Public Speaking at Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter, Minn., was at the last meeting of the Minnesota Conference elected permanent professor in said subjects. Prof. Henrikson hails from Immanuel Church, Portland.

Minnesota College, located in Minneapolis and a Minnesota Conference institution with academic, musical, art and business school departments, will discontinue its existence at the termination of the summer school session, according to a decision arrived at by said conference at its recent annual meeting. The vote stood 228 to 48 in favor of closing.

The Augustana Synod will convene in its 71st annual session Friday, June 6, 1930, at Augustana College and Theological Seminary, Rock Island, Ill. The Ministerium will meet in St. John's church, Rock Island, at 9:00 a. m. on June 5th. The Woman's Missionary Society of the Augustana Synod will meet for its 38th annual convention at the aforesaid institution, Rock Island, June 6-10.

Notice! Send all subscriptions for The Columbia Lutheran, all money as well as copy for ads, to Rev. Carl A. Bengtson, the new business manager. His address is 165 West 65th Street, Seattle, Wash.

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