VOL. XX

TACOMA, WASH., AUGUST 4, 1928

NO. 8

Devotional

Gifts From Above

"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning."—James 1: 17.

God does give gifts. Of course, we all know that. Yet, we are not repeating old platitudes, nor assuming that the reader is not familiar with the Bible passage quoted, when we write on this topic.

Some of the greatest things in life escape our notice, because they are just natural. The very nature of God is to give and to be at work. Work to Him is rest. Giving is receiving. The motive power behind His gifts is love, the guiding principle His holy and perfect will, and the object of His giving is altogether altruistic. It is to benefit others for their own good.

God's gifts are good. All of them. This seems natural. You would almost think it unnecessary to repeat. And yet, in actual life we do not always think so. God's gifts are not always pleasing. They are not always coveted. They are not prayed for. They do not always seem practical and necessary. But they are good. "Shall not the judge of all the earth do right?" Gen. 18: 25.

God's gifts are perfect. They are genuine. They cannot be improved on. There is a reason for this. The value of a gift is determined by the motive behind it, by the sincerity of the giver and by the knowledge he has regarding our actual needs, as well as an unselfish desire to give us just what we need at the right moment. We know that God's gifts are perfect, because He loves us. He does this in spite of the fact that we are not lovely. In His perfect holiness and wisdom He is in a position to judge in the matter of our needs at all times, and because of His bountiful riches He is able to give us more than we ask for, yea good and perfect gifts not asked for and not appreciated. Sentiments and opinions, due to our human experiences in a world of sin and selfishness, always hinder us in our efforts to know ourselves. Then, too,



Rev. Gideon Ahnquist,

who leaves to become pastor of the First Lutheran Church, Rock Island, Illinois. He has served this Conference nine years as pastor at Spokane and Everett. He has also served as the first president of the Columbia Conference Luther League.

we must confess, our efforts in this enterprise of exploring the unknown regions in our own souls are often very feeble and sometimes nil. Is there any wonder that so many of God's good and perfect gifts are not coveted, nor thankfully received? James points out some of the gifts that we have received. God has given us life itself. He begets in us spiritual life and owns us as His children. And this has cost Him a great deal, for "God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son." This was the greatest gift of all. Most people do not accept this gift. Because this is the greatest of all gifts it must be accepted. "Whosoever believeth in Him shall not perish, but have everlasting life." Whosoever does not accept this great gift shall perish. Not only does God give us life, temporal and spiritual, but He also enables us to live this life. It

is to be noted that He does not live it for us, as some seem to think, but furnishes us with everything needed for a holy life in the fellowship of His Son. "I can do all things through Him that strengtheneth me." "Nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave Himself for me." Gal. 2: 20. Church life today is not overcharged with this Christ life. It is the one thing that we need more than anything else. God knows this. It grieves Him. Refusing to accept this life, and to live it, we are bent on social activities and almost frantically running to and fro until we gasp for breath in the stuffy air of the world.

We are slow to hear. Deaf to God's voice. O, how we need that special gift of God that will enable us to hear the thundering message of Sinai and the pleading voice of Calvary! Pray for this gift. Pray for God's messengers that they faint not and grow weary in the midst of this spiritual decay and death. We certainly need God's gift to enable us to control our tongue. James says: The tongue is a fire: a world of iniquity among our members is the tongue, which defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the wheel of nature, and is set on fire by hell." James 3: 6. We are swift to anger. This also is a defect. We need God's gift to be able to control our temper. There should be no "hot heads" in the church of Christ, but they are there. If you are one of them, there is something wrong with your spiritual life. A Christian can, by the grace of God, control his tem per. If you cannot there is something wrong with your Christianity. - Pray for this gift. Then when God offers it to you, accept it. It will be good for you. Jesus blessed those who cursed Him, and prayed for those who persecuted Him. It is His will that we should do the same. O, let us pray for gifts from above!

P. H. Nordlander.

Notice

Until a business manager has been selected to succeed Rev. B. T. Erholm send all subscriptions and moneys to the editor, Rev. G. A. Herbert, 2048 West 64th street, Seattle, Washington, or direct to the publishing office, 1125 Tacoma Avenue South, Tacoma, Washington.

COLUMBIA LUTHERAN

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REV. G. A. HERBERT, Editor 2048 West 64th Street Seattl Seattle, Wash.

Bible Institutes

This is the season of Bible Institutes. The editor had the opportunity to look in on the sixth annual Bible Institute of the Tacoma Mount Baker District Luther League held July 17-25 at Burton on Vashon Island, Washington. The lectures given by Revs. C. A. Wendell, Minneapolis, and Nels Lundgren, Omaha, were instructive and edifying. The place was in some respects ideal but not very easy of access. It costs too much to get there. It would be advisable for the committee in charge to endeavor to arrange for holding the Institute next year on the mainland. I know how difficult it is to find a suitable place but it should be tried out nevertheless. Not that we personally advocate the mainland but in fairness to those who desire such a place. The attendance was not very large but what the Institute lacked in quantity it made up for in quality. Our folks, young and old, desire these summer conferences but it may not always be convenient for them to attend because of the place or the time. But by all means we should encourage this movement - one of the most blessed in our Conference.

As usual the major portion of the responsibility and work of this particular Institute rested on a few individuals. There should be a division of labor at these Institutes. The committee in charge should properly distribute the duties in preparation for such an event. We commend the work of the Dean of this Institute, Rev. P. H. Nordlander, for his arduous labors and untiring zeal, and also Rev. B. T. Erholm, former president, who had a major part in the arrangement of this Institute.

The annual Bible Institute of the Portland District Luther League is being held at Colton, Oregon. This Institute is arranged and supervised by the Revs. E. H. Wahlstrom and Enoch Sandeen. The announcement and program of this Institute should have appeared in a previous issue of this paper but was omitted unintentionally because the editor was too far away to personally supervise the publication of the issue. We are neveretheless interested in this gathering also as well as all others within the Conference. May the Portland Institute be a blessing to those who attend.

The editor had the privilege of attending a Rible Conference given in a certain congregation in the East by one of the teachers from the Lutheran Bible Institute of St. Paul. To arrange for such institutes in the individual congregation is no doubt a great blessing. Such a movement ought to be furthered. No better series of evangelistic services can be arranged than just such Institutes. They are means for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon our people. May God bless every one of our Bible Institutes this summer.

Contributed

Moscow, Idaho

Så säger Herren, Herren, han som församlat de fördrivna i Israel: Jag skall församla ännu flera till honom utöver dem, som redan äro församlade till honom." Jes. 56: 8.

Vad är en missionsförenings mål annat än att församla för Guds rike?

Vår missionsförening hade inbjudit vår grannförsamlings missionsförening i Troy, att fira missionsmöte med oss den 23 maj, 1898. Så de voro snälla och kommo hit och vi hade ett riktigt trevligt möte med program och uppoffring för missionen både på svenska och engelska. Tänk, vilken glädje för själen att få vara med att församla för Guds rike!

Om vi kunde se de kära änglarne huru de fröjda sig över våra missions- och kvinnomöten, att det är möjligt för oss arma syndare att få hjälpa till att församla för Guds rike, så skulle vi bli ännu tacksammare att vi få vara med.

"Lammet, som är slaktat, det är värdigt att taga makt och rikedom och vishet och starkhet och pris och ära och lov." En Jesu vän. Uppb. 5: 12.

Woman's Missionary Society Convention

The 37th annual convention of the Woman's Missionary Society of the Augustana Synod was held June 8-12 in Des Moines, Iowa, at the invitation of the following churches of that city; Grand View, Rev. J.

W. Kempe, pas dreen, pastor; THE BANK OF CALINdeen, pastor.

A Nationis entire The spirit which convention was quite id a, consequently over 200 delegates attending went home thoroughly inspired. It is imposisble to record here any more than just passing comment, as the information and details would fill a book, so I refer you to the Mission Tidings for further light on this convention.

Morning, afternoon and evening sessions were held each day, every session opening with a meditation by various leaders on the subject "Saved to Serve," the motto of the convention. All business sessions were held at Grand View church.

At the opening meeting greetings from the conference presidents were given after which our pres., Mrs. Emmy Evald, presented the missionaries and deaconesses. The greater part of each morning and afternoon was devoted to business affairs including reports, elections, discussion of resolutions, constitution and by-laws, etc. I might say that a special plea was made for more members as there was but a small gain of 31 adults the past year. An equally strong appeal was made for more readers of the Mission Tidings, which paper is so full of information and inspiration. The secretary reported a loss of over 900 subscriptions during the year.

The Young Women's Congress on Saturday afternoon was one of the outstanding sessions. All reports of young women's work were encouraging, and we now have a band of some 3,000 young women enlisted in the missionary cause of our Synod. A fine representation of girls was present in Des Moines. At this assembly we were privileged to listen to most excellent addresses. Miss Anna Johnson, superintendent of schools from Ft. Dodge, Ia., spoke on "Love Leads the Way" bringing out the importance of teaching the child about first things first, making the subject of the love of Christ uppermost in the home so that the child catches the spirit of it. Miss Amanda Magnuson, professor at Bethany College, Lindsborg, Kansas, spoke on "Missionary Opportunities for Youth." She stressed the fact that talents and personalities of all kinds are needed for Christ's work. Prof. Rajah Manikam from India spoke stirringly on "Women of India." The missionaries gave greetings and testimonies and we all were deeply touched.

The Junior Leaders' conference held Monday afternoon proved exceedingly helpful. Many suggestions and methods were brought out by women who are successful in children's work. The following subjects were treated, "Devotionals in the Junior Mission Band," "Mothering the Band," "Handwork," "How To Interest the Boys," "What to Read." Demonstrations of children's work were given, and we all felt much enlightened in this important branch of missionary activity within the church.

The election of officers resulted in the following: President, Mrs. Emmy Evald; 1st vice president, Mrs. Peter Peterson; 2nd vice president, Miss Augusta Highland; executive secretar, Miss Alice Johnson; corresponding secretary, Mrs. J. W. Landstrom; statistician, Mrs. K. T. Anlerson; treasurer, Mrs. Otelia Swanson; historian, Mrs. N. E. Kron.

Special features of various nature and inspirational services constituted the evening sessions. Friday evening an impressive communion service was held at Bethany church when Rev. D. Nystrom of New York gave the preparatory address and Rev. A. O. Hjelm, of Massachusetts, gave the sermon. The subject of the address was "Jesus, the Same Yesterday, Today, and Forever." The sermon was on the verse, "I'm not ashamed of the Gospel of Jesus Christ" bringing out the real mission of Christ in the world. Music was furnished by the Bethany choir, and also a trio sung by Mesdames Lundeen, Kempe, and Andreen, pastors' wives.

Saturday evening we enjoyed a Mother and Daughter banquet held at the Hotel Des Moines. Mrs. Paul Andreen served as toast mistress. Appropriate toasts were given by Mrs. G. E. Lavine, Mrs. Ernest Bloomquist, Miss Mia Thorson, Mrs. C. A. Swenson, and Miss Signe Strand, after which we heard a greeting from Miss Agnes Samuelson, superintendent of the department of public instruction, state of Iowa. Our esteemed, energetic president, Mrs. Evald, gave a reminiscence of the olden days of the Woman's Missionary socity. The banquet closed with a most beautiful candle-light service.

Regular services were conducted on Sunday morning at all the churches, the commissioning of Miss Edna Miller taking place at the Bethany church. Miss Miller is missionary-elect to Africa. This ceremony was deeply impressive.

In the afternoon we met again at Bethany for a Junior Misisonary Rally when a children's chorus sang and short talks were given by the missionaries on children of other lands. Miss Alice Johnson spoke on "Little Ones at Work" and Miss Ada Kron, nurse who will go to India, spoke on "Responding to the Master's Call."

Sunday evening a large mass meeting was held in the high school auditorium at which time spirit-full addresses were delivered by Dr. G. A. Andreen, Miss Amanda Magnuson, and Prof. Rajah Manikam. Good music was rendered by the joint choirs.

The evening of Monday, we first viewed a motion picture on the Augustana Synod presented by Dr. Amandus Johnson, and then remained for a mission rally. Here short talks were given by the mis-

sionaries on various subjects of interest pertaining to our mission fields. The choir of the Grand View church supplied the musical numbers.

The convention closed on Tuesday evening with a pageant of Christian stewardship, "The Ring of Krishnia," presented by young people of the three churches at Grand View.

It is needless to remark that those who were privileged to attend the entire convention feel richly rewarded for making the journey. It is only a pity that all of our women cannot have the opportunity to be present. Indeed were we fed sumptuously, bodily and spiritually. May the enthusiasm of this convention overflow and reach to the furthermost part of our Synod, yea to all who will be touched by our influence. We are Saved to Serve; God grant us grace to carry on His will.

Mrs. Roger P. Oliver.

Augustana Brotherhood

The annual convention of the Augustana Brotherhood was held at Des Moines, Iowa, in conjunction with the annual convention of the Augustana Synod. The annual banquet was held Saturday evening, June 9, at Hotel Savery, Des Moines. Over 400 sat down to partake of the delicious chicken dinner and to enjoy the excellent program of the evening. Mr. Harold F. Johnson, Chicago, president of the Augustana Brotherhood, gave some preliminary remarks and then presented Mr. John A. Christianson, Chicago, as toastmaster.

The first address of the evening was given by Judge Eskil Carlson of Des Moines. He spoke on the boys' work of the Brotherhood. He based his remarks on Luke 2: 52: "And Jesus advanced in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and with man." He spoke of the foursided development of the boy, namely, mental (wisdom), physical (stature), spiritual (favor with God), and social (favor with men). Save the boy and you will get a man of forty or sixty years of service for Jesus Christ. Judge Carlson has made a specialty of boys' work. The Brotherhood has found in him a great spiritual leader for the boys of our Synod. How to lead the restless boys to Christ is a The big task in every congregation. Brotherhood through Judge Carlson endeavors to help in this great task. Most men are made Christians in early life. It is, therefore, of the greatest importance to save the boys for Christ. Judge Carlson has prepared a manual for the boys' work, which can be purchased at the Augustana Book Concern, Rock Island, Ill. Previous to this convention we had heard much about Judge Carlson and we were not disappointed when we met and heard him in person. He is a prominent and active member of the First Lutheran Church of

Des Moines. May he be a real Joshua for our boys.

The next adddress was given by Mr. Gustav Olson, a publisher of Chicago, who spoke on the theme, "First in Service," He was followed by the eloquent Dr. Julius Lincoln, executive secretary of the Augustana Brotherhood, who spoke of the accomplishments of the Brotherhod. He spoke of the boys' work, of the assistance rendered by the Brotherhood in the Augustana College appeal for \$1,500,000, and other accomplishments. The last speaker was Dr. Joshua Oden, pastor of Irving Park Lutheran Church, Chicago.

Excellent musical numbers were given, especially by the Norden Singers, a local male chorus. They certainly sang well. The gathering was very much enthused by their singing.

In the excellent program folders prepared for the occasion we read the following interesting data: "The First Lutheran Church of Des Moines takes a special and peculiar delight in being host to the Brotherhood of the Augustana Synod, for the Lutheran Brotherhood, as it is known in America, found its birth in Des Moines in 1917. Dr. A. Norrhom of Des Moines, the then pastor of the First Lutheran church, was one of the original seven Lutherans who conceived the idea of a Brotherhood as we now know it. Mr. John A. Benson, many years an active member of this congregation, and Dr. Norrhom were both charter members of the Lutheran Brotherhood of America. This organization then built at Camp Dodge, Des Moines, the Brotherhood building, the first work and first war work of the Lutheran Brotherhood. Augustana Brotherhood is the direct child of and affiliated with this original Brotherhood." We quote also the foreword printed in this beautiful folder: "The men of Augustana have it in their hearts to be of service to the church. That this hope may be realized in a more substantial manner they are united in the Brotherhood and are looking for an opportunity to be useful in extending the kingdom. That is a most encouraging aspect of our church life."

"The Brotherhood offers itself as a help to the Augustana Synod. It stands at attention awaiting the orders and the pleasure of the church. The Brotherhood is already powerful enough to do some things but needs the combined strength of the entire Augustana manhood to help the Synod carry out its full program. Men, come with us!"

"As a small appreciation of what the church has done for us men we herewith tender our services to the Augustana Synod. We only ask to be directed and led. Our greatest happiness will be the strengthening of Augustana in every way."

The annual business session was held on Monday afternoon, June 11, with President Harold F. Johnson presiding. Annual reports were given by President Johnson, Dr. Lincoln, and Mr. E. Freeman, treasurer. The men decided most enthusiastically to gather one million dollars in 1930 for the further strengthening of the Augustana Aid and Pension Fund for its pastors. This was a momentous decision. The laymen are certainly coming. Judge Eskil Carlson spoke again on the boys' work. Dr. Brandelle also addressed the convention.

The following officers were elected: President, John A. Christianson, Chicago; secretary, Carl O. Lincoln, Lindsborg, Kansas; treasurer, Gustaf Olson, Chicago. Three vice presidents were also elected. At this meeting it was announced that Dr. Julius Lincoln, executive secretary, would retire from the office on July 1. Both the Brotherhood and Synod voted thanks for his efficient work. What the Synod Brotherhood is doing today is largely due to the efficient and untiring efforts of Dr. Lincoln. He was the right man to undertake the herculean task of organizing the men of the Synod and putting them to work for Christ. The convention recommended the appointment of a layman to take the place of Dr. Lincoln.

At this convention we noted somewhat the great possibilities of our Brotherhood. The laymen are indeed coming. May God give them guidance and success.

A Visit to Central Lutheran, Yakima, Wash.

About the middle of last month we were invited to be present and take part in a confirmation reunion at the Central Lutheran church of Yakima. This congrega-' tion is now about two and a half years old. This was the first confirmation reunion held since the merger of the three Lutheran congregations into the one Central church.

From my observations I would say that this was a real reunion and union of those confirmed at Central and at the congregations now constituent parts of the new congregation. This reunion surely brought the young people closer together and did cement them more to their new spiritual mother and church home. The Central church has a large and good church choir which rendered fitting selections both Sunday morning and evening. The prevailing spirit at the services and as we talked to the people personally was hopeful. Many seemed to feel that the congregation was now only on the threshold of larger usefulness. As one evidence of renewed interest and activity many improvements have been made. The whole church interior has been redecorated. A new concrete floor has been laid in the ings if you want to call them that. On

church basement and new Sunday school rooms built in. A fine lot has recently been purchased suitable for a parsonage location right next to the church.

Large crowds were in attendance both at the communion service in the morning as well as at the confirmation reunion in the evening.

Rev. P. H. Nordlander, who has served Central practically from the start, together with his "better half" are both working Rev. Nordlander seems to feel keenly the special responsibility that rests upon him at Yakima at this time. And under his leadership the church is forging steadily ahead. But such a church experiment requires a steady hand, a large measure of faith, much love and patience and a seemingly infinite amount of tact and good sense. May God give to both Rev. Nordlander and the good people of Central much grace to ever put the cause of the Kingdom of God above every other consideration. Then will the unity, harmony and good fellowship continue. And then, under God, the greatest shepherd of the flock, the future looks bright and this Central church is bound to grow in influence and numbers and very worthily represent our Lutheran church at Yakima.

Martin L. Swanson.

Portland District Bible Institute

The second annual Bible Institute of the Portland District will be held at Colton, Oregon, July 29-Aug. 5. We are fortunate in having secured Rev. Nels Lundgren of Omaha for our Bible teacher and Rev. C. A. Wendell of Minneapolis as lecturer and speaker. The meetings during the day will be held in the picturesque "Forest Chapel" that was constructed last year out in the virgin forest three or four minutes walk from the church. have been cleared around through the forest, the brook gives opportunity for a swim, and the high school athletic field provides ample space for tennis, baseball, and "barnyard golf." The people of Colton will furnish all meals for a dollar a day, lodging may be had in the homes, and camping sites are abundant. A small registration fee will be charged to help pay for the expenses.

The program includes, besides the regular Bible study, two series of lectures. One series will be on the great doctrines of the Lutheran church, and the other on the practical work of the church, especially the Sunday school. The two courses are meant to help us find what to teach and how to teach. In the evenings there will be evangelistic meetings, or revival meetSunday, August 5, we hope to see a large crowd from all the churches of the district to attend the closing meetings of the Institute. Plan your vacation now so that you will be able to spend a week at the Bible Institute. Luther Leaguers of the Portland district, let us all go to Colton for the Bible Instute July 29-Aug. 5. Eric H. Wahlstrom.

Program Portland District Bible Institute. Colton. Oregon, July 29-August 5

Sunday July 29

9:45-Sunday school.

10:45-Morning Worship. Sermon by Dr. C. A. Wendell. Topic "Prophets, True and False."

3:00-Mass Meeting. Address, "India's Challenge to the World," by Dr. Rajah B. Manikam.

8:00-Evening Service. Sermon by Rev. Enoch Sandeen.

Munday

9:00-9:15. Morning Devotion.

9:15-10:00. Studies in the Book of Genesis. Rev. Nels Lundgren.

10:15-11:00. Lecture, "The Value of a Human Soul," Dr. C. A. Wendell.

11:15-12:00. Lecture, "The Right Use of the Prophetic Word," Rev. B. S. Nystrom.

8:00-Address, "The Holy Spirit," Rev. Nels Lundgren.

Tuesday

9:00-9:15. Morning Devotion.

9:15-10:00. Studies in the Book of Genesis. Rev. Nels Lundgren.

10:15-11.00. Lecture, "I will lift up mine eyes," Dr. C. A. Wendell.

11:15-12:00. Lecture, "The Jew in Prophecy," Rev. Nels Lundgren.

8:00-Address, "By Rail to Goldenville," Dr. C. A. Wendell.

Wednesday

9:00-9:15. Morning Devotion.

9:15-10:00. Studies in the Book of Genesis. Rev. Nels Lundgren.

10:15-11:00. Lecture, "The Garden of God," Rev. C. A. Wendell.

11:15-12:00. Lecture, Dr. Albert Okerstrom.

8:00-Address, "Trumpets." Rev. Nels Lundgren.

Thursday

9:00-9:15. Morning Devotion.

9:15-10:00. Studies in the Book of Genesis, Rev. Nels Lundgren.

10:15-11:00. Lecture, "Letters from Jesus," Dr. C. A. Wendell.

11:15-12:00. Lecture, "The Seventy Weeks," Rev. Nels Lundgren.

8:00-Address, 'Jesus' Remedy for Doubt' Dr. C. A. Wendell.

Friday

9:00-9:15. Morning Devotion.

9:15-10:00, Studies in the Book of Genesis, Rev. Nels Lundgren.

10:15-11:00. Lecture, "The Morning Glory," Dr. C. A. Wendell,

11:15-12:00. Lecture, "What Is Man?" Rev. H. P. Johnson.

8:00—Address, "Ready," Rev. Nels Lundgren.

Saturday

9:00-9:15. Morning Devotion.

9:15—10:00. Studies in the Book of Genesis, Rev. Nels Lundgren.

10:15-11:00. Lecture, "Calvary and the Acropolis," Dr. C. A. Wendell.

11:15—12:00. Lecture, "The Fact and Features of Christ's Return," Rev. Nels Lundgren.

8:00—Address, "The Lord's Day," Dr. C. A. Wendell.

Sunday, August 5

9:45-Sunday School.

10:45—Communion Service.

Preparatory Address, Rev. Nels Lundgren.

Sermon, "The Right Use of Earthly Possessions," Dr. Wendell.

3:00—Young Peoples' Rally.

Address, "The Hill—God on the Plains," Dr. C. A. Wendell.

Additional

9:00 p. m.—Campfire program by the various Leagues in the District.

Every week day evening except Saturday.

1:00-5:30 p. m.—Recreation and amusement. Swimming, hiking, tennis, baseball, horse shoes, etc.

7:30-Breakfast.

12:15—Dinner.

5:30-Supper.

Expenses

Room for the week—single bed \$1.50, double bed \$2.00. Camping free.

Meals—8 days, \$7.00; single meals, breakfast 25 cents, dinner and supper 50 cents each.

Registration fee, \$1.50.

Please make reservation for room with Mrs. Alfred Danielson, Colton, Ore.

For any additional information write to Rev. Eric H. Wahlstrom, Darren, Ore.

Cars will meet all stages and electric trains at Mulino during Saturday, Sunday and Monday,

Warren, Oregon

Our congregation here in Warren decided last annual meeting that the church and the parsonage should be painted and decorated during the spring this year. A subscription was started at the meeting, and it was decided that an old debt of \$200 should be included and paid before any new work was started. After the contract for the work was let, the subscription was continued by Mr. Ernst Rylander and succeeded so well that at the completion of the work everything was paid for.

The congregation decided that after this work had been done it was in order to

have a festival. This was held on May 30, and the whole community had been invited. The beautiful temple was filled. Rev. H. P. Johnson of Portland, president of the district, delivered an inspiring address; Mr. C. J. Larson, a pioneer member of the congregation, read the history of the church; and greetings were read from Rev. B. S. Nystrom, for many years pastor here. After the program the men served refreshments. No collection was taken and the refreshments were free. Evrybody was happy and rejoiced in the beautiful appearance of the temple of God. May now the new house of God be conducive to more fervent worship and more wholehearted consecration to God and His Word.

On Pentecost a class of three members was confirmed. Communion service was held the following Sunday. On Decoration Day, May 30, a Memorial service was held on the cemetery belonging to the congregation. Rev. E. Bjorquist of the local Baptist church spoke in Swedish and the pastor in English. The number of those resting out there in "God's acre" is increasing continually, and many of the early settlers have already gone to their last resting place. May they rest in peace. "Blessed are the dead that die in the Lord."

Eric H. Wahlstrom.

First Lutheran Church, Tacoma

A reception banquet for Rev. E. G. Svenson and family was held at the church May 18th. The tables were all filled and the big crowd was very happy that they could welcome the new pastor and family. Mr. Bertil Johnson acted as toastmaster.

Rev. O. R. Karlstrom who so faithfully and efficiently served the congregation during the vacancy greeted the pastor and family in behalf of the congregation. Rev. Rustad of the Central Lutheran church extended a hearty welcome and best wishes in behalf of the Lutheran pastors of the city. Rev. Paul Reagor of the First Christian church and president of the Ministerial Federation of Tacoma brought greetings from his group. The Judiciary of Pierce county was represented by Judge Hodge who brought a fine greeting from his associates. The Rev. C. R. Swanson, president of our Columbia Conference, left a meeting in his own church to be present with us. Dr. Swanson extended to Rev. Svenson and family a most cordial welcome from the conference and himself. He dealt in a most able manner with the relation of congregation to pastor urging the congregation to think well of its pastor at all times and give him their hearty support. We were reminded of the part the sturdy Scandinavian men had played in the development of the Northwest and the nation at large building up the community life and the spiritual life, and the change in conditions.

Rev. Svenson followed thanking all the brethren and members who had come out for the splendid reception. He reviewed for us the experiences of his trip which were many and most all pleasant, and then dealt with the work before him and the congregation and the church at large. There was a number of musical numbers by the members and friends of the church.

A gift was presented to the Rev. O. R. Karlstrom in appreciation of his services and a reminder of his friends at First Lutheran church, Tacoma. Rev. Svenson was also presented with a gift in order that he might remember the evening and the good wishes of the church. To the pastor's wives beautiful boquets of roses were presented.

The Tabitha society served a most delicious dinner that evening. They say the way to a man's heart is through the stomach, whether that be the only way or not we know they touched the pastor's heart.

Friday evening. June 1, the First Lutheran church voted to change to the English language at morning and evening services. The meeting was friendly and the spirit was good although some felt the loss very keenly. Yet the majority felt they must make some sacrifice for the young folks and growing children who are all educated in the English, and for the future of the church. Those who turned out were mostly of the older people, as so many of the younger people felt they would let the elders decide because they had confidence in their fine Christian spirit. Many have already intimated their desire to join upon hearing of the change. Those voting for the change did so not out of sentiment but beccause they felt it the only way to carry out the "Great Missionary Command of Christ."

Sunday, June third, the 1928 confirmation class together with a number of others were taken into the membership of the congregation.

The 1928 class consisted of 21 boys and girls. The pastor was very much encouraged to see the fine crowd in attendance and so many earnestly seeking the Lord at His Holy altar.

In the evening a fine program was rendered by the confirmation class and at the close of same, gold crosses were given those who had earned them.

The building committee is getting ready to complete the church and have it ready for dedication this fall and in anticipation of that great event the 1928 confirmation class presented the congregation with a fine Morocco bound, gold leaved pulpit Bible to be used on the pulpit at dedication and thereafter.

V. E. Thoren.

Immanuel Lutheran Church, South Tacoma

Friday June 8th Circle No. 2 of the Young Ladies' society gave a concert at the church. They arranged a splendid program having secured some of the best musical talent in the city. At the close of the musical program a Tom Thumb wedding was staged. The church was most gorgeously decorated with roses the whole altar ring being literally banked with roses; and a very pretty arch of roses placed in front for the wedding. 150 or more people were in attendance and all enjoyed the evening very much. After the program a social hour was enjoyed by all, and all partook of refreshments served by the young ladies.

Immanuel may not be so large in membership but I can say they have as live and as hard workers as any congregation, among the young and old. The services have been well attended; the Sunday school is growing, numbering 42 at this time and the average attendance has been unusually high. Summer with its allurement of "come out into the open" and its berry fields calls away some but we intend to carry on and by fall should have a still greater number enrolled.

V. E. Thoren.

Silverbröllop

En mycket tilldragande högtidlighet avhölls söndagen den 17de juni i svenska lutherska kyrkan i New Westminster, B. C., då församlingens herde och fru O. W. Westling firade 25-års minnet av sin bröllopsdag. En av församlingens mest verksamma medlemmar hade på något sätt fått kunskap om det förestående silverbröllopet, och med en verksam hand satt i gång en insamling för en gåvas inköp. Denna gåva, bestående av en kaffeservis av silver, överlämnades till silverbröllopsparet efter gudstjänstens slut och alla närvarande inbjödos att deltaga i festligheten i kyrkans kapellvåning. Av allt att döma blev det en överraskande och kärkommen gåva till pastor och fru Westling, vilka båda höllo tal och tackade ålla för hågkomsten. Poem diktades till dagens ära lästes och korta tal samt lyckönskningar uttalades. En myckenhet telegram, lyckönskningar och presenter hade anlänt från olika håll, vilket tyder på högt ärad pastorsfamilj. Allt som allt medverkade till att göra denna festlighet till en av dessa som sent skall glömmas och föra oss närmare varandra i vänskap och förståelse. Det är saligare att giva än taga, och alla hade en känsla av givandets glädje. En deltagare.

Salem, Mt. Vernon

anniversary of Rev. and Mrs. M. L. Swanson. This fact had come to the knowledge of their congregation with the result that a most pleasant celebration of the event was held in the spacious basement of the Salem church.

This was crowded with people, when the "bridal couple" was conducted down the aisle to the tune of Lohengrin's wedding march. Mr. Gust Wersen acted as usher and seated Rev. and Mrs. Swanson on a platform facing the congregation. He then stated in a few words the purpose of the gathering.

The program was in charge of Dr. Jos. A. Anderson of Sedro-Woolley and consisted, besides congregational singing, scripture reading and prayer, of a song by the choir, two recitations, of which one was given by Miss Alice Lund and the other by Mrs. Carl Johnson, a piano solo by Miss Ruth Wersen and an address by the chairman, who, as an eloquent preoration presented Rev. Swanson with a purse of \$108. Mrs. Chas. E. T. Olson presented Mrs. Swanson with a boquet of beautiful roses.

Rev. Swanson expressed his and his wife's thanks for the love shown them. He mentioned, that half, and that the happiest half, of their wedded life had been spent at Salem, and that they were united to the church by very strong ties, which God alone could sever. Mrs. Swanson also, modestly and therefore eloquently, expressed her thanks.

The whole audience then filed past the pastor and his wife to express congrainlations and best wishes, and the hope that they would remain with them in spite of a tempting offer from elsewhere.

A social time, during which refreshments were served by the ladies, was then enjoyed. Enjoyed is the true word, for the good cheer, which permeated the audience, the mutual affection of of the people and the pastor's family, which was felt so plainly, made all enjoy themselves. The unanimous wish of their people is that Rev. and Mrs. Swanson may remain in Salem to there celebrate their silver and their golden weddings.

Joseph A. Anderson.

Bethlehem, Sedro-Woolley

July 6th the ladies of Bethelhem surprised the pastor's wife, Mrs. Jos. A. Anderson, as that was her birthday.

Having assembled at the Parish Hall, they came in a body to the parsonage, taking Mrs. Anderson wholly by surprise. Lunch was served but previous to it Mrs. Stromberg presented Mrs. Anderson with a purse, as a substantial evidence of their congratulations and best wishes for many happy returns.

This congregation has paid the annual



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new parsonage, together with accrued interest. This was done with no other extra effort than that of a supper given by the ladies, at which no basket was sold for less than \$5.00. That supper was indeed a love feast expressive of the love of the members to God and to each other.

A class of ten was confirmed on June 17 and went to the Lord's Supper the following Sunday. The theme for the catechisation was Sin, Law and Grace. All present at both services seemed much impressed and it is to be hoped that not only June 28th last was the 12th wedding installment on the purchase price of the members of the class but all others

present were permanently benefited.

A congregational picnic was held lately along the Skagit River east of town.

Joseph A. Anderson.

Notes

Rev. E. J. Sakrison, pastor of Gustavus Adolphus church, Minneapolis. has accepted the call to Carlsborg church, Colton, Oregon. Before assuming charge at Colton Rev. Sakrison and family will make an extended trip to Europe.

Rev. V. G. Ogren of Red Wing, Minnesota, formerly located at Portland and Spokane, has accepted the call to succeed Rev. Albert Loreen at Arlington Hills, St. Poul. Rev. Loreen has moved to Rockford, Ill., and is now pastor of the First Lutheran church there.

Rev. Joseph E. Lonnquist of Colton, Oregon, ordained at Des Moines, Iowa, on June 10th, in connection with the Augustana Synod convention, will become pastor at Anaconda, Montana.

At the Synod convention at Des Moines the editor met Rev. E. C. Bloomquist. He greets all Columbia Conference friends.

Rev. Gustav W. Henry, Pasadena, California, has declined the call to Everett, Wash, Mr. Harry Lundblad, a divinity student from Rock Island, Illinois, has been called to serve at Everett for one

Den första svenska lutherska församlingen i Vancouver, B. C., höll extra stämma varvid beslöts att hyra ett hus för pastorsfamiljen. Även beslöts att högmässa skall hållas på engelska och aftonsång på svenska varje söndag.

On August 1st the following changes took place: Rev. C. G. Bloomquist moves from Portland to Bethany, Green Lake, Seattle: Rev. O. R. Karlstrom from Seattle to Vancouver, B. C.; Rev. Gideon Ahnquist leaves Everett to take charge of the First church, Rock Island, Illinois. It has been reported that Dr. Albert Okerstrom has resigned at superintendent of the Columbia hospital at Astoria and will leave in the very near future.

Rev. G. A. Herbert and family have returned from the East where they visited with parents and relatives at Iron Mountain, Michigan.

Farewell parties have also been held recently in honor of Rev. and Mrs. C. G. Bloomquist and family at Portland and also for Rev. Gideon Ahnquist and family. We hope to give fuller accounts of these parties in a later issue. Welcome receptions in this Conference will be in order and much desired.

Rev. Enoch Sandeen and family has made a trip east by auto this summer in company with Dr. J. Sture and family of Gresham, Oregon, Euroute they attended the annual convention of the Augustana Synod at Des Moines, Iowa.

Rev. Martin L. Swanson, Mount Vernon, Washington, informs the editor just be-

fore this issue went to press that he has answered "no" to the call to the Augustana church, Portland.

Mr. Clarence Wittenstrom, a student at our Augustana Theological Seminary, Rock Island, Ill., is appearing in the various congregations of our Conference in the interests of the Augustana Students' Foreign Missionary society. He presents a fine set of illustrated views of our missionary fields in India and Africa. He lectures on the theme, "With Christ in Many

Rev. B. T. Erholm writes that he arrived safely at Mason City, Iowa, and that he has been well received there. A reception was held in honor of Rev. and Mrs. Erholm one Sunday shortly after their arrival there.

A farewell was held for Rev. and Mrs. O. R. Karlstrom at their home at Fauntleroy, Seattle, on Sunday afternoon July 15. A substantial purse was presented to Rev. Karlstrom by his many friends gathered at this occasion. A fuller account of this affair will be given in the next issue of this paper. Rev. Karlstrom and family are now located at Vancouver, B. C.

Neboförsamlingens nye herde har tillträtt sitt ämbete

Pastor O. B. Hanson från Seattle, Wash., har övertagit vården om svenska lutherska Neboförsamlingen i West Irving Park, Chicago, vilken församling varit utan ordinarie pastor i närmare ett års tid, eller sedan pastor Linus Herman avflyttade till Andover, Ill. I anledning av att pastor Hanson anlänt till staden och tillträtt sin befattning, hade församlingen i fredags å. d. anordnat en storartad fest, varvid representanter för församlingen och några av grannförsamlingarne uttalade välgångsönskningar till pastorn och hans familj. Programmet för aftonen var väl valt och omfattade även välkomsttal av pastor G Engdahl, dr. Victor E. Pearson och dr. Joshua Oden. Mr. Hultman uppträdde som representant för församlingen och överräckte å dess vägnar en pänninggåva till pastor Hanson. Till Mrs. Hanson överlämnades en vacker blombukett.

Pastor Hanson är bördig från Malmö, Nebr., och studerade som yngling vid Luther College i Wahoo i denna stat. Han begav sig senare till Augustana teologiska seminarium i Rock Island, och efter att ha avlagt examen vid denna lärdomsanstalt blev han år 1915 vid synodens årsmöte i Minneapolis prästvigd. Hanson har därför vid det här laget varit prästman i 13 års tid. Kort efter prästvigningen övertog han vården om en församling i Utah, och sedan han betjänat denna i fem år begav han sig till California, där han verkade som pastor i ungefär ett års tid, varpå han antog kallelse till Bethanyförsamlingen i Seattle, vilken han vid av-



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Slogan "A Changeless Christ"

Mrs. M. McL.Matheson, of Atlantic Beach, Fla., is the winner of the slogan contest for Lutheran Churches, fostered by the American Lutheran Publicity Bureau, New York City, winning the first prize of a free, forty-seven-day tour to Europe. The advertising slogan which the judges selected as being the best exemplification of th Spirit of the Lutheran Church was: "A Changeless Christ for a Changing World."

A True Conversion

When a church in the Philippines was in arrears, owing to shortage of crops and the recent building of a chapel, an elder of the church volunteered to pay the whole amount. This man, we are told, took up a homestead nine years before, cleared the forest, and planted it to cocoanut trees. He added more land and more trees until he has an aggregation of 5,000 trees, many of which are bearing well. Four years ago he heard the Gospel for the first time, was converted, and became a zealous worker in the mission church. He has no children and he and his wife are spending their surplus income in the promotion of the Lord's work. He has stated that as soon as all of his trees are bearing, he expects to devote a large portion of his income to the erection of better chapels for the poor mission churches.

Augustana Appeal Successful

At the Augustana Synod convention at Des Moines, Iowa, June 11, it was announced that \$1,507,000 had been gathered in the Augustana College appeal which began May 27. Nearly \$1,000,000 had been promised in advance gifts prior to the date set for the opening of the appeal. The congregations of the Illinois, Iowa and Superior Conferences of the Augustana Synod had pledged toward that total \$601, 386.20. Alumni and former students gave \$329,330. The "Tri-Cities" of Moline, Rock Island and Davenport pledged \$227,-214, and large gifts of \$25,000 or over from individuals totalled \$180,000. The Women's Missionary Federation of the Augustana Synod contributed \$125,000 to the campaign designated for the erection of a women's building at the college.

The expansion program of Augustana College was conceived in 1921, which contemplated the erection of a new girls' dormitory, of a new boys' dormitory, of a new science building and increasing college en-

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dowment to at least \$1,000,000. The present appeal, under the direction of the Rev. Dr. O. H. Pannkoke, opened the concluding chapter of the plan outlined in 1921.

A letter of May 30th, signed jointly by Dr. Gustav Andreen, president of Augustana College, and Dr. G. A. Brandelle, president of the Augustana Synod, summarizes the present effort as follows:

"The response so far has been unique in the Lutheran Church in America, not only in our Augustana Synod. The alumni pledge of three hundred and twenty-nine thousand is something to marvel at. The conferences have reached six hundred thousand. Whoever would have thought this possible? When in our church has anything equal been accomplished? Thirty-nine gifts total five hundred thousand dollars. This has never been done anywhere else in the Lutheran church in America."

Speaking appreciatively of the work of the director of the campaign, Dr. Andreen said:

"Dr. Pannkoke has again done a wonderful work for one of our Lutheran colleges. His record in helping to safeguard these colleges during the post-war readjustment period is remarkable. The Augustana Synod, together with other church organizations, owes him a great debt of gratitude. We cannot but appreciate the splendid service Dr. Pannkoke has rendered. Augustana Synod, both in raising about four hundred thousand dollars seven years ago in the Theological Seminary appeal, and now up towards fourteen hundred thousand dollars in the Augustana College appeal."

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