

COLUMBIA

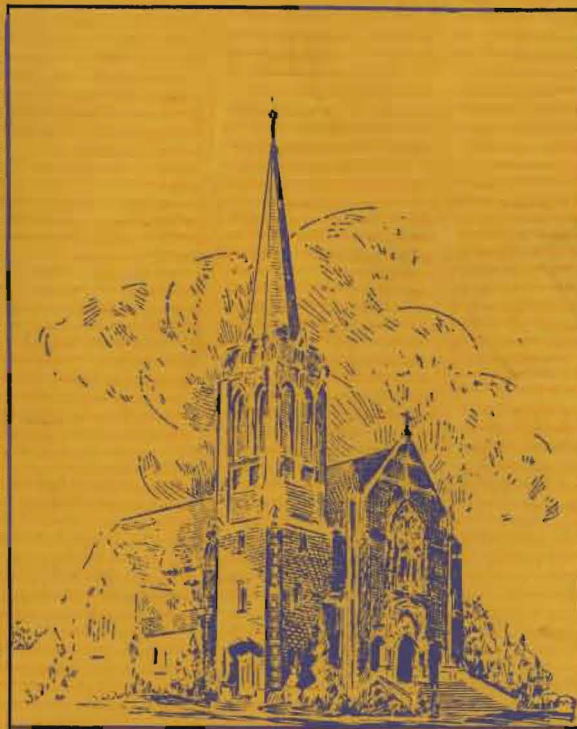


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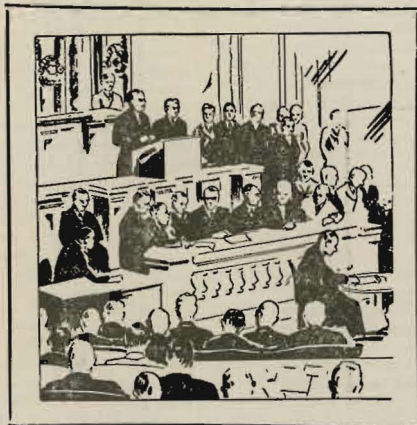
THE COLUMBIA LUTHERAN

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Editor and Manager

Editorially



BEFORE THE JUDGMENT BAR

Says the magazine Collier: "Thirty-six towns in the very wet state of New York have by local option voted themselves dry, twenty-two New Jersey towns, and twelve Connecticut towns."

Then it goes about to say that unless the liquor traffic turns decent, the voters may vex angry again and make another blunder — vote prohibition back again!

A woman writer in another magazine refers to the prohibition amendment as "the nation's insanity spell."

A former saloon keeper said the other day: "You see, we did not get what we voted for. I would not go near what we have now."

Decency, yes! Whoever heard of making a gentleman out of a pig? Those who speak about men of temperance as insane ought to remind themselves of the pharisees when they ascribed to Jesus a demon. The inhabitants in the Valley of the Blind wanted to cut the eyes out of the

stranger, who could see, because he was "born with an evil eye."

These Valley of the Blind patriots may just as well admit that there can be no decency in deadly poison that causes the brain to die, that turns a woman to a public harlot and man to a murderous beast.

The rottenness of the "refined" saloon is proving itself today and the whole liquor business is standing before the bar of justice.

It isn't because the public is "becoming angry" that towns are voted dry. It is because there are still a few decent people left in the world and because it has become evident that liquor is the Nation's Public enemy No. 1.

The Bible Institutes are now well at an end for another year and again we can say: Well done! In Colton things hummed merrily to the able leadership of Rev. Paul V. Randolph and assistants. The registration was larger than ever—237 on the ground—and the Augustana Synod led the other synods by fifty or more in attendance more than the nearest competitor. A Self-Government Council was a successful innovation. Also an Annual Banquet in the new Institute Hall.

In Des Moines the registration far outranked the previous year. Rev. E. Knorr of the American Lutheran conference was the dean and Rev. John Houkom of the Norwegian Free Lutheran was the president. All officers deserve special mention. Our own side was well represented by Martin Johnson as manager, Rev. Harry Lundblad as assistant dean, Eric Lindquist as treasurer, Thorild Swanson as director of music, Rev. C. A. V. Lund as conference leader, Miss Georgia Johnson as fireside leader, Miss Effie Friesell as children's supervisor, and many others too numerous to mention.

Two pastors—Joseph Elmer and Oscar W. Mattson — have arrived this month to take up work in the conference. Rev. Mattson preached his first sermon in Vancouver, B. C., August 16, and Rev. Elmer will be installed in the Aberdeen-Hoquiam pastorate this Sunday, August 30. We shall have more to say concerning them in our next issue.

CONFERENCE PLANS MADE

A committee of young people of the First Lutheran church and its Ruston chapel, headed by Miss Georgia Johnson, is meeting weekly to perfect plans for the tenth annual convention of the Columbia Conference Luther League, to be held at the First Lutheran church, September 4 to 7.



MARCUS RENHARD
Pres. Conf. L. L.

The convention will open at 8 o'clock in the evening on September 4. Rev. Carl E. Rydell, pastor of the host church, will welcome the guests and officers of the Luther League will receive at the door. They are Ray Dahlen, Marion Anderson, Marion Johnson and Carl Ellison.

Dr. Samuel M. Miller, dean of the Lutheran Bible Institute in Minneapolis, Minn., is the main speaker for convention. He will open his studies in the gospel of John Friday evening, his topic being "Life in His Name." The theme for the entire convention is "Life in Christ."

After the opening session, Miss Martha Elmer will be in charge of a get acquainted party. A part of the program will include a comical skit to introduce the chairman of the various committees. A light supper will be served after the program.

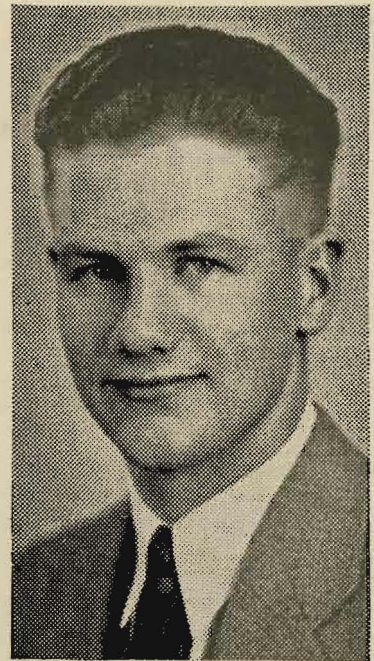
Sept. 5, Dr. Miller will continue his studies with the topic, "Life Given."



REV. CARL E. RYDELL



DR. S. M. MILLER



ROY DAHLIN

Miss Beatrice Swanson of Bethel Lutheran church will lead the opening devotions and a discussion hour will follow the studies.

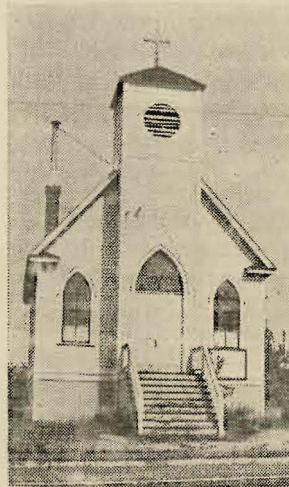
Miss Leona Lindeman is general chairman for meals during the convention and Mrs. Gus Hogdahl will be in charge of Saturday's luncheon.

Guests will be taken on a tour of the city Saturday afternoon which will conclude with a tea at the home of Dr. and Mrs. O. A. Tinglestad.

Marcus Renhard, president of the Conference Luther League, will preside over the annual business session when missionary work will be discussed and officers elected.

The convention banquet will be held Saturday evening at 7 o'clock. Clarence Grahm will supervise the serving and Rev. Rydell will be toastmaster. Music will be furnished by leaguers from Seattle and a pastors' quartet with members from Seattle, Olympia, Portland and Tacoma.

A vesper service will follow with Mrs. Karl Weiss at the organ. Dr. Miller will talk on "Life Nourished" and will sing "Jesus Only," his own composition which is the theme song of the convention. Newly elected officers will be installed at this session.



RUSTON CHAPEL

On Sunday Lassie Stahl of Mount Vernon and Rev. Paul V. Randolph of Portland will speak.

Rev. R. E. Norling of Moscow, Ida., will preach at the communion service when the music will be furnished by the choir of the First Luth. church under the direction of Karl E. Weiss.

Miss Helen Leif and Miss Rachel Jacobsen will be in charge of the dinner in the church parlors which will follow.

Sunday afternoon, Dr. Miller will

conduct the fourth of his series of studies, discussing "Life Conscious." Music at this service will be given by Leaguer members from Bellingham, Spokane, Seattle and Portland. Supper will be served that evening under the supervision of Mrs. Chester Hamilton. Rev. C. S. Odell of Portland will be the evening speaker and music will be furnished by the Hoquiam and Immanuel, Portland.

Ray Dahlin, president of the local Luther League and Evald Benson are in charge of the outing to be held Labor Day at American Lake South. The day will be spent with baseball, swimming, boating and other out-of-door sports. Miss Leona Lindeman and Miss Martha Elmer will be in charge of the picnic dinner.

Registration and housing for convention guests, numbering approximately 600, will be in charge of Miss Margaret Hogdahl and Leonard Westson. Miss Marion Johnson is secretary to the committee and Miss Helen Truedson and Lloyd Swanson are planning the music. Miss Ruth Elmer is in charge of advertising and Carl Ellison is treasurer of the local organization. Ray Dahlin will be in charge of the ushers.

SCHOOL PROBLEMS AND OUR YOUNG PEOPLE

By MRS. JOHN BILLDT

(Read at one of the conferences at the Des Moines Bible Camp.)
"Lives of great men all remind us,
We can make our lives sublime.
And departing leave behind us
Footprints on the sands of time."

"Life is a check signed in blank;
what its worth is depends on how you
fill it."

Thus have all school children learned ever since Longfellow wrote his memorable poem. If every child had learned well the lesson taught by these above quotations, the problems confronting our nation today would not be so colossal, so seemingly insurmountable.

It is rather difficult to treat a subject of this kind impartially, because we as church people view the problems from a different view than those not interested in the church. We are, as the subject states, to speak from our view point, namely, our young people.

We will first briefly show the tremendous responsibility the schools have toward all young people. It must take upon itself the awesome responsibility of leading the minds of the children and youth into the channel of clear thinking and right living.

It is true that the home has the chief responsibility in the training of its children, but when we realize that the school has them five to six hours a day, for five days a week, for nine months of the year, we feel the responsibility resting on our schools. We want the school to help make our children great and distinguished characters to which the heart can and will make obeisance.

We want our youth as a body to have, as Archibald Rutledge says, "a solitary differentness of truly great characters; to have the loneliness of original personalities." This task we place upon the school is truly great and should be such.

When we survey the conditions facing the men and women of the future we shudder. The sign posts show no clear road to sanity and peace, except in the knowledge of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.



MRS. JOHN BILLDT

The schools of our day open, yes, compulsory, to all children and youth as they are, have responsibilities that must be borne unflinchingly, problems that must be shared or the future of the nation is only a dark cavern into which our people will fall headlong to destruction.

It is a startling fact to learn that there are 286,000 young people, men and women, in our prisons as against 250,000 in our colleges and universities. Our educational system has failed somewhere. The child enters the school at the age of six and is in school, as a general rule, until past sixteen years of age. This is the great period of learning, the period when the future tendencies, inclinations, and desires are sown and take root. Our schools must face the problem, must try and answer the question, "Why this number in our prisons?"

Another startling fact is that there are so many people who must have the shelter of our State Hospitals, or as formerly called, Insane Asylums. This condition is more appalling when one learns that at this institution there is a waiting list of admittance. Again our schools must face the problem, "What can we do in order to bring a more normal way of living to our young people so as to give them a firm hold on life?"

The colossal expenditures for armaments and wars and mutual destruction over against the pitiful amount paid our educational system by our

people is another problem that should engross our schools. It is the school itself that will have to educate our young people to think aright even in such matters.

"We have a national debt of over \$272,000,000. Murder has increased 10 per cent each year since 1900. We have 12,000 murders, 5,000 arsons, 40,000 burglaries, 3,000 kidnapings, 50,000 robberies, 100,000 felonious assaults each year. Our criminals steal four times as much as our government spends in one year. During the last fifteen years over 180,000 have been murdered.

Our criminals cost us thirteen billion dollars per year. Our annual dope expense is five times what it cost to dig the Panama Canal. Each one of our citizens pays to the underworld \$140 a year. Seventeen billion dollars are extorted annually by our racketeers." (U. S. Senator Reynolds.)

These conditions may seem out of the sphere of our schools, but if our young people are to be able to face the future bravely the school must in some way prepare them to fight these awful, these gruesome conditions in our own United States.

The World Committee for Relief says that in 1934 three and one-half millions of people died of starvation or committed suicide rather than face starvation. In the same year enough food stuffs were destroyed to give each of these people twenty pounds of coffee, and a thirty years' supply of wheat. The food was destroyed to keep up prices. Our teachers, who have the moulding of these our children in their hands, have a great responsibility in order to teach these our young people to face the complexities of life that are so rampant, so outstanding

However, at this time we are more interested concerning the influences under which Christian young people come as they enter our institutions of learning.

Since the World War so-called civilization has advanced by leaps and bounds. The inventions, the developments made are tremendous, although not all good. A spirit of restlessness, of uncertainty, of dissatisfaction pervades our young people as a whole.

Everywhere we see intemperance—in violent language, in glaring head-

lines, in extravagant expenditure, in headlong plunge into pleasure, in the craze for jazz, in unseemly dress, in reckless driving, in a false attitude towards life.

Our educational system is also affected by these conditions. It has developed alongside other activities.

The school curriculum, which once included "reading, 'riting, 'rithmetic," has now within its scope a great number of subjects. The youths who attend school are forced to employ their mental powers in many spheres. Consequently we have developed within the child an inability to concentrate which will eventually lead to a lack of perseverance in applying himself to the problems.

W. H. P. Fannce, president of Brown University, writes: "The one conspicuous and fatal lack in our time is the power to bring the mind to a focus to think hard and close, to concentrate on some problem and never give up until it is mastered. The trouble with college life is not that it is vicious, so much as that it is so often trivial. The danger is not that students will become falsehearted, but that they will become scatter-brained."

However, a great grievance, a more difficult problem which is encountered is the relationship to law and order. This phase of school life is probably felt more by the school itself than by the student. There is, we all know, a lack of respect for law, for age, for honor, for authority, yes, even chastity among people as a whole. It is even brought into our schools by some, which in turn makes it a problem to be faced by the honest, law-abiding student.

It is difficult to place the blame for this on any single institution. To say the laxity in the home has engendered it alone, or the school is the sole cause of it, is to judge too harshly. However, the two combined can well be faced with the blame. We must, as statistics show, engender in the child, in our young people, a respect for God, for Home, for Government. The American College must stand as a breakwater against all laxity.

We have growing within our educational system a spirit of pleasure which seems to try to reduce to ashes the former delight and pride in scho-

lastic powers. It appears as if an earnest student desiring to achieve success in scholarship is not given the same recognition or encouragement that an athlete, a member of some sorority or fraternity receives. The claim is made that certain high standards, certain grades must be attained before a student is permitted to become a member of any such organization. One knows from experience that there are many loopholes by which one enters these activities, the "pull" which is successfully exerted by influential persons in order to gain an admittance for a friend.

Our colleges would be much greater and not poorer if most of the innumerable organizations, the host of "stu-



dent activities," whether social, athletic, musical or dramatic, were put aside and abolished.

We have crass materialism emphasized where idealism should be given preeminence.

College must offer the students two things they most crave—opportunity for personal friendship and for personal achievement. Friendships become very difficult in crowds. The great increase in the number of students, due to compulsory education, makes college life impersonal and at times inhuman. Some institutions are already swamped by crowds of students whom they cannot refuse and for whom neither buildings nor teachers are available. In most of the universities the professors: lecture to from fifty to one hundred or one thousand students. All intimacy, all personal contact under such circumstances is impossible.

There are still greater problems that our youth encounter as they enter our schools. The lack of Bible knowledge among our teachers, our professors, a lack of faith in Jesus Christ, an unwillingness to stand in the forward ranks for Christ, is a distinct shock.

Our youth, raised in Christian homes, finds this a difficult situation to meet. Many fall by the wayside and come home with a flamboyant attitude towards holy things. Many, to be sure, retain their childhood teachings and become shining examples of "soldiers in the army of Jesus Christ."

Our state schools, fine as they are, yet lack that contact with holy things that we find within our denominational schools. It behooves us as Christians to concentrate in preserving our "so-called small schools" in order that a part of our youth be given an equal chance to retain their relationship with Jesus.

It is true that many criticize the curriculum, the meager facilities, etc., of our church schools. However, if we are to be numbered among the faithful here on earth we must retain our study of the Bible within the schools. Our church schools must guard against letting the world dictate to them what they should teach, do, etc. I make a plea for the preservation and furtherance of our denominational or church schools. It is to these our schools we must from now on look for the purely wholesome influences to be injected in our youth.

We cannot leave this subject with just adverse criticism. There are many fine influences emanating from our schools which create serious problems for our youth, problems that challenge their greatest powers.

As mentioned before, there are so many subjects taught within our schools, these days, which give a child an opportunity to develop in the line he or she enjoys most. If interested in the arts, or music, or the sciences, etc., the child can study those subjects which appeal to him most.

Ideals created and developed in these various branches naturally influence the child. These ideals are brought into the home. Here the child may come in contact with the power in the home, the power who does not understand or appreciate these ideals. The problems created by the school must be shared by the child in his home relationships. This gives him an opportunity not only to better conditions for himself, but also to influence the atmosphere of the home and bring greater joy to all concerned.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

The annual Pastors' Retreat will be held Sept. 23-27 at Everett in conjunction with the Thirty-fifth anniversary of the Zion Lutheran Church of that city. The program will be printed in full in our next issue.

Mrs. E. C. Bloomquist of Rockford, Ill., is visiting friends in Tacoma and vicinity.

Rev. Carl E. Rydell of First Tacoma, has returned from California where he has taken part in the Bible Conference at Camp Bradford.

Marcus Renhard, president of the Conference Luther League, has returned home from the hospital where he has been confined with scarlet fever.

Speaking of the Renhard family we would wish to know something about a wedding that has been rumored about. Wonder if Colton is no more or if the folks in that lovely place do not recognize news that are news?

Chimes have been installed in the organ of the Gethsemane church, Seattle. Several other improvements have also been made.

Dr. Viola Fischer, Dr. Lillian Olson, Miss Stella Carlson and Miss Hilma Levine, missionaries to China and India, were feted August 21 at the Gethsemane church, Seattle, before embarking on their long journey to the foreign field. All the Lutheran churches participated. On the day following a banquet of welcome was held at the Y. W. C. A. for Miss Anna Olson, Missionary Nurse to China. Miss Olson is on a year's leave of absence. Last Sunday Miss Olson spoke in several churches in the district and won new friends everywhere. Her simple testimony is full of power and holds the audience spellbound.

Mildred Anderson Hult, who has spent the summer teaching at the University of Washington, is now returning to Augustana College to take up her duties in the Conservatory of Music. Before leaving the university she was awarded the degree Master of Music.

We are glad to answer the many queries concerning the condition of Mrs. John W. Unis with the assurance that health and vigor is again returning and that Mrs. Unis will soon be able to be up and around again.

A son was born August 6 to Rev. and Mrs. Conrad Hoyer, formerly of Tacoma.

Mrs. G. A. Magnuson, wife of Dr. G. A. Magnuson of Seattle, has left for Brainard, Minn., to visit her home folks.

The Spokane District Luth. League held its annual convention at the Westdala Lutheran Church, Troy, Ida. Rev. Axel E. Berg, pastor, June 26 and 27. "Christ Our Life" was the convention theme.

Following a picnic supper at Leonard Nelson's Grove Saturday evening the first session opened with group singing and devotion after which the business meeting was held. The officers elected for the coming year are as follows: President, Arthur Johnson, Troy; vice-president, Almeda Carlson, Moscow; secretary, Romaine Pearson, Spokane, and treasurer, Harold Swenson, Spokane.

Sunday school opened at 10 o'clock Sunday morning with Miss Edith Isaacson in charge of the convention Bible class. Holy Communion services were held at 11 o'clock, the communion address being given by Rev. N. William Anderson. Music was furnished by the Salem choir.

Sunday afternoon Evangelist George Schubert, convention speaker, delivered an inspirational message which was followed by several fine numbers by members of the different leagues. Supper was then served in the church parlors.

The closing service was held Sunday evening. An interesting discussion on the "Pocket Testament Movement" was led by Rev. Reuben E. Norling.

Westdala Lutheran Church, Troy, Idaho, will celebrate its 50th anniversary, October 17 and 18. All former pastors and members of the congregation are invited to attend. Those who are unable to attend are kindly asked to send greetings.

WEDDING BELLS



The marriage of Miss Esther Ann Welinder, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Nels Welinder of St. Helens, Ore., to Dr. Edgar Noel Smith, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Smith of Dufer, Ore., was solemnized at 8 o'clock Saturday evening, July 11, in the Lutheran church, with the Rev. Arthur Pierce officiating. The ring ceremony was performed in candle light before a bank of ferns, pink lark purs and white shasta daisies. One hundred twenty-five friends and relatives attended.

Mrs. Smith is a graduate of St. Helens high school with the class of 1930 and is a 1935 graduate of the Emanuel hospital school of nursing. Dr. Smith is a graduate of the University of Oregon Medical school and had his internship at the Emanuel hospital.



Friends of Arthur Hillman are being delighted to learn of his marriage to Miss Stina Eklund of Chicago. The betrothal was announced by the parents of the bride-to-be, Mr. and Mrs. Axel Eklund of Rockford, Ill., June 14, in that city. Mr. Hillman is the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Adolph Hillman of Seattle and California.

The young couple were married at 4:30 in the afternoon of August 17 at the Emmanuel Lutheran Church at Rockford. Dr. E. C. Bloomquist officiated. They are driving to Seattle on their honeymoon, then will return to Chicago and to Lewsburg, Pennsylvania, where Mr. Hillman is to be assistant professor of Sociology at Bucknell University for one semester.

Miss Eklund is a graduate in Sociology of the University of Illinois.

Both Miss Eklund and Mr. Hillman are active in Lutheran work, both having been officers in the Lutheran Student Association, the national Lutheran organizations in the universities. It was at a meeting by this association in 1930 that the young couple first met, a meeting which soon was destined to bring great happiness into their lives. A prominent member of the Bethany Lutheran Church, Seattle, Mr. Hillman is well known to Lutherans in the Northwest.

THE BUILDING OF OUR CONFERENCE

A Historical and Missionary Review

By J. A. Edlund

(Cont. from June issue)

* * *

In the fall of 1885 the Mission Board sent Eric Norelius from Vasa, Minn., out here to look over the field and for—his health. He remained one year, visiting each congregation, preaching in many places, where no Swedish Luth. pastor ever before trod—and

dark and bright sides. (See Augusta for 1886). The Pacific district was to meet annually and it was good for the few ministers out here to come together, since they were scattered and separated by great distances. By degrees other laborers came to augment the missionary band. Then Rev. Telleen began to clamor for the organization of a Conference and the others fell in line, but not gladly. The Pacific Conference was organized at Tacoma, Wash., in the spring of 1888, five years after the Pacific District

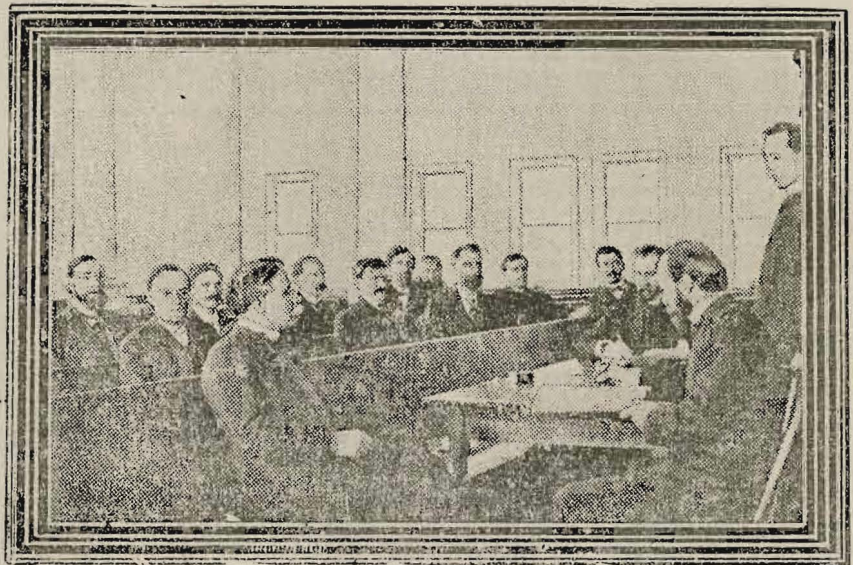
Swärd, P. A. Fair, J. Telleen, A. M. Le Veau; the last three named in California, representing 24 congregations with a communicant membership of 1,000 and church property valued at \$88,000.00 with an indebtedness of \$24,000.00, but the scholars in the Sunday Schools were only 300, all told. Rev. J. W. Skans of Portland served as president after Johannes Telleen left for San Francisco in 1890. In 1892 Dr. C. M. Esbjörn was elected that the great distances were against that the great distances were against



REV. G. A. ANDERSON

First President of the Columbia Conference and one of the best known pastors of the early days. The conference was organized at Portland in 1893.

perhaps never since. He reported to the home base that money spent out here bore fruit and urged the synod to speed up action in sending more men and more means, so that we could go forward in our God given task. Under the caption: "Morgonrodnaden i väster" he wrote in glowing terms in our church paper about our work and the outlook for the future; its



MEETING OF THE PACIFIC CONFERENCE IN TACOMA, WASH. 1888.

was established. Johannes Telleen being elected president. He had a whole shipload of projects up his big sleeve: a school, a hospital and a home for children: all to be established in California, mind you. Senator Leland Stanford had started and endowed a University at Palo Alto, Calif., and he promised some land on his large estate for a school for the Swedes, for he believed in them, at least in John Telleen. But the people in Temleton, midway between San Francisco and Los Angeles, and our people in Kingsburg in the San Joaquin Valley also offered to donate land for such a school. We know that nothing of this materialized. By this time, 1888, the following pastors were on the field: J. W. Skans, L. O. Lindh, Peter Carlson, G. A. Anderson, A. A.

having one Conference on such a large territory. From the start they were two groups: one in the North West and one in California—the Southern half.

At the meeting of the Pacific Conference in Portland, Ore., March, 1893 a separation was effected. Immediately the Columbia Conference was organized. President, Rev. G. A. Anderson; vice president, J. W. Skans; sec'y, Rev. C. J. Beckman; Treas., Mr. Nils Gibson. The congregations numbering 18, the pastors were: J. W. Skans, C. A. Ramstedt, L. O. Lindh, M. L. Larson, C. J. Beckman and G. A. Anderson. Rev. Peter Carlson had withdrawn from active service.

(To be continued)

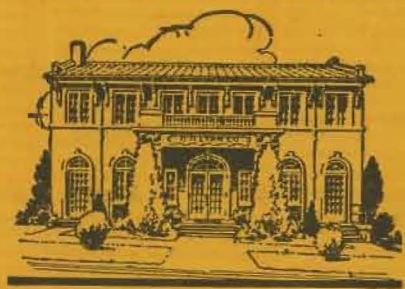
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